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Contributors

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Metropolitan Borough of Hammersmith



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

with

STATISTICAL SUPPLEMENT

for the year

1953

by

F. M. DAY,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M., D.P.H.



METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH

he ark
13/7/54

CME

Health Committee

At 31st December, 1953

Councillor E. O'K. Finn (Mrs.), M.B.E. (*Chairman*)

„ L. Freeman (*Vice-Chairman*)

Alderman R. J. Buckingham

„ W. H. Church, J.P.

„ C. E. Turner (Mrs.)

Councillor A. Belsham

„ J. A. Brady

„ L. C. Clover

„ J. J. Cohen

„ L. C. Newton

„ B. Wildman (Miss)

„ E. C. Woods (Miss)

Ex Officio: The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H. G. Reynolds, J.P.).

**OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL CONCERNED
WITH VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES**

BATHS COMMITTEE.

Management and supervision of the Council's Public Baths and Washhouses.

ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE.

Dealing with medical examination of Staff, etc.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

Powers and duties of the Council under the Housing Acts (other than those delegated to the Health Committee).

WORKS COMMITTEE.

Construction, maintenance and improvement of sewers and public sanitary conveniences.

Collection, removal and disposal of house and trade refuse.

Cleansing of public highways.

Management and control of the Council's cemeteries.

Maintenance and control of parks, gardens and open spaces provided by the Council.

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TOWN HALL,
HAMMERSMITH, W.6.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Metropolitan Borough of Hammersmith.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have very much pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1953.

Once again I regret that it was not possible to publish this earlier as the Registrar General's figures required to calculate the various rates were not available sooner.

I am again able to report that the general health of the community has remained good, and that there was no serious outbreak of any infectious disease.

The population, as estimated by the Registrar General, shows a decrease of 1,200 and is now 117,600, compared with the 1952 estimate of 118,800.

There was a decrease of 27 in the number of births notified during the year as compared with last year, and although the number was in excess of the deaths by 543, the birth rate of 14.9 remains the same as the previous year.

The number of deaths dropped by 150, resulting in a rate of 10.3 per thousand of the population, which constitutes a new record low figure for the Borough.

Three maternal deaths occurred.

Thirty-five children died before they reached the age of one year, giving an infant mortality rate of 20 deaths per thousand registered live births. Of these 35 children who died, 25 succumbed before they reached the age of one month. It must be borne in mind though, when one is considering this figure, the number of stillbirths that occurred. These amounted to 44, an increase of 10 over last year, and these losses show that there must be no let-up in our efforts to cater for the expectant mother and in our provision for maternity services.

I am particularly happy to report that there were no deaths among illegitimate infants. This is the first occasion that Hammersmith has had no such loss, the mortality rate hitherto having been nearly always higher than that for legitimate children.

It is also very pleasing to report that the number of deaths from cancer (all causes) shows a decrease of 72 as compared with last year's, and these now occupy third place in the killing diseases,—last year cancer occupied second place. Cancer of the lung likewise shows a decrease for the year, the number of deaths being 52 as compared with 64 for 1952.

There has been an increase in the incidence of tuberculosis, but the number of deaths from this disease is the lowest ever recorded.

The liaison existing between the medical and lay staff of the London County Council Divisional Offices and ourselves has continued on a very happy and friendly basis, as has our relationship with the Chest Clinic and its staff.

The Minister of Health, in his directions on Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health for 1953, asks for reference to any progress made towards closer integration with the general medical services provided by general practitioners and hospitals. During the year the Council planned and prepared to launch on 1st January, 1954, a Health Enquiry Bureau. It was intended that this Bureau would publish annually a Guide to *all* the local health services, including a comprehensive reference to local hospitals and doctors. Thus the Bureau would become, as it were, a focal point where all the services converged and where the public could obtain information about any of them. No additional staff was appointed to run the project and 5,000 copies of the Guide were printed at a cost of £150. Time will show whether the idea was a good one, but at the time of writing, all indications are more than favourable. The B.B.C. broadcast the opening of the Bureau on January 1st, 1954, and the National and local Press reported favourably on the event. In my next Annual Report I hope to be able to give full details of our first year's experience of the experiment.

I regret that it has not been possible to maintain the sanitary inspector services at their full establishment. The dearth of adequate numbers of inspectors to make up the required complement in much of London has reduced us here to scratch along in a manner satisfactory to no one.

As yet no dividends have accrued from the labours of the Working Party that dealt with training and recruitment of Sanitary Inspectors, but one feels that little improvement in our local position can be expected until the Working Party's findings bring forth larger numbers of well-trained young men available for employment.

Once more I wish to thank the members of the Council and, in particular, the Public Health Committee, for the help, encouragement and courtesy I have at all times received, and to express my appreciation and thanks to all the members of the public health staff for their ever ready co-operation, hard work and helpful assistance.

I am, Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. M. DAY,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

at 31st December, 1953

Medical Officer of Health:

F. M. Day, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health (Part-Time):

M. Golding, L.R.C.P.I.&L.M., L.R.C.S.I.&L.M., D.P.H.

Administrative Officer:

†°P. W. Pottier

Clerical:

J. C. Turner (*1st Assistant*)

T. J. Hares

Mrs. D. Kelley

Mrs. L. G. Stimpson

Miss I. E. Waller

(*M.O.H.'s Secretary*)

W. Robinson

Mrs. F. Lawford

E. Baines (*Temporary*)

Miss J. Mynott (*Temporary*)

R. W. Hart (*Temporary*)

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

¶†°W. Rigby

Sanitary Inspectors:

¶†°P. T. Bayes (*Deputy Senior*)

°†§J. C. Hopkins

\$†°E. J. Nether

†§G. G. Gardiner

||‡"§Miss E. M. Cross

†§B. Berry

§E. W. Pike

°S. Kelly

§B. E. Martin

†§A. H. Chappell

§J. L. Harvey

Food and Drugs Inspectors:

†§J. Collier

\$†°W. J. Godden

Mortuary Keeper:

D. A. Mackay

Medicinal Baths Superintendent:

||F. G. Baldwin

Public Analyst:

D. F. H. Button, A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C.

-
- ° Cert. Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board.
 - † Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute (Meat and other foods).
 - ¶ Smoke Abatement Cert., L.C.C. School of Engineering.
 - § Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.
 - \$ Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute (Inspector).
 - " Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute (Health Visitor).
 - ° Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute (General Science and Sanitation).
 - ‡ State Certified Midwife.
 - || State Registered Nurse.

SECTION A

**SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH AND
STATISTICS**

Hammersmith is the most westerly Borough in the County of London. It has an area of 2,282.5 acres and is bounded on the north by the Borough of Willesden, on the south by the River Thames, on the east by the Boroughs of Kensington and Fulham and on the west by the Boroughs of Acton and Chiswick.

The sub-soil in the northern half of the Borough (north of Uxbridge Road) mainly consists of clay, whilst in the south it consists of a layer of some 20ft. of gravel above blue clay. Years ago there was a layer of several feet thick of brown clay, particularly in the east of the Borough, much of which was excavated for brick-making purposes before building development took place.

Under the control of the Council are 23 acres of public gardens and open spaces. The London County Council similarly controls 255 acres of public open spaces. In addition to the five pre-war housing estates many post-war dwellings consisting of 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedroomed flats have been erected by the Borough Council on various sites in the Borough. Under the control of the London County Council are also six housing estates. The total length of roads is approximately 67 miles. There are many industries, most of which are situated in our northern extremity.

Further progress was made in Hammersmith during the year under review.

The Riverside Development Scheme undertaken by the Council is nearing its completion and properties on the eastern side of Furnivall Gardens have been acquired.

The Hammersmith Vicarage in Lower Mall, which has stood empty and derelict for years, has been purchased. This fine old 18th Century house, formerly the Vicarage of the Parish Church of St. Paul's, has been tastefully redecorated and altered, recapturing much of its early Georgian beauty.

The acquisition of this property, which has been named Westcott Lodge, will enable local associations and organisations to hold their meetings there in surroundings that are unique, and will be invaluable as a centre for community purposes.

A report is now being prepared with regard to the future development of the grounds and buildings adjoining Westcott Lodge, and when these have been completed, the final stage in this great improvement scheme will offer to the public one of the finest planned waterfronts.

Vital Statistics.

(a) Population

In this report the rates are calculated on the estimated population adopted by the Registrar General, *i.e.*, 117,600. This compares with 118,800 for the year 1952.

No epidemic resulting in high mortality occurred during the year and the excess of births over deaths has been maintained.

The following statement has been prepared as a matter of interest showing the number of houses and population from the first regular census taken in 1801 to that taken in 1951, with a view to comparing the number of occupants per house.

It will be seen that from 1801 to 1931 there was only a slight variation in the number of persons in occupation, *i.e.*, between 5.70 and 7.56 persons per house, whereas in 1951 the census showed a considerable improvement in the housing position, *i.e.*, 4.58 persons in occupation per house. It is, of course, true that the proportion of purpose built flats to houses occupied by one or more families has increased particularly since the war. The number of occupants in post-war flats owned by the Borough Council is approximately 2,855.

Year	Inhabited Houses	Uninhabited Houses	Population			No. of occupants per house
			Males	Females	Total	
1801	871	49	2497	3103	5600	6.43
1811	978	32	3262	4131	7393	7.56
1821	1406	68	4032	4777	8809	6.26
1831	1712	173	4645	5577	10222	5.97
1841	2214	95	6262	7191	13453	6.08
1851	3115	199	7819	9941	17760	5.70
1861	4164	258	10770	13749	24519	5.89
1871	6719	874	19304	23387	42691	6.35
1881	10543	1492	32743	39173	71916	6.82
1891	14049	1026	44195	53044	97239	6.92
1901	15202	638	52719	59514	112233	7.38
1911	16121	759	58084	63437	121521	7.54
1921	°19869	402	62479	67816	130295	6.55
1931	°22307	421	64989	70534	135523	6.07
1951	°26045	184	57224	62143	119367	4.58

° Structurally separate dwellings.

(b) Marriages.

The number of marriages registered during the year was 1,226, this being a decrease of 36 as compared with the previous year.

(c) Births.

The corrected number of births for the year, supplied by the Registrar-General, was 1,750. On the estimated population, *i.e.*, 117,600, this represents an annual rate of 14.9 births per thousand persons living, the same as the previous year.

(d) Deaths.

During the year 1,409 deaths were registered. Adding 296 deaths of residents of this Borough transferred by the Registrar-General as having occurred in various parts of England, and deducting 477 deaths of non-residents and 21 transferable deaths which occurred, the corrected number of deaths of residents was 1,207 (672 males, 535 females).

On the estimated population, *i.e.*, 117,600, the corrected number of deaths of residents was equal to an annual rate of 10.3 deaths per 1,000 persons living, as compared with the previous year's rate of 11.4.

In the Statistical Supplement will be found a chart showing the proportion of deaths from the principal causes, from which will be seen that diseases affecting the heart and important blood vessels come first and cancer occupies third place—lung conditions having taken second place.

(e) Infant Mortality.

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age during the year was 35, giving an annual mortality rate per 1,000 live births of 20.

(f) Maternal Mortality.

Three maternal deaths occurred during the year as against two for the previous year, resulting in a death rate of 1.67 per 1,000 live and still-births.

Census of Great Britain, 1951.

Following the 1951 census, the County Report for London by the Registrar-General has now been published. The report contains many statistical tables and much useful information, and the following is of considerable interest.

In the last 20 years there has been a marked decrease in large families living in the County of London. During this period the decrease in households of 8 or 9 is as much as 75%, whilst households of 6 or 7 have decreased by 58% and those with 5 by 36%.

On the other hand the number of persons living alone has increased by 42% and the number of persons where two live together has increased by 17%.

Twenty years ago 53% of the homes in London consisted of dwellings with six or more rooms. To-day the percentage has fallen to 35.

4% of the population of Hammersmith to-day are living more than two persons per room. Twenty years ago the percentage was 10.

Expectation of Life.

During recent years an extraordinary change has taken place in the health and well being of the average man and his family and many diseases which once were rampant are now either under control or well on their way towards control. We now enjoy a much higher standard of living—more abundant and better food, housing, clothing, educational and recreational facilities. One way to illustrate this progress is by examining the increase in our expectation of life. Assessment of the expectation of life of any group of people must of necessity be only guesswork, but to the best of my ability I have prepared a table which gives an idea of the normal chances of a man in Hammersmith, in Japan, in America and elsewhere and even among some of the various tribes of Eskimos.

