

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

Contributors

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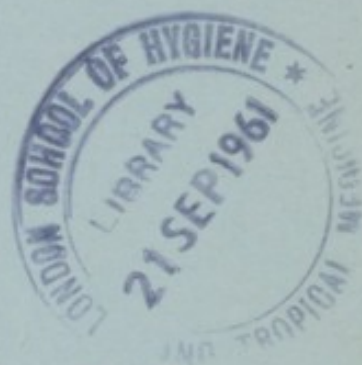
REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

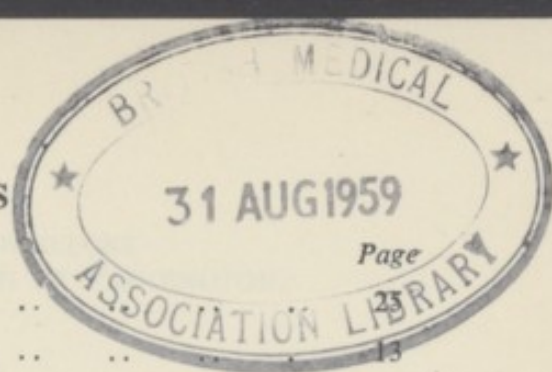
FOR THE YEAR 1958

H. LESLIE OLDERSHAW, M.D. (London),
B.S., D.P.H.





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Except where otherwise indicated, the figures in brackets throughout this Report are the figures for 1957, and are shown for comparison.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF PADDINGTON.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1958.

Vital Statistics

It is interesting to note that this year the Registrar General estimates the mid-year home population of the Borough as 115,700. This is a reduction of nearly 5,000 on his estimate for the previous year. From 1953 to 1957 there had been an estimated reduction of only 3,000. The decennial census of population will be held in 1961, and those figures will be available shortly afterwards.

Infectious Disease

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that although there were only five cases of poliomyelitis notified in the borough in 1958, they were all paralytic. No less than three terminated fatally, and all were adults of over 30 years. This underlines the importance of poliomyelitis immunisation, and the necessity of including the adult population in this respect.

Smoke Control Areas

Considerable attention continues to be paid by the department to this most important aspect of our work. Details are contained in the body of the report, and it is pleasing to record that it was possible to complete the preliminary and final survey during the year of the Hyde Park Ward. This important work will continue until the entire borough becomes a Smoke Control Area within the next ten years. Already plans are well advanced in respect of the Lancaster Gate East Ward.

Slum Clearance

On the 6th January, 1958, the Council made the Paddington Borough Council (Braithwaite Place and Adpar Street) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1958. On the 17th June, 1958, the Minister of Housing and Local Government held a Public Enquiry to hear objections to the Order, and at the end of the year the Minister's decision was being awaited. This was the largest Slum Clearance project ever undertaken by the Paddington Borough Council and I would like to express my admiration of the skill and care shewn by your Area Inspector, Mr. V. L. Ronchetti, in the detailed and extensive work associated with this slum clearance.

Report of the Borough Analyst

For the first time is included the Report of your Public Analyst (C. Harcourt Wordsworth, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.). Mr. Wordsworth has been your Analyst since 1949 and I felt you would wish to receive from him personally an account of the important duties he is undertaking on behalf of the Council.

Mortuary

On the 1st October, 1958, the Paddington Mortuary was closed in anticipation of the development of the Hall Park area for housing

purposes. An arrangement was made with the St. Pancras Borough Council for Paddington cases to be accepted in their new mortuary. This new scheme has worked exceedingly smoothly and appreciation is expressed to our colleagues in St. Pancras for the help we have received from them. A considerable financial saving to the Borough has been effected by the new arrangement.

Staff

During the year Mr. A. C. Harrison was promoted to fill the vacancy of Chief Food Inspector, occasioned by the tragic death of his colleague Mr. F. J. Pallet. Miss Amor, who had previously divided her duties as between inspection of food shops and outworkers and the care of the elderly, became full-time assistant to the Chief Food Inspector. Mrs. Short, S.R.N., was appointed to undertake the duties in connection with the care of the elderly previously performed by Miss Amor, and also to undertake the investigation of infectious disease in the northern part of the borough.

Conclusion

I would like to express my gratitude for the help and co-operation I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Chief Officers of the Council, and especially to all the staff of the Public Health Department.

I have the honour to be

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. LESLIE OLDERSHAW,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
14-15, Park Place Villas,
London, W.2.

Tel. No.: Paddington 1251.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE (at 31st December, 1958)

Ald. Miss C. P. Rabagliati, M.B.E. (<i>Chairman</i>)	
Clr. Mrs. I. L. Bolton	Clr. Mrs. I. M. B. Gordon
Clr. J. J. L. de Segrais,	Clr. Mrs. M. S. Hornby
F.R.I.B.A.	Clr. G. J. O'Connell
Clr. W. Dow	Clr. A. F. Waley, B.A.(Oxon.)
Clr. A. A. Dumont	

**COUNCIL MEMBERS SERVING ON OTHER COMMITTEES
(at 31st December, 1958)**

London County Council Divisional Health Committee No. 2:—

Ald. Miss C. P. Rabagliati, M.B.E.
 Clr. Mrs. E. G. Lane
 Clr. W. Dow

Paddington (Group 21) Hospital Management Committee:—

Ald. Miss C. P. Rabagliati, M.B.E.
 Ald. W. E. Harriss
 Ald. F. Lawrence, O.B.E., J.P., L.C.C. (*Chairman*)

Paddington and St. Marylebone District Nursing Association:—

Ald. Miss C. P. Rabagliati, M.B.E.

