

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Paddington, Metropolitan Borough of].

Contributors

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Metropolitan Borough of Paddington

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1949

A. B. STEWART, M.D., D.P.H.



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His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Metropolitan Borough of Paddington.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1949.

In this, the first full year following the introduction of the National Health Service, it has been possible to assess the place of the Health Department in the scheme of things, and to direct our efforts where there appeared to be the greatest scope for development. The work of the department has been directed towards problems of environmental hygiene, the supervision of food and food premises, and the control of infectious disease.

Reference to the statistical summary on pages 5 and 6 gives the present position, the birth rate showing a further fall, but it is still well above the immediate pre-war figure. There has been a slight increase in the death rate, but the considerable fall in the infant mortality rate is the outstanding feature in the vital statistics this year. In 1901 this figure was 135 and this year, the fourth successive year in which the figure is the lowest recorded, it is 26. Having regard to our present knowledge, we are close to what is generally regarded as the irreducible figure for infant deaths.

The tuberculosis figures show little variation and our disappointment at our failure to progress is tempered by the relief that, in spite of hospital staffing difficulties, the position has not deteriorated.

In the field of environmental hygiene it is gratifying to report that the number of cases requiring legal proceedings was less than half the number of cases taken in the preceding year.

It is disquieting to note, however, that there is an increasing number of landlords, many of them pensioners relying on property to supplement their incomes to some extent, who find it very difficult or even impossible to meet the cost of repairs to property. It is evident that the current high cost of repairs and the small return from rents are factors which are operating to the detriment of many properties in the Borough. We are faced with the continued deterioration of many properties with the ultimate prospect of loss of housing accommodation at a time when it is essential to keep property in a habitable condition if this is possible.

The existing Housing Acts give some powers to local authorities, but our experience suggests that they are inadequate to deal with many of the problems which are met. It is reasonable to suggest that if local authorities were relieved of some of the financial risk they might be in a position to undertake further work. In theory expenses may be recovered in certain cases by the collection of rents, but with controlled rents and present building repair prices it is doubtful in some cases whether this can be done in a reasonable time with properties requiring extensive repair.

Another aspect of this problem which requires attention is the worn out property with a small return in rent which cannot be repaired at a reasonable cost. This same property taken over as a derelict building may be almost completely rebuilt for sale within the Government ceiling figure and give the builder a reasonable profit. So long as such a state of affairs exists, and this building emergency period may last twenty years, there seems to be a case for some temporary measure to enable local authorities to deal with such problems themselves. The alternative to increasing the powers of the local authorities is the unpopular one of increasing the rents. As far as the property owner with limited means is concerned, one or other of these remedies must be applied and applied soon enough to prevent the creation of slums faster than we can build new homes.

An unusual occurrence was the notification of two cases of smallpox in the borough. Both cases were infected on board S.S. Mooltan and one of the cases was fatal. There were no secondary cases. Every possible assistance was rendered by the epidemiological Medical Officers of the Ministry of Health and the County Council Officers made vaccination freely available immediately. Details of the outbreak are included in the appropriate section of the report.

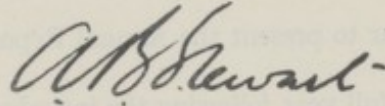
It is a pleasure to record that the Holiday Home for the Aged was opened at Bexhill during the year and that our hopes for its success have been justified. A description of the home will be found in the report.

During a particularly busy year I am grateful for the valuable support of the members of the Council, and to my colleagues both in other departments and in the Public Health Department I am indebted for valuable continued assistance.

I have the honour to be—

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,



Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
15, PARK PLACE VILLAS,
PADDINGTON GREEN, W.2.

May 31st, 1950.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS (on December 31st, 1949).— W.T.—Whole-time appointments. P.T.—Part-time appointments.

Medical Officer of Health, P.T.

A. B. Stewart, M.D., D.P.H.

Public Analyst, P.T.

C. H. Wordsworth, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Clerical Staff—W.T.

S. W. Ruffey (Chief Clerk)
A. J. O. Sheppard
R. I. Fisher
H. J. Parker.
S. W. Wordingham.
A. G. L. E. Houghton.
E. J. Cleaver.
D. J. Myers.
J. T. G. Warby.
L. Allchin.

A. H. Lawrence
B. W. Godden
E. Craddock
T. New.
Miss D. Smeaton.
Mrs. L. Walters.
Miss P. Goldenberg.
Mrs. M. J. P. Miller.
Miss E. Low.

Sanitary Inspectors—W.T.

C. G. Heron (Senior Sanitary Inspector).
V. L. Ronchetti.
E. B. Wilde.
F. J. Pallet (Food and Sampling).
E. Marshall.
A. C. Harrison (Food).
G. Duncan.
W. H. G. Atkins.
J. Mains.
G. A. Fraser.

V. A. Vickers.
C. Chesterman.
D. B. Hooper.
F. H. Free.
B. W. James.
T. W. Harry.
R. Fowler.
N. E. Broom.
B. J. Jones.

Lady Sanitary Inspectors—W.T.

Miss D. M. Newhall.

Miss E. Z. Amor.

Mortuary Superintendent—W.T.

C. C. Lewis.

Mortuary Assistant—W.T.

S. King.

Rodent Officer—W.T.

W. A. Dunkley.

and 16 Disinfecting, Fumigation, Rodent Control and Porter Staff.

Bexhill Holiday Home.

Manageress—Mrs. G. Hoskings—W.T.

and 4 Domestic Staff—3 W.T. 1 P.T.

Except where otherwise indicated, the figures in brackets throughout this Report are the figures for 1948, and are shown for comparison.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS—1949.

Area of Borough : 1,356.1 acres, including waterways 20.0 acres.

Population : Registrar-General's estimate of Civilian Population at middle of year : 130,640 (128,100).

Inhabited Houses (end of year) according to Rate Books—22,663 (22,041).

LIVE BIRTHS :									Males	Females	Totals
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,027 (1,050)	924 (997)	1,951 (2,047)
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	170 (167)	122 (139)	292 (306)
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,197 (1,217)	1,046 (1,136)	2,243 (2,353)
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population									..	..	17.17 (18.37)

STILLBIRTHS :								Males	Females	Totals
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21 (18)	21 (21)	42 (39)
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 (5)	1 (6)	5 (11)
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25 (23)	22 (27)	47 (50)
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20.52 (20.81)

DEATHS (all ages)								Males	Females	Totals
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	754 (704)	735 (677)	1,489 (1,381)
	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.39 (10.78)

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES :

Puerperal Sepsis	2 (2)	..	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	..	..	0.87 (0.83)
Other Puerperal Causes	— (1)	..	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	..	..	0.00 (0.42)
Total	2 (3)	..	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	..	..	0.87 (1.24)

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE :								Males	Females	Totals
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29 (41)	13 (29)	42 (70)
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7 (12)	9 (3)	16 (15)
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36 (53)	22 (32)	58 (85)

Death Rates of Infants Under One Year of Age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26 (36)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21 (34)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55 (49)

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS :

Pulmonary (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	79 (69)
Other forms (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 (12)

Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis per 1,000 estimated civilian population 0.60 (0.54)

