

## **[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Lewisham Borough].**

### **Contributors**

Lewisham (London, England). Metropolitan Borough.

### **Publication/Creation**

[1960?]

### **Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/pzskryk7>

### **License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution, Non-commercial license.

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



METROPOLITAN  
BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

---

# THE PUBLIC HEALTH OF LEWISHAM

---

Report of the  
Medical Officer of Health  
for the Year 1959

---

E. H. R. SMITHARD, MBE, MD, DPH

---

London :  
E. G. BERRYMAN & SONS, LTD., Blackheath Road, S.E.10









# Report

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1959

E. H. R. SMITHARD, MBE, MD, DPH

### CONTENTS

	PAGE
STAFF ... ..	2
INTRODUCTION...	3
VITAL STATISTICS ... ..	6
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES ... ..	18
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA ... ..	36
HOUSING... ..	44
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD ... ..	49
INFECTIOUS DISEASES ... ..	58
APPENDIX A — STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS ... ..	69
„ B — LEGAL PROCEEDINGS ... ..	71
„ C — SPECIAL REPORTS TO HEALTH COMMITTEE ...	72

“The chief function of the Medical Officer of Health is to safeguard the health of the area for which he acts by such means as are at his disposal . . .” “He should endeavour to acquire an accurate knowledge of the influences, social, environmental and industrial, which may operate prejudicially to health in the area . . .” “While he has special duties for the prevention of infectious diseases, all morbid conditions contributing to a high sickness rate or mortality in the area from these or other causes should be studied with a view to their prevention or control.”

—from the Ministry of Health Memorandum on the duties of MOHs

## STAFF as at 31/12/59

## Medical Officer of Health

E. H. R. Smithard, MBE, MD, BS, MRCS, LRCP, DPH

## Senior Public Health Inspector

E. Walker (a) (b)

## Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector

A. J. Phillips (a) (b)

## Group Public Health Inspectors

A. G. Thomas (a) (b) (Food)

J. R. Craven (a) (b) (Housing)

\*R. Mahoney (a) (b) (District)

## Smoke Inspector

J. W. Bevan (a) (b) (c)

## Assistant Group Housing Inspector

R. C. Brittain (a) (b)

## District Inspectors

\*G. L. Belshaw (a) (b)

\*K. G. C. Burt (a) (b) (c)

L. J. Cleverly (a)

\*C. L. Connor (a) (b)

\*R. L. Davis (a) (b)

\*G. E. Fallows (a) (b)

\*L. Gardiner (a) (b)

\*E. A. Howard (a) (b)

\*D. G. Oliver (a) (b) (c)

\*K. R. Wagener (a) (b)

\*T. E. R. Ware (a) (b)

One vacancy

## Divisional Food Inspectors

H. W. Ellery (a) (b)

H. Tolson (a) (b)

(a) *Public Health Inspector's certificate.* (b) *Meat and Other Foods certificate.*(c) *Smoke Inspector's certificate.*

\*With responsibility for certain food work.

## Women Health Officers

Mrs. A. Carins, SRN, RFN

Mrs. L. Champness, SRN, RFN

Mrs. M. M. Coulson, SRN

## Principal Clerk

E. W. Cheesman

## Clerical Staff

S. Burridge, (senior clerk)

C. R. Coleman

Mrs. D. J. Handford

Miss D. Cashman

Miss M. E. Hinchcliff

Mrs. M. G. James

## Student public health inspectors

A. R. Burchmore

A. J. Thrussell

D. B. Smith

A. Lakeland

J. T. Smith

## Coroner's Court and Mortuary

W. C. Spear, *officer-in-charge*

## Disinfecting Station, Pest Control, etc.

J. G. Beale, *superintendent*

Foreman Disinfectors

Disinfectors ... 9

Bathing attendants ... 1

Drain testers ... 2

R. A. Sharman, *foreman rodent operative*

Rodent operatives ... 3

Rodent/fly operatives ... 2

## Public Analyst

D. J. Allen, B.Sc., FRIC

## Bacteriologists

E. H. Bailey, MRCS, LRCP, and A. J. H. Tomlinson, MB, BChir, of the  
Public Health Laboratory Service.



*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Metropolitan Borough of  
Lewisham*

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit my report for the health department for the year 1959.

### Vital statistics

The Registrar General's estimate of the population in midyear 1959 at 221,000 was exactly the same as his estimate for the previous year. This latter figure was only 100 less than in the year before and so it seems that the downward trend in population which had occurred continuously since 1950 (when the population reached 228,300) may now have ceased. The crude birth rate for the year at 15.7 shows an increase from the 14.8 of the previous year. The adjusted birth rate, however, (allowing for age and sex distribution of population) brings it down to 14.9. The crude death rate at 11.8 compares with 11 in the previous year, the adjusted death rate is the same and therefore there is a real increase over the past year. The infant mortality rate at 18 indicates a return to the better figures we had in previous years, that is excepting 1958 when it was 24. The infant mortality rate can be divided into three parts, the early neonatal rate (under one week of age), the rest of the neonatal rate (up to one month of age) and the rest of the first year rate (that is from one month to twelve months). These rates were respectively 10.4, 2.8 and 4.7. The stillbirth rate came down one from 18 to 17. The various comparative figures of general statistics since the beginning of the century are shown in table 12.

### Infectious disease other than tuberculosis

The total number of notifications received (including 143 for tuberculosis) was 3767, which is double the number of the previous year and is almost the same as 1957. The increase was almost entirely due to measles—from 835 to 2613. Food poisoning cases increased from 27 to 49 but the 27 of the previous year was an abnormally low figure; details are in section F of the report. Pneumonia increased from 61 to 108 cases due to a moderate influenza wave at the beginning of the year. Both scarlet fever and whooping cough showed some increase. Poliomyelitis at 6 cases was again low in comparison with earlier years. It is hoped and thought that vaccination has been a considerable factor here. It is also hoped that vaccination will become increasingly popular, but there is unfortunately not a great deal of support for this hope as so far vaccination acceptances have been disappointingly low bearing in mind the issues at stake.

### Tuberculosis

The number of new notifications showed a major drop. Last year I reported that there had not in fact been much alteration in the annual number of new cases found in the past five years, these varying between 212 and 271. It is therefore of some significance that the 1959 figures



are only 61 per cent of those of the previous year. The death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis, which had shown a steep drop in 1958 continued this trend in 1959 and fell to 5 per 100,000 population, which again is the lowest on record—perhaps abnormally so as it was only half the County of London figure, whereas in previous years the County of London figure had been more nearly matched.

### Clean air

The paragraphs on atmospheric pollution in section B give details of the work done during the year and can at present be taken to indicate the proposed plan for conversion of the whole borough into a smoke control area. This work, which is great in magnitude but which can have corresponding beneficent results, has been carried out by the normal staff of public health inspectors and, with a little augmentation, the normal staff of clerical assistants. All manner of problems both large and small have cropped up and have (it is hoped) been overcome with help and cooperation of the staff. I think it is true to say that this borough is as advanced as any metropolitan borough, and indeed almost as advanced as any other area in the country, in its work of conversion to smoke control.

### Old people

No additional clubs applied for grant aid and altogether 14 clubs or organisations were in receipt of grants from the Council. Details are shown in the body of the report. The grant is reviewed each year and perhaps the chief factor in an upward revision is an indication (by the atmosphere of the club and particularly by the expansion of numbers and existing facilities and by the institution of new facilities) that the club is increasing its activities or comfort for its members. The number of old people on the club registers of the grant-aided clubs showed a slight increase during the year (thereby reversing the trend of the previous two years). A poster competition to aid recruitment was arranged by the Council through the agency of the Central old people's organisation and attracted a fair number of entries some of which, particularly the first prize-winning entry, was regarded as having out of the ordinary merit. Arrangements are now in hand for reproducing the prize-winning entry (with certain modifications) as a general poster for local use.

A committee has been formed under the auspices of the King Edward's Hospital Fund to examine the facilities for old people's welfare in the borough and to make recommendations. Some eight organisations are represented on the committee, of which I am a member, and one of the earlier decisions was that a house-to-house survey of a large part of the borough was essential. Arrangements are being made for this, but carrying it out will involve some considerable delay in the findings of the committee.



## Home Safety

After considering the matter on two or three occasions the Public Health committee came to the conclusion that there would be no advantage in the setting up of an *ad hoc* local safety committee, but that the best approach would be for the Public Health committee to have regular reports on home safety matters; this is being carried out. It was also decided to publish a quarterly home safety bulletin and the first issue was made in January 1960.

## Staff

The shortage of one in the establishment of public health inspectors remained during the year. The scheme for training student inspectors is working well apart from some difficulties in recruitment. The type of candidate we want regularly year by year is the school leaver who has passed his GCE in the requisite subjects, but we do not get many applicants from schools when we advertise in June of each year, and when the appointment is made—as it has to be for academic purposes in July—it is not known whether the boy has passed his GCE satisfactorily. There appears to be no solution to this problem at present, but in spite of the difficulties we have at present a full complement of students.

In ending the introduction to this report I wish to express my thanks to the Public Health Department staff for their work during the year, and more particularly, as I have indicated above under the paragraph on clean air, for the additional work they have got through and difficulties they have surmounted in this new but extremely important subject.

My thanks are also due to the Public Health Committee for their support and guidance in the work done. The Public Health Committee during the year was constituted as follows:

Alderman A. A. Hawkins (Chairman).  
Councillor E. F. Inch (Vice-Chairman).  
Alderman J. A. Cox, J.P. (The Mayor).  
Alderman C. S. E. Fox.

Councillors Mrs. R. K. Bartlett, J. V. Braund, Mrs. N. L. Bunce, Mrs. D. I. Cox, J. Donovan, P. E. J. Forward, F. S. Gander, B.Sc. (Hons.) Eng., F. W. T. Hibbert, Mrs. D. Hurren, Mrs. G. M. M. Land, Mrs. J. Marsh, Mrs. D. E. New and A. J. Pinnegar.

## SECTION A — VITAL STATISTICS

## Area

The area of the borough is 7,015 acres.

Public open space comprises 652 acres.

## Population

Census 1951 ... .. 227,576

The Registrar-General's estimate of the home population at midyear 1959 was 221,000. (This includes members of the armed forces stationed in the area).

## Rateable value

Rateable value of the borough at April 1, 1959 ... £3,124,896

Estimated net product of a penny rate 1959/60 ... £12,450

Estimated number of separately assessed dwellings at April 1, 1959 ... .. 63,933

Births (*adjusted for inward and outward transfers*)

Livebirths ... .. 3,475

*Males      Females      Total*

Legitimate ... .. 1,643      1,626      3,269

Illegitimate ... .. 112      94      206

Totals ... .. 1,755      1,720      3,475

Crude birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 15.7

Adjusted birth rate for comparative purposes

(Area comparability factor = 0.95) ... .. 14.9

Birth rate for England and Wales ... .. 16.5

Adjusted birth rate for London Administrative County 15.6

## Stillbirths

The stillbirths allocated to the borough during the year were 63, (31 males and 32 females) which represents a stillbirth rate per thousand live and still births of 17.4 in the case of males, 18.3 in the case of females, and 17.8 for all stillbirths.

## Deaths

The deaths belonging to the borough registered during the year were 2,617, consisting of 1,375 males and 1,242 females, giving a crude death rate per thousand of the estimated population of 11.8. The area comparability factor for deaths is 1.0 therefore the adjusted rate is the same at 11.8 which compares with rates of 11.6 for England and Wales and 11.7 for the Administrative County of London.

## Infant mortality

Infant deaths (all deaths of live-born children under one year) ... .. 64

*Males      Females      Total*

Legitimate ... .. 31      27      58

Illegitimate ... .. 2      4      6

Total ... .. 33      31      64



Rates : 1. All infants per thousand livebirths ...	18.4
2. Legitimate infants per thousand legitimate livebirths ...	17.7
3. Illegitimate infants per thousand illegitimate livebirths ...	29.1
4. Male infants per thousand male livebirths ...	18.8
5. Female infants per thousand female livebirths ...	18.0
Neonatal deaths (under 4 weeks of age) ...	46
Neonatal death rates :—	
Males, per 1,000 male livebirths ...	13.7
Females, per 1,000 female livebirths ...	12.8
All infants, per 1,000 livebirths ...	13.2
Early neonatal deaths (under 1 week of age) ...	36
Males, per thousand male livebirths ...	12.0
Females, per thousand female livebirths ...	8.7
All infants per thousand livebirths ...	10.4
Reproductive wastage—(Stillbirths plus all infant deaths)	127
Males, per 1,000 live and still male births ...	35.8
Females, per 1,000 live and still female births ...	36.0
All infants, per 1,000 live and still births ...	35.9
Perinatal mortality (Deaths under 1 week plus stillbirths)	99
Males, per thousand live and still male births ...	29.1
Females, per thousand live and still female births ...	26.8
All infants, per thousand live and stillbirths ...	28.0
Maternal deaths	
Maternal deaths ...	3
Maternal mortality rate per thousand live and stillbirths	0.8
Other special causes of death	
MEASLES ...	—
WHOOPING-COUGH ...	—
GASTROENTERITIS (infants) ...	1
TUBERCULOSIS (all forms) ...	12
MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS ...	21
SUICIDE ...	27
RESPIRATORY DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) (Code Nos. 22-25) ...	413
CANCER (Code Nos. 10-15) ...	532
HEART AND CIRCULATION DISEASES (Code Nos. 17-21)	1,276

### Comparative statistics for the year 1959

Table 1

	Birth rate		Death rate (per 1,000 population) (adjusted)	Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 livebirths)
	Live births (adjusted)	Still births		
Lewisham ...	14.9	17.8	11.8	18.4
England and Wales ...	16.5	20.7	11.6	22.0
London Administrative County	15.6	19.3	11.7	22.3



[illegible]



of life during the year 1959

ages at death during the calendar year 1959 :—

2

Code No.	Causes of death	Nett deaths at the subjoined ages of "residents " whether occurring within or without the borough									Total persons (i.e., incl. table opp.)
		FEMALES									
		All ages	Under 1 yr.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and under 75	75 and over	
	Totals all causes ... ..	1242	31	3	5	6	38	199	284	676	2617
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	11
2	Tuberculosis, other forms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
3	Syphilitic diseases ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
4	Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	Whooping cough ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
8	Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	24	—	—	—	—	2	4	9	9	60
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung and bronchus ... ..	22	—	—	—	—	1	10	6	5	140
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	44	—	—	—	—	2	23	13	6	45
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	13	—	—	—	—	2	5	5	1	13
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	127	1	—	1	1	10	32	36	46	259
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	5	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	15
16	Diabetes ... ..	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	16
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	194	—	—	—	—	1	28	45	120	328
18	Coronary disease, angina...	183	—	—	—	—	—	28	56	99	470
19	Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	32	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	25	55
20	Other heart disease ... ..	172	1	—	—	—	1	18	23	129	305
21	Other circulatory disease	64	—	—	—	1	1	4	15	43	118
22	Influenza ... ..	15	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	9	33
23	Pneumonia ... ..	91	4	1	—	—	3	2	15	66	181
24	Bronchitis ... ..	58	3	—	—	—	—	9	12	34	175
25	Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	24
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	14	—	—	—	—	1	2	6	5	29
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea... ..	11	—	1	—	—	—	4	1	5	19
28	Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	13	—	—	1	—	—	2	4	6	19
29	Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3
31	Congenital malformations	4	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	13
32	Other defined and illdefined diseases ... ..	95	17	1	1	—	4	13	16	43	180
33	Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	7	—	—	—	2	1	1	1	2	21
34	All other accidents ... ..	18	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	12	33
35	Suicide ... ..	13	—	—	—	—	4	5	3	1	27
36	Homicide and operations of war ... ..	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2



## Deaths under 1 year of age

Table 3

<i>Cause of death</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Under 1 day</i>	<i>1-6 days</i>	<i>1 week</i>	<i>2 weeks</i>	<i>3 weeks</i>	<i>Total under 4 wks.</i>	<i>1-2 mths.</i>	<i>3-5 mths.</i>	<i>6-8 mths.</i>	<i>9-11 mths.</i>	<i>Total 1-11 mths.</i>	<i>Total under 1 yr.</i>
Other infective and parasitic diseases	M F	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1
Inflammatory diseases of central nervous system	M F	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -
Pneumonia	M F	- -	1 -	1 -	- 1	- 2	2 3	1 -	1 1	1 -	- -	3 1	5 4
Bronchitis	M F	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 2	1 1	- -	- -	1 3	1 3
Other respiratory diseases	M F	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1
Gastroenteritis	M F	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	1 -	1 -
Spina-bifida and meningocele	M F	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- 1	- -	- 2	- 2
Congenital malformations of heart	M F	- -	2 -	- -	- -	- -	2 -	1 -	1 -	- -	- -	2 -	4 -
Other congenital malformations	M F	2 -	1 -	- -	- -	- 1	3 1	- -	1 -	- -	- -	1 -	4 1
Injury at birth	M F	4 1	1 1	- -	- 1	- -	5 3	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	5 3
Postnatal asphyxia and atelectasis	M F	1 1	2 -	- -	- -	- -	3 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Pemphigus and sepsis of newborn	M F	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1
Haemolytic disease of newborn	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1
Immaturity	M F	4 5	2 2	1 -	- -	- -	7 7	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	7 7
All other causes	M F	1 1	- 2	- -	- -	- -	1 3	1 1	- 1	- -	- 1	1 3	2 6
TOTALS	M F	12 9	9 6	2 1	- 2	1 4	24 22	3 4	5 3	1 1	- 1	9 9	33 31
GRAND TOTAL		21	15	3	2	5	46	7	8	2	1	18	64

There were no deaths in the following groups: tuberculosis (all forms), syphilis, diphtheria, whooping cough, meningococcal infections, acute poliomyelitis, measles, haemorrhagic conditions, pink disease, diseases of ear and mastoid process, influenza, gastritis and duodenitis, diseases of skin and subcutaneous tissue, congenital hydrocephalus, congenital malformations of genito-urinary system, convulsions, accidents, and lack of care of newborn.



