

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

Contributors

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BOROUGH
OF
LEWISHAM

LEW 56

ANNUAL REPORT 1968

Medical Officer of Health

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TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

I have the honour to present a report on the Health Services in Lewisham for the year 1968.

This is the fourth in the present series and meets the requirements of the Department of Health and Social Security and the Inner London Education Authority.

The incidence of general sickness as shown by returns for the Department of Health and Social Security is marginally greater than last year though significantly less than 1966.

1968 was a favourable year as regards infectious disease and no special comment is called for.

In mid-year measles vaccine became available and from July an attempt was made to immunise children between the ages of 4 and 7. This was to try to stem the expected epidemic of the autumn and winter months. Although too early for proper evaluation the impression gained at the end of the year was that a significant effect had been obtained.

Vital statistics for the Borough revealed marginal fluctuations, but indicated the continuance of the favourable trend of recent years.

One third of all the deaths in the area now occur over the age of 75. This fact calls for increasing attention to the allied problem of quantity and quality of physical and spiritual care in terminal illnesses of the aged.

Towards the end of the year a Domiciliary Family Planning service conducted by an experienced medical officer was established in the department to complement the expanding clinic service provided on an agency basis by the Family Planning Association. This meets a specific need and may well be considered by the Health Committee as worthy of extension.

Home dialysis was arranged for three patients with advanced kidney disease during the year. The adaptation of the home and the installation of special equipment, while a formidable undertaking is an exercise in co-operation between the Local Health Authority and the teaching hospitals concerned. The benefit to the patient is undoubted while the saving of hospital beds and special in-patient facilities is significant. Mr. A. J. Phillips, the Chief Public Health Inspector was appointed liaison officer for the many agencies involved in the arrangements for this new venture in community care.

A special note is included in the report of the effect of the disastrous floods of September on the health services. Some apprehension was felt that illness from shock and exposure or spread of infection from contamination would be widespread. The situation was closely watched and no death or dangerous illness attributable to the incident could be recorded at the end of the year.

A further slight increase in the incidence of verminous infestation and scabies is recorded. This occurrence tends to confirm a suspicion that resistance to present methods of treatment may be developing. It is hoped that some special research into this may be possible in the near future.

The improvement of housing conditions continued, and good progress was made in clearing away many worn-out properties to make way for new. It is also gratifying to note that there was an increase in the number of standard and discretionary grants during the year. This procedure which has not been used in the past to the extent it was hoped for, nevertheless has proved of great value in bringing many houses within the Borough up to a reasonable standard of fitness and amenity.

Food supervision is an important aspect of the Department's work, and whilst there is a continuing improvement in general food hygiene, there is an ever present need to be vigilant to ensure that standards do not drop and that the latest methods of food hygiene technology are introduced wherever necessary.

Staff shortages and difficulties of accommodation for training and rehabilitation were still in evidence during the year, but despite these problems expansion in Mental Health community services continue. A reference to this section of the Report will show the extent to which the Department is able to help those in need of its support.

Health education is a most important feature of the Health Department's work and its conscious expansion, particularly in the field of illustrations, practical demonstrations, and the number of various exhibitions arranged can be seen by reading the section on Health Education in the body of this report. Many aspects of this work require the close co-operation of various organisations and members of the staff, and I am glad to pay tribute to them for this.

This opportunity is again taken to record the fact that my report outlines the work during 1968 of loyal colleagues of all grades in the Health Department. The ever available help and guidance of the Town Clerk and other chief officers is gratefully acknowledged.

In conclusion I wish to thank the Chairmen and members of relevant Committees for the support afforded to the Department and myself during 1968.

F. R. WALDRON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Health Department,
Deptford Town Hall,
New Cross Road, S.E.14

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1967

The Mayor

(Alderman C. A. COMBES, J.P.)

Chairman:

Councillor MRS. D. E. NEW

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor J. W. EARL

Alderman Mrs. M. J. Crisp

Councillor Mrs. E. M. Bridger

„ Mrs. W. Brydon

„ Mrs. I. D. M. Caulfield

„ W. Hall

„ S. G. C. Hardy

Councillor Mrs. D. Hurren

„ F. M. Judge, M.P.S.

„ P. W. Philpot

„ Mrs. P. L. Silk

„ P. M. Sims

„ I. W. Turner

Co-opted Members:

J. B. Cohen, L.D.S., R.C.S.

P. Freeman, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.R.F.P.S.

F. H. E. Hook, M.P.S.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT as at 31.12.68

(a) Medical Officer of Health
and
Principal School Medical Officer, Inner London Education Authority
F. R. WALDRON, M.D., D.P.H.

(a) Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy P.S.M.O. :
A. W. TRANTER, M.B., D.C.H., D.P.H.

Senior Medical Officer:

A. G. Poulsen-Hansen, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.H.
Betty E. Shortland, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. Enid C. Vincent, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Senior Assistant Medical Officers:

Islay C. Barne, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.O.G. Vacancy

Medical Officers in Departments

G. S. Sethi, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.T.M.H., D.I.H. Mary M. Bools, M.B., CH.B., B.A.O.
41 sessional M.O.s occupying 16 full-time vacancies

(a) Chief Dental Officer and Principal School Dental Officer:
Edith Mahler, M.D., L.D.S.

(a) Senior Dental Officers:

Clare M. Leeming, B.D.S. P. Sivagurunathan, F.D.S., L.D.S., R.C.S.

(a) Dental Officers:

Joyce Smail, L.D.S. (Part-time) and 7 sessional
4 Dental Auxiliaries and 10 Dental Surgery Assistants

Orthodontist (Part-time)

Ann D. Ward, B.D.S., DIP.ORTH.

Public Analyst:

H. Amphlett Williams, PH.D., A.C.G.F.C., F.R.I.C., F.R.S.H.

(a) Nursing Officer (Maternal & Child Health and School Health):
Dorothy M. Coe, S.R.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., H.V., C & G. Technical Teachers Certificate
Diploma in Social Sciences

(a) Assistants

Elizabeth M. Gleeson, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., C & G Technical Teachers Certificate
Diploma in Social Sciences Jean Edwards, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.,
C & G Technical Teachers Certificate

Senior Centre Superintendents

Margaret Henley, S.R.N., R.C.N., C.M.B., H.V. (Amersham Road)
Annie R. West, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. (Central Lewisham)
Fanny Stevens, S.R.N., R.F.N., C.M.B. (PART I). (Kingswear) Vacancy

Centre Superintendents:

Nora Miller, S.R.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., H.V. (Flower House)
Margaret M. Sammon, S.R.N., S.C.M., B.T.A. (Lewisham Chest Clinic)
Maureen Allen, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. (Spalding House)
Helen Buckley, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. (Downham)
Janet McCrudden, S.R.N., C.M.B. (PART I), H.V. (Speedwell)
Anne McGarry, S.R.N., C.M.B. (PART I), Q.N.CERT., H.V. (Lind)
Anna Flemm, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. (Trewsbury)
Rose Pedel, S.R.N., C.M.B. (PART I), H.V. (Boundfield)
Audrey I. Urwin, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V. (Heathside)

35 Health Visitors; 4 T.B. Visitors; 22 School Nurses; 3 Clinic Auxiliaries
8 Trainee Health Visitors

Day Nursery Matrons:

Elizabeth R. Venning, S.R.N. (Amersham Road)
Margaret D. Philpot, R.F.N. (Rushey Green)
Glenys L. Crandon, S.E.N. (Perry Rise)
4 Deputy Matrons; 25 Nursery Nurses and 3 Nursery Wardens
20 Trainee Nursery Nurses

Nursing Officer (Midwifery and District Nursing):

Valerie J. Buckingham, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D.

Assistants:

Renee R. Humphries, S.R.N., S.C.M., D.N.CERT. Rose Evans, S.R.N., S.C.M., D.N.CERT.

Superintendent (District Nursing):

Elsie K. Ford, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. and D.N. CERTS.

Senior District Nurses:

Ellen F. Spry, S.R.N., C.M.B. (PART I) Dora S. Pilbrow, S.R.N.
64 District Nurses

Senior Midwives:

Margaret J. Williams, S.R.N., C.M.B. Vacancy
Midwives(30); Pupil Midwives (up to 16)

Chief Chiropodist:

B. Dalton, M.CH.S., S.R.CH., M.R.S.H.

Senior Chiropodists:

Penelope J. Tagoe, M.CH.S., S.R.CH. P.V. Rhodes, M.CH.S.
Irene E. Yeomans, M.CH.S.
1 Chiropodist; 16 sessional Chiropodists; 1 Trainee Chiropodist

Principal Mental Health Officer:

Zena Mason, B.A., A.I.M.S.W.

Assistant Principal:

A. G. Knight

Senior Mental Health Officer:

Rosemary E. Evans, DIP.SOCIAL STUDIES, A.A.P.S.W.
14 Mental Health Social Workers

Honor Lea Hostel:

Warden: E. W. Murray, R.M.P.A.
Deputy: T. W. MacMillan, S.R.N., R.M.N., B.T.A.
3 Assistants

Visiting Medical Officer:

D. J. Adderley, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M.

Supervisors of Training Centres:

Alice M. Potter (Lewisham Junior) Alice J. Thomson (Brockley) H. F. Weaver (Deptford)
15 Assistants

Supervisors of Day Centres:

P. W. Postle (New Cross) C. W. Beckett (Cambridge)
3 Instructors

Principal Social Worker:

Eileen L. Stocker, Dips. Social Studies and Casework, A.A.P.S.W.

Assistant Principal:

Betty J. Hardy, B.A.(SOC.SC.), Dip. Applied Social Studies
4 Social Workers; 3 Family Case Workers; 2 Care Committee Organisers;
1 Trainee Social Worker

Home Help Organisers:

Ivy I. Stittle (Deptford) Beatrice Kneller (Rushey Green) Muriel Wakeford (Sydenham)
Marie L. Webb (Grove Park)
4 Assistants; 630 Home Helps

Health Education Officer:

R. W. Allen, M.A.P.H.I., M.I.H.E.

1st Assistant Health Education Officer:

Marie Sharp, S.R.N., H.V., M.I.H.E.
1 Assistant

Home Safety Officer:

L. Selway

Chief Public Health Inspector:

A. J. Phillips, M.A.P.H.I.

Assistant Chief Public Health Inspectors:

J. H. Willis, M.A.P.H.I.

J. Craven, F.A.P.H.I.

J. E. Waring, M.A.P.H.I.

Senior Public Health Inspectors:

H. W. Ellery, M.A.P.H.I.
J. W. Bevan, M.A.P.H.I.

R. Mahoney, M.A.P.H.I.
G. L. Belshaw, M.A.P.H.I.

J. A. G. White, M.A.P.H.I.

Assistant Senior Public Health Inspectors:

R. L. Davis, M.A.P.H.I.

R. W. Bradstock, M.A.P.H.I.
K. G. Burt, M.A.P.H.I.

J. Hills, M.A.P.H.I.

14 Public Health Inspectors, 1 Vacancy, 7 Trainee Public Health Inspectors
8 Technical Assistants, 4 Vacancies

Bathing Station Superintendents:

H. W. Wellbelove (Deptford)

J. G. Beale (Lewisham)

2 Assistant Superintendents; 18 Miscellaneous Staff

Mortuary Keepers:

C. B. Evans (Deptford)

W. C. Spear (Lewisham)

Pest Control Foreman:

R. A. Sharman
6 Operatives

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Chief Administrative Officer:

G. A. LANGLEY

Principal Administrative Officers:

E. W. Cheesman

D. M. Minear

Senior Administrative Officers:

S. BurrIDGE

R. Shrive

W. Fancy, B.SC.(ECON.), D.M.A.

Administrative Officers:

C. R. Coleman, D.M.A.

L. Thorpe, D.F.C.

23 Administrative Assistants; 1 Chief Officer's Personal Assistant
18 Clerical Officers; 31 Clerical Assistants

THE BOROUGH

The Borough of Lewisham covers approximately eleven square miles, and is bounded by the Boroughs of Greenwich, Bromley and Southwark and by the River Thames on the north. Three rivers run through the area, the Ravensbourne, the Pool and the Quaggy. The area consists of the low-lying Ravensbourne Valley running north to south with high ground rising on either side to high points at Crystal Palace and Sydenham standing at 250' above the Thames and Hilly Fields at 150' on the west side, and Downham and Blackheath at 150' on the east side. The level of land drops sharply to a basin of reclaimed marsh along the river at Deptford.

London clay is the prevalent surface soil, which overlays chalk in certain areas such as St. John's and Blackheath. Below this lies Thanet Sand which overlays the Woolwich beds of gravel and the Blackheath beds of gravel and sand.

Over one third of all the Borough's industries are concerned with some form of engineering. Industry is concentrated mainly in Catford, Lewisham, Lee and Deptford.

The Borough is densely populated, but well provided with open spaces. Housing estates owned by the Greater London Council are at Downham and Bellingham, and estates owned by the Lewisham Borough Council are in the Grove Park, Bellingham and Forest Hill areas. Rebuilding in the Deptford area is mainly being undertaken by the Lewisham Borough Council in co-operation with the Greater London Council. The main building programme in Deptford at present is the new estate by the Thames.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN AREA

Hospitals

There are six hospitals within the area of the Borough, but many patients are referred to others for various reasons. The following is a list of those to which the majority of Borough patients normally attend.

Lewisham, Lewisham High Street, S.E.13	Lewisham Group Hospital Management Committee
Grove Park, Marvels Lane, S.E.12	"
Hither Green, Hither Green Lane, S.E.13	"
St. John's, Morden Hill, S.E.13	"
New Cross General, Avonley Road, S.E.14	Board of Governors of Guy's Hospital
Children's Hospital, Sydenham, S.E.26	Bromley Group Hospital Management Committee
Miller Wing, Greenwich High Road, S.E.13	Greenwich District Hospital,
St. Alfege's Wing, Vanbrugh Hill, S.E.10	Greenwich and Deptford Group Hospital Management Committee
Brook General, Shooters Hill Road, S.E.18	Woolwich Group Hospital Management Committee
The London Teaching Hospitals	

The Psychiatric hospitals that serve this area are Bexley (Bexley Group Hospital Management Committee), Cane Hill (Cane Hill Group Hospital Management Committee), and Darenth Park (Darenth and Stone Group Hospital Management Committee) which is the main centre for mental subnormality.

General Practitioners

There are 133 general practitioners serving patients in Lewisham. The numbers serving broad areas of the Borough are:

Bellingham, Catford, Lewisham, Hither Green, 43
Sydenham, Forest Hill, Brockley, 37.
Deptford, 27.
Blackheath, Lee, Grove Park, Downham, 26.

Chest Clinics

Deptford Chest Clinic, Harton Street, S.E.8.
Lewisham Chest Clinic, 1 Blagdon Road, S.E.13.

Venereal Diseases Clinics

King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, S.E.5.
Miller General Wing, Greenwich District Hospital, S.E.10
St. John's Hospital, Morden Hill, S.E.13
Dreadnought Seamen's Hospital Greenwich, S.E.10

HEALTH CENTRES AND CLINICS: Maternal and Child Health, and School Health

<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Type of Clinic</i>
Amersham Road, Amersham Road, S.E.14	Ante-Natal, Child Health, Child Development, Immunisation, Mothercraft, Ancillary Food Sales, Special Advisory, Cytology, Special Investigation, Family Planning
Bellingham, Community Centre, Bellingham Green, S.E.6	Child Health, Immunisation, Ancillary Food Sales
Boundfield Road, Community Centre, S.E.6	Child Health, Immunisation, Ancillary Food Sales, Cytology, Child Development, Health Education
Central Lewisham, 410 Lewisham High Street, S.E.13	Ante-Natal, Relaxation Classes, Child Health, Immunisation, Mothercraft, Family Planning, Ancillary Food Sales, Cytology, Occasional Crèche, Special Advisory, Language Classes
Deptford S.T.C., Reginald Square, S.E.8	Ear, nose and throat, vision, orthoptics, minor ailments, speech therapy
Downham, 24 Churchdown, Downham, Kent	Ante-Natal, Child Health, Child Development, Immunisation, Mothercraft, Family Planning, Relaxation, Ancillary Food Sales, Minor Ailments, Vision, Speech Therapy, Special Investigation
Flower House, 1 Winnet House, Beckenham Hill Road, S.E.6	Ante-Natal, Child Health, Immunisation, Mothercraft, Relaxation, Family Planning, Ancillary Food Sales, Child Development, Health Education
Forest Hill, St. Saviour's Church Hall, Brockley Rise, S.E.23	Child Health, Immunisation, Ancillary Food Sales
Grove Park, Methodist Church Hall, Burnt Ash Hill, S.E.12	Child Health, Immunisation, Ancillary Food Sales
Heathside, Merton Place, S.E.10	Child Health, Immunisation, Ancillary Food Sales, Home Making
Hither Green, Methodist Church Hall, 53 Torridon Road, S.E.6	Child Health, Immunisation, Ancillary Food Sales
Kingswear Dartmouth Road, S.E.23	Ante-Natal, Child Health, Immunisation, Mothercraft, Family Planning, Occasional Crèche, Ancillary Food Sales, Cytology, Mental Health, Minor Ailments, Health Education
Lee and Blackheath, Methodist Church Hall, Lee High Road, S.E.12	Child Health, Immunisation, Ancillary Food Sales
Lewisham S.T.C. 78 Lewisham Park, S.E.13	Vision, minor ailments, special investigation, audiology
Lewisham Hospital, S.E.13	Auditory training unit, orthoptics, hearing investigation, special investigation.
Lind Oxestalls Road, S.E.8	Child Health, Child Development, Ancillary Food Sales
Samuel Pepys School, Wallbutton Road, S.E.	Cytology
Speedwell Speedwell Street, S.E.8	Minor ailments
St. Mary's St. Mary's Church Hall, Ladywell Road, S.E.13	Ante-Natal, Child Health, Child Development, Immunisation, Special Investigation Family Planning
Spalding House, 2 Spalding House, Honor Oak Estate, S.E.4	Child Health, Ancillary Food Sales
Sydenham S.T.C., Adamsrill School, Lower Sydenham, S.E.26	Ante-Natal, Child Health, Immunisation, Family Planning, Ancillary Food Sales, Vision, Minor ailments, Mothercraft
Children's Hospital, S.E.26	Minor ailments
	Special investigation

Sydenham
London City Central Mission,
Wells Park Road, S.E.26

Tranquil Vale,
All Saints' Hall,
Tranquil Vale, S.E.3

Trewsbury Road,
All Saints' Parish Church Hall,
Trewsbury Road, S.E.26

Day Nurseries

Health Centre, Amersham Road, S.E.14
41 Rushey Green, S.E.6.
67 Perry Rise, S.E.23

Dental Surgeries

S.T.C. 78 Lewisham Park, S.E.13
S.T.C. Downham Health Centre, Churchdown, Downham
S.T.C. Reginald Square, S.E.8
School for Dental Auxiliaries, New Cross, S.E.14
S.T.C. Sedgehill School, Sedgehill Road, S.E.6

Chiropody Clinics

Amersham Road, Health Centre, S.E.14
Kingswear, Dartmouth Road, S.E.23
28 Sangley Road, S.E.6

Home Help (Area Offices)

Deptford Town Hall, S.E.14
41 Rushey Green, S.E.6
266 Kirkdale, S.E.26
354 Baring Road, S.E.12

Day Rehabilitation Centres (Mental Health)

Cambridge Day Centre, Burnt Ash Hill, S.E.12
New Cross Day Centre, Goodwood Road, S.E.14

Training Centres (Mental Health)

69 Perry Rise, S.E.23
Deptford Central Methodist Mission, Creek Road, S.E.8
Methodist Church Hall, Kitto Road, S.E.14

Hostel Accommodation (Mental Health)

Honor Lea, 103/117 Brockley Rise, S.E.23

Cleansing and Disinfecting Stations

Wearside Road, S.E.13
Speedwell Street, S.E.8

Mortuaries

Ladywell Road, S.E.13
Watson Street, S.E.8

Child Health, Immunisation, Ancillary Food Sales

Ante-Natal, Child Health, Immunisation, Occasional
Crèche

Child Health, Immunisation, Mothercraft, Relaxation,
Health Education

VITAL STATISTICS

Area of the borough 8,579 acres.