Here it is:—

EXPECTATION OF LIFE AT BIRTH BY SEX

Country and Period	Males	Females
England and Wales		
1901-1910	48.5	52.4
1937	60.2	64.4
1951	65.8	70.8
Australia		
1901-1910	55.2	58.8
1932-1934	63.5	67.1
1946-1948	66.1	70.6
Austria		
1901-1905	39.1	41.1
1930-1933	54.5	58.5
1949-1951	61.9	67.0
Canada		
1926-1930	57.7	59.7
1947	65.2	69.1

Country and Period				Males	Females
Denmark					
1901-1905	...	...	...	52.9	56.2
1941-1945	...	...	...	65.6	67.7
1946-1950	...	...	...	67.8	70.1
France					
1898-1903	...	...	...	45.7	49.1
1947	...	...	...	62.8	67.7
Germany (Federal Republic)					
1949-1952	...	...	...	64.6	68.5
Greenland (North) (Eskimos)					
1950	...	...	...	25.0	27.0
Greenland (N.W.) Thule (Eskimos)					
1952	...	...	...	28.0	22.0
HAMMERSMITH					
1952 (estimated)	...	...	...	61.8	66.2
Holland					
1900-1909	...	...	...	51.0	53.4
1931-1940	...	...	...	65.7	67.2
1947-1949	...	...	...	69.4	71.5
Israel (Jewish)					
1949	...	...	...	65.2	67.9
Japan					
1899-1903	...	...	...	44.0	44.9
1935-1936	...	...	...	46.9	49.6
1948	...	...	...	55.6	59.4
Norway					
1901-1911	...	...	...	54.8	57.7
1921-1931	...	...	...	61.0	63.8
1945-1948	...	...	...	67.8	71.7
Poland					
1931-1932	...	...	...	48.2	51.4
1948	...	...	...	55.6	62.5
Scotland					
1910-1912	...	...	...	50.1	53.2
1930-1932	...	...	...	56.0	59.5
1949	...	...	...	64.0	67.6
Thailand					
1947-1948	...	...	...	48.7	51.9
Union of South Africa					
1945-1947 (Europeans)	...	...	...	63.8	68.3
1945-1947 (Asiatics)	...	...	...	50.7	49.8
1945-1947 (Mixed) ^o	...	...	...	41.7	44.0
United States					
1900-1902 (White)	...	...	...	48.2	51.1
1901-1910	..	...	...	49.3	52.5
1919-1921	..	...	...	56.3	58.5
1920-1929	..	...	...	57.9	60.6
1929-1931	..	...	...	59.1	62.7
1930-1939	..	...	...	60.6	64.6
1939-1941	..	...	...	62.8	67.3
1948	..	...	...	65.5	71.0
1950	..	...	...	66.6	72.4
1900-1902 (Negroes)	...	...	...	32.5	35.0
1948	..	...	...	58.1	62.5
1950	..	...	...	59.2	63.2

^o Mixed and other coloured, not including indigenous population.

SECTION B

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Infectious Disease.

1,878 cases of infectious disease were notified in the Borough during the year. Included in this total are cases of tuberculosis notified under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, which were made by the Minister of Health under powers conferred upon him by the Public Health Act, 1936, and which came into force on 1st May, 1952. 124 cases were removed to isolation hospitals. Of this number, however, 66 were on discharge from hospital notified as not having suffered from the disease suspected. Thus the corrected number of cases of infectious disease for the year was 1,812. Even with the inclusion of the tuberculosis cases, this total shows a reduction of 443 as compared with the previous year, which is mainly accounted for by the fact that there was no measles epidemic.

Eight cases of diphtheria were notified but not one case was confirmed, and it is with much gratification that I am able to record no death from this disease in the Borough during the past nine years. During recent years great strides have been made in protecting children against diphtheria, and this service, free of charge, is carried out by the London County Council at clinics, which are held regularly at local Infant Welfare Centres and also by many general practitioners.

Figures recently made available with regard to diphtheria prevention show that, since the inception of the present Health Act, there has been a substantial increase in total numbers of children rendered safe. This is particularly pleasing as I believe that the position elsewhere is not so favourable.

To assist correct diagnosis the Council has made arrangements for the examination of specimens from patients sent in by doctors in doubtful or suspicious cases of diphtheria, typhoid fever, tuberculosis, etc. This service is carried out at the West London Hospital and is referred to later in the report.

Contacts and Carriers of Infectious Disease—Sickness Benefit.

Ministry of Health circular 115/48 empowers the Medical Officer of Health, where justified, to issue certificates to persons who have been in contact with or who are carriers of an infectious disease, thus enabling them to claim sickness benefit under the National Insurance Acts during the period of exclusion from their work.

Certificates were issued by the Medical Officer of Health during the year to two persons—one engaged in a confectioner's shop who had been in contact with a case of poliomyelitis, and the other engaged in a hospital dining room who had been in contact with a case of sonne dysentery.

Tuberculosis.

It is with regret that I have to report an increase in the incidence of this disease.

The number of new cases notified during the year was 215 as against 194 for the previous year. There was an increase of 18 in the number of pulmonary cases and an increase of 3 in the number of non-pulmonary cases.

This total is the same as that for 1934, and only once since then has it been exceeded, when in 1945 the total was 230.

In the statistical supplement will be found a chart showing the number of new cases of tuberculosis notified during the past 20 years.

Tuberculosis remains a very serious menace to public health and affects largely those age groups which are of the greatest value to the productive ability of the nation and has a serious influence on the industrial life of the people.

Although high priority is given by the housing authorities in re-housing tuberculous persons, the housing position results in inevitable difficulty in obtaining satisfactory homes at the right rent for the tuberculous and their families.

The number of deaths from tuberculosis was 33 as compared with 43 for the previous year.

The Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1953.

These Regulations, made by the Minister of Health, came into operation on 1st April, 1953.

They are in substitution for Regulations made in 1927, and correspond with the old Regulations in requiring notification of malaria, dysentery, acute primary pneumonia and acute influenzal pneumonia, and in prescribing action, in conformity with the present working of the health services, in relation to the diseases named in the fourth schedule.

They amplify, however, the precautionary measures provided for in the revoked regulations against food poisoning:—

(a) by relating these (instead of to enteric fever and dysentery, as formerly) to typhoid fever, paratyphoid fever or other salmonella infections (which includes the diseases previously known as enteric fever), dysentery and staphylococcal infection likely to cause food poisoning;

(b) by applying these measures in general to persons shown to be carriers of these diseases as well as to persons suffering from them;

(c) by preventing such persons (in either class) not only from continuing employment involving the handling of food, as formerly, but also from entering such employment; and

(d) by enabling a local authority to authorise the medical officer of health to issue notices in emergency, in order to check the spread of these diseases.

Food Poisoning.

Thirty-one cases occurred as compared with thirty-nine for the previous year. This total includes two outbreaks (three in one family and 10 employees of a large food factory). There were no deaths.

In four cases *Salmonella Typhi Murium* were identified as the responsible organisms. Responsible organisms were not identified in the remaining cases.

Foods alleged to have been involved included cold roast beef, roast pork, sausage sandwich, liver sausage, cream cakes, fish and chips and stuffed ox hearts and sauce.

With regard to the two outbreaks, one was entirely of a domestic nature, whilst the other occurred amongst the employees of a food factory who had taken a meal in the firm's canteen, which included stuffed ox heart with sauce.

The symptomatology was in all cases mild, but an interesting feature was that there was little or no vomiting. Few, if any, of the cases affected had to stay away from their work.

Investigations carried out were all negative except that coagulase positive staphylococci were recovered from cuts on two of the chef's fingers. A number of cases were examined bacteriologically but no pathogen was discovered in any case.

The opinion was formed that this was an example of a staphylococcal heat resistant toxin outbreak.

Medicinal Baths.

The Medicinal Baths in Scotts Road, Shepherds Bush, provide for the cleansing of verminous persons, etc., and for the treatment of scabies, impetigo, psoriasis, and other forms of dermatitis.

The figures showing the numbers dealt with during the year will be found on reference to the table in the Statistical Supplement.

It is very pleasing to report that there has been a decrease in the incidence of scabies and verminous conditions. The scabies total of 197 cases is the lowest for 23 years, whilst the verminous total of 1,194 cases is the lowest ever recorded since the Station was opened in 1923.

The County Council continue to use this centre for the treatment of school children, and special attention has been given to head infestations at the Welfare Centres and at the Day Nurseries.

Infested school children, together with their contacts of pre-school age, have been followed up in the home, and facilities (for all ages) have been made available at the Medicinal Baths. Advice is always given as to the best methods of eradication and of preventing recurrence.

The treatment and cleansing of persons from the Boroughs of Ealing, Richmond and Southall is also undertaken at the Disinfecting Station and Medicinal Baths. Assistance was further afforded to five other local authorities during the year.

On 46 occasions the West London Hospital used the services at the Medicinal Baths. Arrangements also exist between this Council and the Borough Councils of Ealing and Barnes for the disinfection of bedding. Early in the year 316 mattresses were sterilised before being used for the relief of the East Coast Flood victims.

The mobile team which is available for dealing with homes that require treatment, was again actively engaged and during the year 340 premises were sprayed for vermin (830 rooms) and 47 premises for infectious disease (61 rooms).

Following notification of vermin infestation or infectious disease, bedding and articles of clothing, etc., were collected from 197 premises and removed to the Disinfecting Station for sterilisation, and particulars are summarised in a table in the Statistical Supplement.

Health Laundry.

A year has now elapsed since the introduction of the health laundry scheme.

The scheme has been much appreciated by district nurses and home helps, as well as by the patients themselves, in whose condition a general improvement can usually be seen as a result of the service. In view of the precarious health of many of the patients, this can be considered as most satisfactory. The personal nature of the Council's assistance to these necessitous people reminds them that their needs are not forgotten and for this they are more than grateful.

During the year 71 certificates have been signed authorising the laundering of bed linen, etc., and 16 persons have benefited.

It must be emphasised that this is essentially a service which covers only those cases falling within the terms of Section 122 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936.

Cleansings carried out during the year included:—

Blankets	...	...	33
Sheets	...	...	183
Quilts	...	...	11
Clothing	...	...	72
Sundries	...	...	180
			<hr/>
			479
			<hr/>

SECTION C

HOUSING

Rehousing.

During the year applications for rehousing by the Borough Council were made to the Housing Department, 218, Goldhawk Road, Shepherds Bush, W.12.

The Housing Estates Manager relies on the Health Department for inspections to be made with a view to ascertaining whether a family is living in overcrowded conditions. Enquiries regarding these conditions are made by the Sanitary Inspectors, and where found to exist, the appropriate report is forwarded for submission to the L.C.C.

In many cases the Housing Estates Manager forwards certificates supporting the family's application on medical grounds, and careful consideration is given that recommendations are made only for the most urgent cases, having regard to the nature of the illness, the condition of the premises and the amenities available.

Applications for rehousing by the London County Council are made to that authority direct, and requests are received from them through the Housing Estates Manager, for similar enquiries to be made. In cases where there is medical evidence the Medical Officer of Health to the London County Council is responsible for allocating priorities on health grounds.

Reports are also asked for and supplied in regard to existing overcrowding and sanitary condition of premises.

Enquiries of this nature totalled 395 and of them 178 families were found, upon investigation, to be living in overcrowded conditions.

Thirty cases were recommended for rehousing on grounds of health. In addition to the above, a recommendation for rehousing was made to the Borough Council's Housing Department in cases where the applicant represented a recently married family who were expecting a baby, or where there were young children already living in unhygienic surroundings which are inadequate to maintain the high level of health which is so vital to the family unit in its early stages. In spite of the many claims made upon them, the Housing Department do the best they can in each case. During the year 17 such recommendations were made to the Housing Estates Manager.

These figures show that in less than 25% of applications for rehousing on medical grounds, I supported the application. It also shows that in 75% or thereabouts of persons presenting medical certificates, I find myself unable to support the applicant.

I append a table showing the number of cases recommended for rehousing under the three headings mentioned above and those actually rehoused from 1949:—

Year	HEALTH GROUNDS		OVERCROWDING GROUNDS		SPECIAL CASES	
	Recom- mended	Rehoused	Recom- mended	Rehoused	Recom- mended	Rehoused
1949	61	25	358	132	34	4
1950	35	10	439	203	8	9
1951	37	10	243	88	9	4
1952	27	10	187	79	7	7
1953	30	6	178	65	17	5

Those rehoused are not necessarily those recommended for the same year.

Permanent Estates.

During the year both the Borough Council and the London County Council have been actively engaged in providing accommodation for those in the greatest need, and further schemes are in progress.

Ninety-five flats on the White City Estate were completed by the London County Council and the under-mentioned were completed by the Borough Council:—

Nos. 1-18, Marryat Court, Cromwell Grove	18
Nos. 1-8, Essex Court, Hammersmith Grove	8
No. 91 (A-H), Coningham House, Coningham Road	8
Nos. 34, 36, 38, St. Peter's Road,	3
Nos. 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 40a, 40b, Richmond Way	8
Nos. 99, 101, 103, 105, Iffley Road	4
Nos. 19-19d and 21-21d, Benbow Road	10
Nos. 57, 57a, 57b, 57c, 57d, Percy Road	5
Nos. 1-48, Thackeray Court, Blythe Road	48
Nos. 36-51, Kelmscott Gardens, Askew Road	16
Nos. 52-67, Kelmscott Gardens, Askew Road	16
Nos. 31-42, Charcroft Court, Minford Gardens	12
Nos. 1-8, Morland Court, Coningham Road	8
Nos. 79, 79a, 81, 81a, 83, 83a, Lime Grove	6

TOTAL 170

The Council acts as landlords for 3,781 principal tenants. The properties managed include houses, flats, pre-fabs and requisitioned accommodation.

At the end of the year there were 5,411 applicants for accommodation on the Borough Council's list awaiting rehousing. No points scheme is used to assess these applicants. Their need according to bedroom deficiency, ill-health, insanitary conditions, overcrowding and separation of families is measured and used as a guide in allocating houses.

The following table illustrates the progress that is being made:—

1. Number of families rehoused by the Borough Council in new flats since the war	793
2. Number of families rehoused by the Borough Council in rebuilt houses since the war ...	30
3. Number of families rehoused by the Borough Council in prefabricated dwellings since the war	80
4. Number of Borough Council licensees living in requisitioned properties at the end of the year	1628

Overcrowding (Section 61).

Four licences were granted under Section 61 of the Housing Act, 1936, authorising a number of persons in excess of the permitted number as specified in the licence to sleep in a house.

Slum Clearance.

The properties Nos. 1-10, Latimer Mews, in respect of which a compulsory purchase order was confirmed by the Minister in May, 1952, have now been vacated and demolition of the premises is completed.

Building Licences.

The arrangements existing for dealing with applicants for building licences have continued in operation throughout the year. The Sanitary Inspectors have continued to investigate and report upon all applications.

Applications received	41
Licences issued	31
Pending	10

The amount of work which could be carried out to residential property during the year without licence was limited to £500.

SECTION D

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.**Meat and Other Foods.**

The supervision of the food supplies of the community is one of the most important duties which devolves upon the Health Committee. The maintenance of frequent inspection of all kinds of premises where food is sold, stored and manufactured for human consumption is the key to a successful service.