18 infants (9 male and 9 female) thus died between the age of one month and one year compared with 19 in the previous year and 15 the year before that. 8 of the 18 were from pneumonia and bronchitis, 6 were spread over 4 other causes, and 4 were undefined. There was a decrease of 15 in the number of deaths under 4 weeks of age, the biggest decrease being in immaturity which showed a drop of 13 (from 27 to 14 deaths).

#### Local sickness

Through the courtesy of the Regional Medical Officer of the Ministry of National Insurance, I am sent weekly a return indicating for the various areas of London the first certificates of sickness benefit received in the local offices. The areas served by these local offices are in the main coterminous with postal districts of London and do not coincide with borough boundaries. Lewisham is served by four offices, "Lewisham," "Downham," "Eltham," and "Norwood," but as only a very small portion of the borough comes within the purview of the last two, it is felt that a better representation of the trend of sickness within the borough is given by quoting only the figures for "Lewisham," and "Downham."

Table 4 Morbidity shown in insurance certificates

Average for period ending	"Lewisham"	"Downham"
January 27 ... ..	757	178
February 24 ... ..	1208	346
March 24 ... ..	805	186
April 21 ... ..	433	109
May 19 ... ..	393	87
June 16 ... ..	370	90
July 14 ... ..	364	90
August 11 ... ..	322	75
September 8 ... ..	343	73
October 6 ... ..	443	99
November 3 ... ..	536	123
December 1 ... ..	662	143
December 29 ... ..	452	109
Average for period 7 April to 1 December 1959 ... ..	434	100
Weekly average for the year 1959	545	131
" " 1958	497	117
" " 1957	602	150
" " 1956	469	124
" " 1955	480	129
" " 1954	424	115
" " 1953	471	133

The February figure was high, due to the second wave of influenza that winter, and this increased incidence lasted into March. The average for the year was slightly up.

#### Social class in relation to cause of death

Of the 2,617 deaths analysed by us the social categories were as follow:—

Table 5

Social class	I	II	III	IV	V	Total	No in- formation
Males ... ..	51	238	750	206	112	1357	18
Females ... ..	35	231	651	194	83	1194	48
Total ... ..	96	469	1401	400	195	2551	66
Percentage ... ..	4	18	55	16	7	100	—



In detail, the social class, related to cause of death, was as follows :—

Table 6

Code No.	Cause of death	Male						Female					
		I	II	III	IV	V	Total	I	II	III	IV	V	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	1	2	6	—	—	9	—	1	—	—	—	1
2	Tuberculosis, other forms ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	Whooping cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	1	3	26	4	2	36	—	3	17	3	1	24
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	—	16	65	14	21	116	—	5	11	4	—	20
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	8	23	4	2	40
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	—	2	10
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	4	29	73	18	8	132	5	23	65	23	8	124
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	1	3	7	2	1	14	1	—	4	—	2	7
16	Diabetes ...	2	2	1	—	1	6	—	3	5	2	—	10
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system... ..	4	21	72	22	13	132	7	52	90	34	10	193
18	Coronary disease, angina ...	9	55	144	38	15	261	4	27	94	21	6	152
19	Hypertension with heart disease	1	4	25	6	7	43	1	12	32	10	4	59
20	Other heart disease ...	7	28	69	27	11	142	3	31	82	25	13	154
21	Other circulatory disease ...	5	8	21	6	5	45	2	11	38	12	3	66
22	Influenza ...	—	1	6	5	4	16	—	2	4	6	1	13
23	Pneumonia ...	2	10	69	16	3	100	—	14	49	19	10	92
24	Bronchitis ...	5	13	60	22	10	110	—	8	32	9	8	57
25	Other diseases of respiratory system... ..	—	6	8	5	1	20	—	1	5	—	—	6
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	4	8	2	1	15	1	3	6	1	1	12
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	3	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	2
28	Nephritis and nephrosis ...	1	2	12	2	—	17	—	9	15	2	—	26
29	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	1	8	6	4	—	19	—	—	3	—	—	3
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
31	Congenital malformations ...	1	2	5	—	—	8	2	2	3	2	1	10
32	Other defined and illdefined diseases ...	5	15	33	8	7	68	4	9	42	12	8	75
33	Motor vehicle accidents ...	—	1	12	—	1	14	1	—	4	—	2	7
34	All other accidents ...	1	1	9	1	—	12	—	3	9	3	—	15
35	Suicide ...	—	2	7	4	1	14	1	2	8	1	1	13
36	Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
	No social class assessed ...	—	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	48

There are various discrepancies between the above table and table 2, owing to different methods of assessment, and for comparative purposes therefore it is safer to group the causes of death which are linked together. Thus code numbers 10 to 15 may be regarded as all different kinds of cancer, while numbers 17 to 21 are all diseases of the heart and circulation. Similarly 22 to 25 are best grouped together.



Certain statistics have thus been extracted from the last table and grouped in this way. They are shown in the following table which also includes the percentage of each social class for each disease or group of diseases. The percentages should be compared with those in table 5 for all deaths, but for certain groups it will be realised that the numbers are too small for comparison year by year.

Table 7  
Grouped deaths in social class

Code Nos.	Group		Male						Female					
			I	II	III	IV	V	Total	I	II	III	IV	V	Total
1, 2	TB	No. %	1 10	3 30	6 60	— —	— —	10 100	— —	1 100	— —	— —	— —	1 100
10-15	Cancers	No. %	6 2	51 17	172 57	38 13	32 11	299 100	9 4	40 18	127 56	34 15	15 7	225 100
17-21	Heart and circulation	No. %	26 4	116 18	341 54	99 16	51 8	633 100	17 3	133 21	336 54	102 16	36 6	624 100
22-25	Lung, not TB or cancer	No. %	7 3	30 12	143 50	48 20	18 15	246 100	— —	25 15	90 54	34 20	19 11	168 100
33, 34	Accidents	No. %	1 4	2 8	21 84	1 4	— —	25 100	1 5	3 14	13 58	3 14	2 9	22 100
35	Suicides	No. %	— —	2 14	7 50	4 29	1 7	14 100	1 8	2 15	8 61	1 8	1 8	13 100

#### Social class in relation to infant statistics

The following table shows the social classification in relation to registered births, registered infant deaths, notified stillbirths and notified premature births, an extra line being added to each group to indicate the percentage. Apart from the registered births the figures are too small to be significant; the percentages in the category of registered births can be compared with those for the registered deaths shown in table 5

Table 8

		Social classification					Total	Not classifiable
			II	III	IV	V		
Registered births	No. %	101 3	627 18	2047 61	403 12	219 6	3397 100	78
Registered stillbirths	No. %	— —	7 13	29 57	8 15	8 15	52 100	11
Registered infant deaths	No. %	4 6	9 15	36 58	10 16	3 15	62 100	2
Notified premature births	No. %	6 3	24 10	153 56	24 10	26 11	233 100	28



## Coronary disease

I have from time to time in previous reports referred at considerable length to this condition. Active research is progressing and increasing, particularly with regard to the dietary factor, although it is still true to say that results have not yet reached the stage when dogmatic advice can be given with regard to specific articles of dietary. Nevertheless, for those adults who are prepared to alter their dietary regime on a likely possibility rather than a scientific probability, advice which could be given at this stage would amount to this: eat sparingly, cut down fats particularly, look askance at foodstuffs with a high cholesterol content—brains, egg yolk, kidneys, butter—prefer vegetable and fish oil to animal fat, and take regular exercise. This is simple advice, easy to follow, and unlikely to do any harm; and it is advice which quite possibly might do a lot of good. There are, almost inevitably, “savings” and “provisos” even to these simple rules but the only one of note here is in relation to vegetable fat: coconut oil is under some suspicion, while peanut oil is probably advantageous. For cooking and frying purposes there are now excellent vegetable oils on the market.

The following table brings the Lewisham figures of mortality from heart disease up to date.

Table 9  
Heart and circulation mortality

Year (a)	Deaths from			Total heart and circulation (all ages) (e)	Age group 45-65		Total deaths in borough (h)	Percentage		
	Coronary diseases (b)	Other heart diseases* (c)	Other circulatory diseases† (d)		Total (f)	Coronary diseases (g)		(e) of (h) (i)	(f) of (h) (j)	(g) of (h) (k)
1928	357		97	454	115	—	1993	23	5.8	?
1933	516		117	633	162	—	2271	28	7.1	?
1938	659		139	798	178	—	2403	33	7.4	?
1943	583		64	647	129	—	2359	27	5.5	?
1948	696		63	759	155	—	2253	34	6.9	?
1953	775		113	888	140	—	2502	35	5.6	—
1958	770		109	879	150	—	2433	36	6.2	—
1950	281	519	79	879	158	79	2413	36	6.5	3.3
1	288	528	78	894	154	87	2542	35	6.1	3.4
2	327	537	86	950	180	89	2580	37	7.0	3.5
3	331	444	113	888	140	84	2502	35	5.6	3.4
4	358	387	113	858	176	99	2231	38	7.9	4.4
5	329	464	115	908	148	94	2423	37	6.1	3.9
6	385	421	113	919	149	84	2513	37	5.9	3.3
7	379	369	107	855	160	100	2433	35	6.2	4.1
8	407	363	109	879	150	99	2433	36	6.2	4.1
9	470	360	118	948	161	110	2617	36	6.2	4.2

? means figure not available.

\*R.G. Code Nos. 19 and 20.

†R.G. Code No. 21.



## Lung cancer

I have to report a further increase in lung cancer deaths during 1959. The male deaths increased from 114 to 118 and the female deaths from 21 to 22, giving a total of 140 cases as against 135 in the previous year. At the same time the total deaths from all forms of cancer also increased—from 472 to 532 and this slightly lowers the proportion of cancer deaths due to lung cancer, as is shown in the following table which gives similar figures for the past eight years.

Table 10

Year (a)	MALE			FEMALE		
	All cancer deaths (b)	Lung cancer deaths (c)	(c) as % of (b) (d)	All cancer deaths (e)	Lung cancer deaths (f)	(f) as % of (e) (g)
1952	246	77	31	238	9	4
1953	237	83	35	215	13	6
1954	238	76	32	192	13	7
1955	303	102	34	226	19	8
1956	259	96	37	226	12	5
1957	267	101	38	229	21	9
1958	271	114	42	201	21	10
1959	297	118	40	235	22	9

In the 1957 report I gave a table, based on figures supplied by the Tobacco Manufacturers, of the consumption of cigarettes in the U.K. in representative years since 1920. The table is reproduced below, brought up to date.

Table 11

Consumption of cigarettes in the UK in representative years  
(based on figures published by the the Tobacco Manufacturers)

Year	Adult males (lbs. per head)	Adult females (lbs. per head)	Ratio M : F (F = 1)
1920	5.1	Negligible	?
1924	4.6	0.2	23.0
1928	5.6	0.3	18.7
1932	6.0	0.5	12.0
1936	7.1	0.8	8.9
1940	7.9	1.3	6.1
1944	9.0	2.5	3.6
1948	7.6	2.0	3.8
1952	7.7	2.5	3.1
1956	8.0	3.1	2.6
1957	8.2	3.3	2.5
1958	8.3	3.3	2.5

## General statistics from 1901

Table 12

Year	Population	Death rate *	% dying under age 45	% dying under age 65	Birth rate *	Pre- mature birth rate ‡	Maternal death rate †	Still- birth rate †	Neo- natal death rate **	One month to one year death rate (12) - (10) **	Infant mortality rate **	Repro- ductive wastage rate (9) + (12)	Pulmonary tuberculosis		Tuberculosis (all forms)
													Notif. rate††	Death rate††	% notif. rate under 15
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)
1901	127,495	13.0	—	74	25.9	—	3.9	—	—	—	128	—	—	93	—
1902	132,432	13.7	—	74	26.3	—	4.3	—	—	—	122	—	—	106	—
1903	136,405	11.1	—	72	26.1	—	2.5	—	—	—	92	—	—	78	—
1904	140,401	12.0	—	70	25.6	—	3.6	—	—	—	122	—	—	84	—
1905	144,420	11.7	—	67	25.2	—	2.8	—	30	63	93	—	—	87	—
1906	148,463	12.0	—	72	23.2	—	2.0	—	30	83	113	—	—	80	—
1907	152,532	11.5	—	67	23.7	—	2.5	—	34	56	90	—	—	90	—
1908	156,627	11.0	—	68	22.8	—	1.4	—	30	57	87	—	—	85	—
1909	160,749	10.4	—	63	21.9	—	2.0	—	35	40	75	—	—	78	—
1910	164,899	9.7	—	65	20.7	—	2.6	—	29	50	79	—	—	55	—
1911	161,677	11.4	46	68	21.2	—	2.3	—	31	73	104	—	—	64	—
1912	165,249	10.5	39	63	20.3	—	2.8	—	30	39	69	—	208	68	11
1913	168,822	10.7	43	65	20.3	—	2.6	—	28	48	76	—	188	73	25
1914	169,211	10.9	40	62	19.5	—	3.3	—	27	46	73	—	138	77	18
1915	164,438	12.9	36	61	19.3	—	4.0	—	30	49	79	—	154	90	26
1916	—	11.9	—	—	18.4	—	—	—	—	—	75	—	—	102	—
1917	—	11.8	—	—	14.9	—	—	—	—	—	87	—	—	112	—
1918	—	13.2	—	—	13.8	—	—	—	—	—	66	—	—	106	—
1919	174,750	11.4	35	59	16.6	—	3.1	—	28	32	60	—	179	86	22
1920	174,698	10.8	38	59	22.8	—	3.8	—	32	30	62	—	160	73	22
1921	175,800	10.5	34	58	19.5	—	2.6	—	23	31	54	—	135	81	18
1922	176,600	11.1	31	57	18.1	—	2.5	—	26	28	54	—	154	74	16
1923	182,400	10.1	31	56	18.0	—	3.6	—	20	23	43	—	154	76	17
1924	184,900	10.5	29	56	16.4	—	3.6	—	23	24	47	—	149	68	22
1925	185,600	10.3	30	56	15.6	—	1.6	—	23	32	55	—	142	63	15
1926	187,800	10.0	29	54	15.4	—	2.1	—	18	22	40	—	158	71	17
1927	188,600	11.0	28	53	15.1	—	2.1	—	35	21	46	—	157	92	12
1928	199,300	10.0	29	54	15.2	—	2.3	—	22	30	52	—	168	77	15
1929	207,900	11.5	27	52	15.7	—	5.3	—	—	—	44	—	142	74	13
1930	207,900	9.7	28	53	15.1	—	0.9	37	—	—	42	79	154	76	12



Table 12—continued.

Year	Population	Death rate *	% dying under age 45	% dying under age 65	Birth rate *	Pre-mature birth rate ‡	Maternal death rate †	Still-birth rate †	Neo-natal death rate **	One month to one year death rate (12) - (10) **	Infant mortality rate **	Reproductive wastage rate (9) + (12)	Pulmonary tuberculosis		Tuberculosis (all forms)
													Notif. rate††	Death rate††	% notif. rate under 15
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)
1931	220,800	10.2	26	52	14.1	—	4.9	31	25	24	49	80	132	69	14
1932	221,500	10.2	26	49	12.7	—	3.4	32	31	23	54	86	123	59	11
1933	221,100	10.2	22	50	12.2	—	2.6	31	21	18	39	70	125	68	9
1934	222,180	10.1	23	50	12.2	—	1.5	36	21	22	43	79	129	58	14
1935	223,000	10.0	23	47	12.5	—	4.3	35	24	19	43	78	126	58	13
1936	224,000	10.9	23	48	13.0	—	2.0	37	23	32	55	92	131	62	12
1937	226,000	10.9	20	47	13.4	—	1.3	39	18	29	47	86	156	59	12
1938	229,000	10.5	23	49	13.9	—	2.1	26	—	—	47	73	116	61	12
1939	220,300	10.8	—	—	13.6	—	2.9	34	—	—	42	76	111	64	12
1940	192,540	15.8	22	50	14.7	—	1.0	24	—	—	45	69	111	67	11
1941	148,150	14.3	22	48	13.9	—	1.9	29	—	—	34	63	176	93	10
1942	161,800	12.0	18	44	16.8	—	3.2	37	—	—	37	74	175	73	15
1943	168,530	13.9	20	45	18.7	—	3.1	25	—	—	42	67	194	76	14
1944	163,320	14.8	21	49	18.6	—	1.0	22	—	—	40	62	196	79	11
1945	171,280	12.1	20	43	17.7	—	1.9	18	—	—	34	52	179	71	13
1946	207,410	10.6	17	43	21.7	—	1.1	21	—	—	33	54	193	53	15
1947	221,170	11.9	17	42	21.9	—	1.0	21	—	—	33	54	166	55	12
1948	226,100	9.9	16	41	18.9	—	0.5	15	15	13	28	43	198	48	16
1949	227,700	10.2	11	35	16.8	—	0.3	16	13	6	19	35	146	40	12
1950	228,300	10.6	11	35	15.3	—	0.6	15	19	7	26	40	158	29	13
1951	227,200	11.2	10	34	15.3	67	0.3	16	17	8	25	41	117	26	15
1952	227,100	11.4	9	32	13.9	86	0.3	18	16	6	22	40	117	15	8
1953	225,800	11.1	9	29	14.4	75	0.3	23	16	6	22	45	136	19	14
1954	224,200	10.0	8	31	14.2	60	0.0	14	13	8	21	35	102	16	10
1955	223,400	10.8	7	28	14.0	69	0.9	18	11	6	17	35	114	10	5
1956	222,100	11.3	6	27	14.5	59	0.0	19	16	3	19	38	88	13	11
1957	220,900	11.0	8	32	14.8	65	0.6	18	12	4	16	33	100	14	10
1958	221,000	11.0	8	29	14.8	78	0.0	18	19	5	24	42	98	8	11
1959	221,000	11.8	7	28	15.7	75	0.8	18	13	5	18	36	52	5	8

\*per 1,000 population. ‡per 1,000 notified livebirths. \*\*per 1,000 registered livebirths.  
†per 1,000 registered live and stillbirths. ††per 100,000 population. — equals figure not available.