Population

Census 1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	290,582
Estimate of Registrar General at midyear 1968	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	281,140

Rateable Value

Rateable value of the borough at April 1, 1968	...	...	...	...	...	...	£12,329,092
Estimated net product of a penny rate 1968/9	...	...	...	...	...	...	£48,500
Estimated number of separately assessed dwellings at April, 1 1968	...	...	...	...	...	...	87,997

Births

						<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	2,231	2,121	4,352
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	347	330	677
Totals	...	...	...	...	...	2,578	2,451	5,029
Crude birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.9
Adjusted birth rate for comparative purposes (Area comparability factor=0.96)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.2
Ratio of adjusted birth rate to national rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.02

Stillbirths

Total (32 males and 20 females)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths (males 12.3, females 8.1)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.2

Deaths

Total (1,785 males, 1,648 females)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,433
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.2
Adjusted death rate (area comparability factor=0.96)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.7
Ratio of adjusted death rate to national rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.98

Infant mortality

Infant deaths (all deaths of liveborn children under one year)								
						<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	38	36	74
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	12	8	20
Totals	...	...	...	...	...	50	44	94
Death rate of all infants per 1000 livebirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.7
Death rate of legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate livebirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.0
Death rate of illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate livebirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29.5
Death rate of male infants per 1000 male livebirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.4
Death rate of female infants per 1000 female livebirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.9
Neonatal deaths (under 4 weeks of age) (34 males, 30 females)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
Males per 1000 male livebirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.2
Females per 1000 female livebirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.2
All infants per 1000 livebirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.7
Early neonatal deaths (under 1 week of age) (33 males, 28 females)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
Males per 1000 male livebirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.8
Females per 1000 female livebirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.4
All infants per 1000 livebirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.1
Perinatal mortality (deaths under 1 week plus stillbirths) (65 males, 48 females)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
Males per 1000 live and still male births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24.9
Females per 1000 live and still female births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.4
All infants per 1000 live and stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.2
Reproductive wastage (stillbirths plus all infant deaths)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	146
Males per 1000 live and still male births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31.4
Females per 1000 live and still female births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25.9
All infants per 1000 live and stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28.7

Maternal deaths

Maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Maternal mortality rate per 1000 live and stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.8

Table 1 TOTAL DEATHS BY CAUSE AND AGE REGISTERED DURING 1967

Cause of Death			Sex	All Under 4 wks			Age in years										
				Ages 4 wks under 1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75+				
Total all causes	...	...	M	1,785	34	16	9	10	15	16	37	117	349	521	661
			F	1,648	30	14	10	3	9	12	20	78	155	330	987		
B4 Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases...	...	...	M	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
			F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
B5 Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	...	...	M	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	8	1
			F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—		
B6 Other Tuberculosis, including late effects	...	...	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
			F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
B17 Syphilis and its sequelae	...	...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
			F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
B18 Other Infective and Parasitic diseases	...	...	M	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
			F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	...	...	M	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	9	14	4
			F	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	8	18		
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm —Lung, Bronchus	...	...	M	171	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	20	57	56	36
			F	43	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	9	11	16		
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm —Breast	...	...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
			F	53	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	13	11	12	16		
B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm —Uterus	...	...	F	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	6	5
B19(5) Leukaemia	...	...	M	9	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	3	1
			F	9	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	3	3		
B19(6) Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	...	...	M	177	—	—	—	1	3	3	6	13	48	57	46
			F	148	—	—	—	—	3	1	4	15	26	41	58		
B20 Benign and unspecified Neoplasms	...	...	M	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
			F	6	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	—		
B21 Diabetes Mellitus	...	...	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2
			F	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	8	8		
B46(1) Other Endocrine etc. diseases	...	...	M	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
			F	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2		
B23 Anaemias	...	...	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
			F	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2		
B46(3) Mental Disorders	...	...	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
			F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6		
B24 Meningitis	...	...	M	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
			F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—		
B46(4) Other diseases of Nervous System, etc.	...	...	M	16	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	3	5	5
			F	22	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	3	3	2	11		
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	...	...	M	17	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	4	7	2
			F	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	9	2	9		
B27 Hypersensitive disease	...	...	M	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	6	10	10
			F	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	24		
B28 Ischaemic heart disease	...	...	M	459	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	34	115	130	171
			F	368	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	35	89	237		
B29 Other forms of Heart disease	...	...	M	55	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	8	17	27
			F	78	—	1	1	—	1	2	1	2	3	11	56		
B30 Cerebrovascular disease	...	...	M	151	—	—	—	—	1	1	6	6	19	36	82
			F	275	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	7	15	51	199		
B46(5) Other diseases of Circulatory system	...	...	M	63	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	5	10	17	26
			F	85	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	18	63		
B31 Influenza	...	...	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
			F	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6		
B32 Pneumonia	...	...	M	135	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	7	36	87
			F	149	—	4	1	1	—	—	—	3	3	22	115		
B33(1) Bronchitis and Emphysema	...	...	M	217	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	31	79	101
			F	73	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	3	12	51		
B33(2) Asthma	...	...	M	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
			F	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	1		
B46(6) Other diseases of Respiratory System	...	...	M	23	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	4	11
			F	29	1	3	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	4	16		
B34 Peptic Ulcer	...	...	M	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	6	10
			F	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	5		
B35 Appendicitis	...	...	M	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
			F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—		
B36 Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	...	...	M	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	4
			F	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5		
B37 Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
			F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—		
B46(7) Other diseases of Digestive System	...	...	M	17	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	6	4	4
			F	15	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	3	7		
B38 Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
			F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1		
B39 Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	M	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	6
B46(8) Other diseases, Genito-Urinary System	...	...	M	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	5	8
			F	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3	13		
B40 Abortion	...	...	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
B41 Other Complications of Pregnancy, etc.	...	...	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
B46(9) Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	...	...	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
			F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
B46(10) Diseases of Musculo-skeletal System	...	...	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
			F	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7		
B42 Congenital Anomalies	...	...	M	10	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
			F	13	8	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
B43 Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	...	...	M	16	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
			F	10	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
B44 Other causes of perinatal Mortality	...	...	M	9	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
			F	9	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
B45 Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	...	...	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
			F	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4		
BE47 Motor Vehicle accidents	...	...	M	15	—	—	1	3	3	3	—	2	—	2	1
			F	8	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	4		
BE48 All other accidents	...	...	M	25	—	2	4	1	3	1	2	2	4	2	4
			F	23	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	15		
BE49 Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	...	...	M	22	—	—	—	—	4	3	2	4	2	4	3
			F	11	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	5	1	—		
BE50 All other external causes	...	...	M	4	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
			F	4	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—		

HEART DISEASE

The percentage of cardiovascular and atherosclerotic disease as a group has not varied much during the past ten years as table 2 shows. This group of deaths, taken as a single cause, rank above any other single cause of death among the population.

Table 2
HEART AND CIRCULATION MORTALITY

Year	Deaths from			Total heart & circulation (all ages)	Age group 45-65		Total deaths in borough	Percentage		
	Coronary diseases	Other heart diseases	Other circulatory diseases		Total	Coronary diseases		(e) of (h)	(f) of (h)	(g) of (h)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)
1959	599	485	155	1,239	215	142	3,448	36	6.2	4.1
1960	496	423	147	1,066	212	143	3,280	32	6.5	4.3
1961	609	516	153	1,278	236	162	3,380	38	7.0	4.8
1962	657	417	145	1,219	256	181	3,376	36	7.6	5.4
1963	707	400	142	1,249	245	174	3,404	37	7.2	5.1
1964	654	301	142	1,097	235	166	3,317	33	7.1	5.0
1965	740	304	150	1,194	268	206	3,436	35	7.8	6.0
1966	731	303	135	1,169	257	188	3,406	34	7.5	5.5
1967	750	246	158	1,154	262	201	3,340	35	7.8	6.0
1968	827	234	148	1,209	250	190	3,433	35	7.3	5.6

LUNG CANCER

The Health Education team continued with all the methods at their disposal to discourage cigarette smoking, but it is an uphill battle which will go on without let-up until lung cancer ceases to be of any significance as a cause of death.

Table 3
LUNG CANCER

Year	MALE			FEMALE		
	All cancer deaths	Lung cancer deaths	(c) as % of (b)	All cancer deaths	Lung cancer deaths	(f) as % of (e)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
1959	401	167	42	314	28	9
1960	412	189	46	323	22	7
1961	373	157	42	276	19	7
1962	408	186	46	286	24	8
1963	351	163	46	296	27	9
1964	422	201	48	304	34	11
1965	428	204	48	313	31	10
1966	403	169	42	308	36	12
1967	435	196	45	328	42	13
1968	390	171	44	301	43	14

LOCAL SICKNESS

The Regional Controller of the Ministry of Social Security sends a weekly return indicating 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 mainly by three offices, "Lewisham", "Downham", and "Deptford", and a fair representation of the trend of sickness within the borough can be given by quoting the combined figures for these three.

Table 4
MORBIDITY SHOWN IN INSURANCE CERTIFICATES

<i>Weekly average for period ending</i>						1967	1968
January 30	...	...	...	...	...	1,444	2,368
February 27	...	...	...	...	...	1,310	1,416
March 26	...	...	...	...	...	1,211	1,481
April 23	...	...	...	...	...	1,076	1,014
May 21	...	...	...	...	...	1,142	1,008
June 18	...	...	...	...	...	965	947
July 16	...	...	...	...	...	922	850
August 13	...	...	...	...	...	926	858
September 10...	...	...	...	...	...	900	911
October 8	...	...	...	...	...	1,092	1,112
November 5	...	...	...	...	...	1,200	1,250
December 3	...	...	...	...	...	1,301	1,044
December 31	...	...	...	...	...	1,491	1,026
Weekly average for the year 1967						...	1,163
" " " " " 1968						...	1,195

Table 5
GENERAL STATISTICS FROM 1950

Year	Population	Death rate *	% dying under age 45	% dying under age 65	Birth rate *	Maternal Death rate †	Still-birth rate †	Infant mortality rate **	Pulmonary Tuber- culosis	
									Notif. rate ††	Death rate ††
1950	304,880	10.9	11.5	35.5	15.6	0.8	15.6	26.8	197	30
1951	303,240	11.6	9.9	33.6	15.0	0.6	14.5	23.9	148	35
1952	303,010	11.5	9.9	32.1	14.8	0.2	16.5	25.2	132	20
1953	300,830	11.6	8.7	30.2	14.6	0.2	21.7	23.5	151	23
1954	298,020	10.5	8.0	31.4	14.4	0.2	16.1	19.6	129	19
1955	296,290	11.1	7.1	28.4	14.1	0.9	18.8	15.6	141	12
1956	293,940	11.8	7.0	28.9	14.6	0.5	18.8	20.5	101	15
1957	291,870	11.3	7.6	31.2	14.8	0.5	18.4	15.3	124	15
1958	291,220	11.2	8.4	29.7	15.2	0.2	18.0	25.5	108	10
1959	290,660	11.9	7.7	29.5	16.2	0.8	19.4	18.5	74	8
1960	290,630	11.3	8.8	30.1	16.8	0.2	18.3	21.7	68	6
1961	289,130	11.7	7.4	28.5	17.7	0.2	18.8	20.6	73	8
1962	291,150	11.6	8.0	30.6	18.9	0.5	13.3	18.6	56	9
1963	291,180	11.7	8.7	31.2	19.3	0.4	15.2	23.5	66	8
1964	291,670	11.4	8.9	31.1	19.9	0.5	11.7	22.9	64	2
1965	289,560	11.9	9.3	31.6	20.0	0.7	14.0	23.3	54	6
1966	289,130	11.8	8.6	30.2	19.2	0.2	15.1	21.6	47	5
1967	289,700	11.5	6.7	27.5	18.3	0.2	11.9	16.2	36	4
1968	281,140	12.2	6.8	27.2	17.9	0.8	10.2	18.7	43	6

* Per 1,000 population.

† per 1,000 Registered Live and Still Births

** Per 1,000 Registered livebirths

†† Per 100,000 population

HEALTH CENTRES

Plans were approved by the former Ministry of Health for the Council's first comprehensive health centre in Stanstead Road/Brockly Rise and, following a public enquiry, the Minister of Housing and Local Government granted planning permission for this centre. Detailed planning proceeded throughout the year for this centre which it is hoped will open early in 1971. The centre will provide consulting suites for six general practitioners, a full range of local health authority services including chiropody and family planning, two local authority dental surgeries and one general dental service surgery, an Inner London Education Authority child guidance clinic, a home help office and office accommodation for nursing and midwifery staff.

There was a marked improvement during the year in the standard of premises used for maternal and child health. The Kingswear Health Centre, is purpose built with three consulting rooms, health education area, treatment centre, chiropody clinic and office accommodation for health visitors, occupying the ground floor of a block of flats in Dartmouth Road, Forest Hill, opened in August. Services previously provided in very unsatisfactory accommodation in Louise House nearby were transferred to this centre and the centre programme has since been expanded. A similar but smaller ground floor purpose built centre off Blackheath Hill, named the Heathside Centre, opened later in the year and services which had been provided in a prefabricated building were transferred to the new centre.

Premises in Speedwell Street, Deptford, formerly used to provide residential nursing accommodation with some clinic work were adapted during the year and a new centre, named the Speedwell Health Centre opened there in December. With the opening of this centre it was possible to transfer services and staff from the overcrowded Amersham Road Centre.

A purpose built centre in Oxestalls Road, S.E.8, forming part of the Royal Victoria Yard Development scheme was handed over to the Council by the Greater London Council in December and equipping of this centre, named the Lind Health Centre, was proceeding at the end of the year in anticipation of opening early in 1969.

Weekly child health sessions held in a Tenant's Club-room in Sydenham Hill which was unsatisfactory both from the accommodation and location point of view were transferred to the London City Mission Hall in Wells Park Road, Sydenham, which is proving much more suitable,

Much needed improvements were carried out at certain existing centres. A rearrangement of rooms used by staff at the Central Lewisham Centre enabled an additional room to be brought into use for health visitor interviewing and some satisfactory crèche accommodation. Improved office accommodation was provided for health visiting staff at the Spalding House and Trewsbury Road Centres, and extra accommodation was provided at the Grove Park Centre to enable health visitors to be based there. Refrigerators are now held at all centres.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY

Valerie J. Buckingham, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D.
(Midwifery and District Nursing)

During the year a changing pattern of patient care in the Domiciliary Midwifery service has become evident with the fall in domiciliary confinements.

The birth rate dropped only 0.3% but there was a swing in favour of Planned Early Discharge from hospital, particularly during the second half of the year.

Domiciliary confinements were:

January to June — 530 = 20.3% of total births

July to December—319 = 10.8% of total births

thus giving an overall domiciliary confinement rate of 16.4% for the year. The increased popularity of the *Planned Early Discharge Scheme* is evident; there were 1,361 early discharges = 26.4% of total births as against 1,075 in the previous year.

It is interesting to note that the domiciliary midwives nursed 43% of all patients delivered within the Borough; at present 20 full-time and 2 part-time midwives are employed.

In addition to the 849 patients confined in their own homes a further 252 patients were booked for domiciliary confinement but were subsequently delivered in hospital.

Good comprehensive ante-natal care given by the midwives and general practitioners resulted in 180 patients being transferred to the care of a consultant obstetrician for the following reasons:

Post maturity—60 patients

Anti-partum haemorrhage—24 patients

Pre-eclampsia—17 patients

Abnormal presentations—16 patients

Anaemia—7 patients

Rhesus incompatibility—3 patients

Of the 72 patients who were admitted to hospital because of complications occurring during labour the following are of interest:

Primary uterine inertia—23 patients

Delay in the second stage—17 patients

Foetal distress—10 patients

Abnormal presentation—8 patients

Ante-partum haemorrhage—4 patients

The Emergency Obstetric Unit

This unit, operating from Lewisham Hospital, was called out on 15 occasions.

Premature Babies

25 premature babies were born at home; of this number 6 were transferred to hospital while 19 were nursed at home.

Dual Care Ante-Natal Scheme

During the year general practitioner obstetricians within the Borough have undertaken ante-natal care for their patients who are booked for confinement in Lewisham Hospital. About 30 general practitioner obstetricians are in this scheme and 14 of these doctors also attend the midwives ante-natal clinics. Thus where possible the patient attends the clinic where she can be seen by the doctor and the midwife.

Attendances at ante-natal clinics amounted to 8,991 a decline on the previous year, but the number of ante-natal visits made to the patient's own home (11,176) remained constant.

Post-natal visits made by the midwives totalled 22,248.

Pupil Midwife Training

The bi-annual inspection of the midwifery training programme by the Central Midwives Board took place in January and this was considered entirely satisfactory.

With the anticipated decline in domiciliary confinements, a course of community care and social services was designed and submitted for consideration and subsequently approved.

It is now acceptable for each pupil midwife to deliver six instead of ten patients in their own homes. During the year 53 pupil midwives completed the period of district experience and a further 12 were in training at the end of the year. Fifteen midwives are approved by the Central Midwives Board as teachers.

Staff Training

The Central Midwives Board have extended the practice of the domiciliary midwife to include a *procedure of infiltration of the perineum* prior to an episiotomy. It was necessary to give some in-service training on the subject and a course was arranged with the Maternity department at Lewisham Hospital. Each midwife spent 3 days in hospital to acquire practical experience and a lecture-demonstration was given by Mr. A. L. Gunn, F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G.

Closer supervision of the rhesus negative patients and a high incidence of anaemia have resulted in more frequent blood examinations.

To facilitate the acquiring of these specimens, approval was obtained for the midwives to be instructed in *venu puncture*.

In co-operation with the Pathological Laboratory at Lewisham Hospital each midwife spent half a day in the laboratory taking blood specimens under supervision.

The *incubation of babies* who fail to breath satisfactorily at birth has been added to the midwives practice. A lecture was given on the subject and a demonstration of the technique, but practical experience would be essential to acquire any degree of skill and this is to be arranged.

Statutory Refresher Courses

During the year 2 midwives attended refresher courses as required by the Central Midwives Board.

Maternal Deaths

Under the procedure laid down by the Ministry of Health for the confidential enquiry into maternal deaths, three maternal deaths were investigated.

DISTRICT NURSING

*Valerie J. Buckingham, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D.
(Midwifery and District Nursing)*

The demand for the services of the district nurses continued during the year with referral from hospitals, family doctors and the general public, which resulted in an increase of 660 patients and 11,013 visits.

Table 6

<i>Patients and visits</i>						
Total number of patients	...	...	...	...	...	4,626
Total number of visits	...	...	...	...	...	164,484
Average number of visits to each patient	...	...	...	...	...	36

The number of children under 5 years of age, treated by the district nurses rose from 143 in 1967 to 363 in 1968. The number of visits to this group amounted to 1,052 making an average of three visits to each child. This is significant as the number of very sick children nursed at home is small, while the majority of children are referred from the hospitals' casualty departments for the removal of sutures. This is a service very much appreciated by the mothers who are saved a journey to the hospital and the possibility of a long wait as well as caring for a small frightened child. In the security of the home the children co-operate very well.

The patients in the age group 65 years and over declined by 678 to 2,108 (2,786 in 1967); however an increased number of visits were made: 137,273 (125,590 in 1967). Very often more than a single daily visit is required for many of these patients and for the gravely ill two or three visits are made daily.

Table 7

<i>District Nurses employed (full time equivalents)</i>						
State Registered Nurses—female	...	...	...	...	...	48
State Registered Nurses—male	...	...	...	...	...	11
State Enrolled Nurses—female	...	...	...	...	...	7
						66

Eight members of the staff left during the year but there was no difficulty in filling the vacancies.

Liaison Schemes with General Practitioners

At the beginning of the year five district nursing sisters and one male charge nurse worked for two afternoons each week in doctors' surgeries. The advantages of these liaison schemes to the doctors and the sisters encouraged an expansion of the service and now 12 nursing sisters and one male charge nurse are involved serving 30 doctors.

Bathing of Elderly People

Many elderly people who are not sick but are incapacitated due to age are bathed weekly by bathing attendants. During the year 8,568 baths were carried out (2,268 in 1967) by one male and five attendants. District nursing sisters supervised this work so that immediate assistance may be given should any patient require nursing care.

Staff Training

It is the aim that each member of the staff holds a District Nursing Certificate.

During the year 10 state registered nurses were successful in obtaining the National Certificate of District Nursing.

State enrolled nurses take the District Nursing assessment of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing. Six members of the staff prepared for this assessment and were subsequently successful.

To foster interest and improve the service offered by the bathing attendants a short course of instruction of one day a week for four weeks was organised. The six members of the staff attended and they were instructed in hygiene, methods of nursing care, the technique of lifting and diabetes. A comprehensive picture of the services of the local authority were also given, All appreciated the course and felt better prepared for the task they were undertaking.

Refresher Courses

Six district nursing sisters attended refresher courses organised by the Queen's Institute of District Nursing.

Two senior district nursing sisters attended a special Practical Workers Instructors course.

Integrated Courses

Integrated nursing training arranged by King's College hospital trains nursing students for the State Register, the Health Visitors Certificate and a ten weeks course of district nursing. This latter course does not at present include a District Nursing certificate but the students can sit for the District Nursing examination after a further period of training following the completion of their contract with King's College Hospital.

Three students spent 3 weeks gaining district experience in their second year and a further three students spent two weeks with the district nurses in their first year of integrated training.

Observation Visits

During the year 82 persons visited the patients in their own homes with the district nurses. They were:—

- 53 Pupil Midwives
- 13 Hospital Student Nurses
- 11 Medical Students
- 4 Occupational Therapy Students
- 1 Warden

Special Lectures

District nurses attended conferences and lectures of special interest to their work; these included "Diets for the Elderly", "Crime Prevention and the Elderly" and "Resuscitation and External Heart Massage". One district nursing sister attended the two-day Conference of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

Drugs and Their Effects

This was the subject of a special lecture requested by the district nursing staff as many of the drugs in current usage were new to them. They asked for an opportunity to discuss some of the apparent side effects of these preparations. Dr. J. S. Staffurth, M.D., F.R.C.P., Clinical Tutor at Lewisham Hospital gave an excellent lecture which provoked many questions and brought everyone up to date.

Home Bathing Attendants

This service was started in Lewisham in December 1962 with the employment of a woman to help with domiciliary bathing and cleansing to work primarily under the direction and supervision of the district nurses. During this first year the number of cleansings and bathings carried out was 1,286. It became clear that the demand for such help was very great, and during the past five years the service has continually expanded to the extent that during 1968, some 10,571 cleansings and bathings were carried out by the six bathing attendants employed

In addition some 1,272 home bathings were carried out by staff of the cleansing stations.

It is envisaged that during 1969 the home bathing service provided by the staff of the cleansing stations and the home bathing attendants will be integrated under the Nursing Officer (Midwifery and District Nursing).

HEALTH VISITING

*Dorothy M. Coe., S.R.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., H.V., C. & G.,
Technical Teachers' Certificate, Diploma in Social Studies,
Borough (Maternal and Child Health and School Health) Nursing Officer*

During the year the number of health visitors on the establishment was maintained and it was possible to expand the services to the public. Apart from the usual advice on feeding, general care, and the promotion of health within the family circle, stycar hearing testing is done in the home. This has the advantage of supervising the developmental progress of children who do not attend infant health clinics or well baby clinics in surgeries. It is accepted that the parents of many children at social risk do not avail themselves of the services available to them and in view of this the services need to be taken to them. During the interviews with the mother in the home the health visitors are able to detect early symptoms of retardation or defect, and will when necessary refer the child to the general practitioner or hospital for further investigation.

Detection of symptoms of 'battered baby' is often possible when visiting. Follow-up visits of patients referred by consultants or medical social workers are carried out by the health visitors who are able to assess the social needs of the patient and family and bring in the services appropriate to the need, e.g. home help, district nurse etc. Although this refers to patients in all age groups, old people not in need of visits on medical grounds are referred to geriatric social workers.

Mothers clubs, crèche sessions and talks on subjects of interest are very popular in the health centres.

The increased liaison with general medical practitioners has proved to be of value in promoting a greater understanding of the needs of people and in forming good relationships between the family doctor and the staff of the health department. General practitioners have described the service as being extremely valuable.

The stimulation to staff and public by providing new and improved services in the Kingswear and Speedwell health centres has been striking, and quickly established a full and valuable service for the particular areas.

The numbers of infant health and educational sessions have been expanded.

Refresher courses and in service courses and lectures on a number of subjects have been arranged for the health visitors. This is a valuable provision which keeps the nurse up to date with new projects and attitudes.

Health visitors have formed strong links with the local hospital specialist services, and attend outpatient clinics dealing with ante-natal (social needs), paediatric, diabetic and spinabifida, venereal disease patients, reporting to the consultants details of the home conditions and possible progress of the patient while cared for in the home. This can be of tremendous help to the consultant in deciding the action to be taken for each individual patient.

Child minding and play groups have increased in number during the year. Health visitors are being more and more involved in the regular visiting and regularly reporting on the individual cases, bringing to the notice of central staff the need for further investigation into unsatisfactory conditions. A complete list of all minders, private day nurseries and play groups is available at central office.

