

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Islington Borough].

Contributors

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METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF ISLINGTON



ANNUAL (ABRIDGED) REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

V. FREEMAN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

1943.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Metropolitan Borough of Islington.

I have the honour to submit herewith the Annual Report for 1943, which is again an interim report.

The general health picture, in so far as it can at present be given, continues to remain satisfactory and even to present some encouraging features.

The infant mortality rate of 46 per 1,000 live births for 1943 is the lowest figure on record for this Borough. A reduction in infant mortality also means a general reduction in infant morbidity or sickness and it is to be hoped that those favourable factors (and the improvement in infant health cannot be ascribed to any one single factor) which have been conducive to this improvement will continue to operate in future years. There is no reason to suppose that a further fall in infantile mortality cannot be effected, and to a degree which perhaps would have been far beyond our expectations a generation ago.

The campaign against Diphtheria continued to go well during the past year and by the end of the year it was estimated that 51% of children under the age of 5 and 70% of children over five had been protected against Diphtheria.

Towards the end of 1943 the Borough shared in an Influenza epidemic of a moderate severity and reference to which is made in the appropriate section of this report.

Owing to the demands of women who desired, or were requested by the Ministry of Labour and National Service, to take up work, War-time Day Nurseries continued to be opened for the care of their children and by the end of the year 13 Day Nurseries were in operation. The War-time Nurseries have made a very considerable addition to the administrative and clerical work of the Department with a staff which has not increased proportionately.

Further developments also referred to in the report are in connection with the appointment of additional staff to combat Scabies and infestation with body vermin.

The main feature of the year in connection with Tuberculosis was the commencement of the Maintenance Allowances Scheme which is reported upon for the first time and which necessitated the appointment of a special officer by the Borough Council to deal with the enquiries and investigations arising out of the Council's responsibility for the administration of this section of the scheme.

A number of staff changes occurred during the year and the shortage of clerical staff continued to be a source of chronic anxiety with sub-acute exacerbations from time to time. I desire to thank all those members of the staff who, in spite of these difficulties, have carried on and have made possible the carrying out of the work which is summarised in this report and which in certain directions has even increased in volume over previous years.

I should again like to thank the Chairmen and Members of the Public Health and Maternity & Child Welfare Committees for their courteous and helpful consideration of all the matters that were submitted and considered during the year 1943.

V. FREEMAN.

Medical Officer of Health

October, 1944

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF ISLINGTON

SECTION A.

GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS:

Area of the Borough 3,092 acres.

POPULATION:

Registrar General's estimate of civilian population, Mid-year 1942 *

LIVE BIRTHS:

| | Totals | M. | F. | |
|--------------|--------|-------|-------|----------------------|
| Legitimate | 3,328 | 1,743 | 1,585 | |
| Illegitimate | 264 | 137 | 127 | Birth rate per 1,000 |
| | | | | estimated resident |
| | 3,592 | 1,880 | 1,712 | population. * |

STILL BIRTHS:

| | Totals | M. | F. | |
|--------------|--------|----|----|-----------------------------|
| Legitimate | 78 | 48 | 30 | |
| Illegitimate | 14 | 8 | 6 | |
| | 92 | 56 | 36 | Rate per 1,000 total |
| | | | | (Live & Still) births 24.97 |

DEATHS:

| | Totals | M. | F. | |
|--|--------|-------|-------|---------------------------|
| | 3,017 | 1,557 | 1,460 | Death Rate (unadjusted) * |
| | | | | per 1,000 population. |

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES:

| | Deaths. | Rate per 1,000 total births. |
|------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| Puerperal Sepsis | 3 | 0.81 |
| Other Puerperal causes | 7 | 1.90 |
| | 10 | 2.71 |

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:

| | |
|---|----|
| All infants per 1,000 live births | 46 |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births | 44 |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births | 68 |

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS:

The total number of notified births, including still births from all sources, was 4,063; of this number 470 were not notified by midwives.

MARRIAGES (Provisional figures).

Marriages solemnised in the Borough during the year 1,766

* Not available for publication.

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS WITH AGE DISTRIBUTION.

AGES - BOTH SEXES.

CAUSES OF DEATH

TOTALS.