Paddington Tuberculosis Care Committee:—

Ald. Miss C. P. Rabagliati, M.B.E.
 Clr. J. Collins
 Clr. W. Dow
 Clr. F. H. Harris
 Clr. Mrs. M. S. Hornby
 Clr. G. J. O'Connell

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS (at 31st December, 1958)*Medical Officer of Health:—*

H. Leslie Oldershaw, M.D.(London), B.S., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:—

Hilary Stella Mary Hadaway, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Public Analyst:—

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

Administrative Staff:—

S. W. Ruffey (Chief Clerk)	H. C. P. Eagle
H. J. Parker	A. E. Blake
S. W. Wordingham	R. A. Cummins
A. G. L. E. Houghton	C. Webdale
E. J. Cleaver	Miss D. L. Smeaton
D. J. Myers	Mrs. F. M. Bean
L. Allchin	

Area Public Health Inspectors:—

E. B. Wilde (1) (2) (3)	V. L. Ronchetti (1) (2)
W. H. G. Atkins (1)	G. S. Adams (1) (2) (3)

District Public Health Inspectors:—

C. G. Heron	(1) (2)	R. Fowler	(1) (2)
E. Marshall	(1) (2)	R. E. Williams	(1) (2)
C. Chesterman	(1) (2)	V. A. Vickers	(1)

Female Public Health Inspector:—

Miss E. Z. Amor (1) (2) (4)

Chief Food Inspector and Sampling Officer:—

A. C. Harrison (1) (2)

There are three Student Public Health Inspectors (two male and one female) undergoing training.

Visitors:—

Mrs. E. L. Falloon (4)

Mrs. A. J. Short (4)

Manageress at the Holiday Home:—

Mrs. G. Cope

Rodent Officer:—

W. A. Dunkley

There is a domestic staff of three (excluding the Manageress) at the Holiday Home.

Four Rodent Operatives, two Medicinal Bath Attendants, four Disinfection and Disinfestation Operatives and one Groundman are employed in the Public Health Department.

- (1) Public Health Inspector's certificate of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health.
- (2) Meat and Other Food Inspector's certificate.
- (3) Smoke Inspector's certificate.
- (4) State Registered Nurse.

VITAL STATISTICS

Area of Borough (including 20 acres of waterways)	.. .. .	1,356 acres
Rateable value	.. .. .	£2,425,469 (£2,442,139)
Product of a penny rate (net)	.. .. .	£9,700 (£9,543)
Population (Registrar General's mid-year home population)	.. .. .	115,700 (120,500)
Number of dwellings (according to the Rate Books)	.. .. .	31,823 (31,417)
Deaths from all causes	.. .. .	1,335 (1,205)
Number of maternal deaths	.. .. .	3 (4)
Borough birth rate (live births per 1,000 population)	.. .. .	20.17 (18.76)

Borough death rate (deaths per 1,000 population)	11.54 (10.00)
Comparability factors—Births	0.80 (0.79)
Deaths	1.05 (1.08)
England and Wales—Birth rate	16.4 (16.1)
Death rate	11.7 (11.5)

		Total		Legitimate	Illegitimate
		Males	Females		
Live births	Males	1,254 (1,147)	1,035 (980)	219 (167)	
	Females	1,080 (1,114)	880 (921)	200 (193)	
Still births	Males	21 (26)	16 (22)	5 (4)	
	Females	30 (17)	22 (12)	8 (5)	
Deaths of infants under one year of age ..	Males	27 (30)	21 (25)	6 (5)	
	Females	24 (24)	18 (15)	6 (9)	
Deaths of infants under four weeks of age ..	Males	25 (24)	19 (20)	6 (4)	
	Females	20 (20)	15 (14)	5 (6)	

The number of marriages solemnised in the Borough during the year was 1,437 (1,592).

The decennial census of population will be held in 1961. The following table based on the 1951 census shows Paddington to be the most densely populated of the Metropolitan Boroughs.