Conditions vary according to the nature of the trade carried on, the type of person or employee engaged, working conditions and structural arrangements, all of which have a direct bearing on the final product consumed by the public.

The careless handling of food or storage under unsuitable conditions are a major danger. Food in good condition, unless suitable and proper precautions are taken, easily becomes contaminated by bacteria, dirt, dust or vermin.

The Food and Drugs Act, 1938/52 is the principal Act under which premises and the handling of food in general are controlled. During the 15 years since the passing of this Act, its shortcomings have become increasingly obvious. It has been found that its scope is too limited to provide for the higher standard of hygiene required for the public and enlightened sections of the food industry.

In view of this, two distinct Working Parties were appointed by the Minister of Food. The first of these, the Catering Trade Working Party was appointed in 1948 to make recommendations to the Ministers of Food and Health as to the precautions considered practicable and desirable with a view to securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions in the catering trade. The second, the Manufactured Meat Products Working Party, was appointed in 1949 to review present trade practice and legal requirements for ensuring that conditions in the meat manufacturing trades are clean and sanitary, and that the products, and the materials from which they are prepared, are wholesome in all respects and to consider if new legislation was desirable.

Following the reports of these Working Parties it was decided that a new statute should be introduced. This is now nearing fulfilment in the Food and Drugs (Amendment) Bill which is at present before Parliament.

In the meantime, the introduction in November, 1952, of the London County Council Byelaws for the Protection of Food has provided some help in this direction. These byelaws were

made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly condition and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food sold or intended for sale for human consumption, and in connection with the sale or exposure for sale in the open air of food intended for human consumption.

Whilst these byelaws have given additional powers of control, their provisions are in the main of a general character. Among these, however, some new and necessary features have been introduced, for instance, the hygienic control of premises is now extended to embrace food stalls generally; also the power to require suitable and sufficient means of lighting in all food premises and stalls, and the prohibition of unsuitable wrapping materials. The Authority here has been particularly active in the enforcement of this latter provision.

The byelaws provided that food other than uncooked vegetables should not be wrapped in such a manner as to come in direct contact with newsprint.

A detailed investigation showed that a number of traders were using newsprint only for wrapping some foods. Fish is most commonly ill-wrapped. Warning letters were sent which in some cases produced satisfactory results. It was found, however, in some instances that only a token covering in the form of a small piece of plain paper of insufficient size was being used, allowing the food to come into direct contact with an outer covering of newsprint. Further warnings have been given in these cases, but I am not altogether hopeful that part of the trade is taking the matter as seriously as statute and the public require.

Another useful requirement is that a notice shall be affixed near every sanitary convenience in food premises requesting employees to wash their hands. In order to assist traders to comply with this provision, a number of suitable notices have been designed and produced and have been made available at cost price.

Throughout the years, routine inspections of premises, shops, stalls and vehicles where food is prepared, stored and sold has been carried out. During 1953, 5,652 visits were made and at 90 of these, unsatisfactory conditions constituting contraventions under Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and byelaws made thereunder were present. In each of these cases the unsatisfactory conditions were remedied following the issue of warning letters.

During the year no seizures were made of unsound food under Section 10 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The Council's Food and Drugs Inspectors accepted the voluntary surrender of foodstuffs which upon examination was found to be unfit for human consumption. A list of the commodities condemned and the amount involved is shown in the Statistical Supplement.

Sampling.

Throughout the year 1,300 samples of food and drugs were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis. Of this number 16 or 1.230 per cent. samples were reported to be non-genuine; this represents a small increase on last year. The following are details of the 16 samples which were reported non-genuine:—

Sample	Result of Analysis	Remarks
Cake	Had a strong flavour of mineral paraffin	Matter taken up with Manufacturer
Porridge Oats	Smoky odour and taste	Samples taken following a fire. Remainder of stocks used for animal feeding
Self Raising Flour	ditto	Warning letter
Solution of Acetic Acid	Incorrectly labelled	Warning letter
Concentrated solution of Acetic Acid	Incorrectly labelled	Warning letter
Table Jelly	7.9 per cent. deficient in sugar	Informal sample
Table Jelly	4 per cent. deficient in sugar	Warning letter
Glauber Salts B.P.	Effloresced	Remainder of stock withdrawn
Whipping Compound	11 per cent. deficient in fat stated	Informal sample
"Esko" Whipping Compound	14 per cent. deficient in fat stated	Warning letter
Sal Volatile	60 per cent. deficient in ammonia	Formal sample satisfactory
Sal Volatile	80 per cent. deficient in ammonia and 45% deficient in ammonium carbonate	No further supplies of this sample available. Other follow-up samples satisfactory
Pork sausages	Contained 580 parts per million sulphur dioxide	Legal proceedings taken on formal sample
Pork sausages	Contained 480 parts per million sulphur dioxide	Legal proceedings taken — unconditional discharge.
Beef Sausages	Contained 500 parts per million sulphur dioxide	Follow-up sample satisfactory
Mincemeat	Slightly deficient in soluble solids	Formal sample satisfactory

A total of 49 samples of synthetic and butter cream used in bakers' confectionery was taken for bacteriological examination. The results obtained throughout the year are as follows:—

Total number of samples of synthetic and butter cream	...	...	...	...	...	49
Bacillus coli (non faecal) present in	...	...	...	...	...	14
Bacillus coli (faecal) present in	...	...	...	...	...	3
Salmonella typhi-murium present in	...	...	...	...	...	1

A sample of "Mille Feuille" cream slices containing synthetic cream was taken for bacteriological examination from a retail shop in the Borough. The bacteriologist reported by telephone that he had found salmonella typhi-murium organisms present in the sample. An inspection of the shop showed that the general hygienic condition of the premises and staff was good. As the cream slices were manufactured at the Company's bakery in an adjoining Borough, I immediately informed the Medical Officer of Health of that area by telephone of the report. The same day a further sample of synthetic cream taken from a chocolate éclair was obtained from the retail shop and was found to be free from salmonella organisms. In the meantime, as a result of investigations carried out by the Medical Officer of Health of the adjoining Borough at the Company's bakehouse, four carriers of salmonella typhi-murium were found and were put off work. A bacteriological examination of the synthetic cream in pastry slices at the bakery showed no organisms of salmonella dysentery groups or coagulase + staphylococci, but coliform bacilli (faecal) were present in more than one brand. Subsequent samples taken from the branch shop have shown no further contamination.

The following articles of food were also submitted for bacteriological examination for routine and other purposes:—

Article of Food	Organisms Found		Other Organisms
	Faecal Coli	Non-faecal Coli	
3 samples of Rabbit Meat	—	3	
2 " Roast Beef	—	—	No pathogens
1 " Jam	—	—	do.
3 " Shellfish	2	—	1 no pathogens
1 " Veal and Ham Pie	—	—	do.
2 " Tonic Waters	—	—	do.
19 " Flour	1	8	
1 " Meringue Powder	—	—	1 no pathogens
6 " Desiccated Coconut	1	2	1 Staph. Aureus
1 " Milk Powder	—	—	Staph. Aureus
1 " Yorkshire Pudding	—	—	do.

So far as I can trace, we have never carried out sampling of uncooked ready to eat pork products for infectivity.

I believe that smoked continental sausages carried the biggest hazard and since 19th August we have examined 31 of various types. Schmeerwurtz, garlic, cervelati and salami have all been thoroughly examined and in every case I am glad to say, have been found wholesome. It is of particular interest that three months after this survey began, Liverpool experienced a considerable outbreak of trichinosis—the first in this country for some years.

It is perhaps even more interesting (to me) to learn that the majority of those infected in Liverpool were housewives who make a practice of eating raw sausage meat. I do not know if this habit exists in London, but now propose to sample raw sausage meat for trichinae.

During the year samples of fruit were taken for the purpose of identification. In one case the vendor had invented the name of "Strawberry Pippin" for a red eating apple. These were identified as Cox's Pearmain by the Royal Horticultural Society, but since there was no prejudice to the purchaser, no legal action was taken. Cox's Pearmain is a sound appetising dessert apple and had the vendor known its name, I am confident that he would not have bothered to give it a substitute name, however attractive to prospective purchasers this might be.

Markets.

The Food and Drugs Inspectors made 390 visits to the three markets at Bradmore Lane, Railway Approach and Norland Road. A large amount of food is sold in these markets and there is a call for careful and vigilant supervision.

Wormwood Scrubs Fair.

Inspectors visited this fair, which is held during the three spring and summer Bank Holiday periods. Stalls selling food-stuffs and drinks were inspected and samples were taken for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis.

Olympia Exhibition Halls.

Some of the best known exhibition premises in this Country are situated in the Borough and are visited by very large numbers of the public, for which a considerable amount of catering is required. At some exhibitions, which deal with the various food trades, the food inspectors are in constant attendance to ensure compliance with legal and hygienic requirements. Exhibitors are particularly advised by the Inspectors on practical hygiene, *e.g.*, cleansing and sterilising of utensils, washing facilities, etc., and samples are taken for bacteriological examination.

A high standard of hygiene is maintained in spite of the restricted conditions unavoidable at so many exhibitions.

Merchandise Marks Act, 1926.

Regular inspections were carried out under this Act. In some cases warnings were given by the Food and Drugs Inspectors in connection with the labelling requirements for fruit, particularly tomatoes. In no case, however, was it necessary to take legal proceedings.

Ice Cream.

Fifteen premises were registered for the sale of ice cream during the year and at the end of 1953 the total number of registrations in compliance with Section 14 of the Act was 299. The Food and Drugs Inspectors made 699 visits to premises where ice cream is sold, stored or manufactured.

During the year, 105 samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination. The results of the methylene blue test were as follows:—

62	samples	were	within	Grade	1	standard
22	”	”	”	”	2	”
15	”	”	”	”	3	”
4	”	”	”	”	4	”
2	”	”	ungraded			

Samples graded in 1 and 2 are considered satisfactory, but samples graded in 3 and 4 are doubtful. This shows an improvement on the results for 1952.

In addition, 80 samples of ice cream were taken for chemical analysis, all of which complied with the standard laid down by the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Orders, 1951/52.

Milk Supplies.

93 persons were registered as Distributors of Milk at the close of the year.

The number of small retailers bottling milk on their premises has been further reduced and the remaining few will, of course, cease bottling on the 1st October, 1954, as required by the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949. This is also the appointed date from which it shall be compulsory to use overlapping caps on containers of pasteurised milk.

All milk pasteurised in the Borough at the two large milk depots is processed by the high temperature short time method. There are altogether nine of these Plants including one of Swedish design which has only recently been introduced into

this Country. This is in addition to the processing of sterilised milk, the bottling of cream and the production of specially fermented milks and chocolate milk.

Designated Milk.

During the year 163 samples of Special Designated milk were taken from milk distributors, milk processing depots, hospitals and schools and submitted for the phosphatase, methylene blue and turbidity tests, the results of which are set out below :—

Class of Milk	No. Tested	Phosphatase Test		Meth. Blue Test		Turbidity Test	
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
Pasteurised ...	99	99	—	99	—	—	—
T.T. Pasteurised ...	31	31	—	31	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested ...	13	—	—	9	4	—	—
Sterilized ...	20	—	—	—	—	20	—
Total ...	163	130	—	139	4	20	—

The four samples of tuberculin tested milk which failed to pass the methylene blue test were reported to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and further samples from the same sources proved to be satisfactory.

A further 94 samples of milk were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis, all of which were reported genuine.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, the following licences were issued during the year :—

Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licence ...	2
Dealer's (Steriliser's) Licence ...	1
Dealer's (Bottling) Licence ...	1

DEALER'S LICENCES

Tuberculin Tested ...	63
Pasteurised ...	69
Sterilised ...	82

DEALER'S SUPPLEMENTARY LICENCES

Tuberculin Tested ...	15
Pasteurised ...	17
Sterilised ...	19

Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923/1948.

These Regulations provide standards for milk fat and milk solids of condensed milk and control the labelling of tins and

other receptacles. During the year 34 samples were submitted for examination to the Public Analyst and were reported genuine.

Hammersmith Clean Food Traders' Guild.

The Clean Food Traders' Guild, which was formed to encourage more hygienic practices in the preparation, handling and sale of foodstuffs, continued its work during the year. Control of the Guild is in the hands of a Committee comprising representatives of the Health Committee, nominees of the Food Trades Associations and the Chamber of Trade and Commerce and representatives of the Employees' Trade Unions, the majority being Trade Members.

At the end of the year the number of Food Traders enrolled in the Guild was 112. This figure shows a slight reduction compared with the previous year, a few of the traders having allowed their membership to lapse by the non-payment of subscriptions. On the other hand several new members were registered.

Reports by the inspectors of the Health Department showed that the standard imposed by the Guild's Codes of Practice was generally well maintained by the members and improvement in the condition of a number of premises was obtained.

The Educational work of the Guild was continued by the distribution of leaflets, talks to school children and women's organisations and by direct contact with food trade employees. During the year the Guild, in conjunction with the Health Committee, published a handbook on "Food Hygiene." 1,000 copies were distributed, mostly to members of the general public.

At the end of the year (1953) the number of premises from which foodstuffs were being sold by retail, so far as was known to the Department, was 617.

Classified under different types of business they were as under:—

Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	33
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	66
Cooked meats, eel-pie shops, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	17°
Departmental and Chain stores	...	...	...	...	...	7
Fishmongers and Fried-fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	41
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	82
Grocers, Provision merchants and allied traders	...	...	...	...	...	232†
Sweetstuff shops	...	...	...	...	...	139
						<hr/> 617 <hr/>

° including 2 registered for the sale of milk.

† including 86 registered for the sale of milk.

There were approximately 231 premises in the Borough where food could be consumed on the premises.