| | Under 1 year | 1 year and under 5 | 5 and under 15 | 15 and under 45 | 45 and under 65 | 65 and upwards | All ages | M. | F. |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------|-------|
| All causes | 165 | 39 | 26 | 308 | 805 | 1,674 | 3,017 | 1,557 | 1,460 |
| 1. Typhoid & paratyphoid fevers | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2. Cerebrospinal fever | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 2 | - |
| 3. Scarlet Fever | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - |
| 4. Whooping Cough | 4 | 4 | - | - | - | - | 8 | 5 | 3 |
| 5. Diphtheria | 1 | 3 | 4 | - | 1 | - | 9 | 3 | 6 |
| 6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system | 1 | 3 | - | 90 | 53 | 15 | 162 | 105 | 57 |
| 7. Other forms of tuberculosis | 1 | 2 | 5 | 10 | 2 | 3 | 23 | 16 | 7 |
| 8. Syphilitic disease | 1 | - | - | 6 | 9 | 8 | 24 | 15 | 9 |
| 9. Influenza | 2 | 1 | - | 7 | 13 | 33 | 56 | 21 | 35 |
| 10. Measles | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 11. Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 12. Acute infectious encephalitis | - | - | - | 2 | - | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 13. Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M) | - | - | - | 2 | 5 | 19 | 26 | 26 | - |
| Cancer of uterus (F) | - | - | - | 4 | 28 | 9 | 35 | - | 35 |
| 14. Cancer of stomach & duodenum | - | - | - | 3 | 31 | 42 | 76 | 42 | 34 |
| 15. Cancer of breast | - | - | - | 5 | 30 | 17 | 52 | - | 52 |
| 16. Cancer of all other sites | - | - | 1 | 22 | 133 | 140 | 296 | 181 | 115 |
| 17. Diabetes | - | - | - | 3 | 8 | 9 | 21 | 3 | 18 |
| 18. Intra-cranial Vascular lesions | - | - | - | 1 | 54 | 160 | 215 | 96 | 119 |
| 19. Heart Disease | - | - | - | 26 | 145 | 569 | 740 | 362 | 378 |
| 20. Other diseases of the circulatory system | - | - | - | 4 | 26 | 63 | 93 | 41 | 52 |
| 21. Bronchitis | 2 | 3 | 1 | 10 | 51 | 162 | 229 | 137 | 92 |
| 22. Pneumonia | 32 | 10 | 1 | 19 | 64 | 139 | 265 | 144 | 121 |
| 23. Other respiratory diseases | - | - | - | 2 | 18 | 11 | 31 | 17 | 14 |
| 24. Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum | - | - | - | 3 | 30 | 12 | 47 | 44 | 3 |
| 25. Diarrhoea under 2 years of age | 28 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 30 | 16 | 14 |
| 26. Appendicitis | - | 1 | - | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 3 |
| 27. Other digestive diseases | 5 | - | 1 | 10 | 20 | 45 | 81 | 30 | 51 |
| 28. Nephritis | - | - | - | 8 | 23 | 32 | 63 | 30 | 33 |
| 29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis | - | - | - | 3 | - | - | 3 | - | 3 |
| 30. Other maternal causes | - | - | - | 7 | - | - | 7 | - | 7 |
| 31. Premature birth | 36 | - | - | - | - | - | 36 | 20 | 16 |
| 32. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease | 39 | - | 1 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 49 | 27 | 22 |
| 33. Suicide | - | - | - | 4 | 8 | 3 | 15 | 9 | 6 |
| 34. Road traffic accidents | - | - | 3 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 20 | 13 | 7 |
| 35. Other violent causes | 2 | 1 | 2 | 14 | 10 | 43 | 72 | 28 | 44 |
| 36. All other causes | 7 | 8 | 6 | 32 | 35 | 128 | 216 | 114 | 102 |

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

WELFARE CENTRES:

There are four Voluntary Welfare Centres as follows, each of which has received a grant from the Borough Council for the year ending March 31st, 1943.

| | <u>Amount of Grant:</u> |
|--|-------------------------|
| North Islington Infant Welfare Centre & School for Mothers, 6 - 9, Manor Gardens, Holloway, N.7. | £3,861. 0. 0. |
| South Islington Mothers' & Babies' Welfare Centre, 15, Potham Road, N.1. | £1,050. 0. 0. |
| East Islington Mothers' & Babies' Welfare Centre, 32, Drayton Park, N.5. | £1,194. 15. 2d. |
| West Islington Infant Welfare Centre, 42, Richmond Avenue, N.2. | £1,572. 0. 0. |

SUMMARY:

1. Ante-natal Clinics:

A considerable increase in the number of expectant mothers who attended the Ante-natal Clinics is shown for 1943 over the previous year, particularly at the South Centre, where more than 100% increase is recorded, and at the North Centre, with an increase of approximately 30%.

A considerable number of expectant mothers also attended the Ante-natal departments of the various hospitals in and adjacent to the Borough, in particular, St. Mary, Islington, Royal Northern, University College, and Royal Free Hospitals.

Ante-natal Clinics:

| | <u>North:</u> | <u>South:</u> | <u>East:</u> | <u>West:</u> | <u>Totals:</u> |
|--|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| Number held weekly | 4 | 1½ | 2 | 1 | 8½ |
| No. of expectant mothers who attended:- | 913 | 470 | 240 | 278 | 1,901 |

2. Post-natal Clinics:

| | <u>* </u> | <u>* </u> | <u>* </u> | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----|-----|
| Number held weekly | 1 | 1½ | 2 | 1 | 5½ |
| No. of mothers who attended | 194 | 36 | 142 | 29 | 401 |

* Combined Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics.