Talks and lectures have been undertaken by health visitors on a variety of subjects in schools, women's clubs, geriatric clubs, shops and laundries with large female staffs.

Many visitors from this country and abroad have been received in the centres and had discussions relating to the services offered to the Lewisham public. Child care officers, social workers and students studying social services receive talks, visits and discussions, centrally by the nursing officers each term. Lectures dealing with the social aspects of illness are given to third year nurses in King's College Hospital and Lewisham Hospital groups. Visits of observation to all health premises are

arranged. This is an essential part of the S.R.N. syllabus; approximately 300 hospital nurses visit each year. 8 student health visitors sponsored by the Council are receiving training and will join the health visitor staff in September 1969 at the end of their one year course. Six newly trained health visitors trained in Lewisham have now joined the staff.

In addition, students undergoing the integrated nurse training course receive practical experience in the Borough. These students who have at least 2 subjects in G.C.E. 'A' level are accepted for this joint training. The S.R.N. part is taken at King's College Hospital in conjunction with Croydon College. We now have students in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year of training. At the end of the 4 years the nurse is qualified in general nursing, midwifery and health visiting, and can choose to work in any of these spheres.

Table 8
VISITS TO HOMES

Children born in 1968	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,716
" " 1967	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,210
" " 1963-66	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,171
Total							26,097
Persons aged 65 or over	...	...	...	...	...	...	668
Mentally disordered persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	189
Persons, excluding maternity cases, discharged from hospital (other than mental hospitals)	...	...	...	...	...	...	93
Infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Tuberculous households visited by tuberculosis visitors (including 55 visits by district health visitors)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,906
Other visits (special reports on overcrowding, housing for M.O.H.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	215
Grand Total							29,223

CERVICAL CYTOLOGY

Monthly sessions continued throughout the year at the Flower House and fortnightly sessions at Boundfield Road health centres, and extra weekly sessions were introduced at the Amersham Road, Central Lewisham, and Kingswear centres.

In addition, stores and other work places where large numbers of female staff are employed were approached with a view to arranging special sessions for their staff. An encouraging response was received and a number of special sessions were arranged.

Despite the initial interest in cervical cytology the number of women coming forward for examination at the Council's centres was disappointing. A better response is received when general practitioners make a direct approach to their patients suggesting examination but the general practitioners are often inhibited from making such an approach because of the amount of clerical work involved in identifying the women needing the test from the practice records, writing to them inviting them to special sessions and making arrangements for the sessions.

The Health Committee considered the problem in October and authorised the Health Department's co-operation in a suitable scheme to assist general practitioners, either by providing a doctor, clinic nurse and clerk to undertake the whole procedure on their behalf with the general practitioners merely signing the letters, or by carrying out the preliminary work with the general practitioners conducting the clinical work themselves either in their surgeries or in the Health Department premises. Consultations with the appropriate authorities on the setting up of an acceptable scheme were in progress at the end of the year.

The table below summarises the findings from all the Council's centres for the year:

Table 9

Total attendances	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,002
Number of cases referred to G.P. or hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	408
Number of smears found positive for malignancy	...	...	...	...	...	...	9

DAY NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS

Health Department Day Nurseries

The three day nurseries were fully occupied throughout the year and the heavy demand for places persisted. Staffing has been maintained at a high standard.

Each application for a nursery place is covered by a report from the health visitor giving details of the need for admission and a note of the family conditions. All the children accepted in the nurseries were within the priority classes for admission.

Some children are referred on medical advice for retarded development due to unsatisfactory home conditions or lack of stimulation in the home. Many children have language difficulties when admitted but they soon respond to the close contact of other children and the general care provided.

The early care unit in the Shaftesbury House nursery (15 severely mentally sub-normal children) continued to provide a valuable service both by encouraging and assisting the development of these very backward children and by giving their mothers respite during the day. This is especially important for the mother who has more than one handicapped child, or has several young children to care for.

The long waiting list for places emphasises the need for additional nurseries. Planning continued during the year for the provision of two extra nurseries on identified sites in Lee and Honor Oak and the provision of two further nurseries in the second half of the Health Department's 10-year development programme was approved by the Council.

Student nursery nurses received training in the day nurseries and the Brixton and Southwark Colleges of Further Education. A satisfactory exchange arrangement with students from the I.L.E.A. is in force and much appreciated particularly in view of the extension of the nursery nurse certificate syllabus to cover the care of children up to the age of seven years (previously five years). This arrangement will enable the students to work in nursery classes and schools as well as in day and residential nurseries. The Shaftesbury House day nursery has now been formally recognised as a training nursery.

The following table shows the number of admissions and discharges for the three day nurseries during the year:—

Table 10

<i>Day Nursery</i>	<i>Admissions</i>	<i>Discharges</i>
Amersham Road	79	79
Rushey Green	87	90
Shaftesbury House	49	46

A number of improvements to the premises of the nurseries were effected during the year. At Shaftesbury House new floor coverings and sanitary facilities were improved. The kitchen was modernised and a french window was provided for the playroom to give direct access to the garden. At Rushey Green, new floor coverings brightened up the rooms considerably and a new washing machine was provided. A new covered pram shed has proved most valuable. Food mixers have been provided for all three nurseries.

Private Day Nurseries & Child-Minders

Thirteen private nurseries or play groups were registered by the Council under the Nurseries & Child-Minders Regulation Act, 1948 during the year. At the end of the year there were 39 registered nurseries or groups authorised to provide whole or part day care for up to 1,013 children.

Section 60 of the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968, which came into force on 1st November extended the scope of the Nurseries & Child-Minders Regulation Act and the Council's powers and responsibilities thereunder. It became a requirement for women minding children other than relatives for reward for two hours or more in any day to be registered, although a three-months period of grace before unregistered minding of one or two children became an offence. At the end of the year there were 66 statutorily registered minders of more than two children and arrangements were in hand for the registration of some 150 other women who had previously been registered as voluntary minders of one or two children.

To encourage the development of day care services following the receipt of Ministry of Health Circular 37/68 the Health Committee approved the placing of priority group children with approved private nurseries or child minders with payment of the fees by the Council in necessitous cases and recovery of an assessed charge from the parents. The giving of financial assistance to nurseries or play groups prepared to accept priority group children was also approved and active consideration was being given at the end of the year to the formulation of a suitable scheme. To help stimulate the siting of new nurseries and groups and deal with other work resulting from the implementation of the suggestions contained in the Ministry Circular and the Council's increased responsibilities under the Nurseries & Child-Minders Regulation Act additional central staff, including an extra Assistant Nursing Officer and an Organiser of Play Groups and Child-Minders, were authorised.

CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS

Figures are supplied to the Registrar-General of all congenital malformations recorded at birth. During the year the scheme was extended to congenital malformations not reported at birth but observed within the child's first year. The co-operation of hospitals and general practitioners in this arrangement is, of course, essential.

The Registrar-General's collation of these returns, which is published periodically, enables changes in the national and regional patterns to be detected. Children are not identified to the Registrar-General individually, but all such children are considered for placing on the Health Department's register of handicapped and those at risk of becoming handicapped. An intensive follow-up is now a routine procedure.

During the year a total of 144 malformation were reported. This figure represents 2.9% of total live births in the Borough.

Table 11

Congenital malformations reported

0.1	Anencephalus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
0.4	Hydrocephalus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
0.8	Spina Bifida	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
	Total: Central Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
1.8	Accessory auricle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Total: Ear and Eye	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
2.1	Cleft lip	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
2.2	Cleft palate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
2.9	Other defects of alimentary system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Total: Alimentary system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
3.0	Congenital heart disease (not otherwise specified)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
3.3	Transposition of great vessels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
3.6	Intraventricular septal defect	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
3.9	Other defects of heart and great vessels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Total: Heart and great vessels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28

4.1	Defects of nose (arhinia, choanal atresia or stenosis)	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Total: Respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	2
5.5	Other defects of bladder and urethra	...	...	...	...	...	1
5.6	Hypospadias, epispadias	...	...	...	...	...	8
5.7	Other defects of male genitalia	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Total: Uro-genital system	...	...	...	...	...	10
6.2	Reduction deformities (amelia, hemimelia, phocomelia, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	1
6.3	Polydactyly	...	...	...	...	...	19
6.4	Syndactyly	...	...	...	...	...	3
6.5	Dislocation of hip	...	...	...	...	...	4
6.6	Talipes	...	...	...	...	...	22
6.7	Other defects of shoulder girdle, upper arm, and forearm	...	...	...	...	...	1
6.8	Other defects of hand	...	...	...	...	...	1
6.9	Other defects of pelvic girdle and lower limb	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Total: Limbs	...	...	...	...	...	52
7.5	Chondrodystrophy	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Total: Other skeletal	...	...	...	...	...	2
8.3	Vascular defects of skin, subcutaneous tissues, and mucous membranes (including lymphatic defects)	...	...	...	...	...	1
8.9	Exomphalos, omphalocele	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Total: Other systems	...	...	...	...	...	3
9.1	Multiple Malformations (Not otherwise specified)	...	...	...	...	...	2
9.3	Other monster	...	...	...	...	...	1
9.6	Mongolism	...	...	...	...	...	15
	Total: Other malformations	...	...	...	...	...	18

Table 12

Congenital malformations reported: by parity

<i>Parity</i>							<i>Number of Children</i>
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
2	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
3	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
4	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
5	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
6	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
7	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
8	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
9	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
10	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
11	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							133

ADOPTIONS AND BOARDING-OUT

Before a child is placed for adoption or boarding-out a medical report is obtained by the Council's Children's Officer. The report is usually made by a general practitioner, visiting medical officer of a residential nursery or a hospital doctor. Although these medical reports meet the statutory requirements it is the Council's practice for such reports to be submitted to the Medical Officer of Health before a child is adopted or boarded-out. 71 adoption and boarding-out reports were examined and reports on 60 prospective parents were scrutinised during the year.

BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS

173 examinations were arranged in connection with certification under the National Assistance Act, 1948, of blind and partially sighted persons. In addition, certificates accepted from other local authorities and hospitals numbered 86. This certification facilitates the provision of the Council's welfare services.

RECUPERATIVE HOLIDAYS

These are provided on medical recommendation for persons who have recently been under medical treatment and who need rest, fresh air and good food. Persons in need of supervision or medical and nursing care require convalescence which is the responsibility of the appropriate Hospital Board. Arrangements are made for adults, expectant mothers and nursing mothers, and children under five years, not attending school. Children of school age are dealt with under arrangements provided by the I.L.E.A.

A weekly charge is made for adults according to their financial circumstances and there is a small charge for children under five not attending school.

The number arranged during 1968 was as follows:—

Table 13

Expectant and Nursing Mothers	1
Tuberculous Adults	6
Other Adults	101
Psychiatric patients	14
Accompanied Children	23
Unaccompanied Children (I.L.E.A. Scheme)	101

SURVEYS

Nursing staff in the Health Department co-operated in two new surveys during the year, namely a Medical Research Council follow-up of mothers who have given birth to children with anencephaly or spina bifida cystica and a Ministry of Health survey into sub-clinical anaemia and vitamin D deficiency. Work in the following four surveys, which were started earlier, continued during the year:—

Survey of Childhood Cancers—Dept. of Social Medical Medicine, Oxford University;

National Survey of Health and Development—Medical Research Council;

Care of Children with Spina Bifida—Greater London Council Research and Intelligence Unit;

Virus Aetiology in Mental Deficiency—Dept. of Microbiology, St. George's Hospital Medical School.

FAMILY PLANNING

Following the passing of the National Health Service (Family Planning) Act, 1967, consultations were held with the Family Planning Association and agreement was reached on a scheme, which came into force on 1st April, 1968, whereby the Association acts as agents of the Council for the provision of a family planning clinical service. Under this arrangement no charges are made for advice or examination or for supplies in medical or necessitous non-medical cases, and the Council makes premises available and makes an annual deficiency grant to the Association.

This arrangement with the Family Planning Association made possible a significant expansion of the number of weekly sessions held in Health Department premises and at the end of the year sessions were being held at the following centres:—

Central Lewisham	2
Amersham Road	1
Speedwell	1
Louise House	3
Flower House	3
Downham	1
Spalding House	1

Further sessions were planned for the Heathside and Lind centres in the new year.

In addition, in May, a domiciliary service linked with weekly clinic sessions at the Amersham Road centre was introduced by the Health Department for the provision of the intra-uterine device to women incapable of taking advantage of the normal clinical service. These sessions usually are conducted by an experienced medical officer to this work. Referrals for this service are received from a variety of agencies. The following table gives details of the service provided during the year:—

Table 14

No. of first domiciliary visits by Medical Officer	108
No. of first visits by patients to clinic	104
No. of persons aged 30 or over at first visit	48
No. of persons with 5 or more pregnancies prior to first visit	60

LOAN SERVICE

The Central Stores are at the Health Department, Town Hall.

Any article of equipment which will assist in the nursing of people in their own homes can be borrowed provided:—

- (a) it is not required for permanent use
- (b) it is not of a type which has to be made to measure, and therefore can be used by successive persons with the same requirement.

A large number of articles were in demand during the year as the following table shows.

Table 15

<i>Equipment</i>	<i>No. issued during 1968</i>	<i>Total stock held on stock register</i>	<i>No. on loan at present</i>
Air Rings	28	54	50
Back Rests	66	77	77
Bed Cradles	58	94	93
Bed Pans	27	53	48
Cot Beds	1	2	1
Commodes	313	609	596
Easi-Carry Hoists	12	17	16
Easi-Carry Hoist Slings	4	13	6
Fracture Boards	26	79	72
Hospital Beds with Pulley	7	38	15
Mattress (Dunlopillo)	2	24	22
Mattress (Hair)	1	28	8
Penrhyn Bed Lifts	8	34	31
Ripple Beds	11	6	6
Rubber Sheets (6' × 3').	40	101	90
Tripod Walking Sticks	19	50	45
Urinals (Glass)	24	28	21
Zimmer Walking Frames	77	106	106
Wheelchairs	57	59	58
Totals	781	1,472	1,361

Close contact is maintained with voluntary bodies such as the British Red Cross Society and also the Council's Welfare Department in order to ensure that no overlapping occurs.

DENTAL SERVICES

Dr. E. Mahler, M.D., L.D.S.,

Chief Dental Officer and Principal School Dental Officer reports

Accommodation for Dental Services

School for Dental Auxiliaries (4 surgeries), New Cross General Hospital, S.E.14
Deptford Schools Treatment Centre (2 surgeries), Reginald Square, S.E.8
Lewisham Schools Treatment Centre (2 surgeries), 78 Lewisham Park, S.E.13
Downham Schools Treatment Centre (2 surgeries), Churchdown, Downham
Sedgehill Comprehensive School (1 surgery), Bellingham, S.E.6

Sedgehill Comprehensive School (roll 1,500)

The surgery is the first opened in a comprehensive school in Lewisham. Treatments were started on 13th May, and the equipment is of the most modern type.

The surgery operates daily; one out of ten sessions is devoted to orthodontics and one for children from a neighbouring school (with the kind permission of the Headmaster of Sedgehill School).

Due to the generous support of the teaching and medical staff, the surgery is part of the school, it has been a great success from the start and demand for treatment is increasing.

Preparations are in progress to open a surgery at Catford Senior Girls Comprehensive School in 1969 with identical equipment and arrangements.

School for Dental Auxiliaries

This establishment continues to be sponsored by the General Dental Council, and is directed by Mr. T. H. Liptrot since the retirement on 31st March of Mr. J. V. Bingay, O.B.E. It contains a clinic, 4 surgeries conducted by two dental officers and two dental auxiliaries on the staff of the Health Department. By joint agreement the school is responsible for the routine treatment of groups of schoolchildren in the Borough in addition to those of a neighbouring Authority. Routine inspections for primary schoolchildren attending 14 schools (3,419 children) have been transferred to the Borough for the time being.

Mr. T. H. Liptrot, Director, reports:

The School for Dental Auxiliaries has now been established for some nine years and during that time it has been able to offer to the children of Lewisham a comprehensive dental service.

It is very much to the credit of the parents of the children, to head teachers, and to the officers of the Lewisham Health Department, that they have increasingly taken advantage of the facilities available.

The demands now made on the school for treatment are such that we have great difficulty in meeting them as promptly as we would wish. The school is looking for ways of increasing its service and to this end there is consultation from time to time with the officers of the Health Department, whose interest and support of the school is greatly appreciated. Without such co-operation our task would be a very difficult one. The location within the school of a unit of the Borough's School Dental Service is of the greatest help to us and to the patients.

The school is also greatly indebted to the head teachers of the schools served by our clinic. Their willing co-operation and readiness to assist with the arrangements for patients and for providing the means for our students to gain experience in teaching dental health is of the greatest help to us.

During 1968 the students of the school inserted 7,176 fillings for school children and pre-school children, and extracted 342 deciduous teeth.

Orthodontics

Correction of faulty and irregular positioning of teeth has expanded dramatically since inspections of secondary school children have been resumed. The orthodontist Mrs. A. Ward has increased her sessions from 6 to 8.

Table 16

ORTHODONTICS					1968	1967
New Cases commenced during the year	...	...	...	...	284	330
Number of removable appliances fitted	...	...	...	...	400	288
Number of fixed appliances fitted	...	...	...	...	27	13

There has been a noticable drop of patients referred to consultants.

Dental Laboratory

Central Laboratories provide (as before) all orthodontic appliances, dentures, inlays etc., but the orders have not always been completed in 2 weeks owing to shortage of technicians over a considerable period. The quality of the work is of the same high standard.

Anaesthesia

48 sessions have taken place during the year. Dr. A. Whitfield attends Deptford and Lewisham school treatment centres, Dr. E. C. Dawson attends Downham school treatment centre.

Local anaesthesia is used extensively for routine dental treatment.

One selected child had his conservative treatment carried out under intravenous anaesthesia.

Dental Anaesthetic emergencies

The ambulance training unit gave a demonstration on resuscitation and mouth to mouth breathing followed by a film, at Lewisham Medical Centre in July. It was attended by dental officers, dental surgery assistants, health visitors and school nurses who assist at dental anaesthetic sessions.

Dental Caravan

The Inner London Education Authority Caravan has been in use for 68 sessions on three four-weekly occasions. Two were in term time and extremely well attended, the third period was during the summer vacation as a trial, to assess attendance. Although the children live in close vicinity and sessions were heavily over-booked, the failure rate was higher than expected. The dental caravan is an ideal solution for bringing dentistry to schools, acceptance rates soar, but unfortunately this cannot be followed up as two caravans have to be shared between 12 boroughs. It seems essential that the number of caravans should be increased to six, to enable two neighbouring boroughs to plan their programme well in advance, including deployment of staff.

Maternal and Child Health

This service has been maintained, but expanded only slightly due to temporary shortage of staff.

Table 17

DENTAL SERVICES FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

A: Attendances and Treatment

Number of Visits for Treatment During Year

	Children 0-4 (incl.)	Expectant and Nursing Mothers
First Visit	859	18
Subsequent Visits	1,552	61
Total Visits	2,411	79
Number of Add'l Courses of Treatment other than the First Courses commenced during year	94	1
Treatment provided during the year—		
Number of Fillings	1,992	61
Teeth Filled	1,755	42
Teeth Extracted	208	27
General Anaesthetics given	78	2
Emergency Visits by Patients	49	2
Patients X-Rayed	16	5
Patients Treated by Scaling and/or Removal of Stains from the teeth (Prophylaxis)	653	11
Teeth Otherwise Conserved	498	
Teeth Root Filled		3
Inlays		2
Crowns		—
Number of Courses of Treatment Completed During the Year	383	6

B: Inspections

Number of Patients given First Inspections During Year	A	620	D	15
Number of Patients in A. and D. above who Required Treatment	B	428	E	15
Number of Patients in B. and E. above who were Offered Treatment	C	425	F	15

C: Sessions

*Number of Dental Officer Sessions (i.e. Equivalent Complete
Half Days) Devoted to Maternal and Child Health:*

For Treatment	403.1
For Health Education	41.5

Day nurseries have been inspected twice a year, nursery schools once a year including 2 crèches, inspections of children at health centres have decreased, since no dental officers could be spared for sessions.

Dental Health Education, Borough

Services at health centres continued throughout the year. Four dental health educators have counselled 1,910 mothers in 180 sessions, averaging 10.6 a session. The team consists of 2 dental auxiliaries and 2 dental surgery assistants.

An excellent leaflet has been prepared by the Health Education department "Will your child be afraid to smile?", warning mothers about misuse of vitamin syrups. It is distributed at welfare centres and given to parents of each new school entrant.

An amusing coloured card with a revised nursery rhyme "Mary had a little tooth" is very popular with the young children.

A lecture was given to the dental staff, health visitors and school nurses at Lewisham Hospital by Mr. O. Berman, Reader in preventive dentistry at the London Hospital Dental School, Whitechapel.

Talks on dental health are given to student midwives, once every term and to mothers clubs by Mrs. P. Munday, Dental Auxiliary.

Dental Health Education at Schools

This continues at schools and at the chairside on traditional lines.

In November a novel puppet-show dental health campaign was launched which proved to be a "spectacular hit". It was created, organised and executed by two dental auxiliaries, Mrs. P. Munday, a member of the London Borough of Lewisham dental staff, and Mrs. J. Thomas, dental health educator for the Inner London Education Authority.

Under the stimulating enthusiasm of these two puppeteers, a campaign was launched in the nursery and infants departments of the schools of the Borough, and, in all, 46 schools were visited and 9,653 children watched the 80 performances.

All the necessary equipment was carried in the I.L.E.A. van, all the driving being done by Mrs. Thomas. On occasions when two schools were programmed in one morning or afternoon, help was given by the Health Education section in assembling and dismantling the puppet theatre with great speed.

The official opening took place after one weeks run on 11th November at Adamsrill Infants' School, Sydenham, by kind invitation of Mrs. N. G. Piper, the Headmistress and her staff. Publicity was arranged by the I.L.E.A.

Special guests at the opening were the Mayoress, Mrs. Combes, Councillor Mrs. New, Chairman of the Health Committee, Mr. K. C. B. Webster, Dental Adviser, I.L.E.A. and Mrs. E. Spackman for the General Dental Council. Later performances were seen by Admiral W. Holgate, Chief Dental Officer, Mr. J. Rodgers, Senior Dental Officer of the Department of Health and Social Security, and Mr. Colin Davis, Director of Oral Hygiene.