Sub-divided, they were as under:—

Cafes, Restaurants, Snack-bars, etc. (not including public-houses where food was sold and coffee stalls)	139
Industrial and Staff canteens	53
Places of entertainment, Social and Sports Clubs, etc.	36
Old People's Luncheon Clubs	3
	<hr/>
	231
	<hr/>

The number of licensed premises in the Borough was 134, comprising 102 Public-houses and 33 Wine and Spirit merchants and Beer retailers. (This figure does not include restaurants, grocers' shops, etc., licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquors).

There were 38 licensed street traders who sold foodstuffs and 16 coffee-stalls occupying sites in streets in the Borough.

Large factories where foodstuffs of one sort or another were manufactured numbered 16 and there were three wholesale dairies with milk processing plant.

The number of milk distributors registered in the Borough is 93, ice cream premises 299 and premises for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed or preserved food intended for sale 110.

861 inspections were carried out at milk distributors' premises during the year and 699 inspections of ice cream premises were made.

A quantity of various foodstuffs have been condemned as unfit for human consumption after examination by the Council's Inspectors. This unsound food has been disposed of in one of three ways:—

1. Butchers' meat, after treatment with naphthalene green dye has been collected by a waste food processing company in agreement with the Wholesale Meat Supply Association.
2. Other foodstuffs suitable for use as pigs' food has been collected by the Council's pig food recovery service.
3. The remaining articles, small quantities of canned goods, etc., have been collected by the cleansing department and disposed of as household refuse.

SECTION E

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

Staff.

The establishment of Sanitary Inspectors consists of one Senior Sanitary Inspector, a Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector and 10 other district Inspectors, two Food and Drugs Inspectors and one woman Inspector.

One district Inspector also acts as Inspector in charge of rodent control operations. There were no resignations during the year. Three of the four positions of district Inspector which were vacant at the beginning of the year were filled, but not without difficulty and loss of time. For the year as a whole, the shortage averaged $3\frac{1}{2}$ Inspectors over the entire period.

Exhumation and Re-interment of Bodies.

During the year six licences were granted by the Secretary of State for the exhumation and removal of bodies from graves in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery, Harrow Road.

Each of these was attended by the local district Inspector and in each case it was possible to certify that the removal was carried out in a proper manner.

Increase of Rent and Mortgage Restrictions Act, 1920/1939.

Five applications were received during the year for certificates under the above Act, but in only one case was it possible to grant a certificate, the other applications being in respect of premises which were not controlled under the principal Act.

Coroner's Court and Public Mortuary.

The number of bodies admitted to the Public Mortuary shows an increase of 25 as compared with last year. There was also an increase of 24 over last year in the number of post mortem examinations conducted.

The Mortuary and Court were also used by the Boroughs of Fulham, Chelsea and Kensington.

The Mortuary is equipped with a large refrigeration plant and this ensures a completely satisfactory standard of hygiene.

Full particulars relating to the work carried out will be found in the Statistical Supplement.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

The above Act, which came into operation on the 1st November, 1951, makes it compulsory for manufacturers,

retailers and other users of rag flock and other prescribed filling materials to be registered or licensed by the local authority.

Registered premises are those where certain filling materials are used in upholstery, including the stuffing or lining of bedding, toys, baby carriages, etc.

Licensed premises are those where rag flock is

- (a) manufactured, or
- (b) stored for distribution to registered premises.

During the year only one certificate of registration of premises was granted, making a total of 10 since the Act came into force.

Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933, and Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941.

The names and addresses of 117 retailers were entered on the Council's list of persons entitled to sell poisons under Part 2 of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933, and Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941. No action was necessary in respect of any offence under the Act.

All have been inspected as to their suitability, method of storage and labelling, as required under the Act, and have been found satisfactory.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Under the above Act, which came into operation on the 1st April, 1952, local authorities are responsible for issuing licences to persons for keeping pet shops and for the inspection of premises so licensed to check whether the requirements are complied with.

The Act includes requirements as to the suitability of the accommodation, the adequate supply of suitable food and drink for animals, that mammals are not to be sold at too early an age and for reasonable precautions against fire and spread of infectious diseases amongst animals.

Certain conditions approved by the Council are applied to all licences issued.

Ten applications for renewal of licences were received and granted during the year.

Heating Appliances (Fire Guards) Act, 1952.

This Act, which received the Royal Assent on the 1st August, 1952, came into operation on the 1st October, 1953.

The Act prohibits the sale or letting of unguarded domestic electric fires, gas fires or oil heaters, empowers authorised officers of local authorities to inspect and list appliances kept on any premises for sale or letting, and imposes penalties for contraventions.

No reports of any contravention were received since the Act came into force.

London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1952.

No reports of any contravention of Section 26 of the above Act, which deals with restrictions on sales, etc., by dealers in rags, old clothes and similar articles were received during the year.

Public Baths and Wash-houses.

The public baths and wash-houses in Lime Grove, Shepherds Bush provide facilities for bathing (slipper baths), swimming and for laundry work.

The water in the swimming baths is, of course, filtered and chlorinated to secure a high degree of purity.

In the public wash-houses, modern facilities are provided for washing, drying, ironing and mangling at a small cost.

The Open Air Bath at Bloemfontein Road, Shepherds Bush, provides during the summer months, facilities for swimming and sun-bathing. The water in this bath also undergoes the required purification treatment.

During the year 47 samples of water were taken from the baths and submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. In addition, 29 samples were taken for bacteriological examination. All these samples were satisfactory.

SECTION F

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH

Water Supply.

The Metropolitan Water Board is responsible for the water supply of the Borough and no complaints with regard to the condition of the water were received during the year.

267 certificates were granted under Section 95 (2) of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, with regard to newly erected houses and flats having a proper and sufficient water supply.

Public Cleansing.

The Borough Engineer and Surveyor, who is responsible for supervising the collection, removal and disposal of refuse, has kindly furnished the following information with regard to this service.

		Tons
Amount of house refuse and kitchen waste collected during the year 1953	—House Refuse	... 33,837
	—Kitchen Waste	... 2,353
		36,190

Method of disposal	...	...	By road to tip at Denham
Frequency of collection	...	(a)	House refuse—weekly.
		(b)	Trade refuse—as required.

Drainage.

The bye-laws made by the London County Council under the Metropolis Management Acts with regard to drainage, and also those under the Public Health (London) Act relating to water closets, etc., are enforced by the Council.

During the year 99 drainage plans (7 combined drainage) were submitted and approved, and a total of 2,000 inspections were made in connection with supervision of drainage works.

Dustbins.

74 notices were served under section 105 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936 requiring the provision of proper and sufficient ashpit (dustbin) accommodation. No appeals were lodged against any of the notices served.

Sanitary Inspection.

The sanitary conditions of the Borough were subject to routine inspection and investigations were made into all complaints received.

Particulars of visits made by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year, the numbers of preliminary and statutory notices served and complied with, and proceedings instituted, will be found on reference to the table in the Statistical Supplement.

Owing to the difficulty in filling vacancies in the inspectorial staff, it was not always possible to take action to investigate complaints and secure the abatement of nuisances as expeditiously as desired.

Factories.

During the year 17 notices were served relating to insanitary conditions found to exist during the inspection of factories in the Borough.

In the Statistical Supplement will be found a table which has been prepared in accordance with the form prescribed by the Minister of Labour and National Service on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937, dealing with factories (mechanical and non-mechanical) and outwork.

Rodent Control.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

In 1951 we instituted the practice of every visit to any premises being used as an inspection for rodents, and considerable success followed in discovering hidden infestations.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries have now written to all local Authorities to follow the same procedure.

Complaints and infestations discovered by Sanitary Inspectors have both increased during the year, and in many cases it has been more difficult than usual to locate the source.

We have also undertaken four "Block" controls which demand a great deal of preliminary investigation. "Block" control is decided upon when a number of infestations occur in a well-defined area. The whole area, or "Block," is then treated.

Six major infestations were encountered and were successfully dealt with, but it should be borne in mind that very often a minor, less clearly defined infestation, is much harder to combat than that of a major one whose boundaries are easier to demarcate.

Sewer manholes were baited, as is usual, twice during the year, and the takes of poison were substantially the same as in previous years.

Sewer baiting is done at the same time as neighbouring boroughs, and the large number of dead rats collected at the sewer outfalls show that treatments are successful.

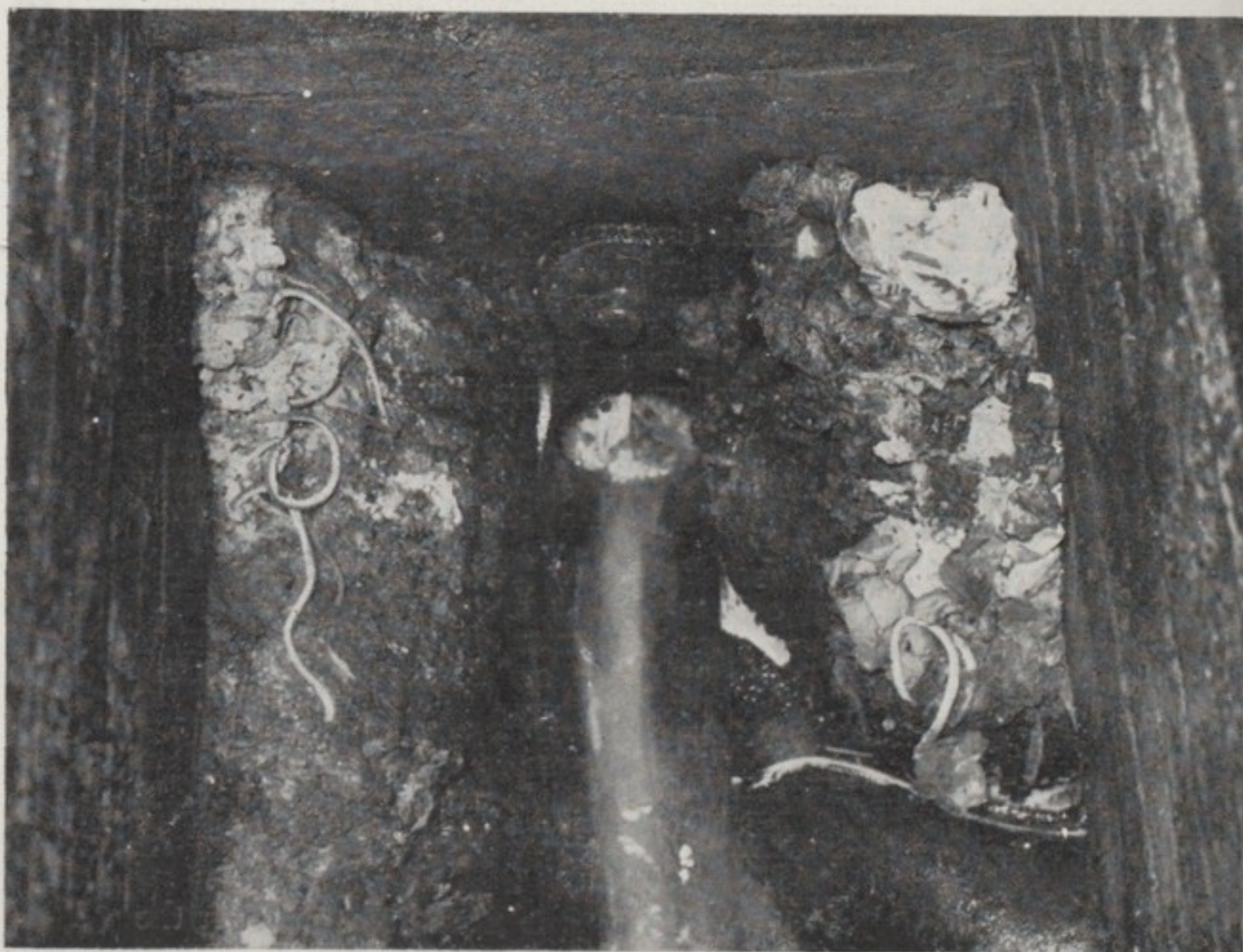
The complaints of rodents rose from 410 to 467 (314 rats, 153 mice) but 40 rat complaints were "false alarms."

Infestations discovered by inspection, other than by complaint, rose from 125 to 134 (84 rats and 50 mice).

From the above it will be seen that this has been a very busy year for Rodent Control and staff have been working at full pressure.

I do not regard the increased figures in a bad light, but rather it tends to show that the more that can be found from the enormous relatively untouched pool that exists, the less likely it is that the total population can ever increase, but will be perhaps slowly but remorselessly whittled down to nonentity.

I am including two photos which show how an adult male rat had stored his food in a manhole taking the drainage of 14 houses.



Drain manhole showing rat's nest and food store.



The tenant leaving home.

The food, consisting of bacon rind, potatoes, cabbage leaves, bread, etc., had been fished out of the drain channel and placed on the "benching" by the rat.

The rat's nest, which consisted of paper, can be seen in the top right corner.

This was discovered in consequence of a complaint that a rat had been seen diving into a lavatory six houses away.

When the manhole was opened, the rat was seen on top of the food.

Subsequently the manhole cover was lifted and the rat was seen to run up a branch drain. The branch was then flushed with water and the photographs taken as the rat tried to make his getaway.

The drain was eventually cleared of the food and the rat killed by poison.

If this is an example of how much food can find its way into a comparatively short length of drain, it is no wonder that so many rats can and do live in sewers.

One Notice was served under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act.

52 Notices to repair drains, etc., causing rat infestations were served under the Public Health (London) Act.

Approximately £110 has been received for treatment by baiting and trapping at 73 business premises.

The following is a summary of work done for the year, but in future this will differ from that supplied to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries as they now require figures to correspond with the financial year.

SUMMARY

Premises inspected: Dwellings 470, Business 1,312	1,782
Complaints of rats and mice	467
Premises infested by rats:—	
Dwellings 299, Business 59	358
Premises infested by mice:—	
Dwellings 173, Business 30	203
New infestations treated: Rats 317, Mice 203 ...	520
Notices served relating to Rodent Control ...	53
Inspections and re-inspections by Sanitary Inspectors <i>re</i> Rodent Control	3,192

Atmospheric Pollution.