Death Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis per 1,000 estimated civilian population 0.65 (0.63)

RATEABLE VALUE £1,760,851 (£1,750,252)

PRODUCT OF A PENNY RATE £6,967 (£6,762)

GENERAL SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Year.	Reg. General's Estimate of Population.	LIVE BIRTHS		DEATHS		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR		MATERNAL DEATHS		TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS (ALL FORMS)	
		Number. *	Rate.	Number. *	Rate.	Number. *	Rate.	Number. *	Rate.	Number *	Rate.
1901	143,976	3359	23.29	2163	15.00	455	135	9	2.1	223	1.53
1911	142,541	2977	20.88	1885	13.22	388	129	10	3.3	212	1.48
1921	145,600	2859	19.63	1758	12.06	265	92	13	4.54	125	0.86
1931	140,300	2075	14.79	1831	13.05	182	87	10	4.63	138	0.98
1938	137,400	1888	13.74	1557	11.33	125	66	3	1.53	81	0.59
1939	135,300	1812	13.39	1608	12.74	106	60	8	4.38	95	0.75
1940	97,860	1556	15.90	1766	18.04	88	59	4	2.61	86	0.88
1941	77,640	1217	15.67	1418	18.26	64	60	4	3.62	97	1.25
1942	83,640	1397	16.70	1268	15.16	78	56	4	2.77	87	1.04
1943	90,580	1569	17.32	1390	15.32	107	68	2	1.86	79	0.87
1944	93,030	1639	17.62	1388	14.92	100	61	2	1.18	84	0.90
1945	99,790	1712	17.16	1367	13.69	104	61	7	3.97	68	0.68
1946	117,670	2386	20.28	1525	12.96	113	47	4	1.63	100	0.85
1947	127,450	2520	19.77	1567	12.29	109	43	1	0.39	83	0.65
1948	128,100	2353	18.37	1381	10.78	85	36	3	1.24	81	0.63
1949	130,640	2243	17.17	1489	11.39	58	26	2	0.87	85	0.65

* Corrected figures after allowing for inward and outward transfers.

BIRTHS.—The Borough Birth-rate for 1949 is 17.17, which represents a fall of 1.20 per 1,000 of the population compared with the rate for 1948. This rate is, however, a little higher than that for England and Wales (16.7), but slightly lower than that for the County of London (18.5).

MARRIAGES.—The number of marriages solemnised in the Borough was 1,581, representing a rate of 24.20 per 1,000 of the population. The number for 1948 was 1,805 (rate 28.2), and for 1947 1,948 (rate 30.6).

Of the 1,581 marriages solemnised in 1949, 1,142 took place at the office of the Registrar of Marriages, 314 were Church of England marriages, and 125 took place in Non-Conformist Churches.

The decline in the number of marriages is general throughout the country, and is no doubt intimately connected with the housing shortage.

DEATHS.—There were 108 more deaths in 1949 than in 1948, representing an increase in the rate per 1,000 of the population of 0.51 to 11.39. The causes of death accounting for this increase were cancer, heart disease and respiratory diseases. The local rate was, nevertheless, slightly lower than the rates for London and England & Wales, which were 12.2 and 11.7 respectively.

In the Table on the next page the deaths are classified according to the Abridged List of the International Manual of Causes of Death, and the sex-age distribution is also shown.

8

CAUSE OF DEATH.	All Ages			Deaths at Ages												
				0—		1—		5—		15—		45—		65—		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers ...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Cerebro-spinal fever ...	— (1)	— (—)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Scarlet fever ...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Whooping cough ...	1 (—)	— (2)	1 (2)	1 (—)	— (2)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Diphtheria ...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Pulmonary tuberculosis ...	46 (38)	33 (31)	79 (69)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	13 (14)	18 (22)	24 (22)	13 (7)	9 (2)	2 (2)	— (—)
Other tuberculous diseases ...	2 (8)	4 (4)	6 (12)	— (—)	— (1)	1 (—)	— (1)	— (2)	1 (—)	— (6)	1 (1)	1 (—)	2 (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Syphilitic diseases ...	14 (7)	4 (7)	18 (14)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)	— (2)	7 (3)	2 (2)	6 (4)	2 (3)	— (—)
Influenza ...	7 (2)	5 (1)	12 (3)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	2 (1)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	5 (1)	4 (1)	— (—)
Measles ...	1 (2)	1 (—)	2 (2)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (2)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis ...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Acute infectious encephalitis ...	— (—)	— (1)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (males) ...	10 (10)	— (—)	10 (10)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	4 (4)	— (—)	6 (6)	— (—)	— (—)
Cancer of uterus ...	— (—)	19 (16)	19 (16)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	4 (—)	— (—)	10 (11)	— (—)	5 (5)	— (—)
Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	26 (12)	17 (18)	43 (30)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	2 (1)	— (1)	13 (4)	3 (1)	11 (7)	14 (16)	— (—)
Cancer of breast ...	— (—)	26 (25)	26 (25)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (4)	3 (—)	— (10)	12 (—)	— (12)	10 (—)	— (—)
Cancer of all other sites ...	99 (94)	71 (66)	170 (160)	— (—)	— (1)	1 (—)	— (1)	1 (—)	— (6)	8 (5)	6 (6)	40 (42)	32 (24)	51 (43)	34 (36)	— (—)
Diabetes ...	4 (4)	4 (3)	8 (7)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (2)	— (—)	— (1)	1 (1)	1 (1)	3 (1)	3 (2)	— (—)
Intra-cranial vascular lesions ...	43 (46)	72 (79)	115 (125)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)	— (1)	1 (1)	10 (10)	18 (11)	32 (36)	53 (67)	— (—)
Heart disease ...	184 (165)	186 (167)	370 (332)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (14)	9 (4)	4 (5)	53 (46)	24 (15)	117 (110)	158 (148)	— (—)
Other circulatory diseases ...	50 (42)	49 (47)	99 (89)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)	— (1)	— (1)	8 (12)	8 (7)	41 (29)	41 (39)	— (—)	— (—)
Bronchitis ...	63 (53)	43 (34)	106 (87)	3 (4)	— (1)	— (1)	— (1)	— (—)	— (3)	1 (—)	— (17)	5 (5)	7 (5)	42 (40)	35 (27)	— (—)
Pneumonia ...	43 (39)	53 (42)	96 (81)	4 (4)	5 (7)	2 (1)	1 (—)	— (3)	1 (3)	3 (4)	4 (5)	5 (4)	30 (28)	39 (27)	— (—)	— (—)
Other respiratory diseases ...	9 (9)	8 (8)	17 (17)	4 (—)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (3)	1 (1)	— (6)	— (2)	3 (3)	3 (6)	5 (3)	— (—)	— (—)
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ...	14 (14)	6 (8)	20 (22)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)	1 (1)	1 (1)	7 (10)	3 (2)	6 (3)	2 (5)	— (—)	— (—)
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ...	1 (6)	1 (2)	2 (8)	— (5)	1 (2)	1 (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Appendicitis ...	1 (1)	1 (3)	2 (4)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)	— (3)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)
Other digestive diseases ...	18 (15)	10 (15)	28 (30)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)	— (1)	— (—)	— (3)	1 (—)	6 (7)	3 (7)	8 (8)	6 (7)	— (—)	— (—)
Nephritis ...	10 (13)	18 (11)	28 (24)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)	— (4)	2 (5)	1 (2)	4 (1)	4 (9)	9 (9)	— (—)	— (—)
Puerperal sepsis ...	— (—)	2 (2)	2 (2)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (2)	— (2)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Other maternal causes ...	— (—)	— (1)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Premature birth ...	5 (11)	7 (7)	12 (18)	5 (11)	7 (7)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Congenital malformation, birth injury, infantile disease ...	28 (23)	11 (8)	29 (31)	17 (22)	8 (7)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)	2 (—)	— (—)	1 (1)	— (—)
Suicide ...	11 (14)	7 (15)	28 (29)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (7)	9 (4)	4 (4)	11 (3)	3 (8)	3 (2)	— (3)	— (—)
Road traffic accidents ...	10 (5)	3 (3)	13 (8)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)	— (—)	1 (1)	— (5)	1 (2)	— (2)	— (2)	1 (3)	3 (1)	— (—)	— (—)
Other violent causes ...	23 (25)	27 (20)	50 (45)	6 (4)	1 (4)	— (—)	— (1)	— (1)	1 (1)	3 (5)	3 (4)	4 (4)	4 (2)	9 (12)	18 (9)	— (—)
All other causes ...	31 (45)	47 (31)	78 (76)	— (3)	— (—)	— (1)	1 (—)	1 (1)	— (—)	3 (6)	6 (7)	9 (4)	9 (7)	18 (30)	31 (17)	— (—)
ALL CAUSES (TOTALS) ...	754 (704)	735 (677)	1,489 (1,381)	36 (53)	22 (32)	9 (7)	4 (4)	4 (5)	2 (1)	70 (74)	67 (66)	228 (186)	166 (137)	407 (379)	474 (437)	— (—)