Borough	Persons per acre
Paddington	92.5
Southwark	85.9
Chelsea	77.2
Bethnal Green	76.8
Islington	76.2
Kensington	73.4
Westminster	39.6
Wandsworth	36.3
Lewisham	32.4
Poplar	31.6
Greenwich	23.3
Woolwich	17.9

Only the six most densely and the six least densely populated Boroughs have been given.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Year	Reg. General's Estimate of Population	LIVE BIRTHS		DEATHS		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR		DEATHS UNDER FOUR WEEKS		STILL BIRTHS	
		Number *	Rate †	Number *	Rate †	Number *	Rate §	Number *	Rate §	Number *	Rate ‡
1901	143,976	3359	23.29	2163	15.00	455	135	146	43	{ No record	
1911	142,541	2977	20.88	1885	13.22	388	129	104	35		
1921	145,600	2859	19.63	1758	12.06	265	92	104	36	80	27
1931	140,300	2075	14.79	1831	13.05	182	87	67	32	82	38
1938	137,400	1888	13.74	1557	11.33	125	66	43	23	74	38
1939	135,300	1812	13.39	1608	12.74	106	60	49	27	53	28
1940	97,860	1556	15.90	1766	18.04	88	59	43	28	57	35
1941	77,640	1217	15.67	1418	18.26	64	60	36	30	44	35
1942	83,640	1397	16.70	1268	15.16	78	56	47	34	47	33
1943	90,580	1569	17.32	1390	15.32	107	68	41	26	40	25
1944	93,030	1639	17.62	1388	14.92	100	61	38	23	49	29
1945	99,790	1712	17.16	1367	13.69	104	61	68	40	49	28
1946	117,670	2386	20.28	1525	12.96	113	47	76	32	59	24
1947	127,450	2520	19.77	1567	12.29	109	43	58	23	57	22
1948	128,100	2353	18.37	1381	10.78	85	36	43	18	50	21
1949	130,640	2243	17.17	1489	11.39	58	26	42	19	47	21
1950	130,600	2156	16.51	1397	10.70	62	29	40	19	41	19
1951	125,400	2155	17.19	1519	12.11	61	28	40	19	52	24
1952	124,800	2078	16.65	1450	11.62	56	27	38	18	46	22
1953	123,800	2107	17.02	1563	12.63	50	24	36	17	36	17
1954	123,100	2147	17.44	1190	9.67	37	17	31	14	38	17
1955	121,500	2119	17.44	1306	10.75	52	25	34	16	42	19
1956	121,200	2275	18.77	1262	10.41	55	24	43	19	32	14
1957	120,500	2261	18.76	1205	10.00	54	24	44	19	43	19
1958	115,700	2334	20.17	1335	11.54	51	22	45	19	51	21

† Per 1,000 population.

§ Per 1,000 live births.

* Corrected figures after allowing for inward and outward transfers.

‡ Per 1,000 (live and still) births.

DEATHS

In the following table the deaths are classified according to the Abridged List of the International Manual of Causes of Death.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Sex	All Ages	0—	1—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—
ALL CAUSES	M. F.	664 671	27 24	4 2	1 3	3 5	53 42	209 122	182 172	185 301
Tuberculosis, respiratory	M. F.	5 2	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	2 —	2 1	1 —
Tuberculosis, other forms	M. F.	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —
Syphilitic diseases ..	M. F.	2 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	1 1	— —
Diphtheria	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Whooping Cough ..	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Meningococcal infections	M. F.	— 1	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	M. F.	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —
Measles	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Other infective and parasitic diseases	M. F.	2 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— 1	— —	1 —
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	M. F.	14 16	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	3 3	5 6	5 7
Malignant neoplasm of lung, bronchus ..	M. F.	62 16	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 4	32 3	18 5	10 4
Malignant neoplasm of breast	M. F.	2 23	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 4	1 6	— 7	1 6
Malignant neoplasm of uterus	M. F.	— 7	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— 4	— 2	— —
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	M. F.	68 72	— —	— 1	— —	— —	4 1	31 26	24 23	9 21
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	M. F.	5 3	— —	1 —	— —	— —	1 1	1 1	1 —	1 1
Diabetes	M. F.	4 3	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	4 —	— —	— 2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	M. F.	56 90	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	14 15	17 22	25 52
Coronary disease, angina	M. F.	147 110	— —	— —	— —	— —	9 —	56 19	46 37	36 54
Hypertension with heart disease	M. F.	11 16	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 2	2 7	7 7

Deaths—(contd.)

CAUSES OF DEATH	Sex	All Ages	0—	1—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—
Other heart diseases ..	M. F.	37 59	— —	— —	— —	— —	3 4	9 9	6 16	19 30
Other circulatory diseases	M. F.	30 34	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 3	7 —	8 8	13 23
Influenza	M. F.	— 4	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— —	— 2	— —	— 1
Pneumonia	M. F.	30 44	4 3	1 —	— —	— —	— 1	3 3	7 8	15 29
Bronchitis	M. F.	50 26	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	10 3	23 5	16 18
Other diseases of the respiratory system ..	M. F.	10 3	— —	— —	— 1	1 —	— —	2 1	3 —	4 1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M. F.	12 10	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	6 5	4 1	2 4
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	M. F.	3 7	1 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 1	1 1	— 4
Nephritis and nephrosis	M. F.	5 3	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 1	3 —	— —	1 2
Hyperplasia of the prostate	M. F.	6 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 —	4 —
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion ..	M. F.	— 3	— —	— —	— —	— 2	— 1	— —	— —	— —
Congenital malformations	M. F.	9 10	7 4	1 —	— —	— 2	— 2	1 2	— —	— —
Other diseases	M. F.	40 65	15 14	— 1	— 1	— —	3 3	7 7	7 17	8 22
Motor vehicle accidents	M. F.	9 3	— —	— —	1 —	1 —	4 1	2 1	— —	1 1
Other accidents ..	M. F.	19 19	— —	1 —	— 1	1 —	5 2	3 2	4 2	5 12
Suicide	M. F.	23 19	— —	— —	— —	— —	14 10	7 6	1 3	1 —
Homicide and operations of war	M. F.	1 1	— 1	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Notifications.—Following is a table showing the numbers of cases of infectious disease notified. The number of cases after allowing for corrections of diagnosis is shown in brackets.