## SECTION B — GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

## Disinfection and personal cleansing

Details of the work carried out during the year are as follows:—

## Disinfecting Station

Table 13

	West	North	South	Total
<b>Disinfection</b>				
Premises visited ... ..	114	76	113	303
Rooms disinfected ... ..	259	162	235	654
Articles disinfected ... ..	3196	945	1289	5430
<b>Disinfestation</b>				
Premises visited ... ..	58	55	25	138
Rooms disinfested ... ..	129	170	108	407
Articles disinfested ... ..	132	71	21	224
<b>Articles treated</b>				
Beds ... ..	37	28	23	88
Mattresses ... ..	157	89	138	384
Bolsters ... ..	37	24	14	75
Pillows ... ..	357	135	200	692
Cushions ... ..	50	35	22	107
Quilts ... ..	70	44	86	200
Blankets ... ..	536	147	305	988
Sheets ... ..	114	68	118	300
Household articles .....	636	231	234	1101
Wearing apparel ... ..	1334	215	170	1719
<b>Total articles</b> ... ..	<b>3328</b>	<b>1016</b>	<b>1310</b>	<b>5654</b>
Articles received from the cleansing station ...	—	1415	—	1415
Articles received from the Coroner's court ...	—	1017	—	1017
Public library books treated after infection ...	227	306	264	797
Private library books treated after infection ...	17	14	40	71
Articles treated under the Public Health (London) Act s.122 ... ..	14424	16397	15775	46596

Treatments for verminous conditions and for scabies were as follow:—

## Verminous conditions

Table 14

	1st Cleansing	2nd Cleansing	3rd Cleansing
Children under 5 ...	8	—	—
Adults ... ..	164	15	—
School children ...	66	—	—
<b>TOTALS</b> ... ..	<b>238</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>—</b>



Scabies

Table 14—continued

	Cases	Contacts	Treatments
Children under 5 ...	6	—	11
School children ...	17	—	23
Adults ...	19	3	32
TOTALS ...	42	3	66

## London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1953

Section 43 of the above Act states that, on receipt of a report from the medical officer of health or a sanitary inspector that any aged person within their district is verminous or is for any other reason in need of cleansing in order to prevent injury or the danger of injury and is so enfeebled that he is unable to avail himself of any facilities for cleansing himself provided by the authority or to cleanse himself properly, the sanitary authority may on application or with the consent of that person (but not otherwise) cause him to be cleansed free of charge at the place where he resides or at any other suitable place. The authority is enabled to make such arrangements and provide any apparatus required to exercise these powers.

No person received treatment during the year.

## Anti-fly and anti-mosquito campaign

The campaign was held from May 4 to October 2 and Mr. Phillips, the deputy senior public health inspector who is in charge of anti-pest work reports :— “ 352 sites, grass verges and rear garage ways were visited on 5 occasions each and necessary treatment carried out by spraying or the use of powder. The material collected or destroyed on the sites consisted of 85 mattresses and a large quantity of miscellaneous articles such as carpets, linoleum, furniture and clothing. Most of this rubbish was taken direct to the wharf at Greenwich because of the difficulty of destroying it on the site when wet. On a few occasions, however, when the material was reasonably dry it was destroyed by burning.”

The co-operation of the Borough Engineer's department was once again available for the treatment of dustbins with a powder supplied by the health department. The powder contained gammexane and was applied to dustbins at the time of refuse collection. Altogether some 4 tons of powder containing 0.5 per cent. gamma benzene hexachloride was used.

4 stables or piggeries, and one plot of land known to be particularly bad as a rubbish tip were treated as special sites and visited on 18 occasions each, particular attention being paid to the manure receptacles at the stables and piggeries. Throughout the campaign regular visits were paid to Lewisham Hospital to spray the refuse container there and also the site of the kitchen waste bins. 10 visits were also paid to both



this Council's and the London County Council's blocks of flats where dustchutes are used. 263 dustchutes with 921 openings were sprayed. One private block containing 9 chutes was also included in this treatment. The caretakers of the Council's flats were also provided with sprayers, 16 gallons insecticide and 120 lbs powder, for use in connection with the containers at the base of the dustchutes, particularly after these had been cleaned out, and for the sites of the bins used for the storage of kitchen waste. In addition treatment by spraying was carried out in 28 houses by staff from the disinfecting station following complaints from the householders concerned. In a number of cases a supply of insecticide containing 5 per cent. DDT was also left with the householders for use in their own sprayers.

Sections of the rivers where the water tends to be stagnant were sprayed with 5 per cent. DDT in a kerosene base, a total of 40 gallons being used, as an anti-mosquito precaution on 3 occasions.

### Health Education

During the year the food inspectors during the course of their routine inspections of food shops took the opportunities offered to put over items of health education to the occupiers, and on occasion to the food handlers. A large number of posters were obtained from central agencies in connection with health education generally and more particularly perhaps with environmental hygiene and home safety; and a new leaflet, on burns and scalds, was got out by the Department.

At the end of the year preparations were made for the issue of a quarterly Bulletin on home safety to be distributed to some 300 organisations in the borough. In the course of the year seven lectures or talks were delivered by Health Department staff, three of these to Boy Scout groups, three to older schoolgirls, and one to a women's co-operative guild.

### Public Mortuary and Coroner's Court

The premises are situated in Ladywell Road and comprise a court room, witness room, coroner's office, caretaker's apartments and mortuary.

The number of bodies taken to the mortuary during the year was 630, of which 271 were received from institutions, 630 postmortem examinations were made and inquests were held in 85 cases.

Table 15

Month	Bodies received from Institutions	Others	Post-mortem examinations		Inquests
			Lewisham residents	Others	
January ...	32	48	57	23	12
February...	26	64	60	30	5
March ...	25	35	39	21	5
April ...	19	31	27	23	4
May ...	15	23	28	10	6
June ...	22	13	20	15	10
July ...	15	19	31	3	6
August ...	18	20	25	13	6
September	19	23	31	11	6
October ...	20	32	29	23	7
November	31	22	37	16	7
December	29	29	37	21	11
TOTALS ...	271	359	421	209	85

### Rodent control

A section, consisting from May to September of a foreman and three operatives and from October to April of the foreman and five operatives, is maintained for the purpose of repressing rat infestation, and this section is supervised by the senior public health inspector.

In his report on rodent control work during 1959, Mr. Walker, the senior public health inspector, states:—

“All the infestations were of a minor character and were mainly dealt with by the laying of poison bait. Infestations were again in evidence on the banks of the various rivers and ditches in the borough and there has been an increase in the number dealt with, particularly in the Ravensbourne. In this connection there should be an improvement when the scheme for the County Council taking responsibility for cleansing and clearing the Ravensbourne and its tributaries comes into force. Our work in the past has been made increasingly difficult owing to the amount of rubbish deposited, and to the growth of weeds and scrub which has favoured conditions for the shelter and growth of the rat population.”

The undermentioned table gives a summary of the work on the rivers and ditches, prebait being laid on 3/4 days:—

Table 16

Location	Base points	Poison bait taken (ozs.) (Estimated)
River Ravensbourne ...	651	2277
River Quaggy ...	580	458
River Pool ...	112	—
Ditches ...	47	146



Special liaison is made with the Borough Engineer's department for the treatment of sewers. In 1959 treatments were carried out in April and October. The method employed in carrying out the work was to deposit 8 ozs. poison bait on the first day and if a take was shown, 16 ozs. of bait was used on the second day. In any case at least 8 ozs. of poison bait was deposited.

The following is a summary of the results obtained :—

*Spring treatment*

Manholes baited ... ..	2,971
Manholes showing takes ... ..	536
Manholes showing takes (on one or both days) ... ..	606

*Autumn treatment*

Manholes baited ... ..	2,615
Manholes showing takes ... ..	740
Manholes showing takes (on one or both days) ... ..	933

In consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Borough Engineer a scheme has been worked out (to commence in April, 1960) for continuous baiting of the sewer manholes, in place of the usual twice yearly treatment. The poison to be used will be sodium fluoracetate (1080). This highly toxic substance and its use is mainly confined at present to the baiting of sewers. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries have undertaken to train a number of Council's sewermen in the technique of sewer baiting and the correct handling and use of this particular poison.

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

A copy of the report covering the nine months ended 31st December, 1959, submitted to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, as required by the provisions of the above Act, is appended:—

Table 17

	Type of property				
	Local authority	Dwelling houses (including council houses)	All other (including business premises)	Total	Agricultural
Properties in borough ...	137	64,566	10,825	75,528	—
Properties inspected as a result of :—					
(a) notification ...	14	1,231	100	1,345	—
(b) survey ...	1	1,311	28	1,340	—
(c) otherwise ...	—	47	2	49	—
Total inspections (including re-inspections) ...	15	2,666	130	2,811	—
Properties inspected which were found to be infested by :—					
(a) Rats — major ...	—	—	—	—	—
— minor ...	4	870	75	949	—
(b) mice — major ...	—	—	—	—	—
— minor ...	4	214	19	237	—
Infested properties treated ...	8	1,077	86	1,171	—
Total treatments (including retreatments) ...	13	1,522	248	1,783	—

Block'' control schemes carried out ... Nil

### Laboratory facilities

The following summary relates to the work carried out by the public health laboratory on behalf of the council during 1959: —

Table 18

Specimens	Number	Remarks
Faeces ...	1,129	Negative
	259	Shigella sonnei
	20	Salmonella typhimurium
	14	Salmonella paratyphi B
	2	Bact coli
Urine ...	72	Routine
Swabs, from nose, throat etc.	110	C. diphtheriae not isolated
Sputum ...	36	Routine
Foodstuffs ...	2	
Water ...	3	
Total specimens ...	1,647	



## Swimming baths

There are 4 public swimming baths in the borough, in addition to a few club and school swimming baths. The public swimming baths are shown in the table, together with the laboratory tests taken during the year.

Table 19

Bath	Tests		Variation of chlorine (p.p.m.)
	Chlorine	Bact.	
Ladywell (1 & 2) ... ..	9	2	0.30—0.75
Forest Hill North ... ..	5	—	0.80—1.50
Forest Hill South ... ..	4	—	0.45—1.75
Downham ... ..	8	—	1.00—1.75
Bellingham (openair) ...	5	—	0.15—4.50

The water used for these baths is supplied by the Metropolitan Water Board and is sterilised by the breakpoint chlorination method, sodium carbonate and sodium metaphosphate being used to control acidity and to keep the pH above 7.2. Colorimetric tests for free chlorine and pH value are also made at the baths at 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. on weekdays and at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Sundays, the results being recorded on log sheets kept for the purpose. The aim is to achieve a circulation of water every four hours, although it is rather more prolonged than this at the openair baths.

## National Assistance Act, 1948 — section 50

During the year the Council accepted responsibility for the burial of 6 persons, at a net cost to the Council of £27.

## National Assistance Act, 1948—section 47

Several possible cases were investigated during the year and in two cases it was necessary to apply to the court for an order for compulsory removal.

## Dog nuisances

No proceedings were taken during the year, although complaints were received of the condition of certain roads and paths.

## Drainage work

During the year 150 plans were submitted to the public health inspectors for examination and approval.

## Water supply

I am indebted to the Director of Water Examination of the Metropolitan Water Board for the information on which the following report on Lewisham's water supply is based.

The water supply is mostly Thames-derived filtered water but there is also admixture from the Board's wells at Bexley, Darenth, Deptford and Wilmington.

All the well water is chlorinated and contact tanks are provided. Finally, any residual chlorine is completely removed or reduced to a level that would not be noticeable to consumers before the water leaves the works.

Bacteriological analyses are made at least five times a week and in the case of the river-derived supplies the water is analysed at all stages of purification. All new and repaired mains are chlorinated before being put to use and samples are collected for analysis to establish that the quality of the water is up to the standard normally supplied.

None of the supplies is plumbo-solvent.

Tables 20 and 21 show the average results of the chemical and bacteriological analyses of the various supplies as forwarded by the Metropolitan Water Board: —



Average results of the chemical and bacteriological examination of the water supply to the Borough of Lewisham for 1959  
milligrams per litre (unless otherwise stated)

(a) CHEMICAL

Table 20

Description of the sample	Ammonia nitrogen	Albuminoid nitrogen	Oxidised nitrogen (nitrate)	Chlorides as Cl.	Oxygen abs. from permanganate (4 hrs. at 27° C)	Hardness (total)	Hardness (non-carbonate)	pH value	Electrical Conductivity (gemmhos)
Thames-derived filtered water ... ..	·022	·075	3·8	28	1·08	250	56	7·7	525
Deptford ... ..	·010	·033	8·3	37	0·18	374	142	7·0	750
Bexley ... ..	·008	·031	5·4	18	0·10	298	60	7·2	575
Darenth ... ..	·010	·024	5·6	17	0·08	266	36	7·2	500
Wilmington ... ..	·012	·026	8·5	22	0·08	288	58	7·1	550

(b) BACTERIOLOGICAL

Table 21

	BEFORE CHLORINATION (RAW WATER)				AFTER CHLORINATION (WATER PASSING INTO SUPPLY)			
	Plate counts (average per ml.) Colonies counted on agar		Coliform count		Plate counts (average per ml.) Colonies counted on agar		Coliform count	
	Percentage samples neg. 100 ml.		Percentage samples neg. 100 ml.		Percentage samples neg. 100 ml.		Percentage samples neg. 100 ml.	
	37° C. (20-24 hrs.)	22° C. (3 days)	Coliform	E. Coli	37° C. (20-24 hrs.)	22° C. (3 days)	Coliform	E. Coli
Thames derived filtered water ... ..	—	—	—	—	6·7	—	100·00	100·0
Deptford ... ..	18·7	217	97·07	99·51	0·2	5	99·53	100·0
Bexley ... ..	1·0	4	99·20	100·00	0·3	2	99·32	100·0
Darenth ... ..	0·2	3	96·58	100·00	} 0·1	8	100·00	100·0
Darenth Borehole ...	0·1	56	86·76	99·09				
Wilmington No. 1 Well	0·7	44	75·91	95·62				
Wilmington No 2. Well	2·0	95	86·18	96·06	0·1	2	99·61	99·6

## Atmospheric pollution

### *Clean Air Act*

During 1959 three more areas were made the subject of Smoke Control Orders and particulars with regard to these are as follows:—

Name ... ..	No. 3 (Brookdale)	No. 4 (Penerley)	No. 5 (Glenbow)
Acreage ... ..	80	280	150
Open space ... ..	Nil	40	30
No. of industrial premises ... ..	Nil	9	2
No. of commercial premises ... ..	120	213	37
No. of dwellings ... ..	1,172	3,367	2,059
No. of other premises ... ..	9	8	5
Present annual tonnage of bituminous coal etc., to be replaced ... ..	1,500	4,500	1,612
Likely assitional fuel required annually			
(a) Electricity (KWH) ... ..	160,000	450,000	180,000
(b) Gas (therms) ... ..	32,000	85,000	34,000
(c) Oil, etc, ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
(d) Solid smokeless fuel (tons) ... ..	1,000	3,000	1,100
Existing appliances requiring replacement or adaptation			
(a) Open fires ... ..	1,820	5,006	2,195
(b) Open fires with boilers ... ..	37	209	23
(c) Combination grates without boilers ... ..	50	64	3
(d) Combination grates with boilers ... ..	18	6	6
(e) Washboilers ... ..	5	4	36
(f) Domestic boilers ... ..	12	294	22
(g) Other appliances (freestanding stoves etc.) ... ..	16	92	6
Total estimated cost of works... ..	£16,763	£54,680	£13,746
Date : Order made ... ..	30.9.59	28.10.59	30.9.59
Order Confirmed ... ..	11.12.59	26.1.60	11.12.59
Order operative ... ..	1.9.60	1.10.60	1.9.60

The progressive total (when these Orders are operative) will be 1,450 acres covering 10,805 dwellings. No. 1 (Ladywell) Order became operative on 1.9.59. and No. 2 (Southend) on 1.11.59. In spite of extensive local advertisement many required adaptations had not been done by the operative dates. Since these were the first two Orders in the borough and since there had been, at the beginning, a slight bottleneck in getting tradesmen for the work, the Council decided to consider late applications up to six months from the operative dates.

The Council's intention is to cover the whole borough by smoke control orders as quickly as practicable. The time this takes will depend mainly on staff and on finance. Good progress has been made so far and the committee have adopted a tentative programme under which a middle strip of the borough, consisting of 9 areas, will be completed by 1961, a western strip of 6 areas by 1964, a north and eastern strip of 5 areas by 1967 and a southern group of 3 areas around the gasworks by about 1968. It is possible that some acceleration of this programme could occur in favourable circumstances.

### *Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution*

Table 22 shows the results obtained from the three permanent deposit gauges and three smoke recording stations. A fourth deposit gauge is on a small allotment site in Brockman Rise. The graphs show the lowest and highest pollutions from water-insoluble matter in the years 1953-58 and also the pollution in 1959.