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—Although the infantile death-rate for the Borough has steadily declined for several years, it has always been higher than the rates for London and the country as a whole. This year, however, our rate of 26 deaths per 1,000 live births is lower than the London rate (29) and the rate for England and Wales (32).

MATERNAL MORTALITY.—Two deaths from puerperal sepsis occurred, there being no death from other maternal causes. This gives a rate of 0.87 per 1,000 live and still births.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—

Notifications.—Following is a table showing the numbers of cases of infectious disease notified in each year from 1940 to 1949. Commencing from 1948, the actual number of cases after allowing for correction of diagnosis, is shown in brackets.

Disease	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
Acute encephalitis lethargica ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	(—)	(—)
" influenza pneumonia ...	22	8	11	29	11	9	20	18	8 (8)	25 (24)
" primary pneumonia ...	80	68	96	53	47	88	100	67	59 (59)	62 (62)
" poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	(—)	1 (1)
" poliomyelitis ...	1	3	1	1	2	1	2	21	6 (5)	35 (32)
" rheumatism ...	9	6	2	5	6	—	9	6	4 (4)	2 (2)
Cerebro-spinal fever ...	24	19	11	9	7	9	4	6	4 (2)	2 (1)
Continued fever ...	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	(—)	(—)
Diphtheria ...	42	58	38	54	50	51	37	20	10 (3)	13 (7)
Dysentery ...	3	12	35	94	38	86	34	8	13 (11)	14 (10)
Erysipelas ...	43	29	28	29	33	31	23	27	29 (27)	13 (12)
Food poisoning or suspected food poisoning ...	6	4	6	10	3	4	11	17	16 (16)	24 (23)
Infective enteritis or summer diarrhoea ...	24	13	27	84	107	154	143	128	68 (57)	64 (58)
Malaria ...	4	—	3	—	5	2	9	2	3 (3)	2 (2)
Measles ...	253	301	707	592	174	1,046	690	960	1,027 (1,023)	568 (567)
Membranous croup ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	(—)	(—)
Ophthalmia neonatorum ...	20	6	6	8	13	11	5	4	9 (9)	8 (8)
Puerperal fever* ...	23	6	5	3	8	25	10	3	1 (1)	(—)
Puerperal pyrexia ...	17	25	38	23	24	37	24	16	20 (20)	18 (18)
Scabies† ...	—	—	—	246	644	804	726	344	196 (196)	84 (83)
Scarlet fever ...	56	61	110	312	137	126	228	129	147 (134)	127 (123)
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	(—)	2 (2)
Typhoid or enteric fever ...	5	9	1	3	—	2	—	3	2 (2)	4 (1)
Whooping cough ...	24	170	235	142	156	54	155	227	254 (250)	131 (130)

* Ceased to be notifiable on 30.7.48.

† Notifiable from 1.8.43.

Bacteriological Examinations.—The number of examinations made in connection with infectious disease was 242, including 55 examinations of sputa for tuberculosis.

Smallpox.—A passenger on S.S. Mooltan contracted smallpox at an Indian port whilst on a journey to this country from Australia. The disease was not diagnosed until the ship reached Tilbury. All the passengers were vaccinated, but it became evident later that several people on board had become infected and that the vaccination, was in several cases, carried out at too late a stage to give adequate protection against the disease. A considerable number of the passengers took up residence in the Bayswater area and it became the routine task of the district Sanitary Inspectors to visit all contacts until such time as the danger of developing the disease had passed. Two of the district inspectors reported illness in two of the contacts. Both contacts developed smallpox and had very severe attacks. They were removed to hospital and one a man aged about 60 died; the other made a good recovery after a period of anxiety. Every assistance was received from the County Council in arranging for the vaccination of contacts. In particular, Dr. Fenwick went to great trouble to ensure that as many contacts as possible were vaccinated. The whole story of the surveillance of contacts is too long to tell but it meant constant visiting and tracing of contacts, no easy matter when these contacts are frequently sight-seeing holiday makers who may at any time decide to change hotels or visit relatives at some distant town. The Sanitary Inspectors spent a very busy and worrying two weeks which included the Easter period and acquitted themselves well.

Visiting.—The Lady Sanitary Inspectors visit cases of infectious disease, with the exceptions given below, and following is a summary of their work in this connection.

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>No. of Visits.</i>									
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	125 (169)
Acute Rheumatism	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 (13)
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 (8)
Chickenpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	109 (297)
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 (40)
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 (29)
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 (35)
Lice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	441 (516)
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 (3)
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	875 (1,449)
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	89 (69)
Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	334 (833)
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 (234)
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 (13)
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	234 (380)
Visits to Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67 (68)
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,410 (1,168)

Typhus and smallpox cases are visited by the male Sanitary Inspectors, food poisoning or suspected food poisoning by the Food Inspectors, puerperal pyrexia, ophthalmia neonatorum and infective enteritis by the London County Council's Health Visitors, and tuberculosis by the Nurses at the Chest Clinic.