Disease	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Acute encephalitis (infective)	..	1	—	—	—
Acute encephalitis (post infectious)	..	—	(1)	(—)	(1)
Acute pneumonia (influenzal)	..	12	12	—	14
Acute pneumonia (primary)	..	39	31	23	22
Acute poliomyelitis (paralytic)	..	14	6	32	5
Acute poliomyelitis (non-paralytic)	..	14	6	3	3
Diphtheria	..	—	—	5	—
Dysentery	..	31	86	—	—
Erysipelas	..	14	5	33	41
Food poisoning or suspected food poisoning	..	69	52	7	8
Infective enteritis	..	68	18	55	105
Malaria	..	—	2	11	15
Measles	..	—	340	—	—
Meningococcal infection	..	1,596	(339)	1,204	802
Ophthalmia neonatorum	..	11	7	(1,203)	(802)
Paratyphoid fever	..	6	3	3	—
Puerperal pyrexia	..	1	—	5	4
Scabies	..	137	186	—	1
Scarlet fever	..	42	(186)	202	182
Smallpox	..	41	35	30	33
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	..	—	25	51	81
Tuberculosis (other forms)	..	177	—	—	—
Typhoid or enteric fever	..	18	220	195	155
Whooping cough	..	3	22	15	16
	203	120	102	93	96
	(203)	(119)	(102)	(93)	(96)

Bacteriological examinations.—The number of examinations made in connection with infectious disease was 283 (253).

Visiting.—In September a second Visitor commenced duty. These Visitors, both of whom are State Registered nurses, undertake the investigations of cases of infectious disease in addition to their duties with the care of the elderly. During the year 1,431 (2,005) visits were paid in connection with this work. Food poisoning enquiries are now made by the female Public Health Inspector. The London County Council's Health Visitors continue to deal with cases of puerperal pyrexia, ophthalmia neonatorum, infective enteritis and tuberculosis.

International certificates.—During the year 2,038 (1,961) certificates of inoculation or vaccination were submitted for the authentication of the signature of the medical practitioner concerned. This authentication is done under a World Health Organisation agreement and is required by people going abroad.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' WORK.—Following is a summary of the work of the male Public Health Inspectors, excluding work in connection with factories.

Dwelling houses inspected:—

Premises inspected as a result of complaints ..	3,256	(3,471)
Premises inspected in house to house visits ..	105	(5)
Premises inspected for action under the Housing Act (Sec. 9)	52	(29)
Premises inspected in connection with Certificates of Disrepair	167	(130)
Premises inspected for improvement grants ..	10	(8)
Premises inspected in connection with making of Closing Orders	656	(446)
Premises inspected other than those noted above	913	(682)

Notices served:—

Intimation notices under the Public Health (London) Act, 1936	926	(804)
Statutory notices under the Public Health (London) Act, 1936	326	(182)
Notices under the London County Council or Paddington Borough Council bye-laws ..	169	(158)
Notices under the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1954	41	(56)
Notices under the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1955	4	(3)

Visits made in connection with:—

Aged persons	50	(30)
Bakehouses	96	(144)
Basement occupation checks	249	(330)
Canal boats	—	(—)
Clean Air Act	969	(43)
Dwelling houses	19,215	(20,044)
Fireguards Act	3	(18)

Hairdressers' establishments	..	..	..	50	(119)
Infectious disease	..	..	..	9	(53)
Miscellaneous calls	..	..	..	148	(143)
Outworkers	..	..	..	8	(4)
Overcrowding	..	..	..	378	(167)
Rodent control	..	..	..	112	(162)
Pet Animals Act	..	..	..	21	(30)
Rag and bone stores	..	..	..	—	(19)
Rag Flock Act	..	..	..	5	(5)
Rehousing applications	..	..	..	123	(149)
Smoke observations	..	..	..	39	(62)
Town Planning	..	..	..	112	(80)
Vermin investigations	..	..	..	373	(524)

MEDICINAL BATHS AND DISINFECTING STATION.—The tables below give a summary of the work done at the Medicinal Baths and by the Disinfecting and Disinfesting Operatives.

Disinfestation:—

Rooms treated for vermin	..	..	..	752	(850)
Articles disinfested	..	..	..	1,653	(1,342)

Disinfection:—

Rooms disinfected after infectious disease	..	120	(144)
Library books disinfected	..	576	(527)
Articles of clothing, etc., disinfected	..	559	(718)

Scabies:—

Number of adults treated	..	126	(46)
Number of children treated	..	29	(6)
Number of treatments given	..	292	(99)

Vermin:—

		<i>Heads</i>	<i>Bodies</i>
Number of adults treated	..	19 (34)	41 (29)
Number of children treated	..	5 (10)	2 (—)

The medicinal baths staff also deal with the laundry and home bathing of old people which is reported under "Aged and Infirm Persons."