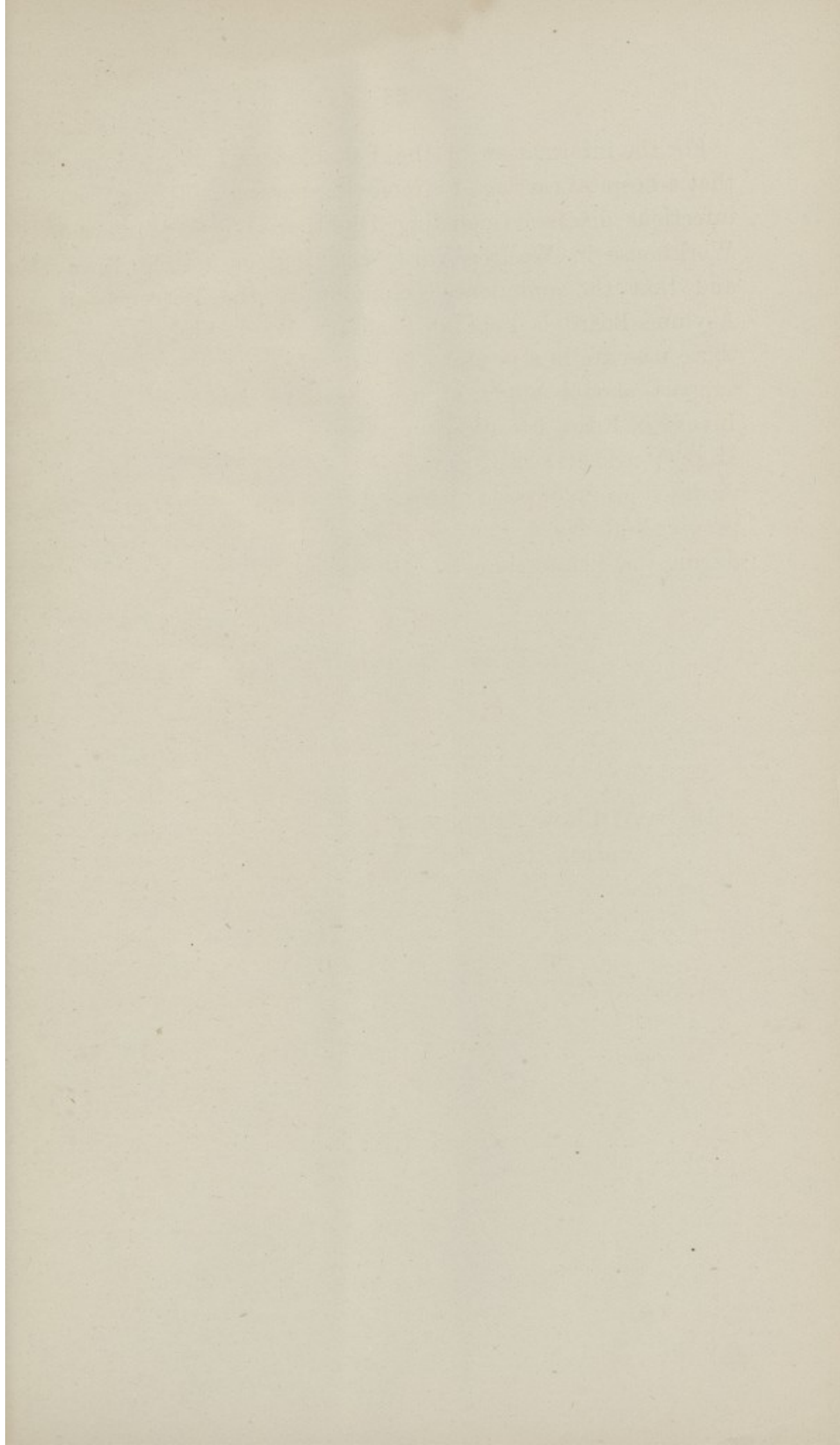


Table 22 gives a record of the principal results from six stations and also the indication of the sunshine, rainfall, etc., during the year. Some of these latter data are not specific to the borough, having been obtained from a publication of the meteorological office, and relate to the nearest station which records the particular item concerned.

### Atmospheric Conditions 1959

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average or actual (as applic.)
<b>Temperature—</b>													
Mean maximum <sup>1</sup> ... °F	41.3	45.1	52.5	57.2	64.5	70.4	75.5	74.3	71.3	63.2	50.6	48.2	59.5
Mean minimum <sup>1</sup> ... °F	33.0	35.9	40.9	44.5	47.5	53.5	57.0	58.0	52.7	49.1	41.1	41.3	46.2
Mean <sup>1</sup> ... °F	37.1	40.5	46.7	50.9	56.0	62.0	66.3	66.1	62.0	56.1	45.9	44.7	52.9
Diff. from average <sup>1</sup> ... °F	-4.2	-0.6	+2.8	+3.2	+1.5	+1.0	+1.8	+3.4	+3.5	+4.5	+1.6	+3.3	+1.9
Highest maximum <sup>2</sup> ... °F	53	60	61	70	84	88	93	86	82	77	60	53	93 (Jul. 6)
Lowest minimum <sup>2</sup> ... °F	24	30	36	38	39	44	54	50	45	37	32	34	24 (Jan. 26)
<b>Rainfall—</b>													
Total <sup>3</sup> ... in.	1.69	0.06	1.19	1.33	0.90	0.83	1.06	1.16	0.04	1.71	2.39	2.60	15.03
Percent of average <sup>3</sup> ...	100	6	107	113	59	55	64	50	5	83	95	152	70
<b>Sunshine<sup>1</sup></b>													
Daily mean ... hrs.	2.58	2.09	3.51	4.63	7.40	7.99	9.37	7.74	7.07	5.15	1.94	1.16	5.05
Percent of average ...	190	98	97	93	188	194	146	128	151	166	113	90	125
<b>Wind<sup>1</sup></b>													
NE/E/SE ... %	20	42	31	17	36	23	9	32	64	40	13	18	31
S/SW/W ... %	55	45	57	62	19	49	55	41	15	48	68	76	49
NW/N/Calm ... %	25	13	12	21	25	28	26	27	21	12	19	6	20
<b>Atmospheric pollution—</b>													
<b>West Division<sup>4</sup>:</b>													
Water insol. matter ... tpm	8.45	5.87	8.68	7.03	8.05	9.21	7.66	7.99	10.81	5.30	7.32	5.93	7.69
Water sol. matter ... tpm	7.03	4.38	5.20	5.20	5.37	3.55	3.88	5.70	4.38	5.04	6.69	6.36	5.23
Sulphur ... †	3.83	2.84	1.69	1.71	0.76	0.85	0.81	0.70	1.11	1.22	2.03	2.29	1.65
Smoke, daily average ... *	33.3	22.1	12.5	5.6	3.9	2.5	1.5	1.2	1.5	3.0	21.0	13.0	10.1
" maximum ... *	78.6	57.4	19.8	9.3	5.7	4.8	2.8	2.0	2.0	7.0	49.0	51.0	78.6
" (date) ...	(28-30)	(18-20)	(1-2)	(22-24)	(6-8)	(24-26)	(8-10)	(5-7)	(9-11)	(31-2)	(11-13)	(30-2)	(Jan. 28-30)
" minimum ... *	3.0	9.7	5.3	2.9	2.1	0.9	0.8	0.4	1.0	1.0	9.0	6.0	0.4
" (date) ...	(3-6)	(25-27)	(3-6)	(25-27)	(16-17)	(8-9)	(25-28)	(12-14)	(16-18)	(20-22)	(21-24)	(19-21)	(Aug. 12-14)
<b>North Division<sup>4</sup>:</b>													
Water insol. matter ... tpm	8.76	10.97	11.14	10.27	9.71	9.00	8.02	7.35	8.73	5.34	6.31	4.23	8.32
Water sol. matter ... tpm	8.28	6.28	6.28	6.11	5.77	4.26	4.09	4.93	4.43	5.60	7.45	5.94	5.78
Sulphur ... †	5.81	5.17	3.31	2.81	1.94	1.26	1.16	1.47	2.01	1.59	3.15	2.69	2.70
Smoke, daily average ... *	28.3	19.7	11.0	5.8	3.6	2.8	2.2	2.9	4.0	6.0	17.0	12.0	9.6
" maximum ... *	75.6	50.1	16.5	10.1	6.8	4.8	3.3	4.5	6.0	12.0	37.0	47.0	75.6
" (date) ...	(28-30)	(18-20)	(11-13)	(22-24)	(6-8)	(24-26)	(29-31)	(19-21)	(9-11)	(31-2)	(11-13)	(30-2)	(Jan. 28-30)
" minimum ... *	8.1	14.2	4.7	2.5	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.1	2.0	3.0	8.0	6.0	1.1
" (date) ...	(21-26)	(7-10)	(3-6)	(25-27)	(16-17)	(8-9)	(11-14)	(12-14)	(16-18)	(20-22)	(18-20)	(5-8)	(Aug. 19-21)
<b>South Division<sup>4</sup>:</b>													
Water insol. matter ... tpm	8.66	6.42	10.47	11.07	9.52	9.88	11.16	7.87	7.57	(—)	5.71	4.68	8.46
Water sol. matter ... tpm	7.15	7.15	6.65	5.50	5.17	4.35	4.18	5.84	5.50	(—)	6.16	6.32	5.82
Sulphur ... †	2.72	1.84	?	1.12	0.84	0.64	0.50	0.59	0.89	0.69	0.98	0.91	1.07
Smoke, daily average ... *	18.5	18.9	10.4	5.7	3.6	2.3	1.9	2.5	3.25	6.0	15.0	11.0	8.25
" maximum ... *	72.3	45.5	15.8	10.0	5.9	4.0	3.0	3.7	5.0	14.0	33.0	41.0	72.3
" (date) ...	(18-20)	(18-20)	(14-17)	(1-3)	(6-8)	(24-26)	(8-10)	(5-7)	(9-11)	(31-2)	(11-13)	(30-2)	(Jan. 18-20)
" minimum ... *	1.4	9.4	4.9	2.4	2.1	0.7	1.3	0.8	2.0	4.0	14.0	6.0	0.7
" (date) ...	(21-23)	(35-27)	(3-6)	(25-27)	(16-17)	(8-9)	(25-28)	(12-14)	(16-18)	(20-22)	(18-20)	(19-21)	(Jun. 6-9)
<b>Weather summary</b>													
	Cold but Sunny	Very dry mild later	Mostly mild	Mild, rather moist	Dry, warm, sunny	Warm, dry, sunny	Warm, very sunny	Warm, dry and sunny	Warm, very dry and sunny	Warm and sunny	Changeable, rather mild	Mild, warm, wet.	

Notes: <sup>1</sup>Kew; <sup>2</sup>Lewisham; <sup>3</sup>Valentine Court for smoke, Pool allotments for others; <sup>4</sup>Place for smoke, Wearside Road for others; <sup>5</sup>Downham Depot for smoke, Verdant Lane for others  
tpm: tons per square mile per month; †as trioxide in mg per 100 sq. cms. per day; \*as smoke in mg per 100 cub. metres.

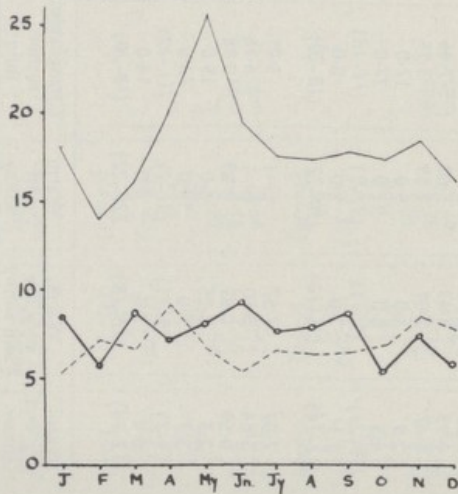




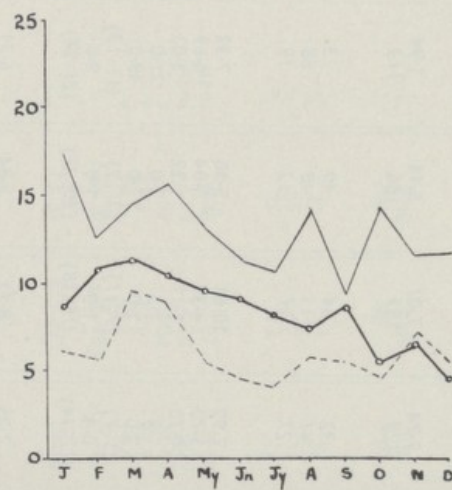
# INSOLUBLE DEPOSIT (tons/sq. mile/month)

— HIGHEST      - - - - - LOWEST 1953—1958      ○ — ○ 1959

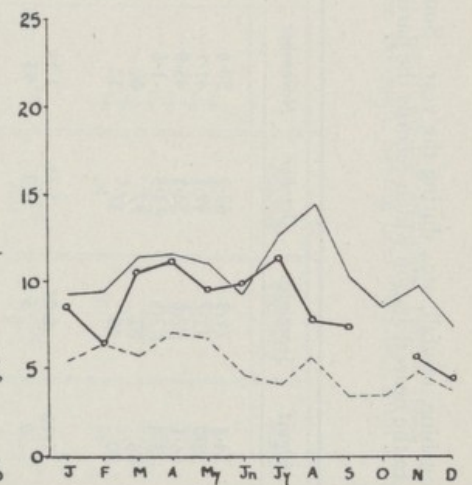
POOL ALLOTMENTS



WEAR SIDE ROAD



VERDANT LANE



## Home safety

As a result of pressure by the Metropolitan Boroughs' Standing Joint Committee a clause was included in the LCC (General Powers) Bill of 1957 (which subsequently became an Act) under which metropolitan boroughs were given powers to deal to some extent with home safety. S.82 of the 1957 Act allows a borough council "for the purpose of promoting safety in the home and of encouraging the taking of proper precautions in preventing the occurrence of accidents therein" to make arrangements for the dissemination in the borough of information and advice relating to such matters.

Before and after the passing of the Act, the Health department had arranged or carried out certain propaganda or educational efforts in connection with home safety. For example, home safety films have been shown to old peoples' clubs; various posters, leaflets and pamphlets have been displayed or made available to the public; the Council subscribes to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, home safety section; health department leaflets have been printed and displayed; various suggestions have been made for home safety in the provision of housing; statistics on accidents in the home are collected or sought from hospitals.

During the year it was decided to issue a quarterly bulletin to local clubs, organisations, doctors and dentists, so that it could be available to club members, those attending surgeries, and so on. The first issue was in January 1960 and some 500 copies were distributed.

The collection of home accident statistics is to some extent a long-term process and it is only by obtaining the knowledge and studying it and analysing it that one has a chance of showing different groups of accidents which may be more preventable than other groups, or certain localities which appear to be more accident-prone than others. It would of course be on those that any work of the department would be particularly brought to bear.

The accompanying table indicates in detail the figures for Lewisham cases reported from the Sydenham Children's Hospital for the four quarters of 1959. No particular concentration in street, block of flats, or locality has so far shown up. I was unable to obtain returns direct from Lewisham Hospital but the LCC was collecting some statistics—at least for part of the year.



## Accidents to Children — Sydenham Children's Hospital 1959

Table 23

		<i>Falls</i>	<i>Cuts and bruises</i>	<i>Poison</i>	<i>Burns and scalds</i>	<i>Foreign bodies</i>	<i>Miscell- aneous</i>	<i>Total</i>
1st quarter								
Boys	— 5	19	8	1	4	7	—	39
	—15	9	24	—	1	3	—	37
Girls	— 5	8	6	—	2	5	—	21
	—15	2	5	—	4	2	—	13
Total 1st quarter		38	43	1	11	17	—	110
2nd quarter								
Boys	— 5	24	12	6	3	5	—	50
	—15	15	25	—	3	3	—	46
Girls	— 5	15	8	3	1	6	—	33
	—15	12	11	—	1	1	—	25
Total 2nd quarter		66	56	9	8	15	—	154
3rd quarter								
Boys	— 5	16	15	7	7	9	1	55
	—15	6	17	1	3	1	1	29
Girls	— 5	10	7	—	1	4	—	22
	—15	5	9	—	2	—	—	16
Total 3rd quarter		37	48	8	13	14	2	122
4th quarter								
Boys	— 5	15	5	4	1	2	—	27
	—15	6	11	2	1	1	—	21
Girls	— 5	18	6	2	1	—	—	27
	—15	5	7	—	—	—	—	12
Total 4th quarter		44	29	8	3	3	—	87
Total for year		185	176	26	35	49	2	473

## Old people

General comments on the problems connected with the care of old people are made in the introduction of this report. The Council continued to make grants to organisations in the borough which are carrying out

work for old people, whether by recreational facilities or by the provision of meals. A sum of £5,100 was eventually included in the annual estimates for the year 1959-60 for such organisations as accepted the Council's conditions and to assist any other such organisations as might be established during that year. Reports were made to the Public Health committee giving details of the work undertaken by the voluntary organisations and as a result grants were made as follows:—

Lewisham Old People's Welfare Association	...	...	...	£
Lewisham Darby and Joan Club	...	...	...	3,900
St. Mark's Old Folks' Club	...	...	...	470
Bellingham Branch of the National Federation of Old Age Pensions Associations	...	...	...	75
Hither Green Branch of the National Federation of Old Age Pensions Associations	...	...	...	60
St. Philip's Darby and Joan Club	...	...	...	65
The Over 60's Friendly Club	...	...	...	26
The Bellingham Community Association Darby and Joan Club	...	...	...	40
Lee Branch of the National Federation of Old Age Pensions Associations	...	...	...	36
Good Companions Club	...	...	...	36
St. Hilda's Seniors' Club	...	...	...	18
Blackheath Branch of the National Federation of Old Age Pensions Associations	...	...	...	54
September Club	...	...	...	20
Happy Old Folks' Club (St. Barnabas)	...	...	...	24
				18

This left a sum of money available for new clubs which might qualify for grant, and one such club, the St. John's Club at Southend, was given a grant in March 1960.

It is hoped that such old people's organisations as can will not only provide the usual afternoon's recreation with a little tea, but will also make arrangements to provide lunch either on the day the club meets or another day. To this end the Lewisham Old People's Welfare Association is prepared to co-operate by conveying the meals in bulk from the central kitchen, where they are obtained, to the luncheon club.

It has also been suggested to the clubs which do not already do it, that they might consider setting up handicraft classes for their members, this being thought to be a preferable alternative to the so-called "workshops for the elderly" which have been set up in a few inner



London boroughs. There are many difficulties with regard to starting such workshops in an outer London dormitory borough such as this, but these difficulties would not apply to handicraft classes and if the work turned out at such classes were good enough it would have a saleable value of its own. Unfortunately most of the clubs found it impracticable to get sufficient of their members interested in the scheme to allow a qualified teacher to be obtained for them, but one or two clubs are still making efforts in this direction.

The health department during the year continued to take a detailed interest in the work for old people generally and remained in the closest touch with the Lewisham Old People's Welfare Association (LOPWA), which Association has offices in the department. LOPWA is, so far as the borough council's work for old people's welfare is concerned, the main body in the area and has affiliated to it the various other bodies to which the Council makes grant. LOPWA is responsible for the meals-on-wheels service to housebound old people, and during the year ended 31 March 1960, 22,836 meals were delivered. In addition the WVS delivered 4,133 in one area of the borough.