In December, 1952, the Metropolitan Boroughs' Standing Joint Committee invited the constituent Councils to co-operate with the London and Home Counties Smoke Abatement Society by setting up stations in their areas for measuring and recording the extent of atmospheric pollution. The Council at once agreed and stations have been set up in (a) Westville Road, and (b) Australia Road. These are in addition to that which had been established in Ravenscourt Park and is maintained by the London County Council.

The apparatus, which was purchased towards the end of the year, consists of a deposit gauge and a lead peroxide instrument. The deposit gauge collects the grit, ash and finer particles of matter and the lead peroxide instrument measures the quantity of sulphurous gases (gases which irritate the lungs and penetrate the masonry of buildings) on a specially prepared cylinder.

Monthly readings are to be taken and the information made available to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

During the year 200 observations of non-domestic chimneys in the Borough were made by the Sanitary Inspectors as a result of which six Notices were served to abate smoke nuisances.

SECTION G

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH

Laboratory Facilities.

Following the appointment of Mr. D. F. H. Button, A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C. (Public Analyst to the Southwark Borough Council) on the 1st October, 1952, to the position of Public Analyst to this Council, the chemical analysis of food is now carried out at the Southwark Borough Council's Laboratory situated at The Health Centre, Walworth Road, S.E.

Bacteriological examination of food and drugs is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, County Hall, and the Borough Council have arranged for the convenience of local doctors and their patients that various bacteriological investigations are made at the West London Hospital.

Our work at this laboratory includes the examination of throat swabs and intestinal specimens, etc., and the service is of much benefit in view of its immediate accessibility.

Throat swabs and faeces outfits are supplied free on application to the Public Health Department to all medical practitioners practising in the Borough.

Ambulance Facilities.

The London County Council is responsible, under the National Health Service Act, 1946, for the provision of ambulance facilities within the administrative County of London.

Hospitals.

The following hospitals are situated in Hammersmith:—

Hammersmith Hospital, Du Cane Road, W.12.

Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital, Goldhawk Road, W.6.

Royal Masonic Hospital, Ravenscourt Park, W.6.

West London Hospital, Hammersmith Road, W.6.

Hammersmith Hospital and West London Hospital are designated as teaching hospitals, and together with St. Mark's Hospital, Chelsea, are under the control of a joint board of governors. The Royal Masonic Hospital is a private hospital and Queen Charlotte's is a maternity hospital with its own board of governors. It is one of the largest of its kind in the country.

The Hammersmith Chest Clinic, established at Hammersmith Hospital, continued to function during the year, and sessions are held regularly at the following times:—

Monday mornings	...	9 a.m.—Adult routine
„ afternoons	...	1.30 p.m.—Male X-Ray only.
„ „	...	2 p.m.—B.C.G. vaccination.
„ „	...	2.30 p.m.—Female X-Ray only
„ evenings	...	5 p.m.—Workers' refills and Contact X-Rays.
Tuesday mornings	...	9 a.m.—Adult routine.
„ afternoons	...	1.30 p.m.—Female refills.
Wednesday mornings	...	10 a.m.—Ambulance X-Rays.
Thursday mornings	...	9 a.m.—Adult routine.
„ afternoons	...	1.30 p.m.—Male refills.
„ „	...	2 p.m.—Preliminary skin testing for B.C.G.
Friday mornings	...	9 a.m.—Children's clinic.
„ afternoons	...	1.30 p.m.—Adult routine.

All new patients should bring a letter of introduction from their family doctor.

Personal Health Services.

The County Council remained responsible for the personal health services under the charge of Dr. V. I. Russell, and her deputy, Dr. R. H. Simpson. The day to day administration of these services is provided by the Medical Officers of Health for the Boroughs of Chelsea, Fulham, Hammersmith and Kensington.

The liaison between the staffs of the county council and the borough council continue on a very happy and cordial footing.

The following is a list of the various clinics:—

Ante-natal Clinics.

1/3, Milson Road	...	Monday	1.30 p.m.
		Tuesday	9.30 a.m.
		Friday	9.30 a.m.
48, Glenthorne Road	...	Monday	6 p.m.
		Tuesday	1.30 p.m.
		Friday	1.30 p.m.
Becklow Gardens	...	Monday	1.30 p.m.
		Tuesday	9.30 a.m.
		Thursday	1.30 p.m., 6 p.m.
The Curve, Westway	...	Monday	9.30 a.m.
		Wednesday	9.30 a.m., 1.30 p.m.
The Library, College Park	.	Tuesday	1.30 p.m.

Infant Welfare Centres.

1/3, Milson Road ...	...	Tuesday	1.30 p.m.	
		Wednesday	9.30 a.m.	
		Thursday	9.30 a.m.,	1.30 p.m.
48, Glenthorne Road	...	Monday	1.30 p.m.	
		Wednesday	1.30 p.m.	
		Thursday	1.30 p.m.	
		Friday	9.30 a.m.	
Becklow Gardens ...	...	Tuesday	1.30 p.m.	
		Wednesday	9.30 a.m.,	1.30 p.m.
		Friday	9.30 a.m.,	1.30 p.m.
The Curve, Westway	...	Monday	1.30 p.m.	
		Thursday	9.30 a.m.,	1.30 p.m.
		Friday	1.30 p.m.	
The Library, College Park .		Friday	9.30 a.m.	

Physiotherapy (Massage and Light).

48, Glenthorne Road	...	Monday	1.30 p.m.
		Tuesday	1.30 p.m.
		Wednesday	1.30 p.m.
		Thursday	1.30 p.m.
		Friday	1.30 p.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

1/3, Milson Road	...	Friday	1.30 p.m.
48, Glenthorne Road	...	Wednesday	9.30 a.m.
Becklow Gardens ...	...	Thursday	9.30 a.m.
The Curve, Westway	...	Tuesday	9.30 a.m.
The Library, College Park .		Friday	9.30 a.m.

Vaccination.

1/3, Milson Road ...	...	Friday	1.30 p.m.
48, Glenthorne Road	...	Wednesday	9.30 a.m.
Becklow Gardens ...	...	Thursday	9.30 a.m.
The Curve, Westway	...	Tuesday	9.30 a.m.

Chiropody.

48, Glenthorne Road	...	Monday	2 p.m.
		Tuesday	2 p.m.
		Wednesday	2 p.m.
		Thursday	2 p.m.
		Friday	10 a.m.

During the year dried milk and other nutrients have been issued from the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. In addition, the Ministry of Food has been responsible for National Dried Milk, Concentrated Orange Juice and Cod Liver Oil in accordance with their recognised scale of charges.

The County Council also maintain the following four Day Nurseries, which are available for children up to five years of age:—

Brook Green Day Nursery
Dalling Road Day Nursery
Latimer Road Day Nursery
Uxbridge Road Day Nursery

Each is open on Mondays to Fridays from 7.30 a.m. to 6 p.m., and the charge for children received into them is based on the parents' income and is reduced if the circumstances warrant it.

Domestic Help Service.

This service, also administered by the County Council, employs 8 full-time and 68 part-time helpers and maintained its good and valuable work during the year. Its local headquarters are in the Public Health Department in the Town Hall.

Number of cases in which help was provided:—

Maternity	...	...	...	30
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	85
Other	...	...	...	837

1,522 effective visits were made to various homes by the organiser.

International Certificates of Vaccination and Inoculation.

Arrangements continued during the year for the authentication by the Medical Officer of Health of certificates of vaccination and inoculation in the international form. These certificates are required by passengers proceeding abroad from this country and the purpose of the authentication is to provide proof to health authorities abroad that the signature of the person issuing the certificate is that of a registered medical practitioner.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

National Assistance Amendment Act, 1951.

Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention.

Under the provisions of the National Assistance Acts, a Medical Officer of Health is empowered to apply to the Courts for an Order for the compulsory removal to a hospital or other

suitable place, of persons who are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions and unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from others, proper care and attention.

During the year it was only necessary to take action under the above on one occasion.

In this particular case a lady of 60 years, suffering from advanced cancer of the face, was found living alone, without attention or help. She had had no medical care and was obviously at the point of death. A Magistrate's Order was obtained and she was taken to hospital and made comfortable and warm. Her death followed in a few days.

If this was an uncommon and unusual type of tragedy one would feel happier about our old people. Far too many, it is to be deplored, spend the ends of their lives alone and without a friend and have to be rescued at death's door by one or other of the country's health services.

In addition to the above, many other cases, mostly elderly and infirm persons, were brought to our notice, but in none, however, was there justification for certifying that application for an order for removal be made.

In the majority of cases it was possible, however, to render assistance by securing the provision of nursing by the District Nursing Association, Home Help, visits by the Welfare Organiser of the Hammersmith Old People's Welfare Association, Invalid Meals and by arranging admissions to hospitals where necessary.

Close co-operation with all the bodies working for the welfare of the elderly in the Borough is maintained but there is no doubt that the problem of the ageing population is slowly increasing and is a matter of great concern.

Burial or Cremation of the Dead.

It is provided that the local authority shall arrange burial or cremation in the case of any person who has died or been found dead in the Borough, in any case where it appears to the authority that no suitable funeral arrangements have been or are being made.

During the year 23 burials were carried out by the Council at a total cost of £267 18s. 0d. Of this amount, £159 11s. 0d. has been recovered.

In no case was a wish expressed for cremation.

Hammersmith Old People's Welfare Association.

The Hammersmith Old People's Welfare Association which discovers and meets the needs of necessitous old persons continued to make even further progress during the year.

At the end of the year approximately 1,600 cases were on the records of the Association, an increase of 650 on last year's figure, and new cases continue to be brought to the notice of the Association daily.

For the financial year 1953/4, a grant of £4,510 was made by the Council to the Association, and at the time of writing provision has been made for £4,483 for the year 1954/5.

The Association's sphere of activity embraces party holidays at the seaside, three luncheon clubs, domiciliary meals to the needy, a chiropody service, free legal advice, friendly visiting service and social visitation on a very large scale.

Very much good work is being done and the expansion which has taken place during the year will undoubtedly continue.

Medical Examination of Council's Staff.

During the year I have continued to carry out the duties of medical advisor to the Council.

Every new entrant to the service is required to undergo a medical examination, including a chest X-ray, in order to ascertain whether he or she is fit to be admitted to the Council's Superannuation and/or Sick Pay Schemes.

In addition to this, medical examinations are conducted in all cases where the prescribed "sick leave with pay" has been exceeded. The Council in many such instances makes up sick pay for further periods to bring their employee back to good health.

The total number of first examinations carried out during 1953 was 304, and of this number 76 were found to be unfit for the following reasons:—

Hypertension	...	...	9	Vertigo and Migraine	...	1
Bilateral Otorrhoea	...	...	2	Loss of left lower limb	...	1
Otitis Media	...	...	9	Petit Mal	...	1
Duodenal Ulcer	...	...	3	History of depression	...	1
Gastric Ulcer	...	...	2	Persistent disc symptoms	...	1
Glycosuria	...	...	4	Neurosis	...	1
Chest condition	...	...	9	Gingivitis and caries	...	3
Dermatitis	...	...	3	Defective vision	...	1
Varicose Veins	...	...	4	Recurrent symptoms		
L.I. Hernia	...	...	2	left arm	...	1
R.I. Hernia	...	...	4	T.B. Hip (left)	...	1
Double Hernia	...	...	2	Sciatica	...	1
Anxiety state	...	...	3	Asthma	...	1
History of Tubercle	...	...	1	Arthritis (right knee)	...	1
Presence of Hydrocele	...	...	1	Heart	...	1
Nervous Debility	...	...	1	Lumbago	...	1

At the beginning of last year the Council decided to put into operation a scheme for streamlining sick leave arrangements. The scheme adopted has worked satisfactorily and efficiently and during the year 49 examinations were conducted by the Department's medical staff.

Financial Contributions to Voluntary Organisations.

Payments to the funds of voluntary bodies were, on the recommendation of the Health Committee, made by the Council during 1953, as indicated below:—

Organisation	Amount			Statutory Authority
	£	s.	d.	
Central Council for Health Education	10	10	0	Public Health (London) Act, 1936, Section 298.
National Smoke Abatement Society	12	12	0	Public Health (London) Act, 1936, Section 298. Local Government Act, 1948, Section 136.

Conferences.

The Council were officially represented at the under-mentioned Conferences dealing with matters within the purview of the Public Health Department:—

Conference	Delegates
Royal Sanitary Institute, Hastings — 28th April/1st May, 1953.	Councillor A. R. Mingaye Dr. F. M. Day, Medical Officer of Health.
Sanitary Inspectors' Association, Morecambe—8th/11th September, 1953.	Mr. W. Rigby, Senior Sanitary Inspector.
National Smoke Abatement Society, Glasgow — 30th September/2nd October, 1953.	Councillor L. Freeman Dr. F. M. Day, Medical Officer of Health.

Health Information Bureau.

Early in 1953 a project to set up a Health Information Bureau was considered and approved by the Health Committee. It was known that there was a need for a local Centre where information regarding the various health services provided by the State, the Borough and County Councils and voluntary Associations could be collated and made available to the general public. Some of these services were already known to the man in the street, but there were many of whose existence he was less sure. The

Committee were of the opinion that a Bureau where advice on health problems and information as to how the right expert help could be obtained would be of considerable public value.

The Bureau was opened on the 1st January, 1954. A number of reporters from national, daily and local newspapers were present. The British Broadcasting Corporation sent representatives who made a recording which was broadcast throughout the Country the same evening in Radio Newsreel in the Light Programme.

Simultaneously with the opening of the Bureau, a Health Services Guide was issued. This Guide sets out information regarding all the Health Services ranging from comprehensive lists of doctors, dentists, opticians and chemists practising in the Borough to particulars of facilities provided at the public baths and wash-houses. Details of a large number of voluntary associations and their activities are included.