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Measurement of pollution.—The results obtained from the recording apparatus at the Welfare Centre, 283a, Harrow Road, during 1958 are given below.

Month	Rainfall in mms.	Insoluble deposits in tons per square mile	Soluble deposits in tons per square mile	S.O ₂ in mgs. per day per 100 square cms.
January	52 (38)	17.24 (14.83)	13.35 (10.71)	4.80 (4.46)
February	57 (77)	16.16 (11.98)	10.94 (9.80)	4.65 (3.44)
March	26 (28)	13.76 (18.59)	9.09 (7.62)	3.64 (3.27)
April	38 (4)	10.20 (10.24)	8.28 (3.89)	3.02 (3.19)
May	53 (26)	9.13 (11.03)	7.49 (7.48)	1.64 (2.45)
June	113 (13)	8.96 (16.31)	9.09 (7.04)	1.79 (1.63)
July	48 (84)	9.33 (11.68)	7.38 (11.74)	1.85 (1.77)
August	67 (40)	14.16 (6.78)	11.24 (6.58)	2.03 (1.73)
September	103 (62)	14.96 (10.94)	11.91 (6.27)	3.01 (1.77)
October	64 (49)	12.72 (13.15)	9.85 (7.48)	3.46 (3.76)
November	47 (61)	13.22 (11.24)	11.47 (10.96)	5.28 (3.95)
December	75 (45)	14.62 (13.82)	12.55 (13.86)	5.34 (5.23)

Smoke Control Area.—As I predicted in my last Annual Report it has been possible to complete the preliminary and final survey during the year under review covering an area in the south-east corner of the borough bounded by Edgware Road, Bayswater Road, Sussex Gardens and Westbourne Street. In accordance with the directions contained in the Minister's Memorandum on Smoke Control Areas, consultations took place at officer level following the preliminary survey. On the advice of the officers of the Ministry it was agreed that the area referred to above should be the subject of two orders instead of one, mainly due to the large redevelopment which is proceeding in parts of the area concerned. The first Order it is anticipated will operate on the 1st October, 1959, and the second Order on the 1st October, 1969.

At this stage I think it would be helpful to give a brief outline of the procedure which had to be followed for the preparation of the necessary information before submitting to the Minister the salient features of the project to which the Council is committed. In particular I wish to refer to the excellent work of Mr. G. S. Adams, the Area Public Health and Clean Air Inspector who, with the assistance of one clerical officer and the three student Inspectors (as and when their duties permitted) enabled me to submit my recommendation to the Council for the adoption of their first Smoke Control Area.

The first Order designated "Hyde Park No. 1 Smoke Control Order, 1959" comprises 11 industrial premises, 131 commercial premises and 2,658 dwellings, all of which had to be visited and the requisite information obtained as to the form of heating and the amount of fuel consumed; also particulars as to the installations which would require adaptation or replacement to comply with the provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956. The estimated total cost involved is £2,054 made up as follows. New appliances of different types to be installed amount to 103 at an estimated total cost of £855; total cost of other works attributable to installation of new appliances is estimated at £762; adaptation costs and provision of gas or electric points is estimated at £437. Of this total cost of £2,054 the Council's share is three-tenths estimated at £616. The balance is met by a grant of £822 from the Minister, and the owners or occupiers contribution of three-tenths, estimated at £616.

As the Council are aware this important work will continue until the whole of the borough has been covered. The question of providing adequate assistance has been a problem and is receiving my serious consideration. As will be appreciated no technical assistance can be provided and therefore the final survey had to be undertaken by Mr. Adams in addition to his Area Public Health Inspector's work.

However a start will be made early in 1959 on the preliminary survey on the Lancaster Gate East Ward, and it is hoped that the staff position will improve so that this important work can go on uninterrupted until the entire borough becomes a Smoke Control Area within the course of the next ten years.

Clean Air Act, 1956, Section 3.—Up to the end of 1958 twenty-nine notifications had been given under section 3 (3) of intention to instal a furnace at premises within the Borough and sixteen applications for "prior approval" were made and granted.

FACTORIES.—Following are tables showing the work carried out during the year in connection with the factories in the Borough.

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)	20 (13)	19 (12)	— (—)	2 (—)	— (—)
Overcrowding (S.2)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	1 (—)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	2 (1)	2 (1)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1 (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	10 (40)	9 (21)	— (—)	— (1)	— (—)
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	2 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1 (2)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
TOTAL ..	37 (57)	31 (35)	1 (—)	2 (1)	— (—)

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	87 (78)	60 (57)	5 (—)	— (—)
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	492 (493)	314 (427)	9 (18)	— (—)
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	31 (30)	6 (10)	— (—)	— (—)
TOTAL ..	610 (601)	380 (494)	14 (18)	— (—)

OUTWORKERS.—The 65 (58) outworkers on the current register were engaged in the following occupations.