#### *Visiting of old people*

Three nurses (officially called Women Health Officers) are concerned with old people and with infectious disease. Their work for old people is tabulated as follows :—

Table 24

	W	N	S	Total
Visits ... ..	48	96	69	213
Futile visits ...	50	194	28	272
Revisits ... ..	324	1326	157	1807
Total ... ..	422	1616	254	2292

#### *The chronic sick*

There is unfortunately little to report on progress towards a geriatric unit or an increased number of beds for the chronic sick in the borough. It can only be said that all hope of these being brought about is not yet dead, and representations are still being made.

#### *Facilities for the aged, generally*

During the year the King Edward Hospital Fund set up a committee to review the services for old people in this borough with a view to ascertaining whether any of such services should be strengthened or whether additional services were required. Lewisham was chosen for two main reasons: first, because although the services were in some respects (for example, the geriatric unit) less than in many other boroughs it was maintained by the hospital and other authorities that

the old people were not prejudiced thereby; and secondly that Lewisham could be regarded as a fairly typical suburban area and that if anything was required here it might well be required elsewhere.

Beside representatives of the Fund, the committee includes representatives of the hospital management committee, the London County Council, local practitioners and LOPWA, and I represent the borough council. The committee has decided to carry out a partial house-to-house survey of the borough through an official agency. This will no doubt be valuable but it will be a considerable time before the results are available.



## SECTION C — SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The following table gives a summary of the inspections, etc., carried out by the public health inspectors during the year:—

Table 25

<i>Reason for inspection</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>Total</i>
On complaint ... ..	854	767	285	1906
House to house ... ..	16	2	—	18
Improvement grants ... ..	111	171	66	348
Houses let in lodgings ... ..	—	2	—	2
Rent Acts ... ..	93	46	37	176
Other Housing Act visits ... ..	367	492	193	1052
Notice from builder ... ..	339	209	110	658
Infectious diseases... ..	11	15	22	48
Infestation ... ..	78	122	61	261
Factories, mechanical ... ..	53	23	108	184
Factories, non-mechanical ... ..	5	7	1	13
Outworkers ... ..	119	40	60	219
National Assistance Act, S47 ... ..	14	5	1	20
Smoke observations ... ..	23	9	41	73
Clean air inspections ... ..	—	705	9159	9864
Keeping of Animals ... ..	18	37	12	67
Water certificates... ..	130	90	—	220
Fireguards ... ..	17	3	1	21
Crash helmets ... ..	—	2	1	3
Hairdressers ... ..	35	12	1	48
Pharmacy and poisons ... ..	67	71	7	145
Milkshops ... ..	27	20	32	79
Icecream premises ... ..	155	84	87	326
Restaurants and eating houses ... ..	139	109	288	536
Bakehouses... ..	3	40	9	52
Other food shops ... ..	306	199	643	1148
Other shops ... ..	87	51	27	165
Food inspections ... ..	108	450	190	748
Sampling ... ..	162	258	181	601
Markets and stalls... ..	2	495	22	519
Slaughterhouses ... ..	—	72	—	72
Futile visits... ..	980	1569	6592	9141
All other matters ... ..	1358	1104	535	2997
Revisits ... ..	5438	9828	2925	18191
<b>Total — all inspectors</b>	<b>11115</b>	<b>17109</b>	<b>21697</b>	<b>49921</b>

## Smoke abatement

Observations ... ..	73
Intimations served ... ..	—
Complaints received... ..	14
Statutory notices served ... ..	—
Legal proceedings ... ..	—
Convictions ... ..	—

## Summary of notices served

Table 26

	West	North	South	Total
Intimation notices :—				
Public Health (London) Act, 1936 ...	179	170	73	422
Factories Act, 1937 ... ..	1	5	—	6
Informal intimations under Housing Act, 1936 ... ..	5	5	4	14
Total intimations ... ..	185	180	77	442
Statutory notices :—				
Public Health (London) Act, 1936 ...	89	98	37	224
Factories Act, 1937 ... ..	1	—	—	1
Housing Act, 1936... ..	9	4	1	14
Byelaws ... ..	23	9	32	64
Food and Drugs Act, 1955 ... ..	—	—	—	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949	—	—	—	—
Total statutory notices ... ..	122	111	70	303

## Nuisances remedied

Table 27

Nuisance	West	North	South	Total
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired ... ..	122	132	71	325
Roofs repaired ... ..	66	61	40	167
Dampness remedied... ..	256	207	109	572
Brickwork repaired ... ..	5	25	6	36
Chimneys repaired ... ..	3	—	—	3
Drains cleared ... ..	18	15	18	51
Drains repaired ... ..	11	15	18	44
Drinking water cisterns repaired ... ..	1	—	—	1
Dustbins supplied ... ..	10	6	3	19
Doors and door frames repaired or renewed	17	16	12	45
Flushing cisterns repaired, renewed or cleansed ... ..	18	7	13	38
Flush pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	6	4	1	11
Firegrates, etc., repaired or renewed ...	13	17	10	40
Flooring repaired or renewed ... ..	55	50	24	129
Dry rot remedied ... ..	11	14	4	29
Gullies renewed, repaired or cleansed ...	4	5	1	10
Gutters repaired ... ..	28	44	19	91
Refuse cleared ... ..	—	—	—	—
Rainwater pipes repaired ... ..	20	12	3	35
Soil pipes repaired, ventilated or renewed	6	7	5	18
Sinks provided ... ..	5	5	5	15
Sashcords renewed ... ..	35	24	27	86
Water closets repaired or renewed ... ..	15	15	11	41
Walls and ceilings cleansed... ..	—	—	—	—
Windows and frames repaired or renewed	12	15	11	38
Water service pipes repaired or renewed, water supply restored ... ..	5	10	1	16
Yards and areas paved ... ..	2	4	5	11
Other nuisances remedied ... ..	25	33	19	68
TOTALS ... ..	769	743	427	1939



### Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952

The public health inspectors are authorised for the purposes of inspection and testing of heating appliances under the Act.

21 inspections were made during the year.

### Registration of hairdressers

Under s.18 of the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1954, no person may carry on the business of a hairdresser or barber on any premises in a borough unless he and those premises are registered by the borough council. Exceptions are for premises which are visited only by appointment with a customer, and for a person who in effect is doing hairdressing on his own premises part-time and who does not employ any other person to assist him. Registration in the first place is automatic on application, and a register is kept for the purpose.

By the end of the year 142 persons were registered.

Byelaws governing the conduct of these establishments, designed to ensure cleanliness of the person, equipment and premises, came into force on December 1, 1955. The standard of hygiene in those visited up to the end of the year was good.

### Pet Animals Act, 1951

During the year 20 premises were licensed as pet shops. In the main, the sale of pets at these premises consists of cage birds and tropical and coldwater fish. In general it has been found that pets are kept for sale under conditions which do not call for any particular comment and in no case has it been found necessary to attach special conditions to any licence which has been issued. A report by a veterinary surgeon was obtained in one case after complaints had been received, and the public health committee decided to obtain such reports regularly for the time being.

### Water certificates

Under the provisions of section 95 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, an occupied house without a proper and sufficient water supply is a nuisance and if a dwelling-house, is unfit for human habitation. Further it is not lawful to occupy a house as a dwelling-house, subject to certain provisos, until the sanitary authority has certified that it has a proper and sufficient supply of water.

Certificates were issued in respect of 207 premises and 10 blocks of flats certifying that under the provisions of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, a proper and sufficient supply of water had been provided.

### Factories

Section 7 of the Factories Act, 1937, requiring the provision of sufficient and suitable sanitary conveniences is enforced by the council in all factories, whether mechanical power is used in the factory or not. The provisions of sections, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 relating to cleanliness, overcrowding, the maintenance of a reasonable temperature, the securing of adequate ventilation of workrooms and the furnishing of adequate



means for draining floors where wet processes are carried on, are enforced by the council in factories in which mechanical power is not used. The provisions of section 7 are also applied to certain building operations and works of engineering construction, etc.

A local authority is required to keep a register of factories with respect to which it is responsible for the enforcement of any of the provisions mentioned above. Close cooperation is maintained with HM Inspectors of Factories in that any defaults found by them during the course of their visits and for which it is the duty of the local authority to secure that remedial measures are taken, are notified to the health department. Similarly the public health inspectors notify HM Inspectors of any contraventions of the provisions of the Act which come within their jurisdiction. HM Inspectors also forward to the health department details relating to the establishment of new factories, the introduction of mechanical power and other information which may come to their notice and which appears to affect factories subject to the control of the local authority.

Special attention is paid to factories which provide canteens. These factories are visited by the council's food inspectors and the opportunity is taken to discuss with the canteen staff the various requirements needed to maintain a good standard in food hygiene.

The medical officer of health is required in his annual report to the local authority to report specifically on the administration of, and furnish prescribed particulars with respect to, the matters under part I (factories) and part VIII (outworkers) which are administered by the local authority. Details follow:—

#### Inspections

Table 28

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	64	13	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the local authority ...	489	184	7	—
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	37	37	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	590	234	7	—



## Cases in which defects were found

Table 29

Defects	No. of defects				Prosecutions instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To HM Inspector	By HM Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S 1) ...	—	3	—	3	—
Overcrowding (S 2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S 3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S 4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S 6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S 7) :					
(a) insufficient ...	—	1	—	1	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	—	11	—	11	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	2	—	2	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	3	3	3	—	—
TOTAL ...	3	20	3	17	—

## Outworkers

Under section 110 of the Factories Act, 1937 the occupier of every factory and every contractor employed by him must keep lists showing the names and addresses of all outworkers directly employed by him and of the places where they are employed, and must send to the district council in February and in August of each year, copies of those lists showing all outworkers so employed by him during the preceding six months. Section 111 of the same Act empowers the district council by notice in writing to the occupier of a factory or to any contractor employed by him to prohibit the employment of any persons as home workers in premises which the council regard as injurious or dangerous to health.

The Home Work Order, 1911, specified the kinds of work to which these two sections apply. The types of work consist mainly of wearing apparel and textiles, the making of paper bags, boxes, brushes, baskets, artificial flowers, metal fittings, etc.

Outworkers were visited periodically by the district public health inspectors.

The following is a list of trades concerned, extracted from the August, 1959 lists received :—

<i>Trade</i>						<i>Outworkers employed</i>
Clothing	...	...	...	...	...	162
Lampshades	...	...	...	...	...	11
Box making	...	...	...	...	...	10
Carding	...	...	...	...	...	2
Paper bags	...	...	...	...	...	2
Surgical appliances	...	...	...	...	...	1
Firework cases	...	...	...	...	...	8
Brushmaking	...	...	...	...	...	2
						—
						198
						—

It will be noted that none of the outworkers are employed in food. Outworking in food ceased to be legal in July, 1956 as a result of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, onions and shrimps being temporary exceptions.

The inspectors made 219 visits during the year which included some to places in which no work was being done at the time of the visit, although the outworkers were prepared to restart work when required. Reports were submitted to the Council setting out the position with regard to outworkers in the borough. No adverse comments were made.

#### Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

This Act came into force on November 1, 1951, and repealed the Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928 and section 136 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936. The Act is designed to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles and other articles which are stuffed or lined.

It is an offence, subject to certain provisos, to use filling materials to which the Act applies for upholstery purposes except on premises registered by a local authority, and rag flock for filling can only be manufactured and stored on licensed premises. The local authority is required to maintain a register of premises used for upholstery and of premises used for the manufacture and storage of rag flock and to maintain a list of licences in respect of premises used for the storage of rag flock. Various penalties are prescribed for noncompliance with the provisions of the Act.

Standards of cleanliness are laid down in the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations, 1951 in relation to each kind of filling material described in the regulations, and tests are prescribed which have to be carried out by approved analysts.

Four premises are registered for the use of filling materials for upholstery purposes. Samples of these materials proved satisfactory on examination.



### Destruction of pigeons

Section 121 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, enables a local authority to take steps for the purpose of abating or mitigating any nuisance, annoyance or damage caused or which might be caused by the congregation of pigeons which are, as far as can be ascertained, without an owner. The local authority is enabled to seize and destroy, or sell or otherwise dispose of any such pigeons in excess of such number as may be considered reasonable.

The difficulties of dealing with the problem remain and little of value can be added to previous reports although several young birds and eggs were destroyed from colonies found under railway bridges and other likely places. Early in 1958 the Council managed to secure the help of an outside pigeon-catcher, who serves various other boroughs also, and he has reported that he has been able to kill many birds in the course of the year.

### Exhumations

It is the practice for a public health inspector to be in attendance at an exhumation, but no such attendance was made in 1959.

### Sanitary work generally

Mr. Walker, the senior public health inspector, reports :

"There was a decrease in the number of complaints received during the year, and in keeping with this trend the number of notices served under the Public Health (London) Act was considerably less. Also there was a noticeable decrease in the number of inspections under the Rent Act. It is possible that these decreases were due, to a large extent, to housing repair work being carried out in the previous year under the Rent Act. Inspections under the Clean Air Act have been considerable, and the figures include visits for the purpose of survey and again for approval of work carried out and for payment of grant. The work of the public health inspectors in connection with the smoke control orders has been proceeding smoothly, and the reaction of the householders has been reasonably cooperative.

"As this is the last complete year in which I shall participate in the annual report of the medical officer of health, perhaps I may reflect briefly on matters of particular concern to the public health inspector. I have now completed nearly forty years in Lewisham, and although this borough has never had a serious "slum" problem, I have nevertheless seen a great change in public health standards generally. It is now exceptional, apart from the occasional problem family, to find a house in a dirty and unkempt condition, and even in older houses people live in conditions of comfort and cleanliness, some with all the labour-saving gadgets of modern life. Other things occur to me, such as the more efficient method of dealing with insect pests, e.g. bugs and fleas, with the coming into use of DDT and other preparations. This

has resulted in a great drop in the prevalence of these pests. We have revised our ideas in dealing with rats and mice, and instead of employing a rat catcher with dog and ferrets a technique of poison baiting is used. Improvement grants are helping considerably to bring older houses up to modern standards, and there is still much scope in this direction. More recently clean food laws have been tightened up, and standards in the preparation and handling of food made stricter. Lastly, there has been the Clean Air Act and its application to London in the making of smoke control orders, which I hope will be completed in the next ten years or so. There is of course more to be done in the future, and indeed, for the public health inspector, there must be maintenance of these improved standards already attained."



## SECTION D — HOUSING

## Building

The following 244 new dwellings were completed by the Council during the year:—

Adelaide Avenue	...	...	...	...	20
Boone Street	...	...	...	...	18
Church Vale	...	...	...	...	24
Dacre Park	...	...	...	...	12
Exbury Road	...	...	...	...	21
Fludyer Street	...	...	...	...	8
Hurstbourne Road	...	...	...	...	8
Ivy Road	...	...	...	...	34
Lawrie Park Gardens	...	...	...	...	20
Lee Church Street	...	...	...	...	35
Paragon Place	...	...	...	...	24
Porthcawe Road	...	...	...	...	8
Southbrook Road	...	...	...	...	12

## Families rehoused for first time

During the year the following families were rehoused:—

1. By the Lewisham Borough Council:—	
(a) in permanent properties	92
(b) in temporary bungalows	8
(c) in requisitioned properties	—
	<hr/>
	100
2. By the London County Council (figures supplied by district offices)	62
	<hr/>
	162
	<hr/>

N.B. — Number of families where points had been awarded for bedroom deficiency, rehoused by the Lewisham Borough Council or the London County Council during the year ... 110

## Housing Act, 1957

*Repair of houses (sections 9 and 10)*

During the year 14 informal and 13 formal notices were served. 14 properties were repaired by the owners after service of notices; in four cases properties were repaired by the Council under section 10 in default of the owners.

*Demolition Orders and Closing Orders (whole house)*

The following is a list of cases involving procedure for demolition orders or for complete closure of houses which originated in or were complied with during 1959, together with the present position of cases originating in previous years which had not been complied with at the end of 1958:—

Table 30

<i>Properties</i>	<i>Dwellings involved</i>	<i>Present position</i>
24 Lethbridge Road ... ..	1	Closing Order operative on whole house.
12 Rennell Street ... ..	1	Demolition Order made.
2 Rennell Street ... ..	1	Notices served
27/29 Molesworth Street ... ..	2	Demolition Orders made
69 St. Germans Road ... ..	1	Notices served
30 Limes Grove ... ..	1	Offer of works accepted
169 Sandhurst Road ... ..	1	Works completed
8 Dallas Road... ..	1	L.C.C. purchasing with a view to demolition.
10 Dallas Road ... ..	1	L.C.C. purchasing with a view to demolition

*Closing Orders in respect of part of house*

Table 31

<i>Properties</i>	<i>Part of house</i>	<i>Present position</i>
107 Kirkdale... ..	Boxroom, bathroom, first floor and two rooms and scullery ground floor.	Works carried out without service of notices
20 Blackheath Grove	Two rooms in basement.	Closing Order operative
10 2Wiverton Road	Two rooms and kitchen semi-basement	Offer of works accepted
41 Molesworth Street	Two rooms and scullery lower ground floor	Closing Order operative
2 Handen Road ...	First and second floor flats	Orders determined
39 Gilmore Road ...	Two rooms and scullery semi-basement	Order determined
13 Silverdale ...	Two rooms, scullery, bathroom in basement	Order varied to permit use for storing furniture
8 Holbeach Road ...	Two rooms first floor, rear room and scullery ground floor.	Closing Order operative
24 Elthruda Road ...	Three rooms scullery, W.C. ground floor	Closing Order operative. Later determined on completion of works
15 Eastdown Park ...	Two rooms, scullery W.C. in basement.	Closing Order operative



Table 32  
HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

A — HOUSES DEMOLISHED		Displaced	
Clearance areas (Housing Act, 1957)	Houses	Persons	Families
Houses unfit for human habitation ... ..	31	37	16
Houses included by reason of bad arrangement	—	—	—
Houses or land acquired under s.43 ... ..	—	31	9
Not in clearance areas			
Formal or informal procedure under s. 17 (1)	2	6	1
Local authority houses certified unfit by medical officer of health... ..	10	—	—
B — UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED (Housing Act, 1957)			
ss 16, 17 and 35 ... ..	1	—	—
ss 17(3) and 26 ... ..	—	—	—
Parts of buildings closed under s.18 ... ..	5	6	3
C — UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED			
	By owner	By Local Authority	
After informal action by local authority ... ..	8	—	
After formal notice under Public Health Acts ...	—	—	
After formal notice under Housing Act, 1957 ...	6	4	
Under s.24 Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	—	—	
D — UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957)			
	Houses	Separate dwellings	
Retained for temporary accommodation under ss. 17, 46 and 48 ... ..	—	—	
Licensed for temporary occupation under ss. 34 or 53	—	—	
E — PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT			
	Houses	Occupants	
Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders ... ..	6	46	

## Rent Act 1957

The Rent Act 1957 came into force on 6 July, 1957, and the following table shows the applications for certificates of disrepair dealt with during the year 1959:—

Table 33

Applications for certificates	...	...	...	...	85
Decisions not to issue certificates	...	...	...	...	—
Decisions to issue certificates					
(a) in respect of some but not all the defects	...				64
(b) in respect of all defects	...	...	...		34
Undertakings given by landlords to repair	...		...		53
Undertakings refused for special reasons	...		...		—
Certificates of disrepair issued	...	...	...	...	50
Applications by landlords for cancellation of certificates					97
Objections by tenants to cancellation	...	...	...		44
Decisions to cancel in spite of tenants' objection				...	12
Certificates cancelled	...	...	...	...	62

## House Purchase Loans

Approximately 600 properties, a record number, were surveyed and reported on by the inspectors during the year for house purchase loans made by the Council. In many of these cases schedules of work were agreed and the repairs supervised and approved in order to make the premises "in all respects fit for habitation" as required by s.43 of the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958 under which loans are made.