The children enjoyed the show tremendously, participating in the story of horrible Jimmy Germ tempting sweet-loving Paul Molar in the disguise of a sweet, a lolly, and a cake with very sad results. Peter Molar knew better and when he simply couldn't resist eating a delicious cake he called on all his friends for help, Mr. Giant Toothbrush, Mrs. Toothpaste, Katy Carrot, Andrew Apple and last but not least, bespectacled, kind, Mr. Dentist.

The majority of children got the message. Their appreciation was shown by their charming letters, amusing drawings and funny coloured posters of Jimmy Germ, their favourite character.

The heads of all schools were most co-operative, and all arrangements went according to plan.

Comments were most favourable about this new and entertaining approach to the ever present problem of dental health education. It gave the staff much food for thought in following up.

The campaign will be resumed later in January, 1969 when 14 more schools will be visited including some junior mixed departments for their first year pupils.

It is hoped that a repeat programme will be arranged by the Chief Dental Officer in the autumn term of 1969.

Since inspections of secondary school children have commenced, concentrating on first and second year pupils, one significant fact has emerged. The great majority of these children have had inspections in their infant and junior mixed schools, but a hard core of approximately 20% received no treatment whatsoever, although parents opted for their family dentists. Several random enquiries were made, children either never attended or paid an occasional emergency visit. There is a special Inner London Education form SDS 12 which some parents have now received more than once, but they take no notice. It appears that no representation can be made to force them; one has the impression that they are unaware that their children aged 12, have permanent teeth only, the children themselves don't know either.

In conclusion it should be repeated that obligation to carry out dental inspections cannot be fulfilled until more premises and staff are available. Inspections have increased by 18.7% due to the opening of Sedgemoor surgery and the use of the caravan.

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICES

The following summary of the work of the school dental service has been supplied by the Medical Adviser to the Inner London Education Authority, based on returns supplied by the dental clinics:

Table 18

	LEWISHAM							I.L.E.A.
School Roll	42,721	418,280
<i>Number of sessions:</i>								
Inspection	127.8	1,928.3
Ordinary treatment	3,242.8	27,493.3
General anaesthetic	36.8	450.5
Orthodontic	254.3	826.6
Health education	4.0	1,665.3
Total sessions	3,665.7	32,364.0
<i>Inspections: number of children given:</i>								
First inspection at school	14,279	183,925
First inspection at clinic	3,076	47,336
Percentage found to require treatment	69.2	63.6
Reinspection at school or clinic in 1968	554	14,750
Percentage found to require treatment	75.6	69.6
<i>Visits for treatment:</i>								
Number of first visits	5,709	54,655
Number of subsequent visits	18,318	124,838
Total visits	24,027	179,493
Emergencies	731	5,298
Additional courses commenced	810	8,239
Number did not attend	9,989	91,034
<i>Treatment given:</i>								
Number of fillings:	11,011	91,198
In permanent teeth	7,998	65,917
In temporary teeth		
Number of extractions:	1,181	5,323
Of permanent teeth	2,720	19,167
Of temporary teeth		
Number of other operations (prophylaxis, X-rays, inlays, crowns, etc.)	11,036	72,740
Courses of treatment completed	3,873	43,645
<i>Orthodontics:</i>								
Number of new cases	284	779
Number of removable appliances fitted	400	1,135
Number of fixed appliances fitted...	27	48
<i>Sessional averages:</i>								
First visits	1.7	2.0
Subsequent visits	5.6	4.5
Emergencies	0.2	0.2
Did not attend	3.0	3.3
<i>Fillings:</i>								
In permanent teeth	3.4	3.3
In temporary teeth	2.4	2.4
<i>Extractions:</i>								
Of permanent teeth	0.4	0.2
Of temporary teeth	0.8	.7
Ratio of permanent teeth filled to permanent teeth extracted	7.8	14.9
Ratio of temporary teeth filled to temporary teeth extracted	2.5	3.0

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

During the year the supervision of the health of the schoolchildren of the Borough has continued under the control of the School Health Service which is fully comprehensive. Liaison has been maintained with the Inner London Education Authority, The Medical Adviser's Department at County Hall, and the head teachers of the various schools within the Borough.

It is important that there should be an exchange of information between the three sections of the Health Service, i.e. the hospital services, general practitioner services and the local authority services, with regard to the health of the Borough's schoolchildren, and this interchange has continued.

The health of the Borough's schoolchildren has remained good. Children are examined by the school doctor on at least four occasions during their school life; parents are invited to attend at each of these examinations in order that any problems may be discussed. In addition to the examination soon after school entry, examinations are undertaken at seven or eight years of age, at entry to secondary school, and in the year before the child's fifteenth birthday, when consideration is given to the child's suitability for employment after leaving school. Every child has an annual hygiene inspection and vision test, and an audiometer test is carried out on all infant school entrants, and on any child whose hearing is suspect at later stages in school life.

The year has been marked by further expansion of the Special Investigation Clinics where treatment is undertaken for obesity, nocturnal enuresis, and some other behavioural problems. These clinics are staffed by school doctors and social workers, and school nurses, and children are referred to them after consultation with their family doctors. Vision and hearing defects are also investigated at the vision and audiology clinics by specialist doctors.

The register of handicapped schoolchildren has been maintained. The register helps to ensure that every child receives all available help, and that suitability of school placement may be kept under review. In addition it forms a basis for statistics on which the planning of future facilities may be based.

For those children who, by reason of their handicap are unable to attend ordinary schools, boarding and day special schools are available through the Inner London Education Authority. The special schools situated within the Borough are as follows:

Nansen School for Partially Sighted Children, 59 Pendragon Road, Downham;
Meeting House Primary School for the Educationally Subnormal, Roundtable Road, Downham;
Brent Knoll School for the Delicate, Mayow Road, S.E.23.

In addition there is a Partially Hearing Unit for children of secondary school age in Sedgemoor Comprehensive School. Children with severe hearing defects attend day schools in neighbouring boroughs, and physically handicapped pupils attend Charlton Park School in the Borough of Greenwich. The children attending Brent Knoll School who were in temporary accommodation in Beacon Road were able to move in September to the new building in Mayow Road.

Special arrangements have continued to be made during the year for home tuition for those children who for health reasons are unable to attend school, and in some cases transport has been arranged for children able to attend school, but unable to make the journey by public transport.

Handicapped Pupils Register

The handicapped pupils section of the comprehensive observation register is now well established. An index card showing personal details, handicap, family and hospital doctor, type of education and school attended is completed for each child whose home address is within the Borough, irrespective of whether he or she attends a school in Lewisham or elsewhere. A file containing medical details for each child is also retained in the Health Department, and copies of the information are forwarded to the doctor in the schools.

This register ensures that each child receives all help and special facilities available as well as forming a basis from which future requirements for the medical and educational care of handicapped children can be predicted.

Table 19

OBSERVATION/HANDICAP REGISTER			
<i>Type of School</i>	Schoolchildren		<i>Total</i>
	<i>No. attending Day school</i>	<i>No. attending Boarding school</i>	
Physically handicapped	71	9	80
Delicate	90	31	121
Deaf	31	9	40
Partially hearing	35	2	37
Blind	—	5	5
Partially sighted	23	1	24
Autistic	7	1	8
E.S.N.	457	48	505
Maladjusted	40	58	98
Other	—	4	4
Hospital school	—	6	6
Totals	754	174	928
Home tuition ...	...	...	11
Training Centre	...	...	32
Special Care Unit	...	...	28
Special Hospital	...	...	7
Approved school	...	...	9
Number of children at Woodlands O.A. School	...	...	47
Number of children at Woodlands Autistic Unit	...	...	3
Number of children at Brent Knoll O.A. School	...	...	47

Table 20

<i>Year of Birth of School Children on Observation/Handicap Register</i>	
<i>Year of Birth</i>	<i>No. of schoolchildren</i>
1950	5
1951	84
1952	97
1953	137
1954	152
1955	131
1956	158
1957	153
1958	154
1959	125
1960	139
1961	123
1962	125
1963	71
1964	18
1965	7
1966	1
	1,680

DEAF REGISTER

Schoolchildren

Many children on the deaf register manage in ordinary schools with special measures, such as a favourable position in class and/or hearing aids. Some have a bilateral loss and compensate with the good ear and are not handicapped. These children have not

been ascertained as needing special education.

The total number of children on the deaf register is 331. Of these 6 are under school age.

Table 21
Children Attending Special Schools or Units

<i>Type of School/Unit</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Boarding</i>	<i>Total</i>
Deaf	32	12	44
Partially hearing	28	—	28
Partially hearing with additional handicap	—	1	1
Physically handicapped	2	—	2
Physically handicapped with additional handicap	—	2	2
Deaf/Blind	2	—	2
Delicate	1	—	1
E.S.N.	5	1	6
Maladjusted	1	1	2
Others			
Training Centre	...	...	4
Early Care Unit	...	...	1
Residential Care	...	...	6

SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

The figures provide an analysis of routine and non-routine medical inspections with, for routine inspections, the percentage attendance of parents and care committee representatives and the overall figures for prophylaxis. They also show the proportion of children found with unsatisfactory physical conditions, and the percentage referred for treatment of all defects, and of defects other than vision.

The statistics quoted in this section have been supplied by the Inner London Education Authority and are based on a school roll of 42,721 as at May, 1968. For comparative purposes, wherever possible, figures are also shown for the whole of the area covered by the Authority, based on a total school roll of 412,555 at the same date.

Table 22

	<i>Lewisham</i>	<i>I.L.E.A.</i>
Routine Inspections		
Number inspected	16,398	157,376
Number found not to warrant examination (7 plus 'specials scheme') ...	—	1,060
Percentage of No. inspected of:—		
Parent present	53.6	51.8
Care Committee present	72.2	74.6
No. vaccinated against smallpox ...	71.3	72.0
No. immunised against diphtheria ...	91.2	87.3
No. immunised against whooping cough	83.3	79.7
No. vaccinated against poliomyelitis	89.2	86.1
Physical condition unsatisfactory ...	0.1	0.4
Referred for treatment of defects ...	14.8	13.8
Referred for treatment of defects other than vision	8.1	7.1
Non-Routine Inspections		
(i) Specials	4,565	49,696
(ii) Re-inspections	5,401	71,920
TOTAL (i) and (ii)	9,966	121,616
No. of routine inspections as percentage of school roll	38.4	37.6
No. of non-routine inspections as percentage of school roll	23.3	29.1

ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS—DEFECTS

Number of children noted for treatment or observation expressed as a rate per 1,000 inspected.

Table 23

			LEWISHAM	Total I.L.E.A.
			16,398	157,376
No. inspected				
Defects		*		
Skin		T	11.77	8.81
		O	12.50	11.25
Eyes—(a) Vision		T	72.63	72.77
		O	25.92	52.16
(b) Squint		T	9.21	8.21
		O	3.23	4.71
(c) Other		T	2.32	1.68
		O	4.70	2.75
Ears—(a) Hearing		T	6.71	5.76
		O	5.85	7.18
(b) Otitis Media		T	2.01	1.66
		O	2.68	3.91
(c) Other		T	0.24	0.57
		O	0.43	0.93
Nose and Throat		T	6.83	5.55
		O	24.94	26.92
Speech		T	3.42	4.07
		O	5.79	6.99
Lymphatic Glands		T	1.22	0.58
		O	9.64	7.69
Heart		T	2.62	2.48
		O	5.92	8.39
Lungs		T	7.20	5.41
		O	9.78	11.74
Developmental— (a) Hernia		T	1.52	1.12
		O	4.51	2.86
(b) Other		T	1.40	1.34
		O	4.09	5.58
Orthopaedic— (a) Posture		T	1.04	0.97
		O	4.09	4.77
(b) Feet		T	4.09	3.37
		O	14.39	14.96
(c) Other		T	2.07	2.06
		O	3.66	5.08
Nervous System— (a) Epilepsy		T	2.38	1.46
		O	1.59	1.41
(b) Other		T	0.30	0.72
		O	0.55	1.66
Psychological— (a) Development		T	0.91	1.49
		O	1.89	5.36
(b) Stability		T	1.71	2.40
		O	9.45	10.83
Abdomen		T	0.30	0.37
		O	0.43	1.24
Other		T	17.44	17.34
		O	32.87	35.65

*T=Treatment

O=Observation

This table is an analysis, in accordance with the classification used by the Department of Education and Science, of defects found at routine inspections.

The appended table relates to surveys undertaken and also indicates action taken with verminous cases found as a result of the surveys:

Table 24

					LEWISHAM	I.L.E.A.
1. <i>Comprehensive Surveys</i>						
(a)	Number examined	...	...	...	28,894	285,917
(b)	Number (occasions) found verminous	...	...	...	83	3,105
(c)	Percentage found verminous	...	...	...	0.29	1.09
2. <i>Selective Surveys</i>						
(a)	Number examined	...	...	...	8,562	116,716
(b)	Number (occasions) found verminous	...	...	...	141	2,712
(c)	Percentage found verminous	...	...	...	1.65	2.32
3.						
(a)	Total times vermin found (1(b) + 2 (b))	...	...	...	224	5,817
(b)	Total % found verminous [3 (a) as % of 1 (a) + 2 (a)]	...	...	...	0.60	1.44
(c)	No. of individual pupils found verminous	...	...	...	174	4,372
(d)	% of individual pupils found verminous (of school roll)	...	...	...	0.41	1.05
4. <i>Action taken with verminous cases</i>						
(a)	Advice and/or Lorexane	...	...	...	183	5,001
(b)	Further action	...	...	...	41	816
(c)	4 (b) expressed as a percentage of 4 (a)	...	...	...	22.40	16.32
<i>Analysis of 4(b) cases—referrals of hardcore cases to bathing centres</i>						
<i>Voluntary attendances at bathing centres</i>						
	No. of pupils	...	...	...	41	750
	No. of statutory notices issued	...	...	...	—	3
<i>No. cleansed at centres following statutory notices</i>						
	Voluntarily	...	...	...	—	3
	Compulsorily	...	...	...	—	—

Emphasis is placed on children being cleansed by parents at home. Other members of the family may, in the privacy that the home affords, also use the Lorexane shampoo hence eradicating a possible source to a child, of recurring infestation.

Table 25

NON-ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

<i>Type of Inspection</i>						<i>LEWISHAM</i>	<i>I.L.E.A. Area</i>
Reinspections	...	...	...	...	...	5,401	71,920
Bathing centre inspections — scabies	...	...	...	...	...	16	38
" " " — other	...	...	...	...	...	6	71
Employment certificates	...	...	...	...	...	690	4,971
Theatrical children	...	...	...	...	...	—	293
School journeys	...	...	...	...	...	2,323	22,286
Recuperative holidays—pre-departure	...	...	...	...	...	36	908
Recuperative holidays—on return	...	...	...	...	...	2	8
Secondary School annual surveys	...	...	...	...	...	—	1,554
Candidates for higher awards	...	...	...	...	...	8	84
Nautical school entrants	...	...	...	...	...	—	62
Outward bound courses	...	...	...	...	...	—	125
Infectious disease investigation	...	...	...	...	...	9	44
T.B. contacts	...	...	...	...	...	—	5
Boarding schools for the Delicate—pre-departure	...	...	...	...	...	1	192
Boarding schools for the Delicate—on return	...	...	...	...	...	11	37
Handicapped pupils—statutory examination	...	...	...	...	...	155	2,394
Handicapped pupils—periodic special defect examination	...	...	...	...	...	551	5,782
Research investigations and enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	1	46
						3,809	38,900
SPECIALS—At request of:—							
Head teacher—child's name entered in special book	...	...	...	...	...	134	1,517
Head teacher—others	...	...	...	...	...	214	3,438
School nurse—following health survey	...	...	...	...	...	146	742
School nurse—others	...	...	...	...	...	13	1,063
Divisional (Education) Officer	...	...	...	...	...	23	759
District Care Organiser or Care Committee	...	...	...	...	...	16	305
Parent	...	...	...	...	...	130	1,160
School medical officer	...	...	...	...	...	45	1,381
						721	10,365
OTHERS:—							
Accident on school premises	...	...	...	...	...	28	44
Boxing—reference from schools, A.B.A., or similar association	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
For free travel	...	...	...	...	...	—	64
Reference: (i) connected with remedial exercises	...	...	...	...	...	—	59
foot classes	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
(ii) by gymnast or physiotherapist	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Referred by hospital	...	...	...	...	...	—	5
Referred by speech therapist	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
Referred by general practitioner	...	...	...	...	...	—	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	7	251
						35	431
TOTAL OF ALL NON-ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS						9,966	121,616

ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS—VISION

This table is a statement of the visual acuity of pupils whose vision was tested at routine medical inspections, divided into those not wearing and those wearing glasses, together with the proportions noted for treatment or observation.

Table 26

	Percentage of number tested																		C—Boys and Girls		
	Number tested		A—Not wearing glasses										B—Wearing glasses						Percentage of number tested with and without glasses		
			6/6		6/9		6/12 or worse		Noted for treatment		6/6		6/9		6/12 or worse		Noted for treatment		Noted for Treat- ment	Noted for Obser- vation	Total noted for treat- ment or Obser- vation
Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls				
LEWISHAM	7,996	7,147	86·3	83·6	4·0	4·4	2·6	3·9	2·6	3·9	4·4	4·1	1·7	2·1	1·0	1·9	3·9	5·4	7·9	2·8	10·7
I.L.E.A. AREA	69,314	66,340	82·6	80·6	6·1	6·7	4·9	5·2	4·8	5·4	3·3	3·8	1·5	1·9	1·5	1·8	2·8	3·9	8·4	6·1	14·5

Table 27

**COMPARISON OF DEFECTS NOTED AT 7-PLUS ROUTINE AND
7-PLUS 'SPECIAL' MEDICAL INSPECTIONS IN 1968**

Number of children noted for treatment and observation expressed as a rate
per 1,000 inspected

	LEWISHAM		I.L.E.A.	
<i>No. inspected at 7-plus Routine Inspections</i>	4,335		36,657	
<i>No. inspected at 7-plus Experimental Scheme Inspections</i>	—		2,160	
<i>Defects</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>
<i>Skin</i>	22.8	—	20.3	19.0
<i>Eyes—Vision</i>	94.3	—	135.5	138.9
<i>Squint</i>	13.6	—	14.7	11.1
<i>Other</i>	3.5	—	4.0	3.7
<i>Ears—Hearing</i>	16.1	—	16.9	17.6
<i>Otitis Media</i>	7.4	—	5.7	11.6
<i>Other</i>	0.5	—	1.3	3.2
<i>Nose and Throat</i>	35.3	—	36.3	32.4
<i>Speech</i>	10.4	—	11.3	9.7
<i>Lymphatic Glands</i>	15.2	—	9.3	21.8
<i>Heart</i>	8.1	—	11.0	11.1
<i>Lungs</i>	17.3	—	18.8	22.3
<i>Developmental—Hernia</i>	6.5	—	4.5	3.2
<i>Other</i>	8.5	—	8.3	6.0
<i>Orthopaedic—Posture</i>	4.2	—	4.7	7.4
<i>Feet</i>	14.5	—	17.3	15.3
<i>Other</i>	4.4	—	6.2	8.3
<i>Nervous System—Epilepsy</i>	4.6	—	3.1	3.2
<i>Other</i>	0.9	—	2.5	1.9
<i>Psychological—Development</i>	3.0	—	9.1	16.2
<i>Stability</i>	12.2	—	16.2	17.6
<i>Abdomen</i>	0.7	—	1.6	—
<i>Other</i>	57.5	—	59.3	82.9

Column 'A' refers to 7-plus routine medical inspections

Column 'B' refers to 7-plus experimental scheme inspections

MEDICAL AND FAMILY SOCIAL WORK

Miss E. Stocker, Dips. Social Studies and Casework, A.A.P.S.W.,

Principal Social Worker

Social Workers continued to provide a family orientated service in both fields of work which involved offering casework help, mobilizing inter-disciplinary resources, and liaising with other statutory and voluntary agencies.

Medical Social Work

Medical Social Work expanded during the year, particularly with children suffering from psycho-social and physical difficulties. This was due to two factors, firstly the implementation of I.L.E.A. policy to attach School Health Social Workers to all special schools (in addition to special educational units), and secondly the increase in the number of children referred to special school clinics.

The function of the social worker regarding children entered on the Deaf Register remains as before, that is to consider the child in relation to the total situation, to liaise with other agencies, co-ordinate arrangements for treatment and provide social work help as appropriate.

School Health Social Workers continued to be attached to:—

(a) Local Authority Clinics:—

Amersham Special Investigation Clinic	— Health Centre, Amersham Road, S.E.14
Speedwell Special Investigation Clinic	— Speedwell Centre, Speedwell Street, S.E.8
Downham Special Investigation Clinic	— Downham Health Centre, Churchdown, Downham
Lewisham Special Investigation Clinic	— School Treatment Centre, 78 Lewisham Park, S.E.13
Lewisham Audiology Clinic	— School Treatment Centre, 78 Lewisham Park, S.E.13
Sydenham Special Investigation Clinic	— Children's Hospital, S.E.26

(b) Hospital Clinic:—

Lewisham Hospital—Hearing Investigation Clinic

(c) Special Educational Units:—

Sedgehill Partially Hearing Unit
Brent Knoll School Autistic Unit

(d) Special School:—

Brent Knoll Day Open Air School

Chest Clinics

The Lewisham Care Committee Organiser returned to the department after completing a two-year full-time course in social work. Reorganisation of the work of the two Care Committee Organisers resulted in both being based at Lewisham, with attendance at the Deptford Chest Clinic for three sessions per week. The Lewisham Care Committee met on six occasions during the year and the Deptford Care Committee three, when fund raising, grants, holidays and outings were discussed.

Family Casework

49 families with severe social and emotional handicaps received casework help in 1968 when 1,604 home visits/office interviews were undertaken. In the majority the need was for frequent and prolonged contact and referrals came mainly from case conferences of field workers because multiple problems were presented. However, an interesting trend was that there were a few direct referrals from parents and general practitioners which enabled help to be given at an earlier stage. Amongst families referred there were a significant number with difficulties stemming from physical and mental ill health.

Annual Events

More than 70 children attended the Christmas party at the Deptford Town Hall and a small group of mothers enjoyed a day in the country in July, free from family commitments.