The Guide was widely circulated and copies are available to anyone interested upon application to the Bureau.

The Bureau is conveniently sited in the Offices of the Public Health Department, and its personnel springs from the staff of the Department. No additional accommodation or staff have been required.

A number of appreciative and complimentary letters have been received regarding the booklet from doctors, associations and members of the public, and from abroad.

The Bureau has, since it was opened, dealt with a number of enquiries varying widely in their features and this in itself is confirmation, originally believed, that a need existed broad in its wants and when satisfied, of real benefit to the actual health of the public.

STATISTICAL
SUPPLEMENT
TO ANNUAL REPORT
FOR
YEAR 1953

GENERAL STATISTICS—1953

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,282.5 acres
Population (1953) (estimated)	...	...	...	...	...	...	117,600
„ (1952) (estimated)	...	...	...	...	...	...	118,800
„ Census (1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...	119,367
Natural increase, <i>i.e.</i> , excess of births over deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	543
Marriages registered	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,226
Rateable value (April, 1953)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£ 1,271,109
Sum represented by a penny rate (April, 1953)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£ 5,447

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS—1953

Live Births	{	Legitimate	...	Total	1,610	M.	833	F.	777	{	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population = 14.9
		Illegitimate	...	140	76	64					
Stillbirths	...	...	...	44	23	21	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births = 24.5				
Deaths	...	...	...	1,207	672	535	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population = 10.3				

Deaths from maternal causes—

		Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Pregnancy, abortion	childbirth,	3	1.67
Total		<u>3</u>	<u>1.67</u>

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	20
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	21.73
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	222
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	1

NATURAL INCREASE OR DECREASE OF THE POPULATION DURING THE PAST 20 YEARS

Year	Population	Excess of Births over Deaths	Excess of Deaths over Births
1934	129,170	115	—
1935	128,100	353	—
1936	127,700	325	—
1937	126,500	320	—
1938	125,100	521	—
1939	B122,800	438	—
	D116,200		
1940	98,320	—	156
1941	84,880	77	—
1942	89,370	337	—
1943	92,050	468	—
1944	89,190	370	—
1945	96,100	434	—
1946	111,860	974	—
1947	117,280	1,190	—
1948	115,800	847	—
1949	118,440	662	—
1950	119,200	691	—
1951	118,300	377	—
1952	118,800	420	—
1953	117,600	543	—

B=Birth Rate Population Figure. D=Death Rate Population Figure

INCIDENCE OF CANCER DURING THE PAST 10 YEARS

Year	Population	Deaths	Rate per 1,000
1944	89,190	200	2.2
1945	96,100	207	2.1
1946	111,860	226	2.0
1947	117,280	253	2.1
1948	115,800	254	2.1
1949	118,440	238	2.0
1950	119,200	258	2.1
1951	118,300	254	2.1
1952	118,800	290	2.4
1953	117,600	222	1.9

DEATHS FROM CARCINOMA OF LUNGS

Year		0—25	—45	—65	—75	+75	Total
1941	M	—	—	10	1	—	11
	F	—	—	2	3	—	5
Total		—	—	12	4	—	16
1946	M	—	6	30	5	1	42
	F	—	—	2	2	—	4
Total		—	6	32	7	1	46
1947	M	—	3	25	7	2	37
	F	—	—	1	1	1	3
Total		—	3	26	8	3	40
1948	M	—	1	19	8	4	32
	F	—	1	8	3	1	13
Total		—	2	27	11	5	45
1949	M	—	7	25	13	4	49
	F	—	—	3	1	1	5
Total		—	7	28	14	5	54
1950	M	—	4	28	10	3	45
	F	—	1	3	2	2	8
Total		—	5	31	12	5	53
1951	M	—	1	33	11	3	48
	F	—	1	3	3	1	8
Total		—	2	36	14	4	56
1952	M	—	3	31	14	5	53
	F	—	—	5	4	2	11
Total		—	3	36	18	7	64
1953	M	—	2	18	25	2	47
	F	—	—	1	3	1	5
Total		—	2	19	28	3	52

INCIDENCE OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS AND NEOPLASMS OF THE LUNG

Age Groups		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Neoplasms of the Lung or Bronchus	
		1952	1953	1952	1953
MALES ...	0—	—	—	—	—
	1—	—	—	—	—
	5—	—	—	—	—
	15—	—	—	—	—
	25—	4	6	3	2
	45—	14	16	31	18
	65—	11	6	14	25
	75—	2	—	5	2
TOTAL MALES ...		31	28	53	47
FEMALES	0—	—	—	—	—
	1—	—	—	—	—
	5—	—	—	—	—
	15—	1	—	—	—
	25—	3	1	—	—
	45—	4	1	5	1
	65—	—	1	4	3
	75—	—	—	2	1
TOTAL FEMALES		8	3	11	5

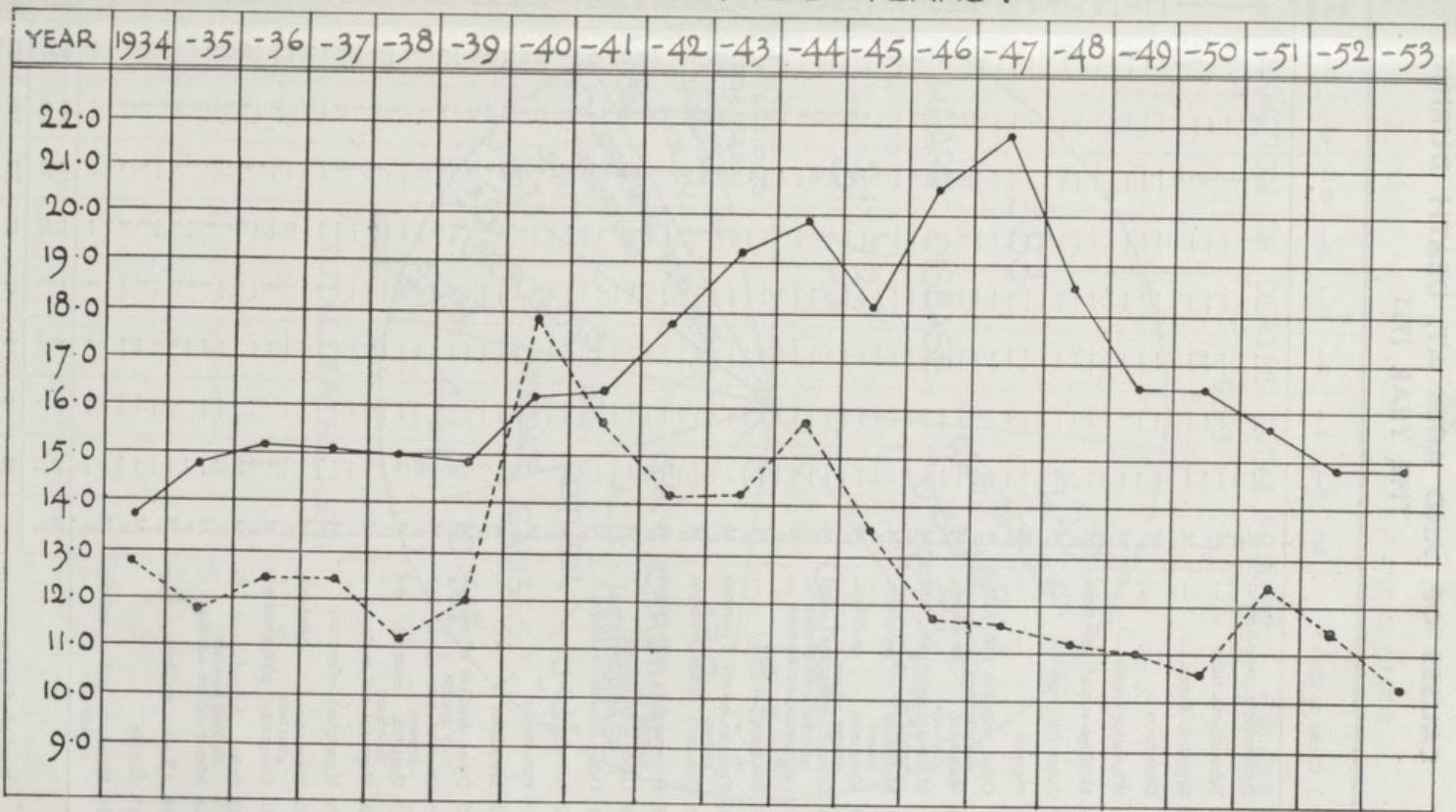
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT

1953 and Previous Years

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births		Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Net Deaths belonging to the District			
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate	of Non-residents registered in the District	of Residents not registered in the District	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages	
								Number	Rate per 1,000 Net Births	Number	Rate
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1925	134,500	2,351	17.5	1,034	7.7	186	756	153	65	1,604	11.9
1926	134,400	2,188	16.3	1,174	8.7	195	556	144	66	1,535	11.4
1927	132,800	2,076	15.6	1,581	11.9	230	377	126	61	1,728	13.0
1928	136,300	2,258	16.6	1,449	10.6	222	326	156	69	1,553	11.4
1929	136,900	2,162	15.8	1,757	12.8	222	340	133	62	1,875	13.7
1930	136,900	2,173	15.9	1,387	10.1	219	436	140	64	1,604	11.7
1931	135,100	2,073	15.3	1,567	11.6	288	373	140	68	1,652	12.2
1932	133,700	1,940	14.5	1,465	10.9	294	543	129	66	1,714	12.8
1933	131,400	1,827	13.9	1,500	11.4	340	530	119	65	1,690	12.9
1934	129,170	1,783	13.8	1,359	10.5	346	655	137	77	1,668	12.9
1935	128,100	1,877	14.7	1,347	10.5	406	583	131	70	1,524	11.9
1936	127,700	1,922	15.1	1,399	10.9	441	639	116	60	1,597	12.5
1937	126,500	1,913	15.1	1,333	10.5	402	662	130	68	1,593	12.6
1938	125,100	1,874	15.0	1,340	10.7	450	522	117	62	1,412	11.3
*1939	B122,800 D116,200	1,829	14.9	1,311	11.2	362	442	77	43	1,391	12.0
1940	98,320	1,600	16.3	1,725	17.5	370	401	76	51	1,756	17.9
1941	84,880	1,405	16.5	1,315	15.4	351	364	52	41	1,328	15.6
1942	89,370	1,589	17.8	1,270	14.2	356	338	94	59	1,252	14.0
1943	92,050	1,768	19.2	1,278	13.9	365	387	102	58	1,300	14.1
1944	89,190	1,788	20.0	1,447	16.2	418	389	95	53	1,418	15.9
1945	96,100	1,742	18.1	1,464	15.2	423	267	78	45	1,308	13.6
1946	111,860	2,310	20.6	1,522	13.6	463	277	103	45	1,336	11.9
1947	117,280	2,559	21.8	1,570	13.3	472	271	97	38	1,369	11.6
1948	115,800	2,149	18.5	1,608	13.8	547	241	75	35	1,302	11.2
1949	118,440	1,971	16.6	1,532	12.9	545	322	55	28	1,309	11.0
1950	119,200	1,988	16.6	1,433	12.0	482	346	34	17	1,297	10.8
1951	118,300	1,874	15.8	1,605	14.4	509	401	41	22	1,497	12.6
1952	118,800	1,777	14.9	1,509	12.7	535	383	37	21	1,357	11.4
1953	117,600	1,750	14.9	1,409	12.0	498	296	35	20	1,207	10.3

* B = Birth-rate Population Figure. D = Death-rate Population Figure.

CHART SHOWING BIRTH AND DEATH RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION FOR THE PAST 20 YEARS.