356 visits to cases of infectious disease were paid by the male Sanitary Inspectors, nearly all of which were to contacts of the 2 cases of smallpox notified, and of other contacts referred to us by Port Authorities or under the Aircraft Regulations.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Notification Register.—Three hundred and five new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 28 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, being a decrease of 1 pulmonary case and an increase of 5 non-pulmonary cases compared with the previous year. The numbers of cases notified in previous years are shown in the following table :—

Year	Population	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total Cases	Incidence Rate (all forms) per 1,000 C. Pop.
1911	142,541	397	No record	397 pul.	2.8
1921	145,600	244	91	335	2.3
1931	140,300	213	87	300	2.1
1939	135,300	189	32	221	1.6
1940	97,860	168	37	205	2.1
1941	77,640	184	26	210	2.7
1942	83,640	195	40	235	2.8
1943	90,580	229	28	257	2.8
1944	93,030	233	26	259	2.8
1945	99,790	224	21	245	2.5
1946	117,670	261	24	285	2.4
1947	127,450	273	22	295	2.3
1948	128,100	306	23	329	2.6
1949	130,640	305	28	333	2.5

The ward distribution of the cases notified during 1949 is as follows :—

WARD	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY		TOTAL
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Queens Park	10 (11)	3 (9)	— (—)	— (1)	13 (21)
Harrow Road	16 (27)	24 (22)	1 (2)	2 (3)	43 (54)
Maida Vale	42 (28)	32 (29)	2 (—)	3 (2)	79 (59)
Westbourne	26 (28)	33 (30)	2 (2)	5 (6)	66 (66)
Church	21 (18)	14 (12)	2 (—)	2 (1)	39 (31)
Town	6 (5)	3 (3)	— (—)	— (—)	9 (8)
Lancaster Gate, W. ..	15 (15)	10 (12)	— (—)	— (1)	25 (28)
Lancaster Gate, E. ..	19 (13)	7 (8)	1 (—)	1 (2)	28 (23)
Hyde Park	13 (24)	11 (12)	2 (1)	5 (2)	31 (39)
Borough	168 (169)	137 (137)	10 (5)	18 (18)	333 (329)

Forty cases of tuberculosis came to the knowledge of the Department during the year otherwise than by formal notification. These are classified as follows :—

Source of information	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Death Returns from Local Registrars ..	8(8)	2(2)	—(3)	1(2)
Death Returns from Registrar-General ..	3(3)	1(2)	2(1)	—(2)
Posthumous notifications	3(1)	1(—)	1(—)	—(—)
Transfers from other areas (excluding transferable deaths)	9(6)	7(3)	—(1)	2(—)
Totals	23(18)	11(7)	3(5)	3(4)

The following table shows the age distribution of the 333 cases :—

	0—	1—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	Total All ages
Pulmonary-Male ..	— (—)	2 (2)	7 (4)	— (1)	7 (4)	15 (23)	44 (55)	35 (37)	34 (25)	15 (14)	9 (4)	168 (169)
Pulmonary-Female ..	1 (—)	2 (—)	1 (8)	7 (—)	10 (15)	29 (32)	47 (45)	17 (25)	18 (3)	5 (7)	— (2)	137 (137)
Non-Pulmonary-Male	— (—)	1 (2)	2 (—)	1 (—)	1 (—)	3 (—)	1 (2)	— (1)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	10 (5)
Non-Pulmonary-Female	2 (—)	2 (2)	3 (—)	1 (4)	1 (2)	5 (—)	3 (5)	— (3)	— (—)	1 (2)	— (—)	18 (18)
Total	3 (—)	7 (6)	13 (12)	9 (5)	19 (21)	52 (55)	95 (107)	52 (66)	53 (28)	21 (23)	9 (6)	333 (329)

The number of cases on the Notification Register at the end of the year was 1,180, against 1,075 at the end of 1948.
Deaths.—The numbers of deaths from tuberculosis, and the death rates for each year from 1939 are set out in the following table :—

Year	NO. OF DEATHS FROM		Total Deaths	DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POP.	
	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Pulmonary Tuberculosis	All Forms of Tuberculosis
1939	83	12	95	0·66	0·75
1940	72	14	86	0·73	0·88
1941	85	12	97	1·09	1·25
1942	70	17	87	0·83	1·04
1943	74	5	79	0·82	0·87
1944	76	8	84	0·82	0·90
1945	59	9	68	0·59	0·68
1946	95	5	100	0·80	0·85
1947	71	12	83	0·56	0·65
1948	69	12	81	0·54	0·63
1949	79	6	85	0·60	0·65

Work Carried out at the Chest Clinic.—The following particulars relating to Paddington patients have been supplied by the Chest Clinic :—

No. of patients examined for first time (excluding contacts)	1,453	(1,360)
No. of above found tuberculous	266	(247)
No. of contacts examined	367	(270)
No. of contacts found tuberculous	19	(2)
No. of attendances at Chest Clinic	7,704	(7,477)
No. of visits by Chest Physicians	199	(131)
No. of visits by Nurses	1,670	(1,685)

MINIATURE MASS RADIOGRAPHY.—The North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board installed an X-Ray Unit at Paddington Hospital Extension from 7th March until 26th April, during which period 5,491 persons presented themselves for examination. It has not been possible to obtain an estimation as to how many of this number were Paddington residents or workers, but of the Borough Council's staff and employees 374 availed themselves of the facilities.

The following analyses of the work undertaken at the session have been supplied by the Regional Board :—

	Males	Females	Total
Miniature X-Rays taken	3,159	2,332	5,491
Recalled for large films	87	55	142
Recall percentage	2.75	2.35	2.76

ANALYSIS OF LARGE FILMS.

	Males	Females	Total
No further action	52	27	79
Referred to Chest Clinics	14	20	34
To return to Unit for recheck at later date	17	6	23
Failed to attend for large film	4	2	6

VENEREAL DISEASES.—The Borough Council is not concerned with the treatment of venereal diseases, but we call attention to the dangers of the disease by the display of posters and distribution of leaflets. The Council also make a contribution to the funds of The National Society for the Prevention of Venereal Disease.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.—

Section 47—Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.—No Court Orders were applied for. In one case where such action was contemplated, the person concerned finally went voluntarily into hospital. All cases brought to our notice are kept under regular surveillance, and during the course of the year 723 visits were paid by the Lady Sanitary Inspectors.

Section 50—Burial or cremation of the dead.—81 burials were arranged.

MORTUARY.—376 bodies were taken to the Mortuary, a decrease of 6 compared with 1948. Inquests were held in 123 cases, and Coroner's Certificates were issued in 239. The remaining 14 bodies were taken to the Mortuary to await burial.

WATER SUPPLY.—Two complaints were received as to the quality of water supplied for domestic purposes, but investigation by the Metropolitan Water Board proved that in both cases the water was chemically and bacteriologically pure and of good quality, as were all the routine samples which the Board took regularly throughout the year.

19 cases were notified of water supply being cut off on account of wastage or non-payment of rates, in accordance with the provisions of Section 98 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936. Appropriate action was taken by the Department for the reinstatement of supplies.

FUMIGATION SERVICE AND CLEANSING OF VERMINOUS ROOMS.—395 rooms were fumigated and 1,250 sprayed for vermin by the Council at the request of owners or occupiers, the comparable figures for 1948 being 740 and 729 respectively. It was found necessary to serve only three notices under Section 123 of the Public Health (London) Act, and these were complied with without further action by the Council.