3. Consultations for children up to 5 years of age:

The number of children under one year who first attended the Centres, shows a satisfactory increase over the previous year, but is still only about two-thirds of the live births occurring during the year.

Total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year, and who, on the date of their first attendance, were:-

| | <u>North:</u> | <u>South:</u> | <u>East:</u> | <u>West:</u> | <u>Total:</u> |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| (i) Under 1 year | 1,001 | 505 | 410 | 428 | 2,414 |
| (ii) 1 - 5 years | 121 | 91 | 66 | 66 | 344 |

4. Home Visiting:

| | <u>North:</u> | <u>South:</u> | <u>East:</u> | <u>West:</u> | <u>Total:</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Number of visits made to:- | | | | | |
| (i) Expectant mothers - | | | | | |
| (a) First visits | 626 | 334 | 337 | 171 | 1,518 |
| (b) Total visits | 3,328 | 574 | 1,057 | 472 | 5,431 |
| (ii) Children under 1 year - | | | | | |
| Total visits | 3,807 | 3,285 | 2,878 | 3,024 | 12,994 |
| (iii) Children 1 - 5 years - | | | | | |
| Total visits | 5,001 | 4,284 | 2,617 | 6,351 | 18,253 |

5. Number of Children who attended at the Centres during the year, and who, at the end of the year, were:-

| | <u>North:</u> | <u>South:</u> | <u>East:</u> | <u>West:</u> | <u>Total:</u> |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| (i) Under 1 year - | 855 | 498 | 342 | 507 | 2,202 |
| (ii) 1 - 5 years - | 1,647 | 879 | 670 | 843 | 4,039 |

MUNICIPAL HEALTH VISITORS:

A temporary Health Visitor was appointed to take the place of the permanent Health Visitor seconded to the Ministry of Health. As reported in last year's Annual Report, the Health Visitors were from time to time taken from their normal Health Visiting work, as urged by the Ministry of Health, in order to take part in a special campaign in connection with Diphtheria Immunisation of children under 5, and to assist at the Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics. Visiting continued to remain difficult during the whole of the year owing to the increasing number of women taking up war work.

SUMMARY OF VISITS:

TOTALS:

| | |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Births, First Visits, Infants under 1 year | 3,128 |
| 2. Births, Re-visits, Infants under 1 year | 3,611 |
| 3. Visits to Children between 1st and 2nd years | 2,533 |
| 4. Visits to Children between 2nd and 5th years | 5,922 |
| 5. Visits re Stillbirths | 76 |
| 6. Deaths, Visits re Infants under 1 year | 39 |
| 7. Deaths, Visits re Children 1 - 5 years | 6 |
| 8. Ante-natal Home Visits | 1,403 |
| 9. Puerperal Fever, Home Visits | 8 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia Home Visits | 6 |
| 10. Attendances at Welfare Centres | 215 |
| 11. Other work by direction (which includes Clinics and visits re Diphtheria Immunisation) | 3,931 |
| 12. Visits declined | 25 |
| 13. Visits house shut | 4,789 |
| 14. Visits Inopportune | 46 |
| <u>Total Visits:</u> | <u>25,738</u> |

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION:

Number of persons on register prepared to receive children at end of year 38

Number of children at end of year 46

HOME HELPS:

In June 1943, the Council in order to make the Home Help Service more easily available to mothers, some of whom were unable to afford payments on the existing scale, adopted a revised scale of assessments which approximately halved the contributions to be paid by mothers over the scale as a whole.

It became increasingly difficult to obtain women prepared to undertake intermittent employment as Home Helps as was evident from the fact that before the War there were 59 names on the Home Help Panel, whereas by the middle of 1943 there were only 12 such names on the Panel. In addition, the Ministry of Labour & National Service was taking all possible steps to diminish stand-by employment such as is necessitated in connection with a Home Help Panel with periods of unemployment in between cases. The Council therefore adopted a scheme for the employment of three whole-time Home Helps whose services in between Home Help cases would be utilised in domestic work in the Borough Council's War-time Day Nurseries. Although every effort was made to obtain three such whole-time Home Helps, it was only possible to make effective one such appointment during 1943.

Although many difficulties were encountered in working the Home Help Scheme, 175 cases were attended during the year, the cost to the Council being £242. 3s. 7d.