## Discretionary Grants and Standard Grants

Standard grants—given for the establishment of certain facilities otherwise lacking—are equivalent to 50 percent of the cost, with maxima of £25 for a bath or shower, £5 for a wash-hand basin, £75 for a hot water supply, £40 for a w.c. and £10 for a food store. The largest possible grant is therefore £155. These grants are made under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, and during the year 21 applications were investigated and reported on.

Discretionary grants are available for a wide range of improvements, including conversions to self-contained dwellings, to enable houses to be modernised and brought up to a "twelve point" standard. They are paid solely at the discretion of the Council, have a maximum of £400 for each dwelling, and are made under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958. During the year 92 applications were investigated and reported on.

On housing work generally, Mr. Craven, the group housing inspector states:



"The sharp rise in the number of applications and enquiries for improvement grants, noted towards the end of 1958, continued and increased throughout 1959. As a result the housing activities of the department were largely concentrated on the modernisation and improvement of those existing properties which fall short of present day standards. In this borough there are very many structurally sound and otherwise satisfactory properties which either lack certain amenities, particularly bathrooms, internal w.c.s and hot water supplies, or are too large for single family occupation and are suitable for conversion to self-contained flats. No doubt the increased interest in improvement grants was partly due to the publicity given to the new standard grants which operated from the middle of 1959 and to the modifications made to the original discretionary grant scheme. As this Council operates both schemes there is now a wide scope and more encouragement for owners to improve their properties. The total number of applications dealt with under the two schemes in 1959 almost equalled the combined total of cases dealt with in the previous four years. The figures given in the body of the report refer to the number of applications, but as some of these are for more than one property, one being for as many as 32 houses, the total number of properties dealt with was considerably higher. Some encouraging features noted during the year were an increase in applications in relation to tenanted properties and a renewal of interest by landlords in conversion of larger properties into self-contained flats.

"With regard to underground rooms, it was only necessary to initiate action in four cases. Certain closing orders made in previous years in relation to this type of accommodation were determined on the rooms concerned being made fit for habitation, and these were eventually reoccupied. The Underground Rooms Act, which came into operation during the year, removed the confusion created by the wording of s.18 of the Housing Act 1957 and also restored the force of regulations made in relation to such rooms. Unfortunately the new Model Regulations issued by the Ministry as a basis for adoption by local authorities are considered to be retrograde and unsatisfactory in several respects.

"It is pleasing to report that no appeals were entered by owners against the service of formal s.9 repair notices."



## SECTION E — INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

## The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

These Regulations re-enact with amendments the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 to 1954. The principal changes are :—

- (a) the registration of distributors is now required to be effected only with the local authority in whose area the premises from which the milk is distributed are situated ;
- (b) suitable and properly trapped internal drains are permitted in a milking house which is not used for the housing of cattle where no other means of drainage is reasonably practicable ;
- (c) provision is made for the local authority to pay compensation to a person who sustains damage or loss through being debarred from certain employment connected with cows or with milk because he is suffering, or has been in contact with a person suffering, from a disease liable to cause infection of milk ;
- (d) where milk is infected, or suspected of being infected, with disease :—
  - (i) the appropriate notice may be served by a medical officer of health on the occupier of registered premises outside (as well as inside) his district and, in the case of tuberculosis, it shall operate until it is withdrawn ;
  - (ii) the conditions as to compensation have been considerably modified ;
- (e) an electric or gas boiler may be used in a milking house or milk room and bottles which have contained certain foods other than milk may be cleansed in a milk room ;
- (f) there are new provisions as to personal cleanliness, precautions against contamination or infection of milk and the provision of first aid equipment ;
- (g) the Minister may permit milk to be cooled in a closed container in a milking house not used for the housing of cattle where the cows are milked by mechanical means direct to such container ;
- (h) there are new provisions relating to the misuse of milk churns, the cleansing of vessels and appliances, the storage of cartons and non-returnable containers and the use of bottle-washing machines for cleansing glass bottles ;
- (i) the collection of milk by milk tanker from a tank on a farm is permitted ;
- (j) a person selling milk as, or as part of, a meal or refreshments is exempted from the prohibition against opening any receptacle containing milk or transferring milk from one receptacle to another elsewhere than on registered premises.



At the end of the year there were 129 persons registered for the distribution of milk from premises within the borough.

There are no premises in the borough used as dairies.

#### Milk (Special Designations) Licences

Licences, which remain in operation from January 1 to December 31, were issued during the year as follows :—

Table 34

	Dealer's	Supplementary	Total
Licences issued for :—			
sale of pasteurised milk ...	94	20	114
sale of tuberculin tested milk ...	86	20	106
sale of sterilised milk ...	109	23	132
<b>TOTALS ...</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>352</b>

#### Examination of heat-treated milk

130 samples of pasteurised milk and 1 sample of sterilised milk were submitted for examination during the year and all were found to be satisfactory.

#### Analysis of milk

During the year under review, 82 samples of milk were submitted for examination to the public analyst by the Council's inspectors ; all of which were found to be genuine. The average composition of the samples is set out in the following table :—

Table 35

Period	Samples	Average composition of samples examined Percentage of		
		Milk fat	Solids not fat	Water
First quarter ...	24	3.42	8.66	87.92
Second quarter ...	20	3.34	8.66	88.00
Third quarter ...	13	3.37	8.65	87.98
Fourth quarter ...	25	3.40	8.81	87.78
<b>TOTALS ...</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>3.39</b>	<b>8.70</b>	<b>87.91</b>

The legal standard is 3.0 percent milk fat and 8.5 percent solids not fat.

Food Standards (Icecream) Regulations 1959,  
Labelling of Food (Amendment) Regulations 1959

The composition and labelling of icecream is now altered as, on April 27 1959, new regulations under the above headings came into operation.

The main changes (quoting the *British Food Journal*) are :—

- (a) standards are fixed for dairy icecream and for milk ice—which are required to contain milk fat and must not contain any other fat ;
- (b) saccharin and other artificial sweeteners may not be used in any icecream or in milk ice, and no minimum sugar content is laid down ;
- (c) icecream made with non-milk fat may not be labelled or advertised in a way which is suggestive of butter, cream or milk ; but such icecream may continue to be sold as 'icecream' and may bear a statement that it contains skimmed milk solids ;
- (d) after November 30, 1959, all pre-packed icecream which is made with non-milk fat must be labelled that it contains vegetable or non-milk fat if it is sold as 'icecream.'

A summary of the standards specified is as follows :—

- (i) Icecream or ice must contain not less than 5 percent fat, and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  percent milk-solids-not-fat. (M.S.N.F.).
- (ii) Icecream or ice containing fruit, fruit pulp or fruit purée must either conform to the above standard or must have a total fat and M.S.N.F. content of not less than  $12\frac{1}{2}$  percent, which must include not less than  $7\frac{1}{2}$  percent fat and 2 percent M.S.N.F.
- (iii) Dairy icecream, dairy cream ice or cream ice must conform to whichever of the above standards is appropriate and must not contain any fat other than milk fat (except fat introduced by the use as ingredients of egg, flavouring substances or emulsifying or stabilising agents).
- (iv) Milk ice (including milk ice containing fruit, fruit pulp or fruit purée) must contain not less than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  percent milk fat and no other fat (except fat introduced by the use as ingredients of egg, flavouring substances, or emulsifying or stabilising agents), and not less than 7 percent M.S.N.F.
- (v) 'Parev' (kosher) ice must contain not less than 10 percent fat and no milk fat or other derivative of milk.
- (vi) The use of any artificial sweetener is forbidden in all these products.

The 50 samples submitted to the public analyst were found to have the composition shown in the appended table :—



Table 36

Period	Samples	Average percentage composition			
		Fat	Milk solids-not fat	Sucrose	Water
First quarter ...	19	11.7	11.6	15.7	61.0
Second quarter ...	17	11.0	11.1	15.9	62.0
Third quarter ...	4	11.8	10.8	14.7	62.7
Fourth quarter ...	10	11.3	11.7	15.9	61.1
TOTALS ...	50	11.4	11.4	15.5	61.7

### Icecream — grading

Icecream is submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. The icecream is graded according to the time taken to decolorise a dye, methylene blue. The test is a provisional one and because of the many factors which govern the hygienic quality of icecream it is recommended officially that judgment should be based on a series of samples and that too much attention should not be paid to the result of an individual sample. It is suggested that over a six-monthly period, at least 50 percent of a vendor's samples should fall into grade 1, 80 percent into grades 1 or 2, not more than 20 percent into grade 3 and none into grade 4.

During the year 189 samples of icecream were submitted for bacteriological examination with the following results :—

Table 37

Grading			Samples submitted	%
Grade I	...	...	136	72.0
Grade II	...	...	35	18.5
Grade III	...	...	7	3.7
Grade IV	...	...	11	5.8
TOTAL	...	...	189	100.0

In general, grades I and II are satisfactory, while grades III and IV may indicate some defect in manufacture, handling or storage. Such cases are followed up and advice is given.

### Adulteration of food

The number of samples taken during the year under the Food and Drugs Act was 845 ; of these, 87 were formal and 758 informal. After examination the public analyst reported that 11 of the formal samples and 18 of the informal samples were adulterated or below standard ; the percentage of adulteration amounted to 12.6 in the formal samples, 2.4 in the informal samples, and to 3.4 of all the samples submitted, compared with 4.4 in the previous year,

Samples analysed

Table 38

Articles	Examined			Adulterated		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Baking powder, cereals and flour ... ..	7	52	59	2	2	4
Biscuits ... ..	—	1	1	—	1	1
Bread and butter ... ..	10	1	11	2	—	2
Butter ... ..	—	13	13	—	—	—
Cheese ... ..	—	10	10	—	1	1
Coffee, cocoa, chocolate ...	1	18	19	—	—	—
Confectionery, sugar ...	4	28	32	1	2	3
Cream ... ..	1	12	13	—	—	—
Drinks, soft ... ..	5	25	30	1	1	2
Dripping, lard and suet ...	3	11	14	—	2	2
Drugs ... ..	2	102	104	1	1	2
Fish ... ..	—	13	13	—	1	1
Fish cakes, etc. ... ..	2	1	3	—	—	—
Flavourers and condiments	5	152	157	1	2	3
Fruit, dried and canned ...	4	11	15	—	—	—
Icecream ... ..	1	49	50	—	—	—
Jellies and custards ...	1	23	24	—	—	—
Jams, marmalades and pre-serves ... ..	1	21	22	—	—	—
Margarine ... ..	1	9	10	—	—	—
Meat products ... ..	6	13	19	—	—	—
Milk ... ..	15	67	82	—	—	—
Milk, Channel Islands ...	—	4	4	—	—	—
Milk, condensed ... ..	2	10	12	—	—	—
Milk, hot ... ..	7	—	7	3	—	3
Paste, fish and meat ...	—	22	22	—	1	1
Pie filling, pudding mixtures etc. ... ..	—	8	8	—	—	—
Pies, meat ... ..	—	3	3	—	—	—
Sausages ... ..	5	31	36	—	2	2
Soups ... ..	1	14	15	—	2	2
Vegetables ... ..	—	10	10	—	—	—
Spirits ... ..	1	19	20	—	—	—
Sugar ... ..	—	5	5	—	—	—
Wine ... ..	2	—	2	—	—	—
<b>TOTALS</b> ... ..	<b>87</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>29</b>

Non-genuine samples

Table 39

Article	Formal or informal	Adulteration or Irregularity	Action taken or result of proceedings
Sild ... ..	Informal	Contained only salted fish with no edible oil	Remaining stock weighed. Weight of each tin corresponded to stated weight.



Table 39—continued

Article	Formal or informal	Adulteration or irregularity	Action taken or result of proceedings
Sild ... ..	Informal	Contained only salted fish with no edible oil.	Remaining stock weighed. Weight of each tin corresponded to stated weight.
Oil of Wintergreen	Informal	Diluted with arachis oil.	Formal sample taken.
Shredded beef suet	Informal	Deficient in beef fat	Formal sample to be taken
Oil of Wintergreen	Formal	Diluted with arachis oil	Warning letter sent.
Pork chipolatas ...	Informal	Deficient in meat content.	Warning letter sent
Pork sausages ...	Informal	Deficient in meat content.	Warning letter sent
Flaked rice ...	Informal	Sample contained maggots.	Formal sample genuine
Processed gorgonzola cheese ...	Informal	Deficient in butterfat	Manufacturer withdrew stocks from sale.
Hot milk ... ..	Formal	Deficient in milk fats and MSNF.	Referred for consideration of legal proceedings.
Cream doughnuts	Formal	Contained imitation cream	Referred for consideration of legal proceedings.
Pearl barley ...	Informal	Contained 130 ppm sulphur dioxide and an excess amount of talc	Formal sample taken.
Pickling spice ...	Informal	Contained a whole date stone and several coarse particles of grit and dried earth .	Formal sample to be taken
Pearl barley ...	Formal	Contained 212 ppm sulphur dioxide and an excess amount of talc.	Imported from West Germany —Ministry informed.
Preserved banana flavouring ...	Informal	Contained 280 ppm benzoic acid and was devoid of banana flavour.	Stock withdrawn from sale and returned to manufacturer.
Soup powder ...	Informal	Contained a non-permitted red dye.	Appeared to be old stock. Any other such stock to be withdrawn from sale
Fish paste ... ..	Informal	Contained a non-permitted red dye.	Warning letter sent.
Cream of champignon soup ...	Informal	Insufficient fat to warrant the description of cream soup.	Imported from West Germany. Ministry informed.
Vinegar ... ..	Formal	A non-brewed product containing only 3.8% acetic acid.	Manufacturer's comments invited.
Marzipan ... ..	Informal	Mouldy	Formal sample taken and found to be genuine.
Shredded beef suet	Informal	Slightly deficient in beef fat.	Warning letter sent to manufacturers.
Instant icing ...	Informal	Contained a non-permitted coal-tar dye.	Remaining stock destroyed by manufacturer and production has ceased.



Table 39—continued

Article	Formal or informal	Adulteration or irregularity	Action taken or result of proceedings
Iced Gem biscuits...	Informal	Contained a non-permitted coal-tar dye.	Manufacturers (a Belgian firm) stated they are now using a permitted vegetable dye. Formal sample to be taken.
Grapefruit juice ...	Informal	Contained 25% added water.	Formal sample taken.
Hot milk ... ..	Formal	Deficient in milk fat.	Legal proceedings to be instituted.
Hot milk ... ..	Formal	Deficient in milk fat and MSNF.	Legal proceedings to be instituted.
Buttered rolls ...	Formal	Contained margarine in addition to butter.	Legal proceedings to be instituted.
Buttered rolls ...	Formal	Contained only margarine.	Legal proceedings to be instituted.
Grapefruit juice ...	Formal	Contained 23% added water.	Legal proceedings to be instituted.
Marzipan ... ..	Formal	Slightly deficient in ground almonds.	Manufacturer's comments invited.

## Other samples

In addition to samples submitted to the public analyst or bacteriologist for routine sampling, the following were submitted for various reasons, but mainly because of complaints received or as a result of enquiries made into cases of food poisoning :—

Iced fancy cakes	Strained egg custard with rice
Iced sponge cake	Milk Bottle (4)
Loaf (3)	Bread rolls (2)
Toffee apples	Shredded suet
Bun	Tinned mandarin oranges
Bottle of lemonade	Pork sausages (3)
Water from cistern (2)	Steamed prawns
Mussels	Cream buns (3)
Dinner-meal	Tap water

## Registration of food premises

During the year the following were registered, the total (including previous registrations) being shown in the last column.

Type	1959	Total
Sale and storage of icecream ... ..	34	312
Manufacture of icecream ... ..	3	5
Fish frying ... ..	8	29
Fish curing ... ..	4	17
Preparation or manufacture of sausages ...	11	71
Preparation or manufacture of potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food ...	27	128



### Unsound food

Approximately 54 tons of food were surrendered as unfit for human consumption. This was dealt with by the Council's food inspectors and consisted of meat, fruit pulp, fish, vegetables etc.

### Shops Act, 1950 — section 38

3 certificates of exemption in respect of sanitary conveniences were issued during the year.