DISINFECTING STATION AND MEDICINAL BATHS.—Approximately 13 tons of bedding passed through the steam disinfector, and 369 rooms were sprayed with formalin after the occurrence of infectious disease. 294 library books were also disinfected.

Scabies is still notifiable, but treatment is no longer compulsory. The incidence of this unpleasant complaint can, however, be gauged from the numbers of persons who attend the Baths for treatment. The numbers continue to fall off, only 217 persons attending in 1949, of whom 35 were children under the age of 5 years. The 1948 figures were 307 (including 72 children).

There was, however, an increase in the number of cases treated for vermin—291 as against 137 for 1948.

SMOKE NUISANCE.—No complaints were received, but 21 observations were made.

FACTORIES.—Following is a table showing the work carried out during the year under the Factories Act, 1937.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	103 (121)	29 (31)	— (3)	— (—)
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	508 (556)	34 (293)	17 (17)	— (—)
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	11 (2)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
TOTAL	622 (679)	353 (324)	17 (20)	— (—)

Particulars of Defects	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	19 (30)	16 (28)	— (—)	2 (1)	— (—)
Overcrowding (S.2)	2 (2)	2 (—)	— (2)	— (—)	— (—)
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	4 (5)	3 (5)	— (—)	1 (—)	— (—)
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1 (1)	1 (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1 (4)	1 (3)	— (—)	— (3)	— (—)
(b) Unsuitable or defective	28 (51)	25 (49)	— (—)	3 (5)	— (—)
(c) Not separate for sexes	4 (2)	4 (2)	— (—)	2 (2)	— (—)
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	6 (—)	5 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
TOTAL	65 (95)	57 (88)	— (2)	8 (11)	— (—)

OUTWORKERS.—

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Section 110			Section 111		
No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
179 (77)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)

The 179 Outworkers visited were engaged in the following occupations :—

Wearing apparel (making, altering or repairing)	..	..	..	..	..	114
Wearing apparel (cleaning and washing)	..	..	..	..	..	3
Household linen	..	..	..	..	..	3
Furniture and upholstery	..	..	..	..	..	1
Artificial flowers	..	..	..	..	..	9
Paper bags	..	..	..	..	..	26
Buttons, carding of	..	..	..	..	..	2
Toys, stuffed	..	..	..	..	..	7
Lampshades	..	..	..	..	..	14
						179

No cases of infectious disease were reported from outworkers premises, and the visits (219) paid by the Lady Sanitary Inspector engaged on this work showed that the premises were suitable for homework, although advice was necessary in a few cases as regards cleanliness and ventilation.

WORK OF THE DISTRICT INSPECTORS.—

SUMMARY.

Complaints received	..	..	..	..	..	5,680	(5,166)
Inspections and reinspections of dwelling houses	..	..	..	..	..	38,319	(36,951)
Inspections of basements	..	..	..	..	..	457	(147)
Inspections for purposes of Housing Act	..	..	..	..	..	307	(57)
Visits in connection with re-housing applications	..	..	..	..	..	2,055	(404)
Visits in connection with infectious disease	..	..	..	..	..	356	(70)
Smoke observations	..	..	..	..	..	21	(6)
Written Intimation Notices	..	..	..	..	..	3,342	(3,570)
Statutory Notices	..	..	..	..	..	1,157	(1,520)
Bye-law Notices	..	..	..	..	..	603	(977)

Work carried out :—

New dustbins provided	..	..	..	..	..	908	(545)
Roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	..	1,251	(1,509)
Gutters and rain-water pipes renewed or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	447	(416)
Dampness remedied	..	..	..	..	..	1,776	(2,409)
Rooms cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	2,525	(5,120)
Rooms treated for vermin	..	..	..	..	..	119	(250)
Yard paving repaired	..	..	..	..	..	58	(148)
Water-closets repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	395	(834)
Wall and ceiling plaster renewed	..	..	..	..	..	2,383	(3,710)
Flooring repaired	..	..	..	..	..	548	(746)
Accumulations of rubbish removed	..	..	..	..	..	184	(244)
Sundry repairs	..	..	..	..	..	4,137	(4,332)
Staircase lighting provided	..	..	..	..	..	46	(18)

Drainage :—

Entire re-drainage	..	..	..	..	..	18	(14)
Partial re-drainage	..	..	..	..	..	175	(129)

Drains tested or examined	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	532	(615)	
Drains repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	217	(220)	
Drains cleared	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	289	(278)	
Drainage conversions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	73	(20)	
Soil and waste pipes repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	181	(546)	
New sinks provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	192	}	(297)
New baths or lavatory basins provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	299		
<i>Water Supply :—</i>											
New supplies provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46	(32)	
Supplies reinstated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55	(108)	
Cisterns cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	(44)	
Cisterns renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	(9)	
<i>Legal Proceedings :—</i>											
No. of cases referred for legal action	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	196	(522)	
No. of summonses heard	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	135	(264)	
Fines	..	..	..	..	..	..	£121	5s. 0d.	(£358	18s. 0d.)	
Costs	..	..	..	..	..	..	£89	17s. 0d.	(£427	7s. 0d.)	
Abatement/Prohibition Orders	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27	(78)	
Dismissed under Probation of Offenders Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	(45)	
Adjourned sine die	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	(30)	
No. of summonses withdrawn on payment of costs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	59		
Amount of costs received	..	..	..	..	..	..	£93	9s. 0d.			

RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST (RESTRICTIONS) ACTS.—Applications for disrepair certificates numbered 21, 17 of which were granted. Four clearance certificates were also applied for and issued to owners.

DRAINAGE RECONSTRUCTION PLANS.—During the year 236 plans were submitted for drainage work to be executed in existing buildings. In five cases work was found to have been done without the deposit of plans. In two of these cases the plans were eventually received, but legal proceedings were instituted in the remaining three. These proceedings resulted in a fine of £1 with one guinea costs in each of two cases, while the remaining case was dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act on payment of £5 5s. 0d. costs.

VACANT SITES.—Complaints continued to be received about the condition of bombed sites and static water tanks. Improvements were effected in many cases, mainly by the removal of offensive refuse by the Council's Cleansing Department. On the whole, the position cannot yet be regarded as satisfactory, but it is hoped that the Bye-laws as to the Deposit of Rubbish which have been framed by the Council and await final approval of the Home Office, in conjunction with the War Damaged Sites Act, will result in the problem of these areas being finally solved.

CANAL BOATS.—The Canal Boats Inspector visited the Paddington Basin on 105 occasions, and inspected 73 boats. No serious defects or infringements were discovered, the minor matters requiring attention being disposed of without recourse to the service of notices. Six girls and five boys of school age were found to be living on the boats coming into the Basin. There were no cases of infectious disease among the canal boat population, but one death was registered.

Several complaints of nuisance from mosquito bites were received, one of the complainants being St. Mary's Hospital. It was thought that a direct attack on possible breeding grounds would possibly prevent a re-occurrence of this trouble in the summer months. Acting along these lines the Inland Waterways Executive were approached as to whether they would empty the canal, as was the custom prior to the last war. My request was readily granted and for the first time since 1939, the Canal Basin was emptied of water as far as Bishop's Bridge Road for the purpose of repair work and dredging. This took place during the Easter Holidays 29th April to 2nd May, when a considerable amount of repair work was done to the brickwork, and 1,665 tons of mud were removed by dredger and manual labour. The weight of mud removed in 1939 was 1,228 tons. I would like to record my appreciation of the co-operation afforded by the Inland Waterways Executive.