Wearing apparel making	45 (28)
Household linen making	1 (2)
Upholstery work	1 (2)
Umbrella repairs	1 (—)
Artificial flower making	1 (1)
Paper bag making	5 (12)
Feather sorting	1 (2)
Stuffed toy making	6 (6)
Basket making	1 (2)
Lampshade making	1 (3)
Christmas stocking filling	2 (—)

The female Public Health Inspector made 162 (186) visits to the premises used. All the premises were found to be suitable.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Offence	Result of Hearing	
	Fine	Costs
67, <i>Chepstow Road</i> — Non-compliance with Justices' Order to abate	£3 7s. 6d.	£2 2s.
24, <i>St. Stephens Gardens</i> — Nuisance: Defective ceiling plaster	—	£2 2s. Order to abate in 21 days.
95, <i>Sutherland Avenue</i> — Nuisance: Damp and defective ceiling plaster	—	£2 2s. Order to abate in 21 days.
1, <i>Amberley Road</i> — Overcrowding ground floor front room ..	Conditional discharge— To secure eviction in three months.	
32, <i>Walterton Road</i> — Nuisance: General defects	—	£2 2s. Order to abate in 21 days.
97, <i>Sutherland Avenue</i> — Nuisance: General defects	—	£1 1s. Order to abate in 28 days.
96, <i>Bravington Road</i> — Nuisance: General defects	—	£2 2s. Order to abate in 21 days.
208, <i>Fernhead Road</i> — Nuisance: General defects	Order to abate in 28 days.	
207, <i>Portnall Road</i> — Nuisance: General defects	Order to abate in 28 days.	
43, <i>Warrington Crescent</i> — Rear mansard roof not watertight	Order to abate in 28 days.	
82, <i>St. Stephens Gardens</i> — Back addition roof not watertight	Order to abate in 28 days.	
25, <i>Lydford Road</i> — Main roof not watertight	Order to abate in 21 days.	
84, <i>Chepstow Road</i> — (i) Basement back scullery—defective wall plaster	Order to abate in 28 days.	
(ii) Defective ground floor W.C.	£1 0s. 0d.	£1 1s.
(iii) Defective basement back addition W.C.	£1 0s. 0d.	£1 1s.
618, <i>Harrow Road</i> — Selling loaf not of quality demanded ..	£10 0s. 0d.	£2 2s.
<i>Vere Mansions, 2, Westbourne Gardens</i> — Accumulation of refuse in basement areas ..	—	£1 1s. Order to abate in 7 days.
56, <i>Alfred Road</i> — Rear basement W.C. defective	—	£1 1s. Work done. Absolute discharge.

Legal Proceedings—(contd.)

Offence	Result of Hearing	
	Fine	Costs
91, Cirencester Street— Nuisance—general defects	—	£2 2s. Order to abate in 28 days.
32, Walterton Road— Non-compliance with Justices' Order to abate	£4 0s. 0d.	£1 1s.
13, Craven Road— Non-submission of plans, etc.—Drainage byelaws	£4 10s. 0d.	£2 2s.
1, Westbourne Park Crescent— Nuisance—general defects	—	£1 1s. Order to abate in 28 days.
62, Walterton Road— Nuisance—general defects	—	£2 2s. Order to abate in 21 days.
56, Chippenham Road— (i) Nuisance—defective floorboards in base- ment front and back rooms	—	£1 1s. Order to abate in 28 days.
(ii) Byelaw 10—defective woodwork to door of the yard water-closet	£1 0s. 0d.	£1 1s.
9, Philip Terrace— Nuisance—general defects	—	£2 2s. Order to abate in 28 days.
Flat 5, 43, Warrington Crescent— Bathroom ceiling damp	—	10s. 6d. Order to abate in 28 days.
32, Clifton Road— (1) Nuisance—Defective flooring and joists	—	£2 2s. Order to abate in 28 days.
(2) Defective water closet	£3 0s. 0d.	—
14, Beethoven Street— (1) Nuisance—general defects	—	£2 2s. Order to abate in 56 days.
(2) Defective water closet	£2 0s. 0d.	—
(3) Defective cover of inspection chamber ..	10s. 0d.	—
14, Spring Street— Sale of a packet of " Ready Brek " containing maggots	£1 0s. 0d.	£1 1s.

In addition to the above, 15 (21) summonses were withdrawn as the work was done before a hearing was reached, and £16 5s. 0d. in settlement agreed out of Court.

PET ANIMALS ACT.—Five applications for licences were made. Licences were granted for four premises and refused in one instance where the premises to be used were dirty and unsuitable.

PROTECTIVE HELMETS.—The Council are required to arrange for the testing of samples of protective helmets sold to motor cyclists. During the year three specimen helmets were tested for the Council by the British Standards Institution and all met the test requirements of B.S. 2001: 1956 which is acceptable under the Motor Cyclists (Protective Helmets) Regulations, 1947.

HAIRDRESSERS AND BARBERS.—There are 87 (86) hair-dressers and barbers establishments in the Borough registered under the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1954.