SUPPLY OF SUPPLEMENTARY QUANTITIES OF MILK TO MOTHERS AND TO YOUNG CHILDREN:

Under the National Milk Scheme certain quantities of liquid or Dried Milk are supplied to all expectant mothers and children under 5, either at 2d a pint for wet milk, or 1/2d a packet for Dried Milk, or free, according to the Ministry of Food Assessment Scale. Children up to the age of 12 months are also eligible for a supplementary quantity of wet or Dried Milk, and in respect of those cases where the first pint or packet is assessed as free the Council have agreed to pay the cost of the supplementary quantity. During 1943, the total quantity of milk supplied in this way and paid for by the Council was:-

| | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| No. of Recipients - | 352 | Pints of Milk | 7,019 | £125. 7s. 3d. |
| do. do. - | - | Lbs. of Dried Milk | 5,181 $\frac{3}{4}$ | £241. 7s. 4d. |

SUPPLY OF VITAMIN PREPARATIONS FOR CHILDREN UNDER FIVE:

The Voluntary Welfare Centres continued to act as Distributing Centres on behalf of the Ministry of Food in connection with Vitamin products in the form of Cod Liver Oil Compound and Orange Juice for Expectant Mothers and Children under Five.

SUPPLEMENTARY COUPONS FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS:

Arrangements were made by the Board of Trade for the issue of Supplementary Coupons to Expectant Mothers, which had hitherto been undertaken by the Maternity & Child Welfare Authority, to be undertaken by the Ministry of Food after the 24th of July 1943, in order to enable mothers to obtain their extra ration books for food and clothing from the same office and at the same time of application, on the presentation of a single Medical Certificate. During the period January to 24th July 1943, 2,220 Expectant Mothers resident in the Borough of Islington were issued with these supplementary coupons at the Maternity & Child Welfare Office.

A letter was received from the Board of Trade conveying their thanks for the help and co-operation afforded by local Health Authorities and Welfare Centres in the difficult early stages of clothes rationing.

MATERNITY HOSPITAL GRANTS:

Contributions for Maternity cases admitted to beds at Maternity Hospitals at the rate of 10/- per case for a percentage of notified births were made as follows:-

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| University College Hospital | 156 Cases |
| Royal Free Hospital | 119 " |

NURSING IN THE HOME:

The following payments were made to the North London District Nursing Association during the year:-

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Visits - Maternity & Child Welfare | £42. 6s. 0d. |
| - Public Health | £9. 2s. 0d. |

DAY NURSERIES:

A further five War-time Day Nurseries were opened in the Borough, with the approval of the Ministry of Health, during 1943, making 13 in all as listed under, providing accommodation for 735 children. Plans for the 14th War-time Day Nursery were also submitted and approved, and building commenced in 1943.

| | Places: |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Schoolfield Road, N.19. | 55 |
| 265, Cannon Road, N.7. | 66 |
| 160, Hornsey Lane, N.6. | 64 |
| 34, Huntington Street, N.1. | 33 |
| 6, Clapham Road, N.1. | 55 |
| 21, Pocklington Street, N.1. | 33 |
| 21, Plincolli Road, N.4. | 47 |
| Pembroke Street, N.1. | 50 |
| 547, Liverpool Road, N.1. | 50 |
| 8 & 9, Canonbury Place, N.1. | 76 |
| Logard Road, N.6. | 70 |
| Windsor Street, N.1. | 68 |
| Mitford Road, N.19. | 68 |
| <u>Total of</u> | <u>735</u> |

All the work in connection with the planning, opening and administration of the above War-time Nurseries constitutes a very considerable load borne by the staff of the Public Health Department, particularly in view of the impossibility of obtaining a sufficiency of clerical staff.

The detailed administration of the Day Nurseries is carried out by Dr. K.M.Hirst, Deputy Medical Officer of Health and in place of the Superintendent Matron, the Maternity & Child Welfare Committee appointed Miss K.G. Reader as Supervisor of War-time Day Nurseries and Miss E. Danvers, as Superintendent Teacher of War-time Day Nurseries. Miss Reader was, with the approval of the Ministry of Health, seconded temporarily to this duty from her permanent position as a Sanitary Inspector.

The authorised staff for the above Nurseries is:-

| |
|--|
| 13 Matrons |
| 13 Deputy Matrons |
| 13 Wardens |
| 28 Nursery Nurses |
| 83 Nursery Assistants or Probationers |
| 44 Domestic Workers (Equivalent whole-time). |

A considerable degree of sickness among the nursery staff and frequent staff changes have made the position difficult at times.

There is also to be recorded the occurrence at one Nursery of an outbreak of Sonne Dysentery. About 40 children and four members of the staff were affected, but fortunately most of the cases were light in character with no serious consequences in any. The risk of such an occurrence is necessarily inherent wherever a number of young children and infants are congregated together and the risk can only be rendered minimal by the greatest precautions being observed at all times by an adequate and well trained staff.

The Council's Grants to the Islington Voluntary Day Nurseries, evacuated to the country were continued, and were as under:-

Lower Holloway Day Nursery £260
South Islington (Pro Patria) D/N £600

DAILY GUARDIAN SERVICE:

As reported in last year's Annual Report, the Borough Council, in co-operation with the Ministry of Labour & National Service, provided, in addition to the War-time Day Nurseries, a Registered Daily Guardian Service. By the end of 1943, 132 women were approved, and registered as Daily Guardians providing for the care in their own homes of 186 young children under the age of 5 years. The Voluntary Welfare Centres continued to co-operate with the Borough Council in the working of this scheme which was explained briefly in last year's Annual Report.