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933, etc.—At the end of the year the Register contained the names of 107 persons entitled to sell the poisons scheduled in Part II of the Poisons List.

BAKEHOUSES.—The number of bakehouses on the Register at the end of the year was 34 (16 "level" and 18 "basement"), to which 253 visits were paid for the purposes of the Factories Act, 1937. In the early part of the year the quinquennial inspection of basement bakehouses was made as required by Section 54 of the Act, the purpose being to decide whether the Certificates of Suitability should be allowed to continue in operation. In no case was the Certificate actually withdrawn, but certain proprietors were warned that improvements would have to be made before the next inspection took place.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—45 visits were made by a Lady Sanitary Inspector to Cecil House, 179 Harrow Road. Periodical visits were also paid by a Male Sanitary Inspector to examine the boilers and fire escape arrangements.

RODENT CONTROL.—The same procedure was followed as outlined in my Report for 1948. Two sewer treatments were undertaken, as were also a number of minor "block" schemes. In addition 347 individual complaints were received and dealt with.

SHOPS ACTS.—1,394 visits were paid by the two Shops Acts Inspectors. No notices were served, all contraventions of the Acts being dealt with informally.

FOOD SUPERVISION.

Sampling.—600 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst, 50 being formal samples (all milk) and 550 informal. All the samples were reported upon as genuine. The following table shows the complete list of samples taken :—

	NUMBER EXAMINED		NUMBER ADULTERATED	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Aspirin	—	4	—	—
Bacon	—	10	—	—
Baking powder	—	6	—	—
Bicarbonate of soda	—	1	—	—
Biscuits	—	1	—	—
Black pudding	—	3	—	—
Brawn, canned	—	1	—	—
Bread	—	5	—	—
Butter	—	11	—	—
Cake mixture	—	1	—	—
Cakes	—	12	—	—
Camphorated oil	—	4	—	—
Capers	—	1	—	—
Cheese	—	11	—	—
Chocolate spread	—	1	—	—
Cocoa	—	2	—	—
Coffee	—	8	—	—
Coffee and chicory essence	—	5	—	—
Cooking fats	—	9	—	—
Cooking fats, sweetened	—	7	—	—
Cooking oil	—	1	—	—
Cough mixture	—	6	—	—
Cream salad	—	3	—	—
Curry powder	—	3	—	—
Custard powder	—	8	—	—
Dessert powder	—	1	—	—
Digestive mints	—	1	—	—
Epsom salts	—	3	—	—
Faggots	—	1	—	—
Fish canned	—	21	—	—
Fish cakes	—	1	—	—
Fish cakes, canned	—	3	—	—
Fish paste	—	11	—	—
Fish pickled	—	2	—	—
Flavouring essence	—	8	—	—
Flavourings	—	1	—	—
Flour	—	3	—	—
Food tonic	—	1	—	—
Fruit, canned	—	1	—	—
Fruit juice, canned	—	4	—	—
Fruit pie	—	2	—	—
Fruit puree canned	—	3	—	—
Gelatine	—	2	—	—
Glycerine	—	1	—	—
Ground ginger	—	2	—	—
Halibut liver oil	—	1	—	—

	NUMBER EXAMINED		NUMBER ADULTERATED	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Health salts	—	1	—	—
Honey	—	3	—	—
Hors d'oeuvre	—	2	—	—
Horseradish	—	2	—	—
Indigestion tablets	—	4	—	—
Insecticide	—	1	—	—
Iodine	—	2	—	—
Ice Cream	—	5	—	—
Jam	—	4	—	—
Junkets	—	1	—	—
Ketchup	—	6	—	—
Lemon curd	—	2	—	—
Liver sausage	—	11	—	—
Macaroni	—	3	—	—
Malt loaf	—	1	—	—
Margarine	—	11	—	—
Meat, canned	—	3	—	—
Meat extract	—	1	—	—
Meat paste	—	4	—	—
Meat pie	—	13	—	—
Meat roll	—	1	—	—
Milk	50	148	—	—
Milk condensed full cream sweetened	—	4	—	—
Milk condensed skimmed sweetened	—	4	—	—
Mince pies	—	1	—	—
Mincemeat	—	1	—	—
Mustard	—	2	—	—
Nutmeg	—	1	—	—
Ointment, healing	—	1	—	—
Ointment, sulphur	—	3	—	—
Ointment, zinc	—	3	—	—
Olive oil	—	4	—	—
Orangeade crystals	—	1	—	—
Pastry mixture	—	1	—	—
Peas, canned	—	4	—	—
Peel, cut	—	3	—	—
Pepper	—	3	—	—
Pickles	—	8	—	—
Poppy balsam	—	1	—	—
Porridge oats	—	1	—	—
Prunes, canned	—	2	—	—
Pudding, canned	—	1	—	—
Pudding powder	—	1	—	—
Quinine	—	1	—	—
Rhubarb, canned	—	1	—	—
Rice	—	1	—	—
Sago	—	1	—	—
Saccharine tablets	—	2	—	—
Sandwich spread	—	1	—	—
Sauce powder	—	1	—	—
Sausage rolls	—	1	—	—
Seidlitz powder	—	1	—	—
Semolina	—	3	—	—
Senna pods	—	2	—	—
Soda water	—	1	—	—
Soft drinks	—	1	—	—
Soup, canned	—	6	—	—
Spaghetti	—	4	—	—
Spice	—	2	—	—

	NUMBER EXAMINED		NUMBER ADULTERATED	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Sulphur tablets	—	1	—	—
Sugar	—	10	—	—
Sunny Spread	—	1	—	—
Sweets	—	5	—	—
Syrup of figs	—	1	—	—
Tea	—	11	—	—
Tomato parmeno	—	1	—	—
Tomato juice, canned	—	3	—	—
Tomato puree, canned	—	4	—	—
Tomato spread	—	1	—	—
Veal and beef loaf	—	2	—	—
Vegetables, canned	—	4	—	—
Vinegar	—	1	—	—
	50	550	—	—
	600			

Unsound Food.—Approximately 22½ tons of diseased or unsound food were surrendered for destruction, 9½ tons more than in 1948.

Three cases were reported to the Public Health Committee of food being offered or exposed for sale which was unfit for human consumption. These consisted of :—

- (a) a piece of chocolate in which a shilling was embedded.
- (b) a scone containing a nail.
- (c) a part of a loaf containing a nail.

In each case the observations of the firm or person responsible were requested, and after very careful consideration the Committee decided not to institute legal proceedings, but to issue a severe warning that any further offence would result in a summons being taken out immediately.