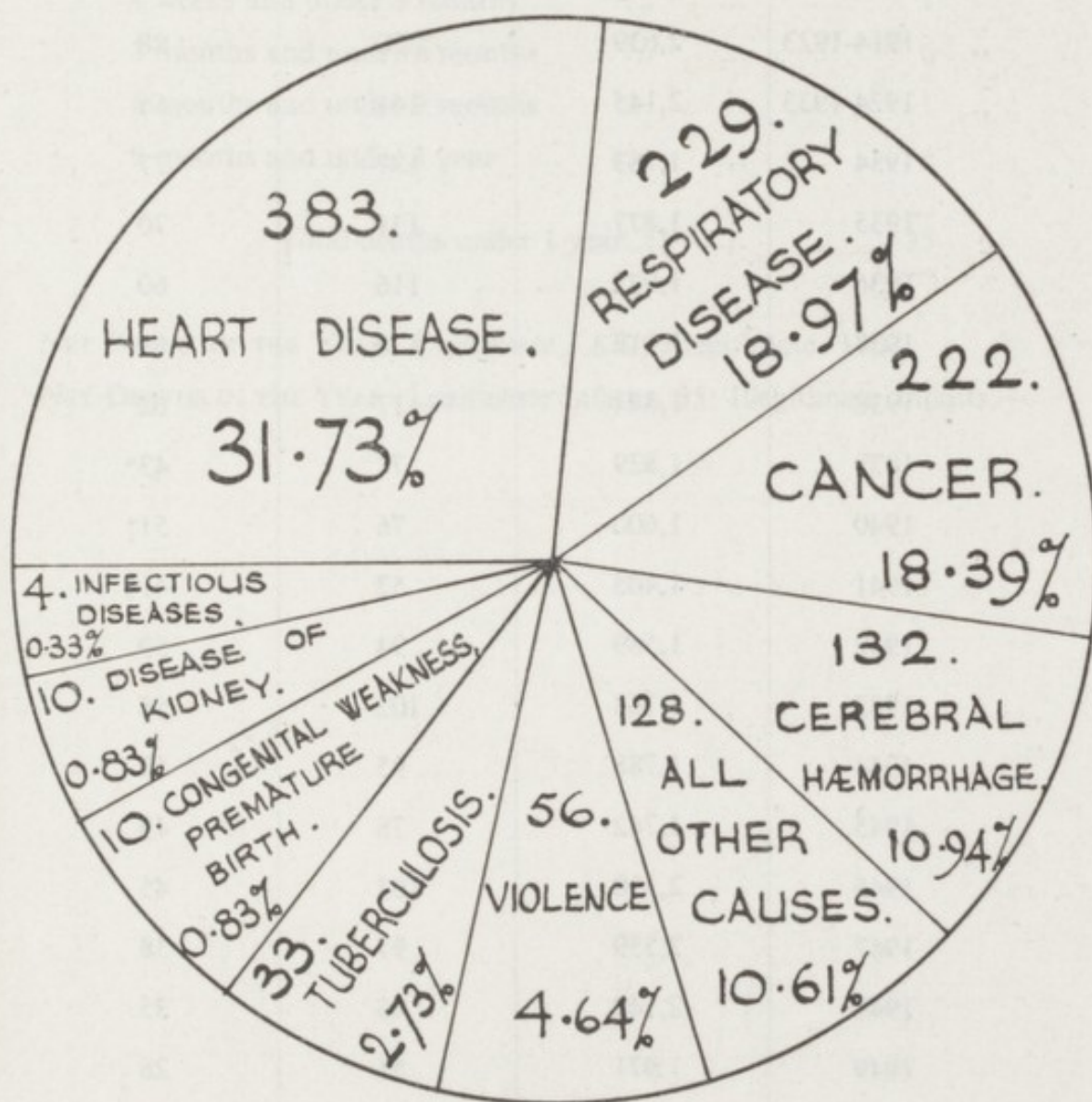


BIRTH RATE : —————
 DEATH RATE : - - - - -

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1953

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	0—	1—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—	Total all Ages
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory...	M	—	—	—	—	6	16	6	—	28
	F	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	3
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
3. Syphilitic disease ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	3
	F	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
4. Diphtheria... ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping cough ...	M	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningo-coccal infections	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
8. Measles	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and para- sitic diseases	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	M	—	—	—	—	1	10	12	4	27
	F	—	—	—	—	—	3	9	4	16
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	M	—	—	—	—	2	18	25	2	47
	F	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	1	7	3	3	14
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	6	3	2	11
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	M	—	—	—	—	3	21	18	23	65
	F	—	—	—	—	1	8	12	16	37
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
16. Diabetes	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3
	F	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	4
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	M	—	—	—	—	—	14	22	15	51
	F	—	—	—	—	4	14	21	42	81
18. Coronary disease, angina	M	—	—	—	—	3	40	39	17	99
	F	—	—	—	—	2	10	28	29	69
19. Hypertension with heart disease	M	—	—	—	—	—	4	7	7	18
	F	—	—	—	—	—	2	12	10	24
20. Other heart disease ...	M	—	—	—	—	3	8	11	24	46
	F	—	—	—	—	2	9	20	53	84
21. Other circulatory disease...	M	—	—	—	1	3	9	6	5	24
	F	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	11	19
22. Influenza	M	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	3	9
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	8
23. Pneumonia	M	2	1	—	1	—	9	15	16	44
	F	—	1	—	—	1	6	6	18	32
24. Bronchitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	30	26	21	77
	F	2	—	—	—	1	4	18	19	44
25. Other diseases of respira- tory system	M	—	—	—	—	1	6	3	4	14
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duo- denum	M	—	—	—	—	1	6	4	3	14
	F	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	4
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	M	—	—	1	—	3	1	1	1	7
	F	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	7
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3
31. Congenital malformations	M	4	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	7
	F	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3
32. Other defined and ill- defined diseases ...	M	10	1	—	—	3	5	7	10	36
	F	12	—	—	—	1	13	5	11	42
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	M	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	2	8
	F	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	4
34. All other accidents ...	M	—	1	3	2	4	4	3	—	17
	F	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	4	10
35. Suicide	M	—	—	—	1	3	6	1	—	11
	F	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	5
36. Homicide and operations of war	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	M	18	5	4	7	37	217	217	167	672
	F	17	3	1	3	20	95	163	233	535
Total of all causes ...		35	8	5	10	57	312	380	400	1207

PROPORTION OF DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES
1953



TOTAL DEATHS, 1,207

INFANT MORTALITY—1953 and Previous Years

Year	Births	Deaths of Infants	Deaths of Infants per 1,000 births
Average 1906-1913	3,000	359	117
„ 1914-1923	2,639	230	88
„ 1924-1933	2,145	141	66
1934	1,783	137	77
1935	1,877	131	70
1936	1,922	116	60
1937	1,913	130	68
1938	1,874	117	62
1939	1,829	77	43*
1940	1,600	76	51†
1941	1,405	52	41‡
1942	1,589	94	59
1943	1,768	102	58
1944	1,788	95	53
1945	1,742	78	45
1946	2,310	103	45
1947	2,559	97	38
1948	2,149	75	35
1949	1,971	55	28
1950	1,988	34	17
1951	1,874	41	22
1952	1,777	37	21
1953	1,750	35	20

* Rate calculated on a birth figure supplied by the Registrar-General of 1,781.

† Rate calculated on a birth figure supplied by the Registrar-General of 1,501.

‡ Rate calculated on a birth figure supplied by the Registrar-General of 1,253.

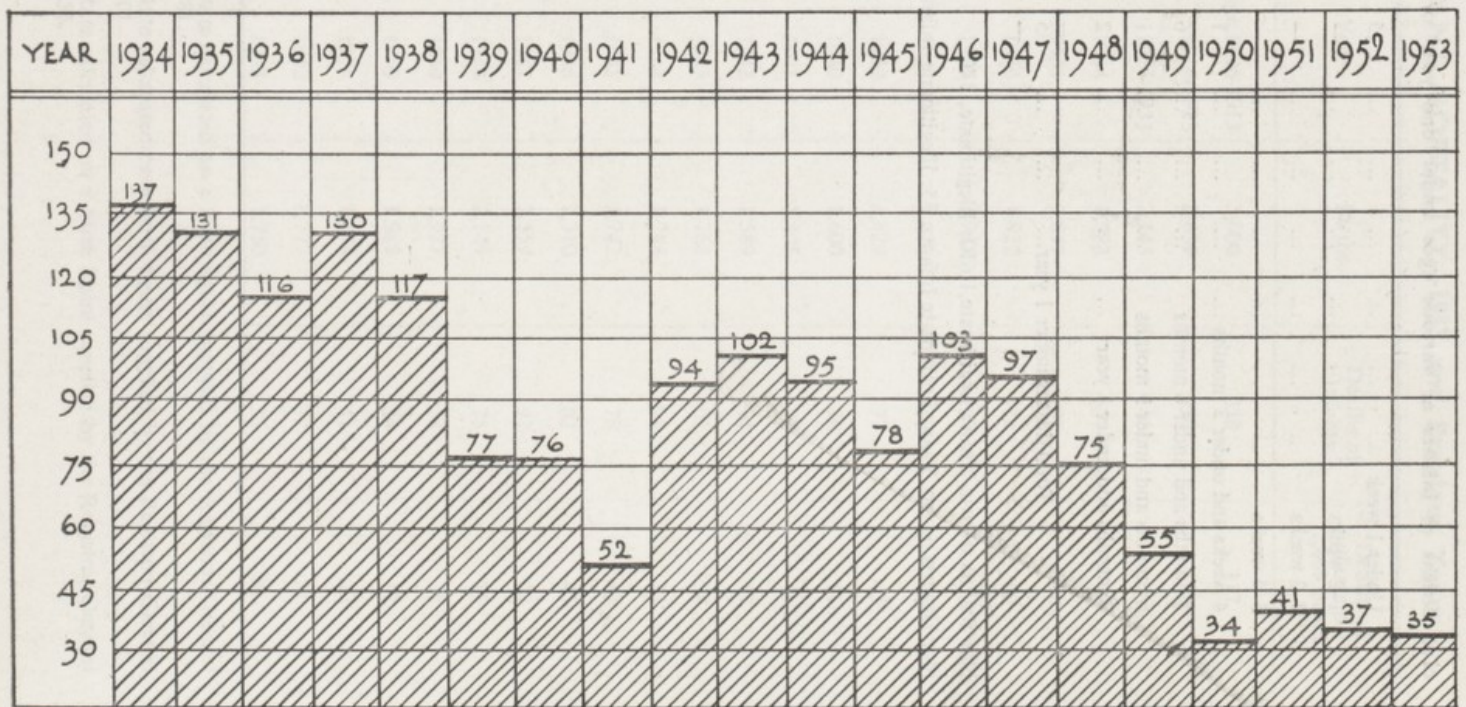
Net deaths of infants at various ages under one year of age

Under 1 week	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
1-2 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
2-3 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
3-4 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
4 weeks and under 3 months	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
3 months and under 6 months	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
6 months and under 9 months	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
9 months and under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
							—
Total deaths under 1 year...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
							—

NET BIRTHS IN THE YEAR: Legitimate, 1,610; Illegitimate, 140.

NET DEATHS IN THE YEAR: Legitimate Infants, 35; Illegitimate Infants,—

CHART SHOWING THE NUMBER OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE DURING THE PAST 20 YEARS .



INFANT MORTALITY RATES — ENGLAND AND WALES AND VARIOUS OTHER COUNTRIES

Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births

Country	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
England and Wales	34	32	30	30	28
Scotland	45	41	39	37	35
Northern Ireland ...	46	45	40	41	39
Australia	28	25	24	25	24
Canada	44	43	41	38	38
Chile	160	169	153	149	134
Denmark	35	34	31	29	29
France	51	61	52	51	46
Irish Republic ...	49	53	45	45	41
Italy	70	74	64	67	64
Netherlands ...	29	27	25	25	23
New Zealand ...	22	24	23	23	22
Sweden	23	23	20	21	20
United States of America	32	31	29	29	29

MATERNAL MORTALITY—1953 and Previous Years

Year	Number of Deaths		Number of live Births	Maternal Death Rate
	Pregnancy, child-birth, abortion			
Average 1924–1933	8		2,145	3.5
1934	9		1,783	5.0
1935	2		1,877	1.1
1936	3		1,922	1.6
1937	4		1,913	2.1
1938	2		1,874	1.1
1939	2		1,829	1.0
1940	—		1,600	—
1941	2		1,405	1.5*
1942	3†		1,589	1.9
1943	3		1,768	1.6
1944	2		1,788	1.08
1945	1		1,742	0.56
1946	7		2,310	2.94
1947	1		2,559	0.38
1948	1		2,149	0.45
1949	2		1,971	0.99
1950	1		1,988	0.49
1951	1		1,874	0.52
1952	2		1,777	1.10
1953	3		1,750	1.67

* Rate calculated on a (live and still) birth figure supplied by the Registrar-General of 1,289.

† 1 death from puerperal sepsis not counted as "Maternal death".

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

(A) SANITARY INSPECTION

Cause of Inspection	No. of Inspections	No. of Notices served	No. of Notices complied with
Bakehouses	105	—	—
Cancer	1	—	—
Complaints	4,094	1,382	1,012
Drainage	2,000	8	11
Factories (Mechanical) ...	483	15	11
Factories (Non-Mechanical)	165	2	3
Fireguard Regulations ...	3	—	—
Food (other than Restaurants and Eating Houses) ...	3,106	6	—
Housing Act	518	4	1
Housing Applications	1,030	49	23
House to House	16	7	3
Ice Cream Vendors	699	—	—
Infectious Diseases	282	2	—
Licences (Building)	32	—	—
Markets	390	—	—
Milk Vendors	861	1	—
Outworkers	1,514	9	4
Pet Animals Act	35	—	—
Pharmacy and Medicines Act	107	—	—
Public Urinals	51	—	—
Rag Flock Act	3	—	—
Rats and Mice	3,193	52	35
Restaurants and Eating Houses	490	15	11
Shops Acts	87	3	2
Slaughterhouses	1	—	—
Smoke Observations	200	6	1
Miscellaneous	1,604	33	33
Re-visits	9,212	456	754
No Answer	1,643	—	—
	31,925	2,050	1,904
No. of Ineffective Visits ...	1,643	—	—
Total	30,282	2,050	1,904

During the year, 844 Statutory Notices were served and 622 complied with.

(B) SUMMONSES—Proceedings instituted during the year

Public Health (London) Act, 1936	136
Food and Drugs Act, 1938	6
H.B.C. Byelaws	1
L.C.C. Byelaws	17

(C) FACTORIES ACT, 1937**1.—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	184	165	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	511	483	15	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	695	648	17	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of Cases in which Defects were Found				Number of Cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	6	4	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	7	6	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for Sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	3	3	2	—	—
Total	17	14	2	—	—

OUTWORK

Nature of Work	SECTION 110			SECTION 111		
	No. of Outworkers in August List required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of Cases of Default in Sending Lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for Failure to Supply Lists	No. of Instances of Work in Unwholesome Premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
Chocolate and Sweetmeats	133	—	—	27	—	—
Wearing Apparel—						
Making, &c.	220	5	—	—	—	—
Lampshades	6	2	—	—	—	—
Curtains and Furniture Hangings	7	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and Upholstery	2	—	—	—	—	—
Artificial Flowers	4	—	—	—	—	—
Paper Bags	49	—	—	—	—	—
Feather Sorting	6	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, &c., of Buttons, &c.	42	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed Toys	70	2	—	1	—	—
Umbrellas	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cracker Bon-bon, Christmas Crackers, Christmas Stockings, &c. ...	177	—	—	—	—	—
The making of Boxes and other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	3	—	—	—	—	—
Total	720	9	—	28	—	—

(D) HOUSING

1. Total number of houses in the Borough, including flats, tenements, etc., separately assessed ... 25,900 (approx.)

Public Health (London) Act, 1936

2. No. of houses inspected on account of complaints or illness ... 4,094
 3. Number of statutory notices served ... 844
 4. Number of prosecutions ... 136
 5. Number of houses repaired or nuisances remedied 1,042

Housing Act, 1936

6. Number of houses inspected — house-to-house (Housing Consolidated Regs. 1925) ... Nil
 7. (a) Number of houses included in representations by the Borough Medical Officer under Sec. 25 of H.A., 1936 ... Nil
 (b) Number of houses demolished following representations by Borough Medical Officer under Sec. 25 of H.A., 1936 ... 4
 8. Number of houses repaired under Sections 9 and 10 of H.A., 1936:—
 (a) By owners ... Nil
 (b) By L.A. in default of owners ... Nil
 9. Number of houses demolished:—
 (a) In pursuance of orders under Sec. 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 ... Nil
 (b) Voluntarily ... Nil
 10. Number of rooms on which Closing Orders were made (excluding underground rooms) ... Nil
 11. Number of Closing Orders determined (excluding underground rooms) ... Nil

Overcrowding (Housing Act, 1936)

12. Number of families living in overcrowded conditions ... 178
 Number of overcrowded families who have obtained alternative accommodation ... 65
 13. Number of dwellings erected by the Borough * Council during year ... 170 (Flats)

Underground Rooms

14. Number occupied but unfit ... Unknown
 Number closed or modified occupation approved . 20
 Number of Closing Orders ... 20
 Number of Closing Orders determined ... 14

Houses Let in Lodgings

15. Number in Borough ... 9,600 (approx.)
 ° Number of inspections ... —
 Number of prosecutions ... Nil
 † Number of complaints remedied under the Bye-laws (not included under any other heading) ... —
 ° Included under item No. 2.
 † Included under item No. 5.