TRAINING OF STUDENT HEALTH VISITORS: - on request of Royal College of Nursing.

4 Students attended during the year 1943. North Centre, South Centre, West Centre and Council Health Visitors co-operated.

EMERGENCY UNIT & OBSTETRIC CONSULTANT SERVICE:

This Service was called out three times during 1943.

INVALID CHILDREN'S AID ASSOCIATION:

A grant of £100 was made to the Invalid Children's Aid Association for their work for Islington children under 5 years of age during the year 1943.

OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

| | <u>Total</u> | <u>Positive</u> | <u>Negative</u> |
|------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| For Diphtheria Bacilli | 895 | 52 | 843 |
| Tubercle Bacilli | 164 | 15 | 149 |
| Typhosus Bacilli | 2 | - | 2 |

PROVISION OF INSULIN:

18 Patients received assistance during the year, the cost to the Borough Council was, £89. 8s. 9d.

ISLINGTON CREMATORIUM:

There were 66 Cremations during the year at the Council's Crematorium at East Finchley.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE BY DISTRICT SANITARY INSPECTORS.

During the year 36,579 inspections (including re-inspections), were carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors, made up as follows:-

| | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| House to House inspections | 1,695 | |
| Other premises inspected | 3,776 | |
| Re-inspections, Calls made, etc. | 25,277 | |
| Ice Cream Premises inspected | - | |
| Dairies and Milk Purveyors' premises inspected | - | |
| Inspections - Council's property | 199 | |
| Stables inspected | 29 | |
| Yards inspected | 139 | |
| Animals attached to Public Houses inspected | 114 | |
| Children & Young Persons Acts | 23 | |
| Premises re Vermin | 908 | |
| Premises re Bats and Mice | 2,081 | |
| Premises (re Water Certificates) inspected | - | |
| Flag and Bone dealers | - | |
| Smoke Observations | 1 | |
| Scabies | 2,160 | |
| Shops | 157 | 36,579 |

Notices served - Intimation (Public Health (London)
Act, 1936) 3,472

Notices served - Statutory (Public Health (London)
Act, 1936) 603

CLEANSING STATION

| | | <u>Scabies</u> | <u>Vermin</u> |
|---|--|----------------|---------------|
| Children under 5 years - Number treated | | 631 | 102 |
| " of baths given | | 1,709 | - |
| " of treatments | | - | 110 |
| L.C.C. Children - Number treated | | 1,276 | 3,183 |
| " of baths given | | 6,214 | - |
| Adults - Number treated | | 1,896 | 178 * |
| " of baths given | | 5,258 | - |
| " of treatments | | - | 198 |

* 37 of this number were given baths for body lice.

SCABIES:

Arising out of the very large number of cases of Scabies dealt with or referred to the Council's Cleansing Station and the desirability of treatment for Scabies being given as far as practicable on a family basis, the Public Health Committee approved the appointment of two Assistant Nurses to assist in the work under the Scabies Order, both at the Cleansing Station and in domiciliary visiting. These appointments have helped considerably in dealing with the problem.

Arrangements were also made for a Medical Officer to attend weekly at the Cleansing Station to deal with special cases referred by the Nursing Staff at the Station or where medical supervision was required on account of secondary septic infection in addition to Scabies or lice infestation.

Scabies became notifiable on the 1st August 1945, under the County of London Scabies Regulations.

DISINFECTIO:

During the year 1,193 disinfections were carried out after cases of infectious or other diseases.

In addition, 206 rooms were disinfected for the presence of vermin.

At the disinfecting station 86,285 articles of bedding, etc., were disinfected.

DISINFESTATION:

HYDROGEN-CYANIDE FUMIGATION.

No. of times Large Chamber used.

Furniture and effects of families rehoused
including those of Homeless Persons 34

Private persons - furniture and effects 2

No. of times Small Chamber used.

Miscellaneous (mattresses, divans, etc.) 11

TOTAL 47

Thanks are due to the Cleansing Department for their assistance in working the boiler plant at Ashington Grove Depot.

FACTORIES:

The number of inspections, re-inspections and calls, etc., was 8,275.
535 defects were found, and remedied in 436 instances.
Number of notices served was 368.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919:

661 complaints were received and 1,018 inspections carried out.
129 notices were served and 53 defective drains repaired.

INFESTATION ORDER, 1943:

In accordance with the directions issued to local authorities under the above order, a systematic first baiting of the sewers was carried out in December. For this work seven men were specially engaged as Rodent Operators, working with the Sewer Inspectors. The result of this treatment was the calculated destruction of over 4,000 rats.