Co-ordinating Committee

The Co-ordinating Committee met on nine occasions during the year when the overall emphasis was on social diseases. 76 case conferences were convened at the request of various agencies as follows:—

G.L.C. Housing Department	—	39
Probation Service	—	4
Children's Service	—	9
Health Department	—	5
Divisional School Care Organiser	—	9
Welfare Service	—	4
Lewisham Housing Department	—	6

Staff

Two members of staff returned after successfully completing professional social work courses. One School Health Social Worker obtained the University of Southampton Diploma in Applied Social Studies and the Certificate of the Institute of Medical Social Workers, and one Chest Clinic Care Committee Organiser obtained the Certificate in Social Work. Members of staff attended seminars and lectures in connection with specific aspects of their work, and attended the following conferences and courses:—

I.L.E.A. "Social Worker Attachment to Special Schools"

South East Regional Association for the Deaf, "The Royal National Institute for the Deaf"

I.L.E.A., "West Indian Background"

N.A.M.H., "What's Wrong with the Mental Health Service"

London School of Economics, "Theory and Practice of Casework Methods"

London Borough of Lewisham, Health Department, "Aspects of Mental Health"

Students

Placements have continued to be provided for professional and pre-professional course students for varying periods of practical work. In addition Social Administration students have visited the Section for discussion with staff and talks have been given to students from other disciplines and other departments.

HOME HELP SERVICE

The demands on the home help service continued to increase as is shown by the figures below. The increase was of the order of 1% in the number of households being served at the end of the year, the rate of increase being less than that of the previous year (2.5 per cent.). This is to be expected since the service mainly caters for the elderly, and the proportion of such people within the population is at the moment increasing by about $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ per annum.

During the year the pressure at Rushey Green was lessened by the opening of a fourth office at Grove Park, the case load there being made comparable to that at the other home help office.

Table 28
CASES RECEIVING SERVICE AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1968
(1967 figures in brackets)

<i>Office</i>	<i>Maternity</i>	<i>Tuber- culosis</i>	<i>Age 65 and over</i>	<i>Aged under 65 Chronic sick</i>	<i>Others</i>	<i>Total</i>
Deptford Town Hall New Cross Road, S.E.14	—	2	612	42	5	661
41 Rushey Green, S.E.6	1	5	779	92	8	885
266 Kirkdale, Sydenham, S.E.26	4	11	777	57	24	873
354 Baring Road, S.E.12	1	8	714	72	18	813
TOTALS	6 (11)	26 (31)	2,882 (2,739)	263 (278)	55 (47)	3,232 (3,106)

No. of home helps at end of 1968:—(a)	Whole time	6 (7)
(b)	Part time	651 (646)

HEALTH EDUCATION

Mr. R. Allen, M.A.P.H.I., M.I.H.E., Health Education Officer

This year has again seen a widening of activities as the section has grown in size and acquired more equipment.

The scope of the work can be described as follows:—

- (a) The giving of information about the health services available by means of press releases, talks on the work of the department and the production and periodic amendment of a Guide to the Health Services. This involves close co-operation with the Borough Public Relations Officer.
- (b) The arranging of talks, discussions, film, film-strip, slide and tape shows on the many health and safety hazards and their prevention by immunisation, screening procedures, proper exercise and diet and changes of habit etc. Posters and pamphlets have been designed, produced and used with others available through various interested organisations. Demonstrations.
- (c) The arranging of in-service training lectures for staff.
- (d) The periodical production and distribution of a 20-page Health Bulletin (circulation 7,500).

Mental Health Week in 1968 was publicised in the local press and also by means of posters and shop window displays. Talks were given and film shown on the subject of mental health to senior pupils in local schools, and the Council's training centres were opened to the public.

Assistance was given towards the production of the Dental Puppet Show mentioned elsewhere in the report.

As the work of the section has become known there have been increasing requests for talks, films, etc. in schools in addition to the regular sessions given by health visitors. In connection with G.C.E. subjects involving biology, talks have been requested showing the practical application of biology. The subject of family planning has also been requested but has only been given after the pupils concerned have been given a basic understanding of human reproduction.

The number of students and trainee-teachers calling for help or "projects" have increased. It is particularly useful to be able to talk to future teachers, since they can pass on health education to so many of their pupils. They can also see the help that may be available to them through local authority health departments.

Talks on cervical cytology led to special sessions being arranged on the premises of local industrial undertakings.

A Home Safety Officer was appointed early in the year and more talks were able to be given on this subject. Health visitors and district nurses have referred 136 cases for investigation where hazards, particularly concerning the misuse of oil-heaters have been suspected. Two roads in the borough, largely consisting of houses in multiple occupation, were visited on a house to house basis to discover home safety hazards and give advice.

Late in 1968 an officer, of the Civil Defence organisation, was seconded to the section. His knowledge of first-aid, home-nursing and resuscitation was immediately put to good use and he gave demonstrations and talks on these subjects to schools, mothers clubs etc.

The Health Education Section distributes technical periodicals to the staff and through the Local Government Annotations Service (LOGA) arranges with the Libraries Department for reprints or copies of technical articles to be available for the staff on request. The small library held by the section is gradually being augmented, but wherever possible text-books are obtained through the Library Service with which a most useful liaison has been established.

A competition, open to Health Department staff was organised in September. Individual and group entries were invited of posters, pamphlets, triptychs, mobiles

SOME HEALTH EDUCATION EXHIBITS



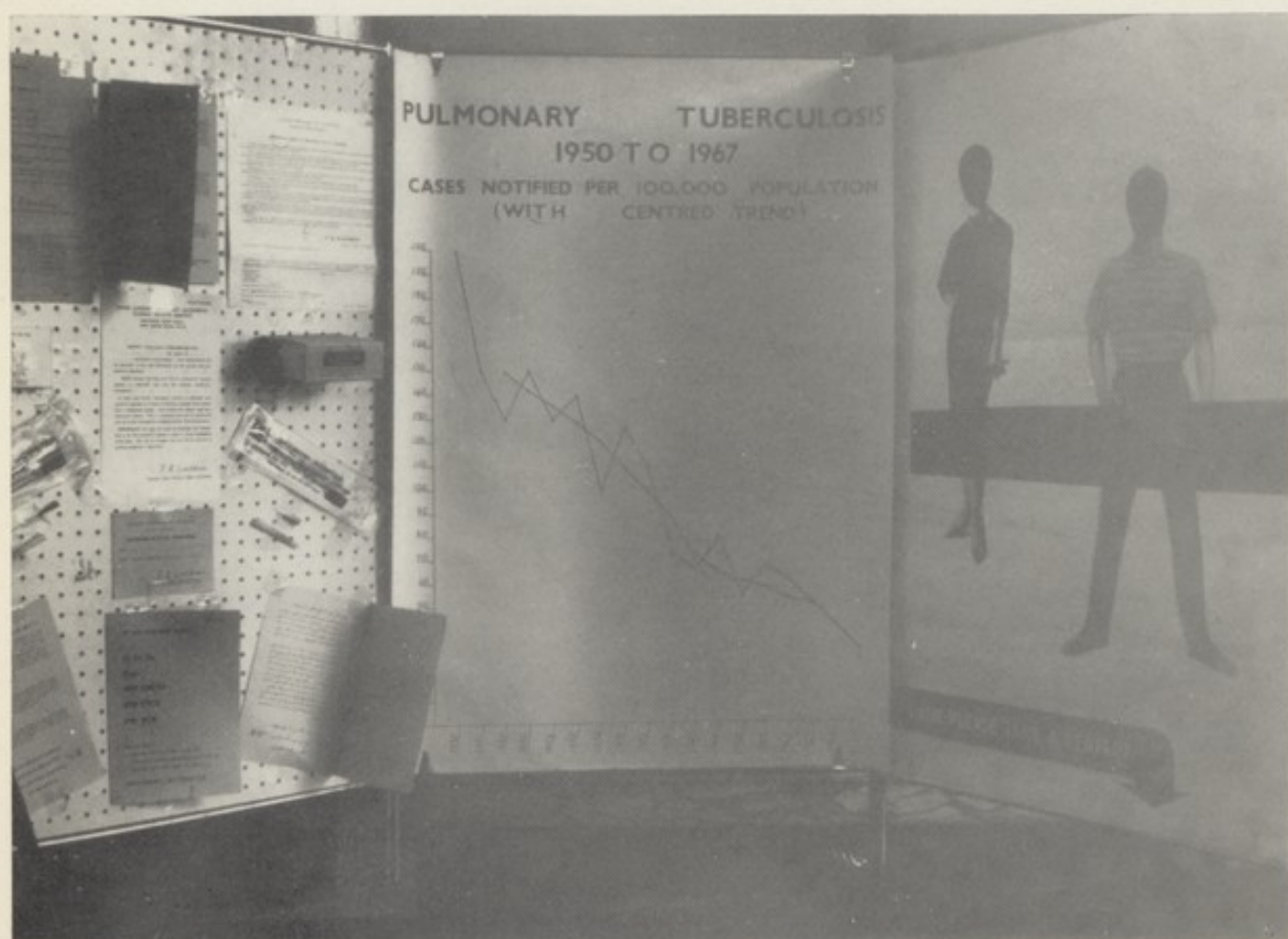
"Kill that Fly"



"Mental Health"



"Diphtheria Immunisation"



"Tuberculosis"

or models with a health or home safety impact. A large number of entries were received which not only showed a high degree of skill and enthusiasm, but also showed how members of the staff put these messages across to the public. A shield, to be held for a year was presented to the winning group and a book-token given for the winning individual entry. In view of the high standard of the entries and the fact that a lot of very useful material was produced, this competition will become an annual event.

Most encouraging co-operation has been received from doctors, dentists, chiropractors, health visitors, district nurses, public health inspectors and other members of the staff who, as the practising experts in the various disciplines, have given many of the talks. A panel of members of the different sections of the Health Department has helped to develop ideas and has provided such material for the Health Bulletin.

Future developments include a series of half-day conferences for local teachers, organised jointly with the I.L.E.A. on the subject of Health Education in Schools with exhibitions of materials, equipment and facilities available to teachers who wish to teach health and home safety. Demonstrations and talks during the year included the following:—

Table 29

Films	190
Filmstrips, slides or tapes	65
Student sessions	87
Talks by H.E. Section	93
Talks by H.V.s and Nursing Officers	727
Talks by Medical Officers	41
Talks by Chiropractist	8
Talks by P.H.I.s	7

Table 30

Lectures, Talks and Demonstrations given by Nursing Staff						
Number of talks						
Centres	604					
Schools	90					
Clubs	4					
Hospitals	28					
Shops	2					
Laundry	1					
Child Care Officers	2					
Total	727					

Subjects covered:

Ante-natal:

Development of foetus
Stages of labour
Care of expectant mothers

Post-natal:

Care of mother
Child development
Breast and artificial feeding
Sterilization of feeding equipment
Suitable clothing for babies and children
Immunisation
Bathing and daily care of baby
Diet and welfare foods
Importance of play and toys
Minor infections of newborn
Minor accidents and first aid
Home safety

Water safety

Prevention of burns and scalds

Care of feet

Care of hair and skin

Dental care

Coughs and colds

Fresh air and exercise

Hearing tests, including audiometry

Detection of cancer:

cancer (education)

Cervical cytology

Self-examination of breasts

Family planning

Venereal diseases

Public health services

Careers in nursery nursing

Hobbies in later life

Health visitors are now teaching in junior schools as well as in secondary schools.

CHIROPODY SERVICE

Mr. B. Dalton, M.Ch.S., S.R.Ch., M.R.S.H., Chief Chiropodist

Four clinics, three full-time and one part-time are maintained by the Council who employ one chief, four full-time and sixteen sessional chiropodists. This force serves the 281,140 inhabitants of Lewisham with an average appointment interval of twelve weeks.

There were 4,595 (4,517) sessions during the year. Full-time staff carried out 2,397 (2,346) sessions, and part-time staff 2,198 (2,171) sessions. This gives an overall average of 88 (88) sessions per week throughout the year.

Treatments numbering 1,547 (1,700) were given to 528 (543) elderly, infirm or handicapped patients transported to the clinics by the Council's vehicles. The average appointment interval for this service was 16 (15) weeks and 25 (14) visits were made to housebound persons of under pensionable age.

Satisfactory appliances of a simple nature were made for 282 (35) patients. Some 156 (20) special cases were successfully resolved, these were patients whose conditions required special treatments, techniques, or drugs which it would not be economic to have generally available.

NOTE: 1967 figures in brackets.

Under the Council's plan for sponsoring the training of chiropodists, one student was in training at the end of the year.

Further delay in commencing the clinic at Downham Health Centre was experienced but it is hoped to make a start in the New Year.

The chiropody session at Lewisham Hospital was developing well.

A report on Lewisham Old People's Welfare chiropody clinics was submitted after a tour of inspection; liaison was maintained throughout the year with the foot clinics provided by voluntary agencies at Methodist Mission and the Brook Lane Medical Mission. The clinic held at Louise House moved into new premises at Kingswear Health Centre, Dartmouth Road at the beginning of September.

During the year, eight talks were given to various local clubs and schools and two short articles were written for the Health Bulletin.

In order to contain the annual rate of growth, i.e. to prevent further lengthening of the appointment interval, at least one full-time senior chiropodist is urgently required. Slight improvement in the overall picture was dependent on there being accommodation for twelve full-time chiropodists. From a practical point of view, this means one chief, four senior and two basic chiropodists, the remainder being part-time staff. By 1972 the staff should have increased to six senior, three basic and remainder being part-time. The situation is still critical although one extra session has been allocated. Three extra sessions would be required to reduce the appointment interval to a reasonable level. This however would not allow for any future development which will require a decision regarding chiropody transport in general.

The need for expansion of the chiropody service is manifest and the provision of suitable premises to allow for the necessary increase in the service is going ahead as quickly as possible. It is hoped that clinics will be opened at the Lind Health Centre in Oxestalls Road, Pepys Estate, Deptford, and at Downham Health Centre during 1969. A further clinic is planned for the new Health Centre, Stanstead Road, due to be completed during 1971 and, in the future development of certain other health centres, chiropody will be considered as an integral part of the services provided.

Table 31

ANALYSIS OF BOOKINGS AND ATTENDANCES AT FOOT CLINICS

	<i>Bathing Centre Deptford</i>		<i>Amersham Road S.E.14</i>		<i>Kingswear Dartmouth Road</i>		<i>Sangley Road S.E.6</i>		<i>Totals</i>	
	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967
Sessions	88	96	1,887	1,745	1,036	1,114	1,584	1,567	4,595	4,517
Bookings	809	819	13,476	13,812	6,528	6,670	11,116	10,782	31,929	32,083
Attendances	689	690	12,198	12,505	5,974	6,059	9,995	9,738	28,856	29,001
Failure to attend	120	120	1,278	1,307	554	611	1,121	1,044	3,073	3,082

Table 32

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCES

								1968	1967
Number of sessions		...	...	...	...	...	...	4,568	4,517
Appointment bookings		...	...	...	...	...	...	31,929	32,083
Children of or below school age		...	...	...	...	...	...	2,015	1,454
Adults:	Male							5,335	5,424
	Female	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,510	22,123
Total		...	...	...	...	...	...	26,841	27,547
Fee paying attendances (adults)		...	...	...	...	...	...	7,333	8,233
Free attendances (adults)		.....	...	...	...	...	...	21,523	20,768

Table 33

NEW CASES		ATTENDANCES ANALYSIS	
<i>Age groups</i>		<i>Number attending clinics</i>	
		1968	1967
0-4		9	2
5-14		227	181
Males 15-64		109	114
Females 15-59		258	320
Males over 65		179	173
Females over 60		435	520
Total		1,217	1,310

MENTAL HEALTH

Miss Z. Mason, B.A., A.I.M.S.W., Principal Mental Health Officer

During the year 219 mentally subnormal and 323 mentally ill persons were referred to the department; at the end of the year a total of 1,087 mentally disordered persons were receiving some form of community care.

Social Work

A team of fourteen social workers provide a case-work service to mentally disordered persons and their families. For this purpose the Borough is divided into districts and each social worker has responsibility for all non-urgent referrals from his district. Casework is supervised in the South of the Borough by the Assistant Principal Mental Health Officer, and in the North by a Senior Mental Health Officer.

One social worker specialises in alcoholism and problems of addiction. She liaises closely with the Alcoholics Unit, Bexley Hospital. Two social workers are mainly concerned with individuals placed in residential accommodation provided by the Borough at 'Honor Lea' Hostel, or in voluntary homes or hostels.

Close liaison is maintained with the catchment area hospitals—Bexley Hospital, Dartford Heath; Cane Hill Hospital, Coulsdon Surrey; Darenth Park Hospital, Dartford, Kent. A monthly case conference is held at Bexley Hospital and is attended by all social workers. A social worker who has a special responsibility to liaise with subnormality hospitals, visits Darenth Park Hospital once a fortnight.

Emergency Work

Mental health social workers are appointed by the Borough as "Mental Welfare Officers" under Section 6 of the Mental Health Act, 1959, and carry out statutory duties on a rota basis. After 10 p.m. on week days and at week-ends the rota is operated jointly with the Borough of Greenwich. During the year the section received 333 calls requesting immediate action with a view to hospital admission.

Guardianship

Formal guardianship under the Mental Health Act, 1959, provides powers of control which may be necessary in the case of a small minority of mentally disordered persons for their own welfare or for the protection of other persons in instances when admission to hospital is not considered necessary. The Guardian may be either the local health authority or another person, but in the latter case, the sanction of the Authority has to be obtained before guardianship has any effect. The powers of a Guardian may be described as equivalent to those of a father over a child under the age of 14.

There is only one person under formal guardianship to this Authority at present; she is a 22-year old severely subnormal girl whose mother is so mentally incapacitated as to be incapable of taking any responsibility or having any contact with her daughter. The girl is cared for by a foster mother under the auspices of the Guardianship Society, Brighton. She is visited and taken out by the Assistant Principal Mental Health Officer, who reports favourably on the care and attention she receives. The girl looks forward eagerly to these visits and they have undoubtedly helped; her behaviour and outlook have improved considerably by the personal attention she receives.

Such visits are also made whenever possible to children and adults who are maintained by this Authority in registered homes but who are not under formal guardianship, to ensure that they are receiving adequate care and attention. These visits are helpful not only to the clients but also to the persons in whose care they are; the interest shown is appreciated and the support offered welcomed. In many instances the knowledge that these visits are made have also been helpful to the relatives.

Services for the Mentally Handicapped

The Special Advisory Clinic

The Special Advisory Clinic for mentally retarded children under the age of five years continued to be held at the Central Lewisham and Amersham Road Health Centres. During the year 39 sessions were held and 188 appointments were offered.

The Early Care Unit

The fifteen places at the Early Care Unit at Shaftesbury House Day Nursery were fully occupied, but there continued to be a waiting list for admission. Priority is given to children from families with social problems and to those who urgently need the training and stimulation the unit can provide. The Council agreed to maintain a third child at the crèche run by the Greenwich Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and this helped to ease the waiting list.

Training Centres

The Lewisham Junior Training Centre has been fully occupied during the year. At the end of the year there were 109 Lewisham children on the roll and six from other boroughs. There was no waiting list in December 1968 but the numbers of children rising five years who will need training centre placement in 1969 and 1970 gave cause for concern. Although the numbers of children from other boroughs is gradually reducing and no new admissions are being accepted, it was felt that there would be a need for a second junior training centre within the next few years. A 60-place junior centre with a special care unit for 18 children has been written into the Ten Year Plan.

The twelve-place special care unit for children with multiple handicaps continues to be under heavy pressure. Plans are in hand to add another six places in 1969. Some of the children attend part-time to give relief to as many families as possible.

The total number of adults attending the two adult training centres at the end of the year was 112; 15 of these were from the Borough of Lambeth. Both adult centres will move to better premises in 1969. This is a temporary measure until the proposed 140-place, purpose built training centre is erected in central Lewisham and is ready for occupation.

Annual Seaside Holiday

37 trainees from the three training centres, accompanied by members of the staff, joined the annual seaside holiday organised on behalf of the Inner London Boroughs by the London Borough of Hammersmith, at St. Mary's Bay, Dymchurch. An innovation this year was a group holiday for twenty children aged 5-7 years who were too young to be considered for the first holiday. This was organised by the supervisor of the junior training centre and the children were accompanied by the centre staff.

Short Term Care

Short term residential care to give relief to their families was provided for 36 children and 27 adults. 11 of these were accommodated in hospitals and 52 in approved homes.

Long Term Care

Obtaining places for individuals requiring long-term residential care continued to be difficult, especially for children. Admissions to hospitals were arranged for 1 adult and 7 children. Places in approved homes were found for 7 adults and 8 children. The total number now being maintained at the Council's expense is 43.

Mental Subnormality Advisory Committee

The Committee met twice during the year. Its membership comprises a consultant psychiatrist from the catchment area hospital, a general practitioner and senior officers of the Health Department and Medical Adviser's Department, County Hall. The Committee gave valuable advice on planning the services for the mentally handicapped.

Services for the Mentally Ill

Liaison for Services concerned with the mentally ill

The Psychiatric Liaison Committee, comprising consultant psychiatrists from Bexley and Cane Hill Hospitals, a general practitioner, a representative from the Welfare Department and Senior Officers of the Health Department met quarterly to discuss matters of policy and planning. Monthly meetings were held for mental health social workers, staffs of establishments for the mentally ill, hospitals' consultants and social workers. Representatives of the Welfare and Children's Departments attended, and from time to time, members of other sections of the Health Department. This proved a valuable forum for ironing out general problems of policy and procedure, and for integrating all services having a concern for the mentally ill.

Honor Lea Hostel

The hostel continued to be fully occupied for the first 9 months of 1968. There was a falling off in referrals during the last quarter of the year and there were 45 out of a possible 51 at the end of the year.

In June, 1968 a self-care-unit comprising three bed-sitting rooms, dining room and kitchen, was set up in order to provide a further stage in rehabilitation for those who need to gain confidence in budgeting and catering for themselves, before moving out into the community. The unit accommodates three persons who are expected to do their own housework and to shop and cook for themselves. Other facilities of the hostel, including advice from the warden and his staff, continue to be available to them.

The project has proved successful and a second self-care unit is to be set up in 1969.

During 1968 the total number of admissions to the hostel were 33. Of the 35 who left the hostel during the year, 20 returned to their own homes or to lodgings or other hostels; 15 were re-admitted to hospital, 7 of these returned to "Honor Lea" after a short period of treatment.

A rule of the hostel is that all residents must be willing and able to work. The work record of the residents continued to be very good and the absentee figures were below the national average.

Three group holidays for a total of 25 residents unable to make their own arrangements were organised at Ramsgate. These groups were unaccompanied by members of staff, but they went to the care of an experienced landlady, well known to the department.

Day Centres

During the year 64 patients were admitted to the two day centres. At the end of the year there was a total of 64 on the register. 26 returned to outside employment during the year.

The Supervisor of the New Cross Day Centre was given the additional responsibility for negotiating contracts for industrial work for the two day centres and the adult training centres. A steady flow of varied types of industrial work was maintained throughout the year. Gross earnings from industrial contracts at the day centres were approximately £2,500. £1,840 was spent on fares and *ex gratia* payments to persons attending the centres.