Under s.38 of the Shops Act, 1950, we already had powers and duties with regard to ventilation, temperature and sanitary conveniences in shops. Under s.18 of the L.C.C. (General Powers) Act, 1958, additional powers and duties under s.38 came to us on 1 January 1959, and these were to do with lighting, with washing facilities and with facilities for the taking of meals.

The relevant subsections of s.38 are (3), (4) and (5), which are as follows :—

- (3) In every part of a shop in which persons are employed about the business of the shop, suitable and sufficient means of lighting shall be provided, and every such part of a shop shall be kept suitably and sufficiently lighted.
- (4) In every shop, not being a shop exempted from the provisions of this subsection, there shall be provided and maintained suitable and sufficient washing facilities available for the use of persons employed in or about the shop.
- (5) Where persons employed about the business of a shop take any meals in the shop, there shall be provided and maintained suitable and sufficient facilities for the taking of those meals.

The law governing exemption certificates under subsection (4) is the same as that governing exemption certificates under subsection (2) which we already deal with, and the definitions of "shop" and "suitable and sufficient" are also the same for the whole section.

Twelve premises had already been granted certificates of exemption under s.38(6) relating to the provisions of s.38(4). No further certificates were issued during the year.

### Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

Regulations 15 and 16 require the provision of a water supply and wash hand basin on all food premises. No certificates of exemption were issued during the year.

### Pharmacy and Poisons

The names of 18 persons were entered on the Council's list of persons entitled to sell poisons in Part II of the poisons list and the names of 185 persons previously registered were retained on the register. 145 visits were paid by the food inspectors in connection with the granting and renewal of these licences.



### Slaughterhouses and slaughtermen

There is one private slaughterhouse in the borough in respect of which the licence was renewed during the year, with the proviso that only pigs could be slaughtered. The premises were visited periodically by the food inspector. 145 pigs were slaughtered and the carcasses inspected during the year. 1 of these carcasses with a total weight of 164 lbs. was condemned as tuberculous, and 80½ lbs. of heads and offals from 10 carcasses were also destroyed.

4 slaughtermen's licences were granted during the year.

### Offensive trades

There are no offensive trades carried on in the borough.

### Food work generally

Mr. Thomas, the group food inspector, in commenting on the year's work, states: "During the year we had, as in previous years, a number of complaints of foreign bodies in articles of food and although these are sometimes of a trivial nature they represent a lack of care on the part of someone employed in the food industry and may indicate a generally unsatisfactory state of affairs. It is pleasing to note a sharp decline in the number of complaints in connection with school milk.

"There appeared to be a decline in the attention paid to food hygiene on the part of the Press and there was a welcome cessation of the popular comparison between the standards of food hygiene in Britain and those of other countries. The conditions under which food is prepared and marketed in this country are, generally speaking, as good or better than those of any other. This is reflected by the very small number of complaints received from the public and the falling-off since the war years of the amount of food condemned by the inspectors. In all matters relating to food handling and food hygiene the personal factor is of major importance. Facilities provided will be used infrequently by the unsatisfactory type of person whereas the person of clean habits will maintain a good standard without the necessity of constant supervision.

"It will be seen from the report that the standard of the icecream samples taken for analysis was well above the legal minimum and, of the general samples, there was a fall in the number found to be adulterated. It may be said that throughout the year the food work of the department was maintained and the results were satisfactory."



## SECTION F—PREVALENCE OF and CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

### PRINCIPAL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The undermentioned diseases are notifiable by medical practitioners to the Medical Officer of Health :—

Anthrax	Ophthalmia neonatorum
Cholera	Plague
Diphtheria	Pneumonia, acute influenzal
Dysentery (bacillary or amoebic)	Pneumonia, acute primary
Encephalitis, acute	Poliomyelitis, acute
Enteric fever	Puerperal pyrexia
Erysipelas	Relapsing fever
Food poisoning	Scabies
Glanders	Scarlet fever
Hydrophobia	Smallpox
Malaria	Tuberculosis, all forms
Measles	Typhoid fever, including paratyphoid
Membranous croup	Typhus fever
Meningococcal infection	Whooping cough

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

**Number of Notified cases** (corrected for revised diagnosis) during the year 1959 with comparative figures for the previous six years.

Table 40

Diseases	Cases notified						
	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Dysentery... ..	233	214	129	579	92	394	84
Encephalitis (acute) ... ..	—	1	2	2	—	—	3
Enteric or typhoid fever ... ..	6	4	2	3	1	1	2
Erysipelas ... ..	16	13	15	20	26	24	18
Food poisoning ... ..	49	27	42	46	48	110	32
Malaria ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	3	2
Measles ... ..	2613	835	2728	206	3905	521	2082
Meningococcal infection... ..	3	3	4	9	4	6	10
Ophthalmia neonatorum ... ..	1	1	2	2	4	2	3
Pneumonia ... ..	108	61	96	89	121	77	189
Poliomyelitis (acute) ... ..	6	2	15	26	63	16	52
Puerperal pyrexia ... ..	48	59	93	57	92	59	57
Scabies ... ..	9	9	18	29	18	14	5
Scarlet fever ... ..	303	210	143	188	158	331	283
Tuberculosis ... ..	143	236	247	212	271	256	341
Whooping cough... ..	229	154	225	241	412	449	574
<b>TOTALS ... ..</b>	<b>3767</b>	<b>1829</b>	<b>3761</b>	<b>1709</b>	<b>5217</b>	<b>2263</b>	<b>3738</b>

Notifications of infectious diseases in 1959 showing sex and age groups  
Table 41

Diseases	Under 1		1-		3-		5-		10-		15-		25-		45-		65 +		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Dysentery ...	3	3	27	10	10	15	41	30	9	18	4	3	16	23	8	12	—	1	118	115
Enteric or typhoid fever ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	3	3
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	—	6	5	—	—	9	7
Food poisoning ...	1	2	1	6	2	1	4	2	1	3	2	4	5	7	3	3	—	2	19	30
Measles ...	47	49	318	285	334	328	610	595	13	15	4	6	6	2	—	—	—	1	1332	1281
Meningococcal infection	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia ...	—	1	—	1	—	1	2	1	1	3	7	4	15	6	18	13	20	15	63	45
Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Poliomyelitis (nonparalytic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Puerperal pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	—	24	—	—	—	—	—	48
Scabies ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	7	2
Scarlet fever ...	—	—	8	9	25	39	69	101	19	23	3	4	1	2	—	—	—	—	125	178
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	8	14	17	25	29	11	18	1	73	51
Tuberculosis (non-respiratory)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	2	1	5	3	2	—	3	7	12
Whooping cough ...	14	16	26	30	26	22	41	42	2	5	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	111	118
Totals ...	66	73	382	342	400	406	770	772	49	69	32	67	67	95	68	48	38	23	1872	1895



## Analysis of certain diseases in table 41 into divisional areas—

Table 42

Disease	Div. areas	Under 1	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65+	Total
Dysentery ...	W	2	19	13	23	11	1	14	4	1	88
	N	3	11	8	29	7	4	11	5	—	78
	S	1	7	4	19	9	2	14	11	—	67
	Total	6	37	25	71	27	7	39	20	1	233
Measles ...	W	37	238	250	388	7	5	4	—	—	929
	N	30	185	188	338	9	3	3	—	1	757
	S	29	180	224	479	12	2	1	—	—	927
	Total	96	603	662	1205	28	10	8	—	1	2613
Pneumonia ...	W	—	—	1	1	—	1	5	4	10	22
	N	1	1	—	1	2	4	7	4	9	29
	S	—	—	—	1	2	6	9	23	16	57
	Total	1	1	1	3	4	11	21	31	35	108
Poliomyelitis ...	W	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	N	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2
	S	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4
	Total	1	1	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	6
Scarlet fever ...	W	—	8	23	54	13	2	1	—	—	101
	N	—	1	13	47	15	1	1	—	—	78
	S	—	8	28	69	14	4	1	—	—	124
	Total	—	17	64	170	42	7	3	—	—	303
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	W	—	—	1	—	—	8	15	15	8	47
	N	—	—	—	—	—	11	15	14	6	46
	S	—	—	—	—	—	3	12	11	5	31
	Total	—	—	1	—	—	22	42	40	19	124
Whooping cough	W	9	24	26	32	1	3	1	—	—	96
	N	12	10	8	14	2	—	—	—	—	46
	S	9	22	14	37	4	—	1	—	—	87
	Total	30	56	48	83	7	3	2	—	—	229

## Infectious disease visiting

The Council employs three infectious disease visitors whose duty it is to visit the homes of persons who are stated to be suffering from a notifiable infectious disease. All the infectious disease visitors are state registered nurses, and two are also registered fever nurses. The work they do is in addition to visits paid by the food inspectors to cases of food poisoning and by the district public health inspectors on certain other occasions.

The work of the infectious disease visitors as agents of the medical officer of health includes the investigation of home conditions, the giving of advice to patients and contacts, particularly where the patient is left at home, and in general the taking of such measures as may be necessary to combat the spread of infection.

The following is a summary of the work in visiting infectious diseases carried out during the year which is in addition to the visits paid by the public health inspectors referred to in table 25—

Table 43

	W	N	S	Total
Visits ... ..	380	338	535	1253
Futile visits ... ..	505	343	320	1168
Revisits ... ..	196	245	170	611
Total ... ..	1081	926	1025	3032

### Poliomyelitis

In 1959 6 cases of poliomyelitis were confirmed, 2 of them in the North and 4 in the South divisions. 1 was aged under one year, another between one and three years of age and two between five and ten. 4 were paralytic and 2 non-paralytic. In order to keep the incidence of poliomyelitis at a low figure vaccination by injection is essential, though work is now being carried out on the possibility of using a vaccine by mouth, which of course would save a great deal of administrative difficulty. Recent work tends to indicate that in many children the duration of a satisfactory resistance to the infection after vaccination by three injections lasts only about two years, and if this is confirmed it indicates that a fourth injection (which has been advocated for some time in the United States) should be the rule here. Nevertheless even with three injections a modified resistance continues for probably a much longer period.

### Dysentery

The total number of cases remained very much the same. The focus for local outbreaks is often the schools and the mildness of the type of dysentery conduces to this spread as the child may go on attending school for the first day or two when likely to be most infective. The only real bar to the quick spread of the disease appears to be an extremely high hygienic standard from the very start in connection with all the apparatus of the water closet and with hand washing; and with immediate exclusion from school.

### Measles

1959 was the epidemic half of the usual two-year cycle, but in spite of the 2613 cases there were no deaths.



### Pneumonia

The number of cases increased considerably, from 61 to 108, and this was associated with the influenzal wave of moderate intensity at the beginning of the year. Over half the notifications occurred in the South division, but with this disease again it is probable that notifications are incomplete.

### Scarlet fever

The cases again increased, this time from 210 to 303. They were scattered throughout the borough and apart from one school in which some 36 cases were associated either in the schoolchildren or their home contacts, no special cause of spread came to light.

### Whooping cough

The cases increased a little from the very low figure of the previous year but were still much below the figures for the earlier post-war years—reflecting probably the higher number of children being inoculated against the disease.

### Tuberculosis

After the rather disappointing plateau of notifications of the past years the figure for 1959 came down quite dramatically. In the case of males it was reduced from 137 to 73—almost half, and in the case of females from 79 to 51. The number of deaths again showed a considerable drop—from 13 to 11 for males and from 6 to 1 for females. These were both the lowest figures on record, and perhaps it is right to pause for a moment at the figure of one death for females in a year from pulmonary tuberculosis in a population of 220,000 and compare it with a mere ten years ago when in an almost similar population there were 42 deaths in females, and with 30 years ago when, although the population was a little smaller, there were 82 such deaths.

Table 44

Age periods	New cases notified						Deaths					
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Totals		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Totals	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	1	7	1	1	2	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-	7	7	1	1	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	9	19	1	2	10	21	-	-	} 1	-	1	-
35-	8	6	-	3	8	9	-	-		-	-	-
45-	9	3	3	1	12	4	} 3	-	-	-	3	-
55-	20	8	-	1	20	9		-	-	-	-	-
65-	10	-	-	2	10	2	5	-	-	-	5	-
75+	8	1	-	1	8	2	2	1	-	-	2	1
	73	51	7	12	80	63	10	1	1	-	11	1

## Analysis of new cases of tuberculosis into divisional areas :—

Table 45

Division		Sex	0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	Total
West	Respiratory ...	M	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	4	4	3	8	4	4	32
		F	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	6	1	2	2	-	-	15
	Non-respiratory ...	M	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
		F	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	6
North	Respiratory ...	M	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	3	2	6	3	2	20
		F	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	9	3	1	5	-	1	26
	Non-respiratory ...	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	3
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
South	Respiratory ...	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	4	6	3	2	21
		F	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	4	2	-	1	-	-	10
	Non-respiratory ...	M	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	3
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	4

## Summary of statistics as to tuberculosis for the last ten years

Table 46

Year	Population	New cases notified (all forms) (excluding in-ward transfers)	Notif. rate per 100,000 pop.	Deaths		Death rate from resp. tuberculosis per 100,000 pop.	
				All forms	Respiratory	Lewisham	County of London
1949	227,700	371	163	107	92	40	47
1950	228,300	406	178	72	66	29	36
1951	227,200	299	132	68	60	26	34
1952	227,100	307	135	42	35	15	28
1953	225,800	341	151	48	44	19	21
1954	224,200	256	114	38	36	16	18
1955	223,400	271	121	26	22	10	16
1956	222,100	212	95	29	29	13	13
1957	220,900	247	112	33	31	14	12
1958	221,000	236	107	19	18	8	12
1959	221,000	143	<del>52</del> 65	12	11	5	10



## TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS

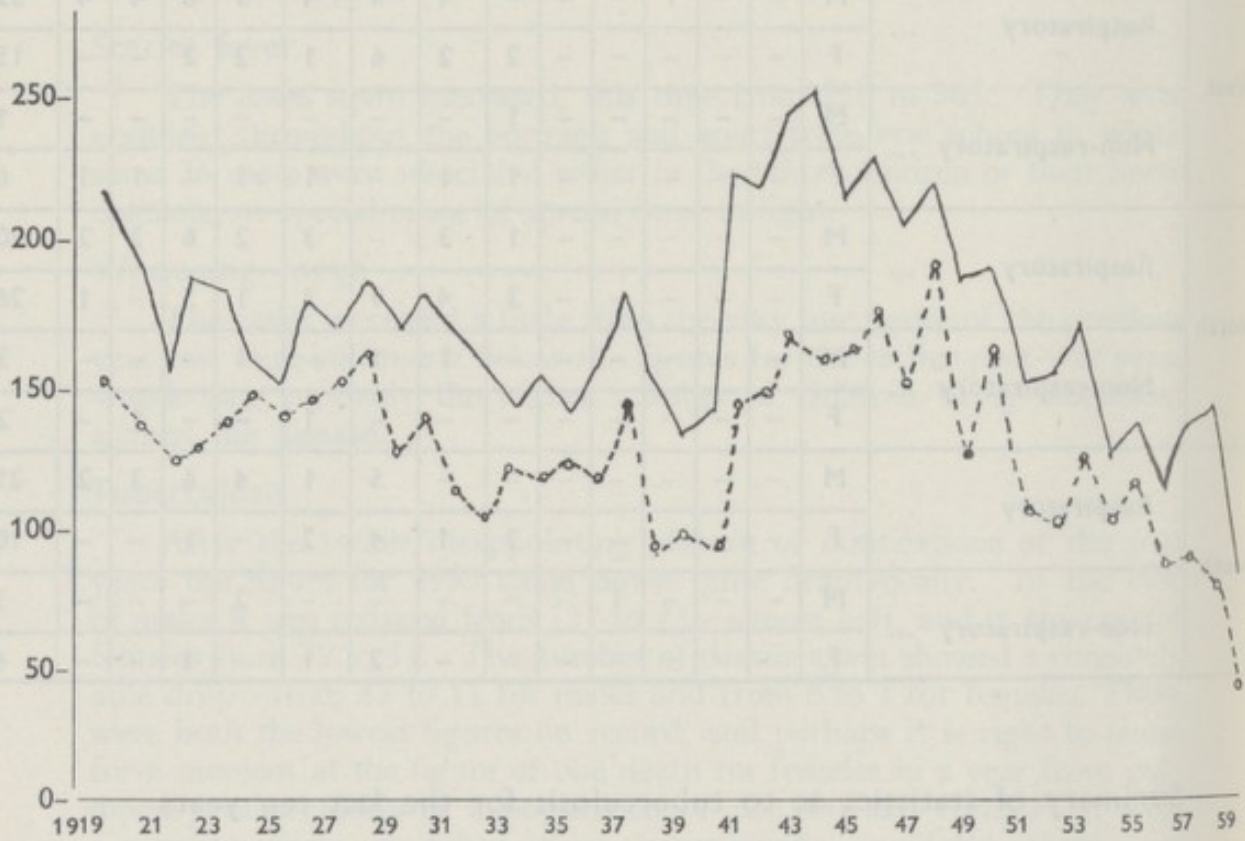
Rates per 100,000

M ●——●

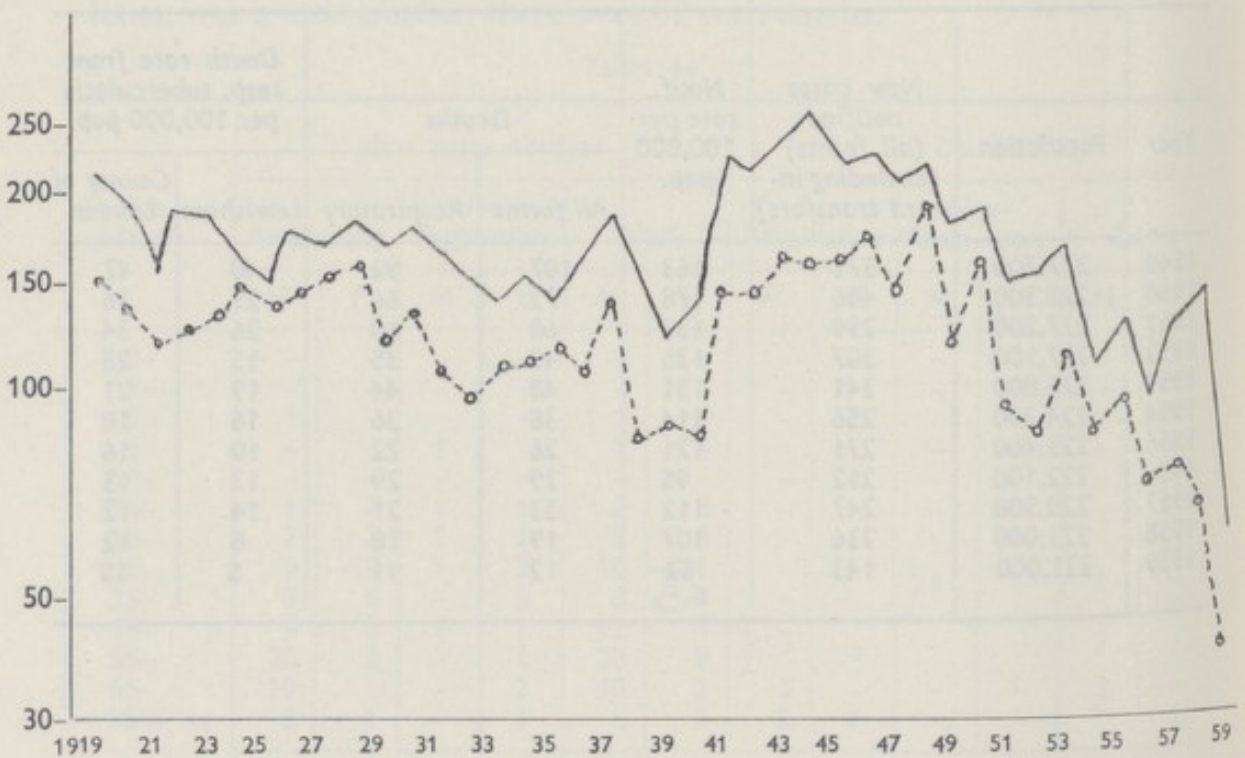
F ○-----○

Inter-censal Popula-  
tions Estimated

Ordinary Scale



Log Scale



### Tuberculosis — environmental conditions

Case papers showing the environmental condition of patients attending the Lewisham Chest Clinic in 1959 have been analysed in 195 cases with the following results :—