SUMMARY OF PROSECUTIONS DURING YEAR 1943:

| <u>Statute</u> | <u>Total</u> <u>Prosecutions</u> | <u>Success-</u> <u>ful</u> | <u>Dis-</u> <u>missed</u> | <u>With-</u> <u>drawn</u> | <u>Adjournd</u> <u>'Sine die'</u> | <u>Amount of</u> <u>Penalties</u> | <u>Costs</u> <u>Received</u> |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Public Health) (London) Act, 1936) | 26 | 17 | - | 5 | 4 | 10/- | £43. 1. 0d. |
| Food & Drugs) Act, 1938) | 8 | - | 2 | 6 | - | - | £23. 2. 0d. |
| Factories) Act, 1937) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| L.C.C.Drainage) Byclaws, 1934) | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| | 35 | 17 | 2 | 11 | 5 | 10/- | £66. 3. 0d. |

SECTION D.

HOUSING:

Work under the Housing Act has been at a standstill owing to War conditions, the resultant lack of labour and materials prohibiting any extensive repairs being carried out.

REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF BUILDINGS (Circular 2871):

The number of houses inspected in connection with the above circular was 32; the inspections were carried out in conjunction with the War Damage Surveyors.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1928:

Summary of Register.

| | Number on Reg. 31.12.42. | Additions to Reg. | Removals from Reg. | No. on Reg. 31.12.43. |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Dairies. | 157 | 2 | - | 159 |
| Purveyors of Milk in sealed containers only. | 342 | 2 | 9 | 335 |
| Registered Purveyors of Milk dealing from registered premises outside the Borough | 93 | 1 | - | 94 |

SUMMARY OF VISITS BY MILK & DAIRIES INSPECTOR:

DAIRIES.

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Routine inspections | 540 |
| Inspections for registration of | 4 |
| | <u>544</u> |

MILK-SHOPS (Milk sold in sealed containers only).

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Routine inspections | 277 |
| Inspections for registration of | 4 |
| | <u>281</u> |

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS INSPECTED UNDER THE MILK (Special Designations) REGULATIONS 1935-1943

48

VEHICLES INSPECTED.

53

MISCELLANEOUS VISITS.

72

998

During the year 11 notices intimating nuisances or defects were served, and 17 warning letters sent to Dairy-men and Milk Purveyors, drawing their attention to the contravention of the Acts and Regulations relating to their businesses.

MILK (Special Designations) REGULATIONS 1936 - 1943.

During the year 1943 the following applications were made for licences under the provisions of the above Regulations, to enable the persons to sell specially Designated Milk:-

| <u>Designation</u> | <u>No. of applications made and granted.</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Tuberculin Tested (Dealer) | 25 |
| Tuberculin Tested (Supplementary) | 4 |
| Accredited (Dealer) | - |
| Accredited (Supplementary) | - |
| Pasteurised (Pasteuriser) | 1 |
| Pasteurised (Dealer) | 64 |
| Pasteurised (Supplementary) | 6 |
| | <u>100</u> |

UNDERGROUND BAKENHOUSES:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| No. of Premises | 69 |
| " " Routine Inspections | 132 |
| " " Intimation Notices served | 18 |

PHARMACY & POISONS ACTS:

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| No. of visits made | 497 |
|--------------------|-----|

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938:

| | |
|---|-----|
| No. of visits made for inspection of food | 721 |
|---|-----|

Visits made to shops etc. - During the year 195 visits were paid to various shops, stalls, etc.

(For other visits see item re - Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.)

Total weight of food condemned was:-

18 tons 4 cwts. 1 qr. 21'lbs. 2'ozs.
(See also item under Meat and Other Foods).

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1911, etc.

During the year 7 visits were made to premises to ascertain if rag flock was being sold. No sales were being made or rag flock being used.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS:

The Inspector of Meat and Other Foods (Mr. A.W. Haydock) reports that during the year six private slaughter houses for the preparation of butchers' meat held licences but one was permanently closed in October. Owing to the control of meat supplies by the Ministry of Food no slaughtering of animals was carried on at these premises.

One slaughter house for the slaughter of horses for human consumption was licensed. This was visited 42 times and 508 horses were slaughtered during the year.

Food destroyed or otherwise disposed of so as to prevent its use for human consumption totalled 9 tons, 16 cwts., 1 qr. 4 lbs.
(See also item under Food & Drugs Act, 1938).

VISITS MADE TO SHOPS ETC., BY THE INSPECTOR OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS WERE AS FOLLOWS:-

During the year 754 visits were paid to various food shops, markets, stalls, etc.
(See also item under Food & Drugs Act, 1938).

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT - ANTHRAX ORDER, 1928:

On no occasion during the year was the above order, relating to animals, applied in the Borough.

OFFENSIVE TRADES:

The offensive trades operating in the Borough are three tripe dressers, five gut scrapers and one knackers' yard. Ten visits were made during the year and no breach of the Regulations was observed. Three skin dressers are under the supervision of the Inspector of Workshops.