Social Clubs

Weekly meetings of the two social clubs continued to be held. An innovation this year was a group holiday for three members of the Tideway Club financed out of club funds.

Therapeutic Group

A new feature this year was the introduction of a weekly group meeting under the leadership of a social worker experienced in group work. This is for selected patients only. Over the year 32 patients, including six married couples, have attended the group.

Staff Training

One social worker and one member of the training centre staff were seconded for the second year of their full-time training courses. Another social worker was seconded for one year to the London School of Economics to complete his professional training as a psychiatric social worker, and a supervisor-instructor from the Brockley Training Centre was seconded to Durham Technical College on a one-year course leading to the diploma of the Central Training Council for Teachers of the Mentally Handicapped.

One social worker and two day centre supervisors attended day release courses organised by the London Boroughs Training Committee.

An innovation this year was a two-week in-service training programme for newly appointed mental health social workers, organised by Bexley Hospital.

Student Attachments

The section continued to play an active part in the training of students. One-day visits of observation by nursing, health visitor, child care, teaching and social science students took place regularly.

During 1968 case-work training was provided for five students from full-time social work courses and two students from social science diploma courses.

Three students from the course for Teachers of the Mentally Handicapped came to the junior training centre for their practical work.

Mental Health Week 10th—18th June, 1968

The Borough took part in Mental Health Week, organised nationally by the National Association for Mental Health and locally by the Lewisham Association for Mental Health. The Council's mental health establishments were open to the public and members of the mental health team gave talks and showed films to senior classes at six schools in the Borough. Parties of senior school children visited our centres and showed a keen interest.

Co-operation with the Voluntary Organisations

Throughout the year close links have been maintained with the Lewisham Society for Mentally Handicapped Children, the newly formed Lewisham Association for Mental Health and many other voluntary organisations. In particular we would like to acknowledge the help given by the Brighton Guardianship Society in finding both permanent and short-term accommodation for the mentally handicapped, and the Mental After-Care Association who have provided hostel accommodation for the mentally ill.

PREVALENCE OF and CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Under the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968, and the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1968, which came into operation on 1st October 1968 the following diseases are now to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health:—

Acute encephalitis	Measles
Acute meningitis	Ophthalmia neonatorum
Acute poliomyelitis	Paratyphoid fever
Anthrax	Plague
Cholera	Relapsing fever
Diphtheria	Scarlet fever
Dysentery (amoebic or bacillary)	Smallpox
Food poisoning	Tetanus
Infective jaundice	Tuberculosis
Leprosy	Typhoid fever
Leptospirosis	Typhus
Malaria	Whooping Cough
	Yellow Fever

NUMBER OF NOTIFIED CASES

(Corrected for revised diagnosis) during the year 1968 with comparative figures for the previous six years.

Table 34

Diseases				Cases notified						
				1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962
Anthrax	...	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	—	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	...	...	46	90	152	159	226	870	234
Encephalitis (acute)	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or typhoid fever	...	...	...	2	3	1	1	2	12	4
Erysipelas	...	(To 30.9.68)	...	4	16	18	19	20	7	2
Infective jaundice	(From 15.6.68)	...	...	21	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food poisoning	...	...	...	20	22	34	20	19	13	19
Malaria	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	2
Measles	...	...	...	799	2,561	2,017	3,014	1,553	3,186	544
Meningococcal infection	...	...	...	16	—	3	1	2	1	4
Ophthalmia neonatorum	...	...	...	1	5	3	3	1	5	1
Pneumonia	...	(To 30.9.68)	...	20	43	35	37	35	75	36
Poliomyelitis (acute)	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	(To 30-9.68)	...	...	11	67	36	75	55	47	74
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	105	174	82	161	197	103	71
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	132	116	148	157	203	210	191
Whooping cough	...	...	...	146	130	169	108	190	258	54
TOTALS				1,325	3,228	2,698	3,753	2,503	4,806	1,249

Table 35

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN 1968 SHOWING SEX AND AGE GROUPS

Disease				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	2	5	3	3	5	6	3	1	3	1	1	3	1	2	—	1	21	25
Encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Erysipelas (to 30.9.68)	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	3	
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	1	—	4	—	1	2	1	2	1	—	2	1	1	1	—	1	—	2	11	9
Infective Jaundice (from 15.6.68)	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	7	4	4	2	—	1	—	—	12	9
Malaria	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Measles	...	...	...	19	19	135	113	107	133	132	119	6	1	2	7	1	5	—	—	—	—	402	397
Meningococcal infection	...	...	...	3	—	—	2	—	—	5	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	12	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Paratyphoid B	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Pneumonia (to 30.9.68)	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	7	3	5	7	13
Puerperal Pyrexia (to 30.9.68)...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	11	
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	—	—	3	2	15	10	30	32	—	8	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	52	53
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	—	—	3	1	1	—	1	3	—	4	5	11	25	21	26	9	15	7	76	56
Typhoid	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	5	5	18	9	20	28	21	34	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	64	82

MEASLES

The number of cases was the lowest since 1962, but no significance can be attached to this fact, such a drop being expected as the numbers in the last "off" year were relatively high in this illness which normally makes a biennial appearance.

DYSENTERY

Another encouraging year, the figures being nearly half those of the previous year which was the lowest recorded. As this illness can so easily become prevalent again constant observation of the rules of hygiene is essential.

SCARLET FEVER

There were 105 cases compared with 174 in the previous year. This cannot be considered other than normal incidence, the figures having fluctuated between 71 and 197 during the past decade.

WHOOPING COUGH

The year produced 146 cases compared with 130 in the previous year. No special comment is called for as the figures were not abnormally high when related to the occurrences over the past decade.

Table 36
TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS AT AGES

Age periods	New cases notified				Totals	
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory			
	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-	—	1	—	—	—	1
2-	4	—	—	—	4	—
5-	1	2	—	1	1	3
10-	—	4	—	—	—	4
15-	1	4	—	1	1	5
20-	4	5	—	1	4	6
25-	10	8	2	3	12	11
35-	13	9	—	1	13	10
45-	11	4	—	—	11	4
55-	15	5	—	—	15	5
65-	12	2	1	1	13	3
75+	3	3	—	—	3	3
TOTALS	74	47	3	8	77	55

CHEST CLINIC, LEWISHAM

I am indebted to Dr. M. Farquharson for the following report concerning the Chest Clinic at Blagdon Road of which she is the consultant physician:

This year has seen a slight increase in the number of tuberculosis notifications. This emphasizes the need for continued vigilance in the prevention and control of tuberculosis. The new cases seen at the Lewisham Chest Clinic have risen from 44 in 1967 to 57 in 1968. This figure comprises 33 men, 21 women and 3 children. The total tuberculosis register has been reduced by 177 to 1,370. B.C.G. was given to 178 infants and children. The health visitors carried out 4,167 home visits.

The total clinic attendances (excluding after care) were 19,823; new patients attending for clinical examination numbered 1,994.

This year we have seen more new cases of cancer of the lung than ever before, the increase being 25% on the figures for 1967, and the number of cases more than

double the tuberculosis notifications.

During this year a special weekly session has been arranged for the investigation of the problems of asthma, and allergic conditions affecting the respiratory tract.

CHEST CLINIC, DEPTFORD

I am indebted to Dr. J. P. V. Rigby for the following report concerning the Chest Clinic at Harton Street of which he is consultant physician:

Though pleasure should rightly be expressed if the number of individuals dying from tuberculosis is decreased, I am not so sure that one should look forward to a decrease in tuberculosis notification without caution.

If the case-finding services are proceeding at full tilt, then all is well if a drop occurs. But the fight may not be sufficiently sustained if this clinic is moved two miles away into the new Greenwich District Hospital. Such a move may impair our contact with known tuberculosis cases in North Lewisham, still 1,097 in number, to vanishing point. Carrington House, the nearby lodging house, at present furnishes us with many of our cases of tuberculosis, new and old. If this clinic moves far away from Carrington House, I think that all our carefully built-up contacts with these men may virtually cease. They will not, in my view, come two miles into Greenwich for treatment.

The mass radiography unit does yeoman service every six months in visiting Carrington House, but speaking from the receiving end I know that, despite their efforts, on average only 100 or so of the total potential of 734 inmates actually get an x-ray done, and some of these are already known to me and attending the clinic. A significant percentage, though detected, disappear even before this clinic can interview them, and the appointments are usually given immediately after discovery. If the clinic moves away, follow up will become even more difficult.

The other main point with regard to notifications concerns the criteria of diagnosis of tuberculosis. It has seldom been my policy to notify all the smallest or minimal cases of tuberculosis, though I search through the contacts. Some physicians, not necessarily local, are willing to notify some strongly positive tuberculin skin reactors with negative x-ray findings, and yet other general hospital physicians, not always nearby, sometimes omit notification of quite severe bilateral positive cases. It has always been difficult to obtain notification, and therefore knowledge of contacts, of non-pulmonary tuberculous conditions, such as renal or gynaecological tuberculosis. So even now the picture of tuberculous notification may be incomplete.

With regard to deaths from tuberculosis, I also find frequently that if tuberculous patients die primarily from some other cause such as bronchitis or even pneumonia, then pulmonary tuberculosis may not be mentioned on the death certificate, even though it must have been, in my view, a major factor in the patient's decease.

There were 95 new cases of respiratory tuberculosis in 1968, 24 of which were bacteriologically proved soon after diagnosis. There were also 6 non-respiratory notifications making a total of 101 new tuberculosis cases in all. This comprised 45 men, 41 women and 15 children. These numbers do not include a fairly large number of inward transfers of known tuberculosis cases from other clinic areas. I do nine sessions at the clinic and my assistant has now had his three sessions increased to four to help cope with the heavy case load. All patients attending are examined as well as having chest x-ray and other necessary tests. This involves more work, but is clinically rewarding. Some centres have huge attendance figures, but comparatively few patients actually seen by the physician, so 5,672 attenders last year meant a great deal of work. B.C.G. was given to 139 contacts or other adults found tuberculin negative.

The health visitors carried out 1,943 home visits, 1,315 successful and 628 unsuccessful. The clinic had knowledge of 32 new cases of lung cancer during 1968, of which 26 were diagnosed here. Many cases of chest infections were dealt with through the year, and chronic bronchitis, emphysema and bronchial asthma remain some of the main problems.

Heavy smoking of cigarettes is a notable feature of Deptford life and exacerbates many chest affections.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT

I am indebted to Dr. Morgan, the director of the unit, for information of work done in the borough during 1968 on which the following tables are based.

Table 37

<i>Patients</i>						<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>General analysis:</i>								
X-rayed	...	...	...	...	...	4,262	3,479	7,741
Previously x-rayed	...	...	...	...	...	2,405	1,510	3,915
Reviewed	...	...	...	...	...	179	97	276
Abnormal after review	...	...	...	...	...	151	70	221
<i>Analysis of abnormal films:</i>								
Cases considered tuberculous								
(a) No further action required	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
(b) Occasional supervision only	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	7
(c) Requiring treatment	...	...	...	...	...	13	2	15
(d) Still under investigation	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
(e) Refused further investigation	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Previously known tuberculous cases	...	...	...	...	...	14	6	20
Non-tuberculous cases								
(a) Investigated (See table 38 for detailed breakdown)	...	...	...	...	...	25	16	41
(b) Still under investigation	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	7
Cardio-vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	...	26	22	48
Abnormalities requiring no action	...	...	...	...	...	65	18	83

Table 38

NON-TUBERCULOUS ABNORMALITIES

<i>MEN</i>		<i>WOMEN</i>	
Carcinoma of bronchus	5	Fibrosis	3
Sarcoidosis	2	Pneumonitis	10
Bronchiectasis	1	Chronic bronchitis	1
Pneumonitis	9	Pleural thickening	1
Chronic bronchitis	1	Iron deficiency anaemia	1
Fibrosis	3		
Pleural thickening	3		
Asthma	1		
Eosinophilic infiltration	1		
Poly arteritis nodosa	1		
	—		—
	25		16
	—		—

Table 39

				<i>Cases of tuberculosis requiring treatment or close supervision</i>			NOT PREVIOUSLY EXAMINED (included in previous columns)					
	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>	NUMBERS			CASES		
							<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>
Small Public Surveys	123	166	289	—	—	—	89	123	212	—	—	—
Public Surveys—Examination of Special Groups	603	349	952	—	—	—	177	189	366	—	—	—
Regular Site (New Cross)	1,636	1,635	3,271	2	—	2	637	964	1,601	2	—	2
Firms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitals, Colleges etc.	1,204	1,084	2,288	3	1	4	738	580	1,318	2	—	2
Homes and Hostels	179	17	196	7	—	7	91	16	107	6	—	6
TOTAL	4,262	3,479	7,741	13	2	15	1,857	1,969	3,826	11	—	11

PROPHYLAXIS

Immunisation against the following diseases was offered at health centres and schools—diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, smallpox and tuberculosis.

Children between the ages 2 months and 5 years were offered immunisation at health centres and from 5-12 years in schools. Adults between the ages 15 and 40 years were offered immunisation against poliomyelitis. B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis was offered to all children in schools in their fourteenth year.

Medical practitioners in the Borough are supplied, free of cost, with poliomyelitis vaccine for persons under the age of 40, and diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and smallpox vaccine.

Table 40
IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Type of vaccine or dose Primary courses completed				Year of birth					Others under age 16 yrs.	Total	
				1968	1967	1966	1965	1961- 64			
Diphtheria	...	...	1,971	2,060	240	105	414	163	4,953
Whooping Cough	...	...	1,962	2,038	233	104	133	17	4,487
Tetanus	...	...	1,971	2,062	243	105	422	267	5,070
Polio	...	...	826	2,884	363	156	536	228	4,993
Reinforcing dose											
Diphtheria	...	...	3	1,540	1,430	229	3,087	924	7,213
Whooping Cough	...	...	1	1,480	1,363	192	744	152	3,932
Tetanus	...	...	3	1,540	1,442	228	3,103	1,001	7,317
Polio	...	...	—	26	27	25	2,979	785	3,842
Smallpox Vaccination				Age at date of vaccination							
				Months			Years				
				0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1 yr.	2-4 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	Total
Vaccination	...		41	30	62	56	2,114	969	160	3,432	
Re-vaccination			—	—	—	—	—	57	184	241	

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The following represents work carried out by the Southern Group Laboratory on behalf of the Council during 1968.

Table 41

<i>Specimens</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Faeces ...	330	Negative
	18	Shigella sonnei
	6	Salmonella typhimurium
	4	Salmonella panama
	2	Salmonella Enteritidis
	1	Staphylococcus aureus
Swabs from nose and throat etc. ...	5	Negative
	1	B-haemolytic streptococci
Water (various) ...	3	
Food ...	16	
Milk ...	4	
Earth ...	9	
	399	

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Mr. A. J. Phillips, M.A.P.H.I., Chief Public Health Inspector

During 1968 a more comprehensive record of visits paid by the health inspectors and technical assistants has been kept and a total of over 42,000 inspections was recorded. Of this number over 30,000 visits were made to dwelling houses for various reasons which are set out in the table. This shows the very wide field covered today by the health inspectors.

Housing

14 further clearance areas involving 175 properties and 476 persons were dealt with during the year, a considerable increase compared with 1967. There was a rise in the number of Closing Orders made and this was accounted for by the effect of the flooding in September of houses in the Lewisham area where it was necessary to rehouse some of the occupants. The work of dealing with houses in multiple occupation continued at a satisfactory rate and again emphasis was placed on the fire prevention requirements. There was an increase in both discretionary and standard grants during 1968. It is hoped however that new legislation will help to make a very considerable increase in the improvement of existing houses.

Public Health Acts

There was a slight increase in both the formal and informal notices served under the Public Health Acts, 1936 and 1961 although it will be noted in the detail of repairs carried out that the figures are a little less than the previous year. The principal defects were again roofs, gutters, floors, dampness and wall and ceiling plaster.

Food

There was an increase in the tonnage at the Continental Depot and a number of samples were found to be incorrectly or insufficiently labelled and this was brought to the notice of the countries concerned. Samples submitted to the public analyst showed less than 5% to be non genuine and most of these related to labelling offences which were rectified after contact with the manufacturers. An increase in the number of bacteriological samples was possible during the year, a total of 160 being submitted for examination. It is pleasing to note that in only two cases was there an adverse report.

Atmospheric Pollution

The Bell Green Area involving 4,208 properties came into operation during 1968. There remain only two redevelopment areas not covered by smoke control orders and properties in these areas are being vacated at a steady rate. Complaints relating to pollution from factories and other sources have been investigated and steps taken to reduce this pollution. Guidance in relation to the height and construction of chimneys was given in a number of cases where new installations were involved.

Offices and Shops

The figures show a slight increase in the number of premises registered and receiving a general inspection. There was also a slight increase in the number of persons employed. It is regretted that it was necessary to institute legal proceedings in the case of one serious accident. It is surprising to note that the number of cases where there was no proper first-aid box or a thermometer shows no reduction.

Pests and Verminous Conditions

Although there was a slight drop in the number of rat complaints, there was a sharp increase in the number of inspections for mice infestation. This is felt to be due to carelessness in many cases in the proper storage of food. It was possible to carry out seven block control schemes involving 323 premises during 1968 compared with 2 schemes and 48 properties in 1967. Last year a rise in verminous cases and treatment for scabies was reported. It was hoped that this was only temporary and would improve with better housing conditions. This has however not been the case. During 1968 555 verminous children and 644 adults were treated compared with 512 and 439 respectively in 1967. 682 children and 403 adults were treated for scabies compared with 517 and 360 in 1967. The number of rooms treated increased from 965 to 1,296 but there was a drop of nearly 5,000 in the articles required to be disinfected. It is hoped that the figures for 1969 will show a downward trend.

Table 42
SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS AND VISITS
MADE BY TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS

Reason for Visit	Type of premises	Animal Boarding Establishments	Food Shops	Chemists	Common Lodging Houses	Dwelling Houses	Factories	Hairdressers	Multiple Stores	Off Licences	Pet Shops	Public Houses	Restaurants and Cafes	Schools	Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	Other Types of Premises	Sites	Markets, Stalls, etc.	Offices	Totals
Canteens	—	—	12	—	1	—	10	—	6	3	—	3	11	26	12	32	—	—	—	116
Clean Air Act	—	—	29	—	—	521	57	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	13	15	—	—	638
Clearance Areas	—	—	—	—	—	517	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	517
Complaints	—	—	67	5	—	5,704	29	6	13	5	3	13	15	9	4	182	90	1	9	6,155
Consumer Protection Act	—	—	8	—	—	5	1	—	6	—	—	22	7	6	12	13	—	37	—	117
Drainage	—	—	28	—	—	1,162	10	5	—	2	—	26	25	58	6	98	136	—	6	1,562
Fish Curing	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Fish Frying	—	—	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	11	—	—	—	42
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	65	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
House to House	—	—	—	—	—	24	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	7	1	14	—	—	—	92
Houses in Multiple Occupation	—	—	—	—	—	1,685	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,685
Housing Act, Section 9	—	—	—	—	—	130	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	130
Housing Act, Section 16	—	—	—	—	—	293	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	293
Ice Cream	—	—	29	—	—	1	3	—	4	2	—	—	10	—	—	1	—	5	—	55
Improvement Area	—	—	—	—	—	751	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	751
Improvement Grant	—	—	—	—	—	1,407	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,407
Infectious Diseases	—	—	1	—	—	220	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	5	—	—	—	228
Infestation	—	—	12	—	2	286	1	5	5	2	—	6	22	2	—	31	3	—	—	377
Milk	—	—	53	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	61
Mortgages	—	—	—	—	—	1,158	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,158
Notice of Builder	—	—	16	—	—	453	27	1	—	—	—	3	2	—	35	56	127	—	—	720
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	—	—	246	7	—	—	6	49	25	10	1	96	220	1	10	539	1	—	223	1,434
O.S.R. Accidents	—	—	24	1	—	—	—	—	11	1	—	—	3	2	1	5	—	—	—	48
Outworkers	—	—	1	—	—	62	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	64
Pharmacy and Poisons Act	—	—	66	4	—	—	1	2	26	—	1	—	—	—	2	61	—	—	—	163
Pressed, Potted and Pickled Food	—	—	17	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18
Rag Flock etc. Act	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	9
Rent Acts	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Rodent Control	—	—	28	—	—	131	—	4	—	—	1	3	11	1	1	19	8	—	—	207
Sampling	—	—	95	3	—	1	1	—	43	3	—	2	5	—	1	29	—	1	—	184
Sausage Manufacturer	—	—	16	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22
Unsound Food	—	—	179	—	—	54	4	—	97	1	—	65	27	23	107	33	—	3	—	593
Food Hygiene	—	—	393	2	3	28	34	—	81	7	—	322	857	25	31	119	—	507	2	2,411
Housing Applications	—	—	—	—	—	222	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	222
Registered Premises	—	—	130	—	—	—	116	194	3	—	7	15	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	470
Immigrants	—	—	—	—	—	384	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	384
Miscellaneous	—	—	580	3	—	1,623	372	24	17	1	9	44	40	10	4	1,065	133	12	119	4,056
Flood Incident	—	—	1	—	—	3,023	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	3,029
Re-visits	—	—	252	2	1	10,592	980	89	27	2	1	70	145	77	8	485	336	20	9	13,096
Totals	—	—	2,311	27	7	30,514	1,661	379	373	39	23	692	1,416	249	237	2,825	849	586	368	42,556

Table 43
SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED

Informal notices:									
Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	849
Factories Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Housing Act, 1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	240
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,108
Statutory notices:									
Public Health Act, 1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	97
Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	387
Clean Air Act, 1956*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Housing Act, 1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Byelaws	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Factories Act, 1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	630

* The majority of these were for late applications and were served to safeguard Ministry and Borough Council grant.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

The number of houses in which defects were remedied was 390 after informal action; 427 after the service of Abatement notices and, 2 as a result of Abatement Orders.