SHOPS ACTS.—The Shops Act Inspectors made 1,808 (1,838) inspections during the year. No statutory action was necessary, any contraventions found being dealt with informally.

BAKEHOUSES.—At the end of the year there were 15 (17) level and 2 (2) underground bakehouses in operation.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—There is one common lodging house in the Borough which provides sixty-nine beds for women.

WATER SUPPLY.—All drinking water in the Borough is supplied from the Metropolitan Water Board's mains and has been satisfactory.

PIGEONS.—Three (four) complaints about pigeons were received. Two of these referred to tame pigeons. In one of these cases no nuisance was found and in the other the nuisance was abated at the request of the Department. The complainant in the remaining case, which related to ownerless pigeons, was referred to the pigeon catcher authorised to act in the Borough.

RAG FLOCK ACT.—Five (four) premises where filling material is used were on the register at the end of the year. There are no premises in the Borough where rag flock is manufactured or stored.

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACTS.—At the end of the year the register contained the names of 102 (111) persons entitled to sell the poisons scheduled in Part II of the Poisons List.

DRAINAGE RECONSTRUCTION PLANS.—During the year 268 (166) plans were deposited for drainage work in existing buildings. Prosecutions relating to drainage work are reported under "Legal Proceedings."

BURIALS.—During the year 47 (51) burials and 8 (7) cremations were arranged under the National Assistance Act, 1948.

MORTUARY.—On the 1st October, 1958, the Paddington mortuary was closed in anticipation of the development of the Hall Park area for housing purposes. An arrangement was made with the St. Pancras Borough Council for Paddington cases to be accepted in their new mortuary, and for payment to be made to that Borough

of an amount per body calculated by reference to the actual cost incurred in the provision and maintenance of the St. Pancras mortuary. For the quarter ended 31st December, 1958, this was £4 10s. 0d. per body.

The number of bodies received in the Paddington mortuary up to the 30th September, 1958, was 181 and the number taken to the St. Pancras mortuary during the rest of the year was 79. In all 255 (199) post mortem examinations were held on the 260 (216) bodies.

RODENT CONTROL.—The following table gives details of the work carried out under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, and at the request of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, relates to the year ended 31st March, 1959.

	Dwelling Houses		All other property		Total	
Total number of properties in district ..	31,823 (31,417)		7,651 (7,765)		39,474 (39,182)	
Number of properties inspected as a result of—						
(a) Notifications ..	452	(412)	102	(87)	554	(499)
(b) Otherwise ..	171	(115)	2	(5)	173	(120)
Number of properties found to be infested by rats—						
(a) Major infestation	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)
(b) Minor infestation	266	(223)	38	(30)	304	(253)
Number of properties found to be infested by mice ..	217	(230)	58	(54)	275	(284)
Number of infested properties treated by Council ..	483	(452)	96	(84)	579	(536)

It was not found necessary to serve any notices. Two “block control” schemes were carried out during the year and the sewers were treated twice.

FOOD SUPERVISION

Unsound food.—Approximately $13\frac{1}{2}$ ($5\frac{3}{4}$) tons of diseased or unsound food was seized or surrendered for destruction. Diseased meat is incinerated, and other condemned food disposed of through the normal refuse channels.

Registrations.—The following registrations were in force at the end of the year under the Milk and Dairies Regulations or the Food and Drugs Act:—

Distributors of milk	141	(129)
Dairies	1	(1)
Ice Cream premises	207	(204)
Food premises	67	(71)

Licences.—Licences to sell designated milk in force at the end of the year are given below:—

Dealers' Principal Licences

Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	111 (113)
Sterilised	..	..	..	..	121 (125)
Tuberculin tested	..	..	..	..	87 (90)

Dealers' Supplementary Licences

Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	25 (26)
Sterilised	..	..	..	..	28 (29)
Tuberculin tested	..	..	..	..	24 (25)

Inspections.—During the year the two Food Inspectors paid 1,227 (1,053) visits to restaurants and cafes and 3,789 (4,833) visits to other food shops.

Food premises.—Following are details of the food premises in the Borough at the end of the year:—

Bakers	..	..	..	..	15 (19)
Cake shops	..	..	..	..	21 (19)
Butchers	..	..	..	..	60 (60)
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	142 (144)
Chemists	..	..	..	..	43 (44)
Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	19 (20)
Fried fish shops	..	..	..	..	11 (11)
Grocers	..	..	..	..	40 (43)
General shops	..	..	..	..	26 (31)
Provision stores	..	..	..	..	128 (124)
Domestic stores	..	..	..	..	21 (21)
Corn chandlers	..	..	..	..	3 (2)
Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	81 (83)
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	103 (105)
Cider houses	..	..	..	..	1 (2)
Off licences	..	..	..	..	57 (57)
Restaurants and cafes	..	..	..	..	140 (137)

Food factories.—There are 11 (12) food factories in the Borough including 2 (2) ice cream factories.

Street traders.—The Council have licenced 6 (6) coffee stalls, 24 (24) fruit and vegetable stalls, and 2 (2) ice cream stalls.