BYE-LAWS FOR THE PROTECTION OF FOOD:

Bye-laws for this purpose were made under Public Health (London) Act, 1936, and came into force during 1937. No prosecution has been taken during the period under review.

SLAUGHTERMEN'S LICENCES:

One application for the renewal of a licence was received, and granted after investigation, making a total of 26 licensed slaughtermen on the register at the end of the year.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938. (Sampling):

302 samples (54 formal, 248 informal) were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. Of these 3 were adulterated (or 0.99 per cent), as shown in the following summary:-

| | <u>Formal</u> | | <u>Informal</u> |
|----------|---------------|----------|-----------------|
| Milk | 1 | Gelatine | 1 |
| Gelatine | 1 | | |

SHOPS ACT, 1934:

The visits made were 4,970.

In addition, the Inspector made 6 visits for other reasons, e.g. rats and insufficient or unsuitable sanitary accommodation.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

TUBERCULOSIS:

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1943.

| Age Periods | <u>NEW CASES.</u> | | | | <u>DEATHS.</u> | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----|------------------------|----|--------------------|----|------------------------|----|
| | <u>Respiratory</u> | | <u>Non-Respiratory</u> | | <u>Respiratory</u> | | <u>Non-Respiratory</u> | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0- | - | - | 3 | - | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| 1- | 8 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 2 | - | 2 | 1 |
| 5- | 12 | 13 | 18 | 11 | 3 | - | 3 | 2 |
| 15- | 50 | 80 | 9 | 6 | 19 | 18 | 2 | 1 |
| 25- | 65 | 51 | 3 | 10 | 7 | 13 | 3 | - |
| 35- | 53 | 20 | 6 | 3 | 24 | 9 | 1 | - |
| 45- | 37 | 23 | 7 | 3 | 21 | 7 | - | - |
| 55- | 33 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 22 | 7 | - | 1 |
| 65- and upwards | 20 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 13 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Total for All ages | 278 | 204 | 56 | 40 | 112 | 57 | 13 | 7 |

578

189

There has been a further rise in the rate of new cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis.

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS 1930:

The total number of cases of tuberculosis on the Register as at 31st December, 1943 was:-

1716 (Pulmonary - Males 833, Females 615; Non-Pulmonary - Males 146, Females 122.)

DISPENSARY REGISTERS:

| Number of definite cases of tuberculosis on Dispensary Registers at end of the year | Pulmonary | | | | Non-Pulmonary | | | | TOTAL | | | | GRAND TOTAL |
|---|-----------|-----|-----------|----|---------------|----|-----------|----|---------|-----|-----------|----|-------------|
| | Adults. | | Children. | | Adults. | | Children. | | Adults. | | Children. | | TOTAL |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | |
| | 618 | 441 | 53 | 40 | 60 | 67 | 36 | 46 | 679 | 508 | 89 | 86 | 1,361 |

WORK OF THE TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARIES:

| | North | South |
|---|-------|-------|
| Number of attendances | 5,143 | 4,548 |
| New cases and contacts examined | 1,838 | 735 |
| Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officers | 220 | 120 |
| Number of visits by Nurses | 1,054 | 1,654 |

LIGHT TREATMENT:

9 Patients received "light" treatment, the cost to the Council being - £18. 19. 0d.

TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE:

320 new cases came to the notice of the Committee; 1,123 interviews were conducted, 419 visits were made and 2,372 letters sent.

A very acceptable gift of clothing from Queen Mary's Needlework Guild was received and the receipts from the Christmas "Seal Sale" amounted to £252. 14. 5d.

MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCES SCHEME:

A scheme for the payment of Maintenance Allowances to Tuberculous patients came into operation in London on the 30th June, 1943. Payments are made in conjunction with the London County Council on the basis set out in Ministry of Health Memorandum 266/T.

The administrative work of the scheme in the first place was done by the Secretary of the Tuberculosis Care Committee, in addition to her other work, but it quickly became evident that the enquiries to be dealt with and other work arising necessitated an additional appointment. Miss G. Black was accordingly appointed as Maintenance Allowances Officer for the Borough Council.

The following table summarises the cases dealt with during the six months period to the end of 1943:-

| | |
|--|--------|
| Number of patients receiving weekly allowances on last week of this period | 152 |
| Number of applications brought before the L.C.C. Assessment Officer | 292 |
| Number of orders made by the Assessment Officer | 247 |
| Number of applicants ineligible on medical grounds (not having worked for years) | 6 |
| Number of applicants financially ineligible | 39 |
| | 292 |
| Number of patients formerly receiving allowances who have returned to full-time work | 91 |
| Amount paid in allowances during period | £4,996 |

ARTIFICIAL PNEUMOTHORAX:

112 Patients received treatment at a total cost of £463. 11. 6d.

EXTRA NOURISHMENT:

The Council agreed, on the recommendation of the Public Health Committee, to accept applications for "extra nourishment" on the recommendation of the Tuberculosis Officers up to an income limit of 15/- per head after deduction of rent, etc., in place of the previous maximum of 12/6d.