Table 44
DETAILS OF REPAIRS CARRIED OUT

<i>Repairs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Brickwork repaired	25
Chimneys and flues repaired	6
Dampness remedied	575
Doors and door frames repaired or renewed	43
Drains cleared	50
Drains repaired	8
Dry rot remedied	9
Dustbins supplied	9
Fire grates etc., repaired or renewed	9
Flooring repaired or renewed	126
Flushing cisterns repaired, renewed or cleansed	41
Flush pipes repaired or renewed	3
Glazing	4
Gutters repaired	104
Gullies renewed, repaired or cleansed	28
Refuse cleared	20
Rainwater pipes cleared	29
Roofs repaired	223
Sashcords renewed	112
Sinks replaced	44
Soil pipes repaired, ventilated or renewed	32
Walls and ceilings cleansed	—
Walls and ceiling plaster repaired	191
Water closets repaired or renewed	73
Water service pipes repaired or renewed, water supply restored	23
Windows and frames repaired or renewed	77
Yards and areas paved	11
Other repairs	46
TOTALS	1,921

FACTORIES

Section 7 of the Factories Act, 1961, 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 where it is responsible for the enforcement of any of the provisions mentioned above. Close co-operation is maintained with H.M. Inspectors of Factories so that any faults found by them during the course of their visits and for which it is the duty of the local authority to take action, are notified to the Health Department. Similarly the public health inspectors notify H.M. Inspectors. H.M. Inspectors also forward to the Health Department details of new factories, the introduction of mechanical power or other information which may assist the local authority.

Special attention is paid to factory canteens. These are visited by the Council's food inspectors and opportunity is taken to discuss with staff the need to maintain a good standard of food hygiene.

The Medical Officer of Health is required to report on the administration of part I (factories) and part VIII (outworkers) which are administered by the local authority. Details follow:—

Table 45
INSPECTIONS

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	16	18	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the local authority	673	566	12	—
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	85	85	—	—
TOTAL	774	669	12	—

Table 46
CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

<i>Defects</i>	<i>No. of defects</i>				
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred To HM Inspector</i>	<i>By HM Inspector</i>	<i>Prosecutions instituted</i>
Want of cleanliness (S 1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S 2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S 3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S 4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S 6)	—	—	—	—	—

Sanitary conveniences (S 7):

(a) insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	12	12	—	1	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	13	13	—	1	—

OUTWORKERS

Under section 133 of the Factories Act 1961, 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. He must send to the 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 134 of the same Act empowers the Council by notice in writing to the occupier or 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.

The following is a list of such occupations:—

Table 47

<i>Trade</i>					<i>Outworkers employed</i>
Clothing	...	...	...	...	89
Boxmaking	...	...	...	...	3
Millinery	...	...	...	...	7
Rosettes	...	...	...	...	1
Lace	...	...	...	...	6
Brushes	...	...	...	...	1
Jewellery	...	...	...	...	4
Wigs	...	...	...	...	2
Leatherwork	...	...	...	...	2
Plastic goods	...	...	...	...	1
Rubber sheets	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 116 <hr/>

The inspectors made 64 visits during the year. Reports were submitted to the Council setting out the position with regard to outworkers in the Borough. No adverse comments were made.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Of the items requiring attention, the most frequently recurring were the following:—

Table 48

Abstract of the Act not displayed	...	168
Absence of a thermometer	...	104
Absence of a first-aid box	...	114
Absence of a hot water supply	...	48

Other matters to which it was necessary to draw attention were:

Table 49

Insufficient heating	...	...	6
Insufficient lighting	...	...	18
Condition of floors and staircases	...	...	28
Insufficient washing facilities	...	...	12
Facilities for drying clothes	...	...	6
Insufficient ventilation	...	...	6
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	...	...	6
Absence of drinking water	...	...	—
Lack of seating facilities	...	...	—
Poor standard of cleanliness	...	...	14
Overcrowding	...	...	—
Deficient sanitary accommodation	...	...	14
Deficient washing accommodation	...	...	6

Reinspections were made to ascertain whether these matters had been put right and where this was not so, further action was taken to enforce compliance.

The number of registered premises in 1968 showed a slight increase (by 26), whilst the number newly registered during the year increased (by 36). The number of staff employed also increased from 17,155 (males 7,582 compared with 7,412 in 1967 and females 9,939 compared with 9,743).

There were 91 accidents reported during the year and investigation of 48 of these again showed that they were mostly of a minor character, except in one case, where a lad suffered serious injury in dismantling and cleaning a bacon slicing machine. The firm concerned was prosecuted and a conviction obtained following a plea of guilty. In several instances occupiers were asked to carry out alterations or repairs to obviate any further accidents.

The conditions in shop and office premises are undoubtedly improving as a result of this Act, and it is hoped further inspections during 1969 will show that the improvements have been maintained.

Table 50
REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

<i>Class of premises</i>	<i>Number of premises newly registered during the year</i>	<i>Total number of registered premises at end of year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year</i>
Offices	22	575	223
Retail shops	37	1,641	681
Wholesale shops, warehouses	2	94	10
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	24	250	250
Fuel storage depots	—	11	1
TOTALS	85	2,571	1,165

Table 51
PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

<i>Class of work place</i>	<i>Number of persons employed</i>
(1)	(2)
Offices	5,137
Retail Shops	9,468
Wholesale departments, warehouses	1,190
Catering establishments open to the public	1,494
Canteens	169
Fuel storage depots	63
Total	17,521
Total Males	7,582
Total Females	9,939

NOISE

There have been a number of complaints of noise nuisance. These are mainly from occupiers of premises close to industrial areas but there have also been complaints of noise from many of the building operations.

Public health inspectors have been attending special courses at the South East London Technical College on noise control in order to be able to give advice on methods of reducing noise at source or muffling or enclosing noisy machines at operations.

The noise complained of can often be greatly reduced and much has been achieved by advice and co-operation rather than by any formal action.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—SECTION 47 NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

No cases were removed to hospital or Part III accommodation by means of Orders granted under the above Acts. Several possible cases were kept under observation, and were subsequently admitted to hospital on medical grounds.

DISINFECTION AND PERSONAL CLEANSING

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

Table 52

Rooms disinfected or disinfested	1,296
Articles disinfected or disinfested	27,475
Verminous children cleansed	555
Verminous adults cleansed (Carrington House 566)	644
Treatment for scabies, children	682
Treatment for scabies, adults	403
Articles cleansed	130,635
Domiciliary bathing	1,272

WASPS, HORNETS AND THE LIKE

Under the provisions of section 6 of the Local Government (Financial Provisions), Act, 1963, the Council decided to introduce a service to assist residents to eradicate wasps, hornets and the like. It was decided to charge £1 for the services of the Council's staff and material in each case. During the year, fifteen wasps nests were dealt with on this basis. Several nests were destroyed free where the occupier was unable to pay the charge. In a few cases it was not possible to deal with the nests because of their inaccessibility.

ANTI-FLY CAMPAIGN

During the period June to September, the usual measures were taken to deal with fly breeding. Calls were made to potential sources, such as stables, piggeries and similar premises throughout the Borough. Vacant sites which were well known to the department as rubbish dumps were visited and deposits of litter removed and the ground sprayed with insecticide. The treatment of dustbins with powder supplied by the health department was carried out by the Borough Engineer & Surveyor's staff. The caretakers of blocks of flats were supplied with material to enable them to deal with refuse chutes and chambers.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The following table shows rat and mice destruction carried out by pest operatives during 1968. No special comment is called for except to say that this is a continuing problem.

Table 53

	<i>Local authority</i>	<i>Type of Property</i>		<i>Total</i>	<i>Agricultural</i>
		<i>Dwelling houses (including council houses)</i>	<i>All other (including business premises)</i>		
Properties inspected as a result of					
(a) notification	12	3,099	262	3,373	—
(b) survey	—	314	9	323	—
(c) otherwise	—	—	—	—	—
Total inspections	12	3,413	271	3,696	—
Properties inspected which were found to be infested by:—					
(a) Rats—major	—	—	—	—	—
(b) —minor	5	963	102	1,070	—
(c) Mice—major	—	—	—	—	—
(d) —minor	2	894	58	954	—
Infested properties treated	7	1,857	160	2,024	—
Retreatments	23	2,951	428	3,402	—
“Block” control schemes carried out 7, involving 323 premises					

SWIMMING BATHS

There are 5 public swimming baths in the Borough. The following table shows details of the laboratory tests taken during the year.

Table 54

<i>Bath</i>	<i>Number of tests</i>	<i>Variation of chlorine (p.p.m.)</i>
Ladywell	9	0.00 — 3.80
Forest Hill North	9	0.00 — 2.50
Forest Hill South	9	0.04 — 2.50
Laurie Grove Large	4	0.04 — 2.00
Laurie Grove Small	9	0.04 — 5.00
Laurie Grove South	9	0.03 — 1.20
Downham	9	0.06 — 1.60
Bellingham (open air)	2	0.02 — 0.25

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 metephosphate 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 12 noon 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 at the open-air baths.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act is designed to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles and other articles which are stuffed or lined.

Six premises are registered for the use of filling materials for upholstery purposes, one of these being also registered for storage. Samples of these materials proved satisfactory on examination.

DESTRUCTION OF PIGEONS

This has continued during 1968, and railway bridges and several churches were visited regularly by the pigeon catchers. 3,064 birds as well as nests and eggs were destroyed. The complaints investigated showed that the birds were more scattered around the Borough.

Destruction was carried out principally by shooting and this makes the treatment of some buildings difficult owing to the large area of glass used in construction.

One treatment by a narcotic was tried but the result was not very satisfactory for various reasons. Some trapping was also tried during the year and it is hoped to extend this method.

The feeding of the birds by the public is a problem and some of the larger infestations are due to this fact. Damage to crops occurred during the year due to wood pigeons and some help was given to allotment holders in dealing with the nuisance.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

During the year 18 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 for any licence which has been issued.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Under the above Act, no person may keep a boarding establishment for animals (i.e. dogs or cats) except under the authority of a licence granted by the local authority for the area in which the establishment is situated. One such licence was granted during the year.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964

There are two licensed riding establishments in the Borough. These are inspected and supervised by the Council's Veterinary Officer, Mr. G. S. Wiggins, M.R.C.V.S.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Clean Air Act

During 1968 one more area was made the subject of a Smoke Control Order and particulars with regard to the area are as follows:

								No. 24
								(Bell Green)
Name	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	380
Acreage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
No. of industrial premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	128
No. of commercial premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,280
No. of dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
No. of other premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£56,000
Total estimated cost of works	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25.1.67
Date: Order made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31.8.67
Order confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.7.68
Order operative	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

PROGRAMME

At the end of December 1968, the position in relation to areas was as follows:

Table 55

<i>Area No. and name</i>			<i>Area No. and Name</i>		
<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>Date of operation</i>		<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>Date of operation</i>	
1 Ladywell	1,409	1.9.59	Deptford		
2 Southend	2,827	1.11.59	1	1,004	1.10.60
3 Brookdale	1,155	1.9.60	2	3,955	1.10.61
4 Penerley	3,367	1.10.60	3	2,914	1.10.62
5 Glenbow	2,059	1.9.60	4	2,138	1.10.63
6 Lewisham Park	3,716	1.8.61	4a	192	1.10.63
7 Sandhurst	2,187	1.8.61	5	1,680	1.10.64
8 Hazelbank	3,123	1.7.62	5a	63	1.10.64
9 Northover	3,226	1.9.62	6	1,437	1.12.65
10 Blythe Hill	2,586	1.10.62			
11 Algernon	1,981	1.11.62			
12 Brockley	4,402	1.7.63			
13 Manor	6,932	1.10.63			
14 Vancouver	2,731	1.6.64			
15 Baring	5,232	1.7.64			
16 Honor Oak	2,281	1.8.64			
17 Blackheath	3,042	1.9.64			
18 Sunderland	2,020	1.9.65			
19 Sydenham	4,034	1.10.65			
20 Mayow	2,000	1.11.65			
21 Bellingham	3,208	1.11.66			
22 Deptford Park	1,158	1.10.67			
23 Brookmill	1,083	1.10.67			
24 Bell Green	4,208	1.7.68			

Apart from the Greater London Council Clearance Area in Forest Hill and an area in Deptford subject to redevelopment in the near future, this represents the completion of the Clean Air Act Smoke Control Order programme as it affects the Borough.

A number of contraventions of smoke control orders were reported by the public health inspectors during the year. Most of the occupiers concerned had purchased coal in paper bags. The provision of the Clean Air Act, 1968, which will prohibit the delivery, purchase or acquiring of unauthorised fuel for use in smoke control areas, should reduce such contraventions.

Many of the complaints regarding smoke were in respect of smoke nuisances from garden bonfires. These are not prohibited in smoke control areas but it is an offence if the smoke causes a nuisance to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood at any time.

Progress has been made in reducing the emission of smoke, grit and dust from industrial premises. One factory emitting a large amount of dust closed during the year and the installation of dust arrestment plant is progressing at another. There is no doubt that smoke control has already had a noticeable effect on the atmospheric conditions in the Borough. It is pleasing to note the absence of 'smog' in recent years which it is safe to say can be attributed to this improvement achieved by way of smoke control orders.

Table 56
ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS IN 1968

				January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average or actual
Temperature— ¹																
Mean	...	...	C	5.0	3.4	7.6	9.3	11.3	16.2	16.7	16.5	15.1	13.7	7.5	3.4	10.5
Rainfall																
Total ²	...	...	in.	2.52	1.07	0.93	1.55	1.88	1.75	2.18	3.21	7.70	2.00	2.19	2.22	29.20
Per cent. of averages	...	...		105	62	62	123	139	117	116	136	245	91	61	136	116
Sunshine— ¹																
Daily mean	...	...	hrs.	1.39	2.35	4.64	6.20	5.39	5.55	4.74	3.95	4.49	2.49	1.43	1.05	3.64
Per cent. of average	...	...		93	104	127	116	84	78	74	65	95	79	81	82	90
Wind— ¹																
NE/E/SE	...	...	%	11	57	26	37	46	31	34	26	26	19	48	34	33
S/SW/W	...	...	%	67	28	11	41	35	59	33	36	53	72	25	30	41
NW/N/Calm	...	...	%	22	15	63	22	19	10	33	38	21	9	27	36	26
Atmospheric pollution																
Creeside Depot																
Water insol. matter	...	...	tpm	24.93	38.50	41.79	22.62	34.18	20.84	28.16	41.29	32.17	14.36	47.35	34.91	31.76
Water sol. matter	...	...	tpm	7.57	13.60	9.58	9.85	9.94	7.80	8.13	8.30	15.15	8.30	10.37	9.09	9.81
Lewisham Town Hall—																
Smoke, daily average	...	*		114	119	67	81	61	57	42	38	82	86	98	122	81
Sulphur, daily average	...	*		275	283	155	146	151	97	120	146	112	160	207	266	176
Valentine Court—																
Smoke, daily average	...	*		54	73	29	38	25	14	19	20	27	33	51	82	39
Sulphur, daily average	...	*		228	237	148	135	109	81	91	101	85	130	139	190	139
Deptford Town Hall—																
Smoke, daily average	...	*		105	104	57	64	59	39	48	45	56	73	102	130	73
Sulphur, daily average	...	*		290	253	205	181	201	105	134	148	126	139	245	316	195
Creeside—																
Smoke, daily average	...	*		131	129	71	60	53	34	35	40	27	74	96	122	73
Sulphur, daily average	...	*		297	282	176	179	168	114	132	158	142	194	255	315	201
Weather Summary																
	...	...		Cold first mild later	Cold with severe night frosts	Dry	Cold first warmer later	Cold and cloudy	unsettled	Dull and wet	Dull and wet	Wet and unsettled	Dull and mild	Cold first mild later	Cold and dull	

[Notes— ¹Kew; ²Lewisham; tpm: Tons per square mile per month; * microgrammes per cubic metre

The provisions of this Act and the regulations made thereunder are enforced by the public health inspectors.

Particular attention was given during the year to secure compliance with the Oil Heater Regulations at premises selling second-hand oil heaters to ensure that unsafe heaters were not on sale. The London Fire Brigade reported that they were called to 988 fires in 1967 in which oil heaters were involved. Retailers were advised to offer for sale only oil heaters which bore a BSI mark and specified warning notice, were in good condition and included operating instructions.

Gas and electric fires were found on sale which did not comply with the Fireguard Regulations. Most second-hand dealers were supplied with details of the test probes in order that they could check for themselves the spacing between the bars of fireguards and their distance from the heating element or flames. The Toys (Safety) Regulations prohibit the sale of cellulose nitrate toys and limit the amount of lead, arsenic, antimony, barium, cadmium and chromium in the paint on toys. No contraventions of these Regulations were found during the year.

Registration of Hairdressers

All hairdressing establishments had to be re-registered under the provisions of the Greater London Council (General Powers) Act, 1967. New byelaws came into operation on 1st July, 1968. Few contraventions of the byelaws were found. In view of the increase in the use of wigs, hairdressers and wigmakers were warned of the dangers of using benzene, carbon tetrachloride and trichloroethylene for cleaning wigs except in the open air or in well ventilated rooms.

Coin Operated Launderettes

There has been an increase in the number of complaints regarding noise and effluvia nuisances produced at these premises due not only to the greater number being opened but also due to the installation of larger boilers and machines and coin operated dry cleaning machines.

The power to control the installation of the apparatus, the operation and maintenance of these premises is limited but every effort is made to persuade those installing the equipment and the subsequent operators to use the best practicable means to avoid complaints being made later when it may be more difficult to rectify the cause.

HOUSING ACTS, 1957—1964

(a) Clearance Areas

These are groups of houses found unfit for human habitation and that the most satisfactory method of dealing with them is by demolition. In most cases the Council seeks to acquire the sites for redevelopment. This procedure is followed by the Greater London Council and Lewisham, a programme for the years 1965/70 having been agreed. Additional areas do come to light and when these are identified they are added to the programme.

Table 57

Number of areas declared during 1968	...	...	...	...	14
Number of dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	175
Number of persons in occupation	...	...	...	...	476
Number of dwelling houses demolished during the year					
Coloured pink—unfit houses	...	...	...	...	33

(b) Repair

Apart from houses repaired as a result of action under the Public Health Acts 1936 and 1961, some properties are found to be unfit mainly due to extensive disrepair which could be remedied at reasonable expense. In these cases notices are served under the Housing Act 1957. Where the owner fails to comply, the Council is empowered to carry out the work in default. As a result of action taken four houses were made fit during the year after formal notices:—

(a) by owners	...	...	...	...	3
(b) by the Council	...	...	...	...	1

(c) Closure or Demolition

Individual dwellings or parts found to be unfit for human habitation and not capable of being made fit at reasonable expense can be dealt with by a Closing or Demolition Order. The owners are notified of the Council's intention and have an opportunity of making an offer of works to avoid the Order being made. Some details of this procedure during 1968 are as follows:—

Table 58
DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS

Demolition Orders made	...	...	...	...	...	6
Closing Orders made	...	...	...	...	...	28
Closing Orders determined	...	...	...	...	...	—
Closing Orders revoked and Demolition Orders made	...	...	...	...	...	—
Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	10
Parts of buildings closed	...	...	...	...	...	13

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

Under the 1961 Act these houses can be improved by the provision of additional amenities (sinks, hot water, baths, water closets, etc.) by improving the management, by reducing the number of occupants and by one of the most important items, means of escape in the case of fire. A great deal of work has been achieved in this type of property by informal approach to the owners. Unfortunately this type of occupation may occur in houses on mortgage to the Council and in these cases action has been possible with the co-operation of other Council departments.

Table 59

Houses where Management Orders were made	...	...	...	...	2
Houses where neglect of proper standards of management were made good					
By owners after informal action	...	...	...	...	10
By owners after formal action	...	...	...	...	2
By the Council in default	...	...	...	...	—
Houses in which additional services or facilities were provided					
By owners after informal action	...	...	...	...	22
By owners after formal action	...	...	...	...	8
By the Council in default	...	...	...	...	—
Houses provided with means of escape from fire					
By owners after informal action	...	...	...	...	22
By owners after formal action	...	...	...	...	9
By the Council in default	...	...	...	...	7
Houses where Directions were made to reduce or prevent overcrowding	...	...	...	...	9

Housing Act, 1964—Control Orders

Houses in multiple occupation where, in spite of action under the Housing Act 1961, conditions have not improved may be taken over and managed by the Council and works of improvement carried out. During 1968 this action was taken in one case.

Housing Acts, 1957—1964

(a) Improvement of Houses

Grants are available to improve existing houses by providing running hot water, bathroom, internal water closets, etc. Under the Housing Act 1964, it is possible for tenants to ask the local authority to require the owner to provide these facilities. Under the same Act it is also possible to declare Improvement Areas. In these areas, owners are required to bring their properties up to a reasonable standard. Considerable publicity has been given during the year to these grants and it is hoped to extend this type of work during the coming years.

Details of work carried out under this heading are as follows:—

Dwellings where discretionary grants were made	...	...	...	42
Dwellings where standard grants were made	...	...	...	199

(b) Compulsory Improvement of Dwellings (Housing Act 1964)

Improvement Areas declared to end of 1968	...	...	...	1
Dwellings improved in such areas as a result of formal action during 1968	...	...	...	9
Total to end of 1968	...	...	...	30
Dwellings, outside improvement areas, improved as a result of action following representation by tenants during 1968	...	...	...	4
Total to end of 1968	...	...	...	12

RENT ACT, 1957

The following table shows the applications for certificates of disrepair dealt with during the year 1968.

Table 60

Applications for certificates	...	...	...	...	...	4
Decisions not to issue certificates	...	...	...	...	...	—
Decisions to issue certificates	...	...	...	...	...	2
Undertakings given by landlords to repair	...	...	...	...	...	1
Undertakings refused for special reasons	...	...	...	...	...	—
Certificates of disrepair issued	...	...	...	...	...	2
Applications by landlords for cancellation of certificates	...	...	...	...	...	3
Objections by tenants to cancellation	...	...	...	...	...	1
Certificates cancelled	...	...	...	...	...	3

MILK

The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

At the end of the year there were 226 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 to expire on December 31, 1970, were issued during the year as follows:

Table 61

	Licences issued during 1968	Total licences issued
for sale of untreated milk	—	100
for sale of pasteurised milk	17	196
for sale of sterilised milk	7	171
for sale of ultra heat treated milk	11	113

Examination of heat-treated milk

43 samples of heat-treated milk were submitted for examination during the year. Two samples of pasteurised milk failed the methylene blue test. All of the other samples were found to be satisfactory.

Analysis of milk

During the year under review 91 samples of milk were submitted to the public analyst by the Council's inspectors and all found to be genuine.

ICECREAM

Food Standards (Icecream) Regulations, 1959

Labelling of food (Amendment) Regulations, 1959

The composition of 24 icecream samples submitted to the public analyst during the year showed an average composition of 10.8% fat.

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 judgement 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 per cent. of a vendor's samples should fall into grade 1, 80 per cent into grades 1 or 2, not more than 20 per cent into grade 3 and none into grade 4.

During the year 15 samples of icecream were submitted for bacteriological examination with the following results:

Table 62

	<i>Samples</i>	<i>%</i>
Grade I	9	60
Grade II	4	27
Grade III	2	13
Grade IV	—	—
TOTAL ...	15	100

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 given.