(E) UNSOUND FOOD CONDEMNED—1953

Bacon	...	...	...	...	31 lbs.
Beans, dried	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.
Beans, baked	...	...	...	...	58 tins
Beverages	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Biscuits	...	...	...	...	53 lbs.
Butter	...	...	...	...	41 lbs.
Cakes	...	...	...	...	30 lbs.
Cereal	...	...	...	...	157 lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	60 lbs.
Chickens	...	...	...	...	30
Cream	...	...	...	...	5 lbs.
Cream	...	...	...	...	15 tins
Custard Powders	...	...	...	...	3
Eggs	...	...	...	...	9 cases
Eggs	...	...	...	...	16 tins
Fat	...	...	...	...	62 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	116 tins
Fish	...	...	...	...	126 lbs.
Flour	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
Fruit, dried	...	...	...	...	276 lbs.
Fruit, tinned	...	...	...	...	1,108 tins
Fruit, pulp	...	...	...	...	223 tins
Jam	...	...	...	...	112 jars
Jelly	...	...	...	...	2 pkts.
Meat, butcher's	...	...	...	...	386 lbs.
Meat	...	...	...	...	397 tins
Milk, powdered	...	...	...	...	105 lbs.
Milk, tinned	...	...	...	...	225 tins
Milk, bottled	...	...	...	...	14 bottles
Mincemeat	...	...	...	...	67 jars
Nuts	...	...	...	...	100 lbs.
Peas, dried	...	...	...	...	179 lbs.
Peas	...	...	...	...	235 tins
Pease pudding	...	...	...	...	8 tins
Pickles	...	...	...	...	11 jars
Pudding Mixture	...	...	...	...	8 pkts.
Salad Dressing	...	...	...	...	12 jars
Sandwich Spread	...	...	...	...	6 jars
Sauce	...	...	...	...	1 bottle
Sauerkraut	...	...	...	...	70 lbs.
Sausages	...	...	...	...	13 tins
Sausages	...	...	...	...	1,615 lbs.
Soup	...	...	...	...	41 tins
Soup, Mix. & Flav.	...	...	...	...	100 lbs.
Spaghetti	...	...	...	...	3 tins
Sugar	...	...	...	...	336 lbs.
Sweets	...	...	...	...	40 lbs.
Tea	...	...	...	...	22 lbs.
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	140 tins
Tomato Juice	...	...	...	...	2 tins
Tomato Purée	...	...	...	...	2 tins
Tongue	...	...	...	...	14 tins
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	45 tins

PUBLIC MORTUARY—Bodies Admitted, &c.

Bodies admitted from the Borough:—

By order of Coroner	...	...	...	...	269
By order of Police	...	...	...	...	3
On application of undertakers	...	...	...	...	18
					— 290

Bodies admitted from other Boroughs:—

Fulham (Fifty-five by order of Coroner and sixteen by order of Police)	...	...	...	...	71
Chelsea (Two hundred and forty-three by order of Coroner, four by order of Police and five by application of undertakers)	...	...	...	...	252
Kensington (Fourteen by order of Coroner and two by order of Police)	...	...	...	...	16
					— 339
Total bodies admitted	...	...	...	...	— 629

No. of P.M. examinations conducted:—

Hammersmith cases	...	...	...	...	268
Fulham cases	...	...	...	...	71
Chelsea cases	...	...	...	...	247
Kensington cases	...	...	...	...	16
					—
Total P.M.'s	...	...	...	...	602

No. of Inquests held:—

Hammersmith cases	...	..	...	...	65
Fulham cases	...	...	...	...	53
Chelsea cases	...	...	...	...	55
Kensington cases	...	...	...	...	93
					—
Total Inquests held	...	...	...	...	266

(A) INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DISEASES	NOTIFICATIONS								Total Cases Notified	Cases Removed to Hospital	Deaths	Corrected Figures
	0—1 year	1—2 years	2—5 years	5—15 years	15—25 years	25—45 years	45—65 years	65+ years				
Scarlet Fever	—	4	31	78	2	2	—	—	117	28	—	106
Whooping Cough	56	54	190	155	—	3	—	—	458	42	1	447
Acute Poliomyelitis (Par.) ...	—	1	4	7	3	5	1	—	21	21	1	6
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non Par.)	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	2	1	2
Measles	30	73	245	172	10	6	2	—	538	33	—	537
Diphtheria	—	—	2	1	2	3	—	—	8	8	—	—
Pneumonia	6	3	20	11	4	17	18	22	101	17	76	101
Dysentery	6	—	17	23	5	7	4	2	64	20	—	56
Acute Encephalitis (Inf.) ...	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	1
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	1
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	3	3	—	3
Erysipelas	—	—	—	1	1	1	17	3	23	8	—	21
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	2	3	2	—	1	—	8	8	—	2
Food Poisoning	1	1	2	5	7	13	4	—	33	6	—	31
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	86	139	—	—	225	2	—	*225
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	15
Malaria	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	2	—	2
Scabies	1	—	2	6	9	12	6	5	41	—	—	41
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) ...	—	1	7	19	38	69	50	14	198	49	31	198
Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)	—	1	—	5	7	2	2	—	17	11	2	17
Totals	115	138	522	491	179	280	107	46	1,878	124	112	1,812

* Of this total only 57 cases related to persons residing in the Borough.

(B) BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

Specimen	Positive	Negative	Total
Swabs for suspected cases of			
Diphtheria	—	100	100
Haemolytic Streptococci	7	38	45
Faeces	43	69	112
Vincent's Organisms	—	16	16
	50	223	273

TUBERCULOSIS

Summary of Notifications during the period from the
1st January, 1953, to the 31st December, 1953

AGE PERIODS	Formal Notifications														Total (all ages)
	Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of tuberculosis														
	0—	1—	2—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—		
Respiratory, Males	—	1	2	8	4	6	11	19	18	17	20	9	—	115	
Respiratory, Females	—	—	5	3	4	4	17	24	8	10	3	3	2	83	
Non-Respiratory, Males	—	1	—	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	11	
Non-Respiratory, Females	—	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	6	

CASES NOTIFIED AND DEATHS—1953 and
Previous Years

Year	No. of Cases notified			No. of Deaths	No. of Cases on Register of Notifica- tions
	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary	Total		
1934	184	31	215	124	1,070
1935	170	31	201	119	1,059
1936	156	40	196	116	1,063
1937	141	33	174	106	1,068
1938	155	37	192	87	859
1939	165	33	198	107	889
1940	143	24	167	118	813
1941	160	39	199	103	828
1942	169	31	200	104	963
1943	177	24	201	72	1,097
1944	192	22	214	93	1,184
1945	207	23	230	93	1,282
1946	188	23	211	85	1,487
1947	189	21	210	90	1,517
1948	167	20	187	76	1,599
1949	193	14	207	51	1,674
1950	166	21	187	39	1,779
1951	193	15	208	44	1,852
1952	180	14	194	43	1,494
1953	198	17	215	33	1,595

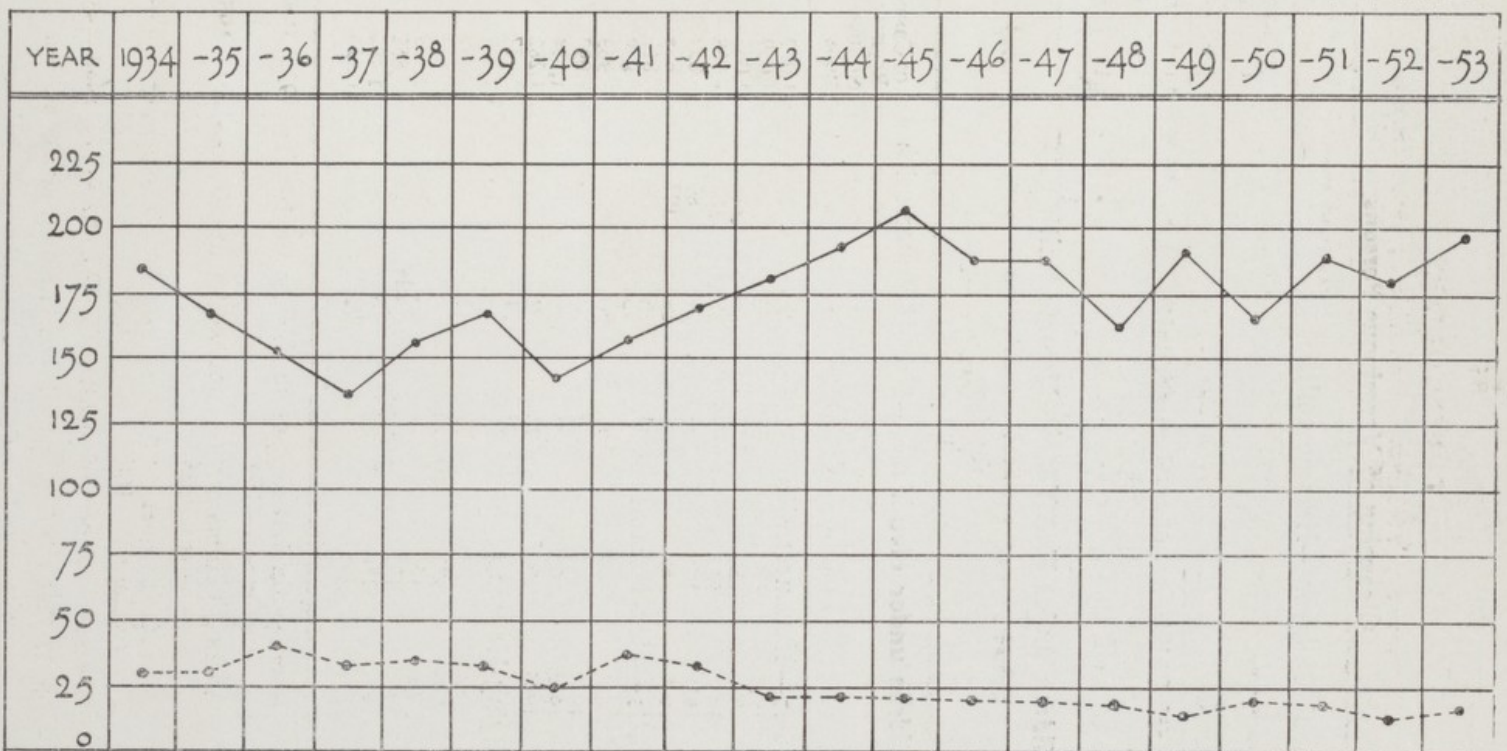
Average number of cases notified for the 10 years 1934–1943
(inclusive)—194.

Average number of cases notified for the 10 years 1944–1953
(inclusive)—206.

Average number of deaths for the 10 years 1934–1943
(inclusive)—106.

Average number of deaths for the 10 years 1944–1953
(inclusive)—65.

CHART SHOWING THE NUMBER OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING THE PAST 20 YEARS.



PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS : —————
 NON - PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS : - - - - -

MEDICINAL BATHS**Cleansing of Verminous Persons****School Children—Hammersmith**

Scabies	...	...	...	...	59
Verminous	...	...	...	...	803
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	6

School Children—Non-Hammersmith

Scabies	...	...	...	...	3
Verminous	...	...	...	...	2

Children under Five Years—Hammersmith

Scabies	...	...	...	...	24
Verminous	...	...	...	...	38
Other Conditions	...	...	...	...	2

Children under Five Years—Non-Hammersmith

Scabies	...	...	...	...	1
Verminous	...	...	...	...	2

Adults—Hammersmith

Scabies	...	...	...	...	111
Verminous	...	...	...	...	137
Other Conditions	...	...	...	...	15

Adults—Non-Hammersmith

Scabies	...	...	...	...	17
Verminous	...	...	...	...	16
Other Conditions	...	...	...	...	1

Lodging-Houses

Scabies	...	...	...	...	3
Verminous	...	...	...	...	216

DISINFECTION

	<u>Hammersmith</u>	<u>Non Hammersmith</u>
	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Cases</u>
Mattresses	436	427
Pillows	273	68
Bolsters	8	9
Blankets	275	267
Sheets	137	12
Quilts	31	19
Clothing	267	+ 264
Sundries	168	43

Total 2,704

+ 17 Custom's Certificates issued in respect of 235 articles.

Rooms (including 830 verminous Rooms) 891