112 cases received extra nourishment at a total cost of £449. 7s. 1d.

BEDS AND BEDDING:

14 patients were provided with bed and bedding on loan.

DENTAL TREATMENT:

The Council agreed, upon the recommendation of the Public Health Committee, that tuberculous patients recommended for Dental treatment at the Royal Northern Hospital coming within the Council's scheme would not be asked to contribute towards the cost of dentures where the assessed income per head was less than 15/-, in place of the previous maximum of 12/6d.

3 patients received treatment with assistance under the Council's scheme.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1943:

| <u>DISEASES.</u> | <u>No. of Notifications.</u> | <u>No. of Deaths.</u> | <u>Cases removed to hospital.</u> |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Scarlet Fever | 776 | 1 | 558 |
| Diphtheria | 160 | 9 | 187 |
| Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) | 3 | - | 3 |
| Puerperal Fever | 15 | 1 | 12 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 50 | - | 38 |
| Acute Primary & Influenzal Pneumonia | 171 | 11 | 30 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | 26 | - | 9 |
| Encephalitis Lethargica | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever | 23 | 2 | 15 |
| Anthrax | - | - | - |
| Dysentery | 120 | 3 | 109 |
| Malaria | 1 | - | 1 |
| Erysipelas | 90 | - | 49 |
| Measles | 1936 | 2 | 365 |
| Whooping Cough | 545 | 8 | 156 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | 7 | - | 6 |
| Acute Polioencephalitis | - | - | - |
| Scabies | 833 | - | - |

A considerable rise occurred during 1943 in the notifications of acute primary and influenzal pneumonia over the previous year, and also in the deaths due to influenza and pneumonia. The latter part of 1943 was notable for an influenza epidemic which, fortunately, was of comparatively short-lived duration, and whose severity was less than might have been expected. Arrangements were made to transmit urgent enquiries for domestic assistance in the home on account of Influenza, and upon the recommendation of the Doctor or from the North London District Nursing Association, to the Women's Voluntary Services. Fortunately the number of requests made for such assistance was not large and they were all met by volunteers from the W.V.S.

Scabies became notifiable on 1st August 1943 and the arrangements made for dealing with Scabies are set out in Section 'C' under Cleansing Station.

SMALLPOX AND VACCINATION:

No case of smallpox was notified. Of the 3,469 births returned on the "Birth List Sheets" during 1943, 1813 were successfully vaccinated. In addition, 993 children, whose births occurred elsewhere, were vaccinated in the Borough.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION:

Arising out of the increase in the number of requests for immunisation and the number of sessions which it became necessary to arrange, the Public Health Committee approved the appointment of a whole-time temporary Medical Officer whose principal duties should be in connection with Diphtheria Immunisation. Dr. Sybil D. Goodwill, was appointed and took up her duties on 6th March, 1943. The nursing staff and auxiliary personnel at First Aid Posts also volunteered for Diphtheria Immunisation clinic work when not otherwise required and rendered very useful assistance. The Borough Council's Health Visitors and some of the Health Visitors of the Voluntary Welfare Centres temporarily suspended some of their normal Maternity & Child Welfare activities in order to take part in a special immunisation campaign on the lines requested by the Ministry of Health.

By December 1943, it was estimated that 51% of children under the age of five years and 70% of children between the ages of five and 15 years had been immunised.

There were 9 deaths from diphtheria in 1943. None of these cases had been immunised.

The total attendances at all clinics during the year of 33,618 is a record figure and nearly 50% greater than the total attendances for 1942, which itself was the highest number to be recorded up to that year.

In all, 499 clinics were held, at which attendances totalled 33,618, giving an average attendance per session of 67.37.

The sessions were held as under:-

| | |
|--|-------|
| North Islington Branch Library, Manor Gardens, N.7. | 107 |
| First Aid Post, Mildmay Conference Hall, Newington Green, N.1. | 49 |
| First Aid Post, London Fever Hospital, Liverpool Road, E.1. | 52 |
| Community Hall, Blythe Mansions, Hillrise Road. (New clinic opened) | 28 |
| At London County Council Schools in Borough. | 189 |
| War-time Day Nurseries. | 74 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 499 |

Number of children who received full course of immunisations:-

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| Under 5 years | 3,531 |
| Over 5 years | 2,790 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 6,321 |

Of the above, 5,606 were Post-Schick-Tested and in 955 cases further injections were necessary. In addition to the above, 739 children were Primary Schick-Tested, with a negative result and did not therefore require immunisation. The total number of children seen at the clinics during the year who were either protected or found to be immune was 8,564 (including 440 children re-tested with a negative result.)