Table 63

Other Bacteriological Samples							
Cream ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Cooked meats ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Shellfish ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Fish cakes ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Cream cakes ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Trifles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Stewed steak ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Egg noodles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Buttermilk ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Horseradish sauce ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gooseberries ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cod liver oil ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Egg macaroni ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Vermicelli with egg ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Soup nuts ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Egg pasta ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Egg noodles with spinach ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sausages ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pig's tongue ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total							106

FOOD GENERALLY

Adulteration

The number of samples taken during the year under the Food and Drugs Act was 1,050. After examination the public analyst reported that 51 samples were adulterated below standard or insufficiently described by label. This accounts for 4.9 per cent. of all samples submitted.

Table 64
Samples Analysed

<i>Articles</i>	<i>Examined</i>		<i>Adulterated</i>	
	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>
Foodstuffs	—	754	1	43
Milk and cream	4	90	—	—
Other drinks	2	88	—	3
Drugs and medicines	—	56	—	1
Miscellaneous	—	56	—	3
TOTALS	6	1,044	1	50

Table 65
Non-genuine Samples

<i>Article</i>	<i>Formal or informal</i>	<i>Adulteration or irregularity</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
Brie cheese	Informal	Incorrect labelling	Label altered
Sugar confection	Informal	Contained non-permitted colouring matter	Consignment re-exported
Sugar confection (menthe)	Informal	"	"
Sugar confection	Informal	"	"
Mackerel fillets, canned	Informal	Contained excessive tin	No action—no other stock
Plain flour	Informal	Contained excessive chalk and insufficient iron	Manufacturers notified
Evaporated peaches	Informal	Incorrect labelling	Imported—importer contacted
Pure apple juice	Informal	Incorrect labelling	Imported—importer contacted
Pheasant Pâté with Brandy	Informal	Contained no appreciable amount of alcohol	No action—no other stock
Chicken truffle Pâté... ..	Informal	Contained green mould	Stock exhausted
Pork Pâté with Port wine canned...	Informal	Contained excessive tin	Manufacturer notified
Pâté de faie, canned	Informal	"	"
Preserved pork sausages	Informal	Contained insufficient meat	Further samples satisfactory
Preserved beef sausages	Informal	"	"
Pork sausage	Informal	Contained sulphur dioxide	Label altered
Tomato paste, canned	Informal	Contained excessive tin	Stock withdrawn
Tomato paste, canned	Informal	"	"
Creamed potatoes	Informal	Contained no cream or milk	Manufacturers notified
Creamed potatoes	Formal	"	"
Creamed potatoes	Informal	"	"
Egg yellow	Informal	Inadequately labelled	Label altered
Rum Baba	Informal	Consisted of a rum flavoured Baba, containing no rum	Manufacturer notified
Green rock	Informal	Contained non-permitted colouring matter	Stock withdrawn and destroyed

Table 65—continued

Article	Formal or informal	Adulteration or irregularity	Action taken
Plain flour	Informal	Contained insufficient chalk	Manufacturers notified
Plain flour	Informal	Contained "insufficient soluble solids	Manufacturers notified
Lemon curd	Informal	Contained insufficient meat	No legal standard — no action
Beef chow mein, canned	Informal	Contained insufficient meat	Subsequent sample satisfactory
Pork sausages	Informal	"	"
Pork sausages	Informal	"	Manufacturer notified
Frozen pork sausages	Informal	"	Label altered
Fynbo cheese	Informal	Incorrect labelling	"
Food colours	Informal	Inadequately labelled	"
Colouring flavour No. 4	Informal	"	"
Sugar confectionery: Mini sticks	Informal	"	"
Plain flour	Informal	Contained insufficient chalk	Manufacturers notified
Cornish ice cream	Informal	Contained extraneous matter consisting of nine small slivers of straw	"
Boneless breast turkey	Informal	Inadequately labelled	Label altered
Parmesan grated cheese	Informal	Incorrect labelling	Taken up with packers in Italy to amend label
Chocolate liqueurs	Informal	Consisted of liqueur-flavoured chocolates containing only 0.9% of alcohol by weight	Label altered—to be sold as chocolates
Boiled sweets	Informal	Contained non-permitted colouring matter	Letter to importers
Boiled sweets	Informal	"	"
Fruit lollies	Informal	"	"
Double Viennois (dessert)	Informal	Inadequate labelling	Manufacturers notified
Fresh large eggs	Informal	The eggs had been preserved with oil	Legal proceedings taken
Stored dates	Informal	Contained a live caterpillar	Suppliers warned
Pure natural apple juice	Informal	Contained the addition of carbon dioxide not labelled	Letter to importers
Guava jelly	Informal	Inadequately labelled	Label altered
Italian chutney	Informal	Incorrect labelling	Letter to importers
Italian chutney	Informal	"	"
Sal Volatile	Informal	Contained "insufficient free ammonia	Manufacturer notified
Golden tips tea	Informal	Incorrectly labelled	Letter to packers

In addition to those submitted to the public analyst or bacteriologist for routine examination, the following were submitted because of complaints received or as a result of enquiries into cases of food poisoning:—

Bread (4)
Margarine (2)
Milk (2)
Cod liver oil and malt (2)
Butter

Meat pie
Blackcurrant drink
Nut crunch
Nut ring
Bacon

Flour	Instant whip
Lamb	Mint
Crumpet	Pork tongues
Dates	Mussels
Horseradish sauce	Stew
Hot pepper	Gooseberries
Tinned peas	Stewed steak
Sausage roll	Christmas pudding

Food Complaints

Food complaints numbering 129 were received from members of the public during the year.

In 9 instances legal proceedings were taken under the Food and Drugs Act, resulting in 7 convictions, with fines totalling £110. One case was taken under the Milk and Dairies Regulations and resulted in a fine of £25.

With a number of complaints where legal proceedings might have been appropriate, action was not possible owing to the unsatisfactory nature of the evidence. In other cases this was due to the unwillingness of complainants to appear in court. The remainder were dealt with informally by contact with the firms concerned

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

The following table gives details of food premises grouped in categories of trade carried on in them and showing the number fitted to comply with regulation 16 (provision of wash-hand basins) and with regulation 19 (facilities for washing food and equipment) of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Table 66

<i>Type of premises</i>	<i>Number of premises</i>	<i>Number provided with wash-hand basins</i>	<i>Number with facilities for washing food and equipment</i>
Grocers and multiple grocers ...	312	312	312
Greengrocers ...	147	131	not applicable
Bakers ...	90	90	90
Butchers ...	139	139	139
Confectioners ...	329	324	not applicable
Catering Establishments ...	372	372	372
Fish shops ...	29	29	29
Fried fish shops ...	53	53	53
Public houses ...	167	167	167
Off licences ...	87	85	not applicable

THE FOOD HYGIENE (MARKETS, STALLS AND DELIVERY VEHICLES) REGULATIONS, 1966

These regulations which came into force on the 1st January, 1967, are designed to improve the hygiene on stalls selling food and in vehicles used for the delivery of food, and some improvement has been noted. Shellfish stalls on the forecourts of some of the public houses have been visited during the weekends and advice given on the risks of contamination. The following details indicate the extent of this work in the Borough:—

Table 67

Licensed stallholders selling food ...	84
Unlicensed stalls on private forecourts or elsewhere ...	10
Shellfish stalls on private forecourts...	11
Mobile grocery shops ...	21

PHARMACY AND POISONS

The names of 16 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 143 persons previously registered were retained on the register. 159 visits were paid by the public health inspectors in connection with the granting and renewal of the licences.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND SLAUGHTERMEN

There are no slaughterhouses in the Borough. A licence was issued during the year to a journeyman slaughterer who lives in the Borough.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are no offensive trades carried on in the Borough.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

During the year there were 42 cases of legal proceedings for infringement of various Acts as follows:—

Table 68

	<i>Number of cases</i>	<i>Fines</i>			<i>Costs</i>		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Food and Drugs Act, 1955... ..	28	229	10	0	57	15	0
Public Health Act, 1936	13	50	0	0	50	8	0
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	1	20	0	0	—		
Total	42	299	10	0	108	3	0

REGISTRATION OF FOOD PREMISES

New registrations in 1968 and the total including previous years are shown in the table below.

Table 69

<i>Type</i>	1968	<i>Total</i>
Sale and storage of icecream	15	527
Manufacture of icecream	1	14
Fish frying	2	50
Fish curing	—	17
Preparation or manufacture of sausages	—	114
Preparation or manufacture of potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food ...	10	177

UN SOUND FOOD

Approximately 202 tons of food were surrendered as unfit for human consumption and dealt with by the Council's food inspectors. This included meat, fruit-pulp, fish, vegetables, etc.

Some of the spoiling was caused by refrigerator breakdowns.

CONTINENTAL GOODS DEPOT, HITHER GREEN

Imports of perishable food from the Continent through the Continental Freight Depot continues, and a small amount of food, mostly meat, has been exported. We are concerned insofar as unfit food or meat without proper documents may be imported, in which case we have to ensure that it is either destroyed, not used for human consumption or re-exported. It may be necessary to contact wholesalers and various local authorities if it is intended for distribution elsewhere. The amount of unfit food was small.

Totals for the year are shown in the table:—

Table 70

<i>Country of origin</i>							<i>Tonnage imported</i>
Spain	...	...	...	...	...	...	67,412
Italy	...	...	...	...	...	...	42,229
France	...	...	...	...	...	...	51,943
Yugoslavia	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,804
Algeria	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,007
Belgium	...	...	...	...	...	...	495
Switzerland	...	...	...	...	...	...	244
Israel	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Tunisia	...	...	...	...	...	...	253
Ivory Coast	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Total							175,418

WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to Dr. E. Windle Taylor, Director of Water Examination for the Metropolitan Water Board, for the following report on the condition and supply of water to the Borough during 1968:

The supply was satisfactory both as to quality and quantity throughout 1968.

All new and repaired mains are disinfected with chlorine; after a predetermined period of contact the pipes are flushed out and refilled; samples of water are then collected from these treated mains; and the mains are returned to service only after results are found to be satisfactory.

The quality control from these laboratories is carried out by means of daily sampling from sources of supply, from the treatment works or well stations, from the distribution system, and through to the consumer. Any sign of contamination or any other abnormality is immediately investigated.

The Board has no record of the number of structurally separate dwellings supplied in your area, but the population supplied direct according to the Registrar-General's estimates at 30th June, 1968, was 281,140.

No houses were permanently supplied by standpipes.

No artificial fluoride was added, and where the fluoride content is indicated in the analyses it represents the naturally occurring fluoride in the water.

The supply was derived from the following works and pumping stations:—

River Thames from Hampton, Kempton Park, Surbiton and Walton works.

Deptford, Wilmington, Darenth and Bexley wells.

No new sources of supply were instituted and there were no changes to the general scheme of supply in your area.

The number of samples collected and the bacteriological and chemical analyses of the supply from the above sources after treatment are shown in the following tables.

On account of their hardness content and alkaline reaction the Board's river and well water supplies are not considered to be plumbo-solvent. It should, however, be appreciated that all types of water pick up varying amounts of metal from the material of water piping particularly when it is newly installed; this applies to copper, zinc, iron and also to lead.

Special tests for lead have been carried out during 1968 on 100 premises where a lead supply pipe is installed. The premises were chosen to give an even distribution of samples throughout the whole of the Board's area. Two samples were collected from each premises; one was the first running of water standing in the lead pipe overnight and the other was a sample of water after running the tap for a few minutes.

The results are set out in the accompanying table:—

Table 71

<i>Lead content (mg/l Pb)</i>	<i>Samples of water standing in lead pipe overnight</i>	<i>Samples of water after running the tap</i>
Less than 0.01	10	37
0.01	31	57
0.02	21	4
0.03	8	1
0.04	9	0
0.05	5	0
0.06	5	0
0.07	4	1
0.08	1	0
0.09	3	0
0.10	1	0
0.12	1	0
0.16	1	0
	<hr/> 100 premises <hr/>	<hr/> 100 premises <hr/>

The above results are very satisfactory and the figures are within the limits of the World Health Organisation European Standards for Drinking Water Quality. This states that the upper limit for lead in running water in the supply should not be more than 0.1 mg/l (Pb); but where water undertakings continue to use lead piping the concentration of lead (asPb) should not exceed 0.3 mg/l after 16 hours contact with the pipes.

Table 72

Average results of the chemical examination of the water supplied to the Borough of Lewisham during 1968

Milligrammes per litre (unless otherwise stated)

<i>Description of the Sample</i>	<i>Number of Samples Day of the month</i>	<i>Ammoniacal Nitrogen</i>	<i>Albuminoid Nitrogen</i>	<i>Nitrate Nitrogen</i>	<i>Oxygen abs. from KMnO₄ 4 hrs. at 27° C.</i>	<i>Hardness (total) CaCO₃</i>	<i>Hardness (non- carbonate) CaCO₃</i>	<i>Magnesium as Mg</i>	<i>Sodium as Na</i>	<i>Potassium as K</i>	<i>Chloride as Cl</i>	<i>Phosphate as PO₄</i>	<i>Silicate as SiO₂</i>	<i>Sulphate as SO₄</i>	<i>Natural Fluoride as F</i>	<i>Surface-active material as Manoxol OT</i>	<i>Turbidity units</i>	<i>Colour (Burgess units)</i>	<i>pH value</i>	<i>Electrical Conductivity (micromhos)</i>
All Thames-derived	363	0.020	0.083	3.9	1.20	280	76	4	23.2	5.3	32	2.0	10	62	0.30	0.02	0.1	14	7.9	570
Deptford	4	0.006	0.028	6.3	0.15	386	145	—	—	—	43	—	—	—	0.30	—	0.0	1	7.2	760
Wilmington	4	0.010	0.026	6.5	0.21	296	65	—	—	—	26	—	—	—	0.15	—	0.0	1	7.3	550
Darenth	4	0.009	0.025	4.6	0.12	272	46	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	0.15	—	0.1	0	7.3	500
Bexley	4	0.007	0.019	5.3	0.15	329	80	—	—	—	21	—	—	—	0.15	—	0.0	1	7.2	580

Table 73

Bacteriological Results—Yearly Averages, 1968 of water supplied to the Borough of Lewisham

Source of supply		BEFORE TREATMENT								AFTER TREATMENT				
		Agar plate count per ml.				Coliform count		Escherichia coli count		Agar plate count per. ml.		Coliform count	E. coli count	
		Number of samples	20-24 hours at 37°C	3 days at 22°C	Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.	Count per 100 ml.	Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.	Count per 100 ml.	Number of samples	20-24 hours at 37°C	3 days at 22°C	Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.	Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.	
All Thames-derived	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,651	11·4	—	99·86	99·97	
Deptford	...	219	0·1	98	93·15	0·4	95·43	0·2	223	0·2	98	100·0	100·0	
Wilmington	...	240	1·8	37	89·58	1·0	94·58	0·1	246	0·4	5	100·0	100·0	
Darenth	...	246	0·1	18	97·15	0·1	97·97	0·1	253	0·0	1	100·0	100·0	
Bexley	...	246	0·1	3	99·59	—	99·59	—	250	0·1	6	100·0	100·0	

HOME DIALYSIS

Three cases were referred to this department during 1968 for adaptation of a room to house the artificial kidney machine and other equipment. One house was owned by the G.L.C. and the other two were privately owned. In each case the owners gave their consent for the alterations which were carried out by the staff of the Housing and Estates Department. The hospital authorities were very satisfied with the rooms when completed and the home treatment of these cases made it possible for other patients to be admitted to hospital.

MORTUARIES, CREMATIONS, BURIALS AND EXHUMATIONS

Mortuaries

The two public mortuaries situated in the Borough serve other areas as well as Lewisham.

The number of bodies received during the year is shown below:—

Table 74

	<i>Lewisham Mortuary</i>	<i>Deptford Mortuary</i>	<i>Total</i>
Bodies received from hospitals etc.	666	427	1,093
Others	482	292	774
Totals	1,148	719	1,867

Cremations and Burials

The following statistics relating to cremations and burials are for the year 1st April, 1968 to 31st March, 1969.

Table 75

<i>Cemetery</i>	<i>No. of burials</i>
Hither Green	952
Grove Park	265
Ladywell	61
Brockley	81
Total	1,359

There were 1,551 cremations carried out at Hither Green Crematorium after certification by the Medical Officer of Health or deputy as Crematorium Referee.

No exhumations took place at the Council's cemeteries during the year.

MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR LONG-STAY IMMIGRANTS

At ports of arrival long-stay immigrants, both Commonwealth and alien, are referred to medical inspectors and given a pamphlet printed in languages which they are likely to understand. This is to encourage them to register with a medical practitioner in their place of residence so that he can arrange for them to go to a mass radiography unit, a chest clinic or a hospital for X-ray.

The health department is notified of the names and addresses of immigrants entering the Borough with the object of ensuring that at an early date the immigrants are made aware of how to use the Health Service. An important aim of the department is to secure by persuasion that those from countries with a high incidence of tuberculosis have an X-ray of the chest as soon as possible.

The following table, based on returns made to the Ministry of Health, shows the number notified to the department during 1968, and the number of successful visits made. Unsuccessful visits occur where the immigrant has moved out of the Borough and has left no forwarding address.

Table 76

<i>Country</i>	<i>Number of Immigrants</i>	<i>Number of first successful visits</i>
<i>(a) Commonwealth Countries</i>		
Caribbean	253	220
India	38	30
Pakistan	17	14
Other Asian	34	25
Africa	52	45
Other	30	26
<i>(b) Non-Commonwealth Countries</i>		
European	17	14
Other	9	5
TOTALS	450	379

SPECIAL REPORT

FLOODING

During the heavy rains of September, the rivers Ravensbourne, Quaggy and Pool overflowed causing serious flooding in parts of the Borough. The following is an account of the occurrence as it affected the Health Department.

The first intimation came on Sunday afternoon 15th September, from a message to the Emergency Control Centre which serves the Greenwich Health and Welfare Department and the Lewisham Health Department from Lewisham Police asking for the telephone number of the Lewisham Welfare Officer. The officer on duty telephoned the Medical Officer of Health and was given the required information with a request that the M.O.H. be informed if the Health Department could help.

On Monday morning a meeting of certain Councillors, representatives from the Town Clerk's, Health and Welfare Departments was held in Deptford Town Hall with the result that a Flood Control Centre was set up there.

District nurses, home help organisers and public health inspectors were alerted and visits arranged to ascertain the extent of the damage.

The Department placed at the disposal of the Welfare Department, who were most immediately and urgently involved, the Department's transport situated at the Disinfecting Station in Speedwell Street. It was not possible to use vehicles at Wearside Road at first because they could not be got out of the Depot due to the depth of water flooding the area.

The prime necessity after the water had receded or had been pumped away by the fire brigade or Borough Engineer's Department was the provision of heaters to dry out the homes as speedily as possible. A local firm, on their own initiative, offered the use of all their available heaters for this purpose, and the Department through the central control, arranged to have them picked up and delivered to one of the affected areas straight away. The first three heaters were in operation in Watermead Road during Monday afternoon. This road was selected as being the first ready to start operations in, as the water had subsided sufficiently to make the use of heaters a practicable proposition. These heaters were operated by Army personnel under the general guidance of one of the public health inspectors.

A general survey of the flooded areas was carried out by the public health inspectors during Monday to ascertain the extent of the flooding and the areas to which priority should be given for the use of heaters as they became available.

A complaints reception centre was set up within the Department and all complaints were passed on to the public health inspectors or other officers and departments as appropriate for their investigation and action. Close liaison both directly and through central control was maintained with all other departments concerned and with outside agencies, police, fire brigade, army, R.A.F. etc.

As more heaters became available further teams of public health inspectors, students, technical assistants, army and R.A.F. were brought into action, together with the necessary transport provided by the Borough Engineer and our own Department.

The number of heaters that were subsequently brought into use was 150, some of which were under the control of the Housing and Estates Department, who were in a better position to supply the necessary labour force.

Later in the week it was decided gradually to withdraw the public health inspectors from the direct control of the heaters (the control of these heaters being passed over to the Housing and Estate Manager's Department), because it was felt that they were better employed dealing with the innumerable problems that had arisen due to the flood, and which were within the ambit of their normal duties.

During the first few days sufficient disinfectant was issued to deal with all of the known properties affected. Unfortunately, many people did not dilute it according to instructions and consequently they complained that not enough was distributed.

However, later wherever necessary, teams from the disinfecting stations carried out spraying with a deodorant to further help deal with this problem, particularly the smell rising from the underfloor space.

The midwifery services were considerably disrupted. At least half of the midwives' telephones were out of order and travelling was very difficult. The police with their short-wave radio transmitters were of great assistance and many of the midwives visited their patients to confirm that their services were not required. During the period from the 14th to 18th September twelve babies were delivered at home and none arrived without the full assistance of the midwife which is commendable considering the difficulties, particularly of transport.

Visits were made by the health visitors to all people living in the flooded areas who were known to them, and baby foods were distributed to all who needed them. The clinics in the areas were also kept open for the issuing of food throughout each day.

The crèche at Central Clinic was opened for the children of parents in temporary accommodation at the Saville. Toys and equipment were also loaned to children staying there. Large quantities of children's clothing were distributed by the health visitors. Prams were acquired and given free to those who had lost theirs in the floods. Emergency arrangements were made to accommodate a few children in the Day Nursery at Rushey Green whilst the parents were mopping up at home.

In order to make sure that all complaints and information about individual properties had received attention, a second survey was carried out by the health inspectors on Tuesday, 24th September.

It may never be known how many properties were affected by the flood but certainly 1,118 properties were brought to the Department's notice, although in some of the cases the damage was due to drain blockage.

A quantity of food was condemned by the inspectors and advice was given to shopkeepers. Many public houses were also visited and arrangements were made in most cases for the brewers to collect stocks and replace. In one particular case, however, it was decided to destroy the contaminated stock.

Many problems relating to defective properties remained as a result of the flooding, and some of these were still outstanding at the end of the year.

The Home Help Service carried on with normal duties as far as possible during the flooding but some helps had difficulty in getting to the homes to which they were assigned and a few were turned back by the police because of the inaccessibility of their destination. Many of the home helps worked hours beyond their normal time to help families in clearing up after the flood and some of these did not make any claims for overtime. It can be said that those home helps who were working in properties that were within the flood areas, carried on doing all they could to help without fuss and without questioning whether or not any job came within their normal terms of work.

It must be said that all of the staff involved in dealing with problems caused by the flood gave unstintingly of themselves, many of them working hours far beyond their normal call of duty.

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