Food Poisoning.—24 cases of Food Poisoning or Suspected Food Poisoning were notified and investigated. One instance occurred in which several persons attending a function afterwards complained of food poisoning symptoms. A thorough investigation was made, without, however, revealing any tangible cause. In the majority of cases transient symptoms have been reported to the Department several days after their occurrence. Investigation in such cases is difficult and almost invariably fruitless.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk and Food.—

Milk.—53 samples of "Pasteurised" and 2 of "Sterilised" milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, and, with two exceptions, complied with the tests prescribed in the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

The attention of the wholesaler was drawn to these two cases, and a satisfactory explanation was received.

Ice Cream.—24 samples were examined for bacterial content in the manner prescribed in the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, with the following results :—

Grade 1	1
Grade 2	5
Grade 3	4
Grade 4	14

Meat and Other Foods.—3 samples of pork, 1 sample of luncheon meat, 1 of cooked pie, 1 of dutch brawn, and 1 of salad cream were examined, the reports upon which were as follows :—

Pork (all 3 samples)	Many B. Coli and Enterococci grown. Diphtheroids also present. No definite pathogenic organisms found.
Luncheon Meat	Heavy growth staphylococcus, enterococci and B. Coli.

Cooked Pie	Heavy growth Gram positive spore-bearing bacilli. Practically no other organisms present.
Dutch Brawn	Heavy growth of <i>B. Paracolon</i> ; streptococci viridans also present in moderate numbers.
Salad Cream	A diphtheroid with haemolytic reaction grown, probably not pathogenic. No other pathogenic organisms grown.

Food Premises and Undertakings.—There were in existence in the Borough at the end of the year 1,218 food premises and undertakings, the complete list of which is as follows :—

FOOD " SHOPS "

Bakers	34
Cake shops	14
Butchers	60
Horsemeat shops (human consumption)	3
Confectioners	109
Chemists	48
Dairies	13
Fishmongers	24
Fried Fish	20
Grocers	43
Grocers and Provisions	97
Domestic Stores	16
Corn Chandlers	2
Greengrocers	79
General shops	48
Public Houses	98
Cider Houses	2
Off Licences	54
Cafes, restaurants, dining rooms and snack bars	141
	905

NOTE.—103 grocers and general shops are registered as purveyors of milk.

90 public houses hold catering licences from the Ministry of Food.

CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS OTHER THAN FOOD SHOPS, HOLDING CATERING LICENCES FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOOD.

Private hotels	142
Industrial canteens	20
Staff canteens	56
Institutions	17
	235

NOTE.—There are an unknown number of residential establishments (probably several hundreds) which provide meals to residents on their books, but which do not hold catering licences.

FOOD FACTORIES 11
(3 ice-cream factories are included in this total.)

STREET TRADERS.						
Coffee stalls	..	..	..	..	..	11
Greengrocers stalls	..	..	..	..	..	33
Greengrocers rounds	..	..	..	..	..	18
Ice cream stalls	..	..	..	..	..	2
						64

ANIMAL FOOD DEALERS						
Cat meat shops	..	..	..	..	..	2
Cat meat stall	..	..	..	..	..	1
						3

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.—The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1936—1948 were superseded on the 1st October, 1949 by two distinct sets of Regulations :—

(a) *Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.*

The designations authorised by these Regulations are "Tuberculin Tested" and "Accredited." The use of the designation "Accredited" is to cease after 1st October, 1954, and after 1st October, 1957, the use of the designation "Tuberculin Tested" is to be restricted to milk obtained from attested herds.

Producers' licences are to be granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and Dealers' licences by local authorities.

(b) *Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.*

These Regulations authorise the use of the designations "Pasteurised" and "Sterilised," and where "Tuberculin Tested" milk is subjected to either the pasteurising or sterilising process, the milk so treated may be sold as "Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised)" or "Tuberculin Tested Milk (Sterilised)."

From 1st October, 1950, pasteurised milk is to be sold only in bottles or containers which have been filled on the premises of persons holding licences under the Regulations, and from 1st October, 1954, the bottles are to be filled only at pasteurising establishments. Where milk is pasteurised or sterilised on the premises of the applicant, the licence is to be granted by the Food and Drugs Authority, and all other licences by the local authority. The Council is, of course, the Food and Drugs Authority for the Borough, but at present there are no premises used for the pasteurising or sterilising process.

The Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949, under which the above Regulations are made, also provides that the Ministry of Food may, in any area where he is satisfied that there is an adequate supply of designated milk, restrict the sale of milk in that area to designated milk. It is probable, therefore, that in the near future it will be possible to purchase in the Borough, no milk except specially designated milk, and which is sold under the conditions laid down in the Regulations.

Licences in force at the end of the year were as follows :—

Dealers' Principal Licences

To sell—"Pasteurised" milk	58
"Sterilised" milk	97
"Tuberculin Tested" milk	51
"Accredited" milk	—

Dealers' Supplementary Licences.

(These licences enable applicants to sell milk in the Borough from premises outside the Borough on condition that they hold principal licences from the authorities concerned.)

To sell—"Pasteurised" milk	16
"Sterilised" milk	17
"Tuberculin Tested" milk	16
"Accredited" milk	1

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.—These Regulations, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1949, re-enact, with amendments, the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1926–1943. The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries becomes responsible for the registration of dairy farms and of persons carrying on the trade of dairy farmer. The execution and enforcement of the Regulations so far as dairy farms are concerned is the responsibility of the Minister except for those which relate to diseases communicable to man, this matter being still the concern of the local authority. The local authority is responsible for administering the provisions which relate to milk distributors who are not dairy farmers, and for the registration of dairies which are not dairy farms.

A medical officer of health may stop the sale of milk, or require it to be diverted for heat treatment, if there is evidence that it is infected with a disease communicable to man, and he may require milk to be heat treated if he has reasonable grounds for suspecting it to be so infected.

The Regulations as to buildings, cleansing of vessels and utensils, distribution and prevention from contamination of milk have been revised and brought into line with modern thought and practice.

Mineral Oil in Food Order, 1949.—The increasing use of medicinal paraffin in the preparation and composition of articles of food for sale to the public resulted in this Order being made. It came into operation on the 9th April, 1949, and prohibits the use of mineral oil in the composition or preparation of any article of food intended for human consumption. The presence of mineral oil not exceeding 0.2 parts by weight of the article of food is not deemed to be an offence where its presence is due, not to inclusion as an ingredient, but to its use as a lubricant or greasing agent on a surface with which the article of food necessarily comes into contact during preparation.

In only one instance did analysis reveal the presence of soft paraffin in an article of food, but it did not constitute an offence against the Order, being less than 0.2 parts by weight and used only as a lubricating agent.

Food and Drugs (Whalemeat) Regulations, 1949.—These Regulations came into force on the 20th March, and are designed, amongst other things, to secure observance of hygienic conditions in connection with the sale, transport and handling of whale meat. The importation of whale meat into England and Wales for human consumption is prohibited unless accompanied by a veterinary certificate, and the Regulations prescribe the manner in which uncertificated whale meat shall be dealt with.

HOLIDAY HOME FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE.—

As foreshadowed in my report for 1948, the Council completed arrangements for the establishment of a holiday home for elderly people on the 18th March, 1949, at "Kincardine," Brassey Road, Bexhill-on-Sea.