Table 47

							Cases	%*
Males	...	...	...	...	...	...	107	55
Females	...	...	...	...	...	...	88	45
Social classification :—								
Class I	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
Class II	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	13
Class III	...	...	...	...	...	...	113	68
Class IV	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	11
Class V	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	6
Not classifiable	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	—
Rooms occupied :—								
2 or more rooms per person	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	15
1—2 rooms per person	...	...	...	...	...	...	118	62
Less than 1 room per person	...	...	...	...	...	...	43	23
No information	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	—
Accommodation :—								
Separate bed	...	...	...	...	...	...	68	35
Separate bedroom	...	...	...	...	...	...	52	27
Condition of premises occupied :—								
Good	...	...	...	...	...	...	161	85
Fair	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	12
Poor	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	3
No information	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	—

\*Excluding cases not classified

### Food poisoning

The cases last year formally notified increased to 49, which was the highest figure (by 1) since 1954. Again I must point out that the number notified is probably incomplete as many cases are sufficiently mild as not to require the attendance of a doctor.

The following is the annual return of food poisoning notifications (corrected) as furnished to the Ministry of Health :—

#### (1) Food poisoning cases

Table 48

	Notifications (corrected)	Cases otherwise ascertained	Symptomless excretors	Fatal cases
1st quarter ...	3	—	—	—
2nd quarter ...	7	6	—	1
3rd quarter ...	36	—	3	—
4th quarter ...	21	1	—	—
Year ...	67	7	3	1



(2) *Particulars of outbreaks*

Table 49

	Outbreaks		Cases		Total cases
	Family outbreaks	Other outbreaks	Notified	Otherwise ascertained	
Agent identified :—					
Salmonella St. Paul	1	—	4	—	4
Salmonella typhimurium ... ..	2	1	4	3	7
Agent not identified	4	—	10	—	10

(3) *Single cases*

Table 50

	Notified	Otherwise ascertained	Total cases
Agent identified :—			
Salmonella typhimurium	14	—	14
„ Bredeney	1	—	1
„ Kiambur	1	—	1
„ Newport	1	—	1
„ group D	1	—	1
Agent not identified	13	4	17

(4) *Salmonella infections, not food-borne*

Nil

NOTE : 18 cases notified by Hither Green Hospital which were returned to the Registrar General have their home addresses in the following authorities' areas : Deptford 6, Lambeth 4, Camberwell 2, Southwark 2, Beckenham 1, Wandsworth 1, Bermondsey 1, and Greenwich 1. The cases were referred to the authorities 'concerned for investigation.

1 'other outbreak' with 3 cases, including the fatal case was investigated by Woolwich as part of the outbreak at the British Hospital for Mothers and Babies, Woolwich.

**Mass radiography unit**

I am indebted to the Director of the Unit for information of work done in the borough during 1959 on which the following table is based. The Unit during the course of the year was stationed at 9 different locations in the borough, the time spent at each varying from 1 day to 2 weeks.

Table 51

<i>Patients</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>
<b>General analysis</b>			
X-rayed ... ..	2,025	130	2,155
Previously x-rayed ... ..	1,833	64	1,897
Recalled for large film ... ..	81	3	84
Normal on large film ... ..	33	—	33
Abnormal on large film ... ..	48	3	51
Not yet re-attended... ..	3	—	3
<b>Analysis of abnormal large films :—</b>			
<b>Cases considered tuberculous :—</b>			
(a) no further action required ...	1	—	1
(b) occasional supervision only ...	4	—	4
(c) requiring treatment... ..	4	—	4
(d) still under investigation ...	—	—	—
(e) refused further investigation	—	—	—
Previously known tuberculous cases	3	—	3
<b>Non-tuberculous cases :—</b>			
(a) investigated ... ..	9	—	9
(b) still under investigation ...	—	—	—
Cardio-vascular lesions ... ..	2	1	3
No action required ... ..	25	2	27



I am indebted to the Divisional Medical Officer of the London County Council for the information on which the following table is based:—

Immunisation against diphtheria ; whooping cough ; smallpox ; poliomyelitis

Table 52

Age at December 31, 1959	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total under 15
Born in year ... ..	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1950-54	1945-49	
(i) <i>Diphtheria</i> (including combined and triple) :—								
Immunised during year	2,069	439	102	59	48	99	10	2,826
Immunised at end of year ... ..	2,069	2,305	2,357	2,440	2,422	13,786	13,718	39,097
Estimated mid-year population ... ..	12,590					32,400		48,300
(ii) <i>Whooping cough</i> (including combined and triple):—								
Immunised during year	2,116	397	103	58	38	29	5	2,746

(iii) *Vaccination.*

Vaccinated during the year (age at date of vaccination)	Under 1	1-4	5-14	15 and over	Total
Primary... ..	2,115	166	62	88	2,431
Revaccination... ..	—	18	33	179	230

(iv) *Poliomyelitis*

Inoculated against poliomyelitis (at clinics and schools in Lewisham)	1st injection	2nd Injection	3rd Injection
	12,233	12,113	16,671

COUNCIL OFFICES,  
CANADIAN AVENUE,  
S.E.6.

August, 1959

E. H. R. SMITHARD  
*Medical Officer of Health*

## APPENDIX A

Acts of Parliament, Statutory Instruments and Circulars issued by Government Departments with regard to the public health services, during the year 1959: —

## Statutes

- Housing (Underground Rooms) Act
- House Purchase and Housing Act
- Factories Act
- London County Council (General Powers) Act

## Statutory Instruments

- The Poisons (No. 2) Rules 1958
- The Poisons List (No. 2) Order, 1958
- The Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations 1959
- The Slaughterhouse Reports (Appointed Day) Order 1959
- Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959
- The Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) (Revocation) Regulations 1959
- The Labelling of Food (Amendment) Regulations 1959
- The Food Standards (Icecream) Regulations 1959
- The Icecream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations 1959
- Arsenic in Food Regulations, 1959
- Condensed Milk Regulations 1959
- The Smoke Control Areas (Exempted Fireplaces) Order 1959
- The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) (Amendment) Regulations 1959
- The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (Amendment) Regulations 1959
- The Slaughterhouse Licences (Forms and Records) Regulations 1959
- The First-aid Boxes in Factories Order 1959
- The Factories, 1959 (Commencement No. 1) Order 1959
- Fluorine in Food Regulations 1959
- The Public Health Officers Regulations 1959

## Ministry of Health

## Circulars

- |     |    |   |
|-----|----|---|
| No. | 4  | Homeless families   |
|     | 7  | Prevention of tuberculosis—(1) BCG Vaccination ; (2) Expiry date of BCG Vaccine ; (3) Tuberculosis registers  |
|     | 8  | The Icecream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations 1959  |
|     | 17 | Revision and consolidation of present statutory regulations relating to appointment, qualifications and duties of Medical Officers of Health and Public Health Inspectors |



## Ministry of Health (*continued*)

### *Circulars*

- No. 29 Food Hygiene Codes of Practice. The Hygienic Transport and Handling of Meat. Hygiene in the Retail Meat Trade

## Ministry of Housing and Local Government

### *Circulars*

- No. 5 Clean Air Act 1956—Smoke Control Areas
- 13 Clean Air Act 1956—(i) leaflets for householders in proposed smoke control areas ; (ii) Smoke Control Areas and British Railways ; (iii) Model notice about making of Smoke Control Orders
- 16 Consultations with Executive Councils
- 17 Homeless families
- 29 Safety in the home
- 31 Litter
- 33 Contributions to Voluntary Bodies
- 37 House Purchase and Housing Act 1959
- 38 Housing (Underground Rooms) Act 1959
- 41 Slum clearance
- 44 (i) Smoke Control Areas (Exempted Fireplaces) Order, 1959  
(ii) Mechanically fired furnaces installed before 31 December, 1956  
(iii) Furnaces fired by pulverised fuel, wood waste, and large hand fired furnaces
- 48 Town and Country Planning Act 1959
- 53 Landlord and Tenant (Furniture and Fittings) Act, 1959
- 57 Radioactivity
- 65 Drought 1959—Short term measures

## Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

### *Circulars*

- No. FSH 1 The Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations 1959
- 2 The Slaughter of Animals Act 1958
- 3 Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959
- 4 The Slaughterhouse Reports (Appointed Day) Order 1959  
The Slaughterhouse (Reports) Direction 1959
- 5 The Food Standards (Icecream) Regulations 1959  
The Labelling of Food (Amendment) Regulations 1959
- 6 The Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) (Revocation) Regulations 1959
- 7 Arsenic in Food Regulations, 1959
- 8 Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959 Approved chemical agents
- 9 The Slaughterhouses (Meat Inspection Grant) Regulations 1958
- 10 Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959 Approved chemical agents
- 11 Condensed Milk Regulations 1959
- 12 Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959 Approved chemical agents

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (*continued*)

- No. FSH 14 (1) The Slaughterhouse Licences (Forms and Records) Regulations 1959  
 (2) Slaughterhouse Reports  
 15 Fluorine in Food Regulations 1959  
 16 Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959 Approved chemical agents  
 PDP 1 Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 Reports by Local Authorities 12 months ended 31.3.59 and Withdrawal of grants  
 4 Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949—Distribution of ship rat in United Kingdom

## General Register Office

*Circulars*  
 No.

- No. 1 Infections and other notifiable diseases—weekly return  
 2 Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health 1958 Vital Statistics  
 3 Infections and other notifiable diseases—Quarterly Return

## APPENDIX B

## Legal Proceedings, 1958

The following are details of legal proceedings issued during the year: —

<i>Nature of summons</i>	<i>No. of summonses</i>	<i>Total fines</i>	<i>Total costs</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
<i>Public Health (London) Act, 1936</i> Non-compliance with nuisance notices	4	—	1 1 0	In one case an abatement order was made : in one case the summons was not proceeded with, and in two cases the summonses were withdrawn.
<i>London County Council drainage byelaws</i>	1	—	—	Withdrawn
<i>Food and Drugs Act, 1955</i> Section 2	3	15 0 0	3 3 0	
<i>Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955</i> Regulation 23	3	20 0 0	5 5 0	
Regulation 24	1			
Regulation 14	1	3 0 0		Not guilty
Regulation 17	1	2 0 0		



## APPENDIX C

List of special reports submitted to the Health Committee by the medical officer of health during 1959:—

January	6	Old People — Club recruiting
February	3	Conference on "The Elderly in the Community."
March	3	Comprehensive centre for old people
	3	Home safety
April	7	Comprehensive centre for old people
	7	Lewisham Old People's Welfare Association— Constitution
	7	Smoke control areas
June	2	Conference on the welfare of old people's clubs
	2	Royal Society of Health Congress
	2	Competition for publicising old people
	30	Geriatric unit
	30	Clean Air Act — applications for additional grant
September	8	Questionnaire on home safety
	8	Clean Air Act No.3 (Brookdale) Smoke Control Area No.5 (Glenbow) Smoke Control Area
	8	Fluoridation of public water supplies
October	6	Clean Air Act No.4 (Penerley) Smoke Control Area
November	3	Clean Air Conference

## TABLES

TABLE NO.	SUBJECT	PAGE	TABLE NO.	SUBJECT	PAGE
<i>Section A</i>			<i>Section D</i>		
1	Comparative statistics ...	7	30	Demolition orders ...	45
2	Causes of death by age groups ...	8	31	Closing orders ...	45
3	Deaths under one year ...	10	32	Clearance areas ...	46
4	Local sickness ...	11	33	Rent Act 1957 ...	47
5	Deaths by social class ...	11			
6	Causes of death by social class ...	12	<i>Section E</i>		
7	Grouped causes of death by social class ...	13	34	Milk licenses ...	50
8	Births, infant deaths, etc., by social class ...	13	35	Analysis of milk ...	50
9	Heart and circulation mortality ...	14	36	Icecream composition ...	52
10	Lung cancer ...	15	37	Icecream grading ...	52
11	Cigarette consumption ...	15	38	Samples analysed ...	53
12	General Statistics from 1901	16	39	Adulterated samples ...	53
<i>Section B</i>					
13	Disinfecting station ...	18	<i>Section F</i>		
14	Verminous conditions, etc.	18	40	Notified cases of infectious diseases ...	58
15	Public mortuary ...	21	41	Notifications of infectious diseases by age and sex	59
16	Rodent control—treatment of rivers ...	21	42	Analysis of certain diseases into divisional areas ...	60
17	Prevention of Damage by Pests Act ...	23	43	Infectious disease visiting	61
18	Laboratory facilities ...	23	44	Tuberculosis notifications and deaths ...	62
19	Swimming Baths ...	24	45	Analysis of new cases of tuberculosis into divisional areas ...	63
20	Water, chemical samples	24	46	Tuberculosis statistics ...	63
21	Water, Bacteriological samples ...	26	47	Tuberculosis — environmental conditions ...	65
22	Atmospheric conditions ...	28	48	Food poisoning cases ...	65
23	Accidents to children ...	32	49	Food poisoning outbreaks	66
24	Old People's visits ...	34	50	Food poisoning agents ...	66
<i>Section C</i>			51	Mass Radiography ...	67
25	Sanitary inspection ...	36	52	Immunisation against infectious disease ...	68
26	Summary of notices ...	37			
27	Nuisances remedied ...	37			
28	Factory inspections ...	39			
29	Factory defects ...	40			

## CHARTS

Atmospheric pollution ...	30
Tuberculosis notifications ...	64



## INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE	SUBJECT	PAGE
Acts, regulations and orders ...	69	LCC (General Powers) Act, 1953, section 43 ...	19
Area of borough ...	6	Mass miniature radiography ...	66
Atmospheric conditions ...	27	Maternal deaths ...	7
Births and birth rate ...	6	Measles ...	61
Cancer ...	15	Milk, analysis of ...	50
Clean Air Act ...	27	Milk and Dairies Regulations ...	49
Clearance areas ...	46	Mortuary and Coroner's Court	20
Coronary disease ...	14	National Assistance Act, 1948	
Deaths and death rate ...	6	s. 50 ...	24
Deaths, cause of ...	8	s. 47 ...	24
Discretionary grants and standard grants ...	47	Nuisances remedied ...	37
Disinfection and personal cleansing ...	18	Offensive trades ...	57
Dog nuisances ...	24	Old people ...	32
Drainage work ...	24	Outworkers ...	40
Dysentery ...	61	Pet Animals Act, 1951 ...	38
Exhumations ...	42	Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1953	56
Factories ...	38	Pigeons ...	42
Flies and mosquitos ...	19	Pneumonia ...	62
Food, adulteration of ...	52	Poliomyelitis ...	61
Food inspection and supervision	49	Population ...	6
Food poisoning ...	65	Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 ...	22
Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955	56	Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951 ...	41
Food Standards Regulations ...	51	Rateable value ...	6
General statistics from 1901 ...	16	Rent Act, 1957 ...	47
Hairdressers ...	38	Rodent control ...	21
Health education ...	20	Sampling ...	53
Health Services, general provision of ...	18	Sanitary circumstances of the area ...	36
Heating appliances ...	38	Scarlet fever ...	62
Heattreated milk ...	50	Shops Act, 1950 ...	56
Home Safety ...	31	Sickness, local ...	11
House purchase loans ...	47	Slaughterhouses ...	57
Housing:—		Smoke nuisances ...	36
Building ...	44	Social medicine statistics ...	11
Families rehoused ...	44	Staff ...	2
Housing Act, 1957 ...	44	Stillbirths ...	6
Icecream composition ...	52	Swimming baths ...	24
Icecream grading ...	52	Tuberculosis ...	62
Immunisation ...	68	Unsound food ...	56
Infant mortality ...	6	Vaccination ...	68
Infant mortality statistics ...	10	Vital statistics ...	6
Infectious diseases ...	58	Water certificates ...	38
Infectious disease visiting ...	61	Water supply ...	25
Laboratory facilities ...	23	Whooping cough ...	62
Legal proceedings ...	71		