The acquisition of this desirable property was eventually completed by agreement with the owner at a price of £7,450 and a figure of £1,200 was agreed for the purchase of the existing furniture, fittings, etc. Additional furniture, etc., required was purchased for £850 and after certain repair works costing approximately £223 were completed, the Holiday Home was ready for its first visitors on the 25th April, an achievement which was only made possible by the co-operation of all concerned.

Full particulars of accommodation etc., were given in my report of 1948, but for purposes of record as well as information these are repeated hereunder :—

Accommodation available for 16 visitors as follows :—

- Two double bedrooms for married couples ;
- Five rooms each containing two single beds ;
- Two single bedrooms.

Situation—

Faces east, within 100 yards of the sea front, and within easy reach of the Town's shopping centre and the railway station.

Conditions of acceptance—

Applicants must be residents of Paddington, and of pensionable age (i.e. men 65 years, women 60 years).

Admission Fees—

21/- per week inclusive. (This fee is reduced to 15/- per week if the applicant is in receipt of a supplementary pension.)

All fees must be fully paid by three weeks prior to the date of visit and can, if desired, be paid in instalments.

Transport arrangements—

These arrangements are the responsibility of the Old People's Welfare Committee, who have entered into a contract with the Maidstone and District Motor Services Limited, which provide for a motor coach to transport homecoming visitors from Bexhill to Paddington every Monday at 9.30 a.m., arriving at the Town Hall about 12.30 p.m. and returning at 1.30 p.m. with a fresh batch of visitors.

Staff—

The staff comprises Manageress (resident), Cook, Chambermaid/Waitress—all full time : domestic help and gardener/handyman—part-time.

To cover any medical attendance that may be required from time to time, the services of Dr. R. P. Mills have been retained at a fee of £11 per annum.

The first party left for Bexhill on the 25th April, 1949 and from that date until 14th November, 442 visitors have been accommodated at the Home, an average of nearly 15 per week.

At the invitation of His Worship the Mayor (Alderman J. E. MacColl, J.P.) the Mayor of Bexhill (Alderman W. H. Hughes, J.P.) kindly consented to preside at the official opening on the 25th April. Several distinguished guests were present including The Rt. Hon. George Buchanan—Chairman of the National Assistance Board. Members of the Bexhill and Paddington Borough Councils were present along with other persons interested in the welfare of the aged.

From the 14th November to the 19th December, the Home was closed for cleaning and minor repairs, and was re-opened on the 19th December for a party of visitors to spend the Christmas period at the Home until 28th December. At this point, I must express my sincere thanks and appreciation to His Worshipful the Mayor, the Mayor of Bexhill the Bexhill Rotary Club, International Stores, Ltd., and an anonymous donor for contributions which enabled the old people to spend a very enjoyable Christmas at "Kincardine."

That this venture has proved an unqualified success is amply confirmed by the constant flow of letters of appreciation. In addition, Paddington's lead in this field of social welfare for the aged has brought enquiries from other metropolitan and provincial councils desirous of considering the provision of a similar service.

In view of the success which has attended the Council's first venture to assist the aged, and the fact that the accommodation at "Kincardine" is insufficient to cope with the increasing demand for this beneficial service, I trust that the hope expressed in my last Report to the Council that the establishment of this holiday home may prove to be a prelude to a considerable expansion of welfare work for the aged, will in time be realised.

HOUSES UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION.—

No. of basement rooms dealt with by closing orders	..	..	..	..	..	207
No. of upper parts of mews premises closed for human habitation	..	..	..	..	..	2
No. of houses dealt with by demolition orders in respect of which undertakings were accepted	..	..	..	..	..	6

Sixty-seven persons were displaced as a result of the Council's operations, twenty-six being re-housed by the Paddington Borough Council and fourteen by the London County Council. Fourteen secured accommodation through their own efforts and thirteen are awaiting suitable Council vacancies.

Closing orders were determined or undertakings cancelled on two basements and the upper parts of five mews premises made fit for human habitation during the year. Two houses were also wholly made fit following action under Section 11 of the appropriate Act.

BASEMENT ROOM SURVEY.—

In accordance with the Council's desire to prevent the reoccupation of unfit basement rooms, the District Sanitary Inspectors were requested to report to the Medical Officer of Health the existence of empty basement rooms on their districts. A number of basement rooms suitable for closure were brought to notice in this way many of which were subsequently closed for human habitation, whilst others were brought up to the required standard without recourse to formal proceedings.

COMPULSORY REPAIRS.—

Twenty Notices under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936, were served during the year. Seven Notices were complied with, and works were in progress at ten other premises. In one further case works are being undertaken by the Council in default, and at two other premises the works have not yet commenced. Four Notices served prior to 1949 have also been complied with during the year.

HOUSING ACT, 1936—OVERCROWDING.—

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	..	..	..	..	..	527
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	..	..	..	..	..	597
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	..	..	..	..	..	2192 (Units)
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	..	..	..	..	..	377
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	..	..	..	..	..	275
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	..	..	..	..	..	1137½ (Units)

- (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding Nil.
- (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowded conditions upon which the medical officer may consider it desirable to report Nil.

The number of overcrowded dwellings on the Register of Overcrowding at the end of 1949 (527) shows an increase on the figure for 1948 (425). Some 133 of these were basement dwellings.

Of the cases of overcrowding relieved during the year :—

26 were provided with accommodation by the Borough Council.

112 were rehoused by the London County Council.

95 secured accommodation privately, and

42 were relieved by a natural reduction in the size of the family or on obtaining additional accommodation.

The practice of sending warning letters to owners and landlords against permitting the premises to become again overcrowded has been continued in all known cases where overcrowding of premises has been abated.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION : PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT.—

Five families recommended for preferential consideration in the allocation of accommodation on medical grounds were rehoused by the Borough Council, seventeen by the London County Council, and five removed privately.

FUMIGATION.—

During the year Associated Fumigators, Limited, under an agreement with the Council, removed and treated the furniture etc., of four families with hydrogen cyanide gas. The cost of the work was £34 0s. 0d.

Following a letter from the Associated Fumigators, Limited, stating that the amount of furniture per family is now greater than when they commenced this work, and that, as often occurs, removal into large blocks of flats makes it impossible to complete the work in an ordinary working day, thus necessitating overtime, the Council agreed to the fixed charge of £7 10s. 0d. a day, inclusive of van, three men and necessary materials, being increased to £8 10s. 0d. per day, as from the 1st January, 1949.

NEW ACCOMMODATION.—

Two small blocks of flats comprising 12 dwellings at Queen's Park Court (Peach Street Housing Scheme) were completed early in the New Year, and families selected from the Council's waiting list were rehoused therein.

- (b) The number of any cases in which the local health authorities have taken steps for the treatment of the cases.
- (c) The number of any cases in which the local health authorities have taken steps for the treatment of the cases.

The number of cases in which the local health authorities have taken steps for the treatment of the cases is 100. The number of cases in which the local health authorities have taken steps for the treatment of the cases is 100.

Of the cases of ever occurring during the year:

1. The number of cases in which the local health authorities have taken steps for the treatment of the cases is 100.

2. The number of cases in which the local health authorities have taken steps for the treatment of the cases is 100.

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HOUSE ACCOMMODATION: PRESENTIAL TREATMENT

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FURNITURE

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