Bacteriological examinations.—Twenty-four ice cream samples were graded as follows:—

Grade 1	..	..	13
Grade 2	..	..	8
Grade 3	..	..	1
Grade 4	..	..	2

The 94 (102) samples of milk submitted all conformed to the standards required.

Sampling.—During the year 600 (600) samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. Two prosecutions were instituted in respect of samples as reported under "Legal Proceedings."

The Report of the Public Analyst will be found as an appendix,

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.—During 1958 the inspection of food premises was continued in connection with the Food Hygiene Regulations. In many premises some of the requirements of the Regulations were not being observed, but in no case was legal action found necessary to enforce them.

RENT ACT, 1957.—This Act came into force on the 6th July, 1957. Below is a table showing details of the applications during 1958 for certificates of disrepair under this Act together with the action taken thereon. The figures in brackets refer to the period 6th July to 31st December, 1957.

Applications for certificates of disrepair—

No. of applications for certificates	71 (93)
No. of decisions not to issue certificates	10 (12)
No. of decisions to issue certificates—	
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	52 (62)
(b) in respect of all defects	11 (16)
No. of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	24 (31)
No. of undertakings refused by Council under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	— (—)
No. of certificates issued	44 (39)
No. of applications awaiting report at end of year ..	1 (3)

Applications for cancellation of certificates—

Applications by landlords for cancellation of certificates	37 (4)
Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates ..	17 (3)
Decisions by Council to cancel in spite of tenants' objections	2 (—)
Certificates cancelled by Council	21 (1)
No. of applications awaiting report at end of year ..	1 (—)

MASS X-RAY SURVEYS

Dr. G. Z. Brett, the Physician-in-Charge, has kindly supplied the following details of surveys carried out by Mass Radiography Unit 5B in Paddington during 1958.

<i>Survey</i>	<i>No. examined</i>
Paddington Station staff	258
Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Transport staffs (Chepstow Place establishment)	308
General Post Office staff (Winsland Street)	320
Paddington Borough Council staff	355
Paddington Cleansing Department and St. Marylebone Cleansing Department staff	196
Selfridges staff (Irongate Wharf Road building) ..	238

Of the 1,675 people X-rayed three were found to have active pulmonary tuberculosis and two others were recommended for observation.

HOUSING

Housing Act, 1957—Overcrowding

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	210	(237)
(2) Number of families dwelling therein ..	214	(244)
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ..	932½	(1,040½)
	(Units)	
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	54	(35)
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	81	(75)
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	317	(327½)
	(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	

The number of overcrowded dwellings on the Register of Overcrowding at the end of 1958 was 210. This shows a decrease of 27 on the figure for 1957 (237). There were 66 basement dwellings on the Register.

Of the cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 28 (19) were rehoused by the London County Council, 40 (30) secured accommodation privately and 13 (19) 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.

Section 80 of the Housing Act, 1957, gives a local authority power, where they are satisfied that exceptional circumstances exist which make it expedient to do so, to allow the temporary use of a house by persons in excess of the permitted number. During the year, the Council issued 1 (9) licences under this section of the Act.

During the year, a total of 580 (769) Paddington families were rehoused by the London County Council or provided with accommodation in New Towns under the Industrial Selection Scheme.

Town Planning.

One hundred and eighty-four (187) applications to the London County Council under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, for the conversion and alteration of premises, change of user or continuation of consent were referred to the Council for examination and comment.

Housing Enquiries.

Some 22 (80) communications were received during the year from other authorities, requesting information on the housing conditions of persons applying for rehousing on grounds of overcrowding, insanitary conditions or ill-health. Such information

enables the enquirer to assess the degree of priority to be given to the applicants concerned. In each case a visit was made by the Public Health Inspector and a report furnished.

Slum Clearance Programme.

On the 4th July, 1957, the Paddington Borough Council declared an area, to be known as the Braithwaite Place and Adpar Street Area, a clearance area. The area consists of 8-11 (consec.) Adpar Street, 32-38 (even) and 7-25 and 29-35 (odd) Hall Place, 1-9 (consec.) Hall Place West, 2-13 (consec.) Braithwaite Place and 168-174 (even) Church Street.

The area is approximately 1.316 acres in extent and the properties comprise 45 dwelling houses and two shops with residential upper parts (one shop being derelict).

On the 6th January, 1958, the Council made the Paddington Borough Council (Braithwaite Place and Adpar Street) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1958. The order included the lands in the clearance area and about 0.693 acres of adjoining lands to be acquired. In addition the Council already own some 0.362 acres in the area. It is anticipated that about 210 families will be displaced from the clearance area and adjoining lands and the London County Council have agreed to accept responsibility for the rehousing of fifty per cent. of these.

On the 17th June, 1958, the Minister of Housing and Local Government held a Public Enquiry to hear objections to the Order and at the end of the year the Minister's decision was being awaited.

Houses Unfit for Human Habitation.

No. of basement rooms dealt with by closing orders	1,300 (362)
No. of upper rooms closed	110 (22)
No. of mews premises closed	16 (7)
No. of houses dealt with by closing orders (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953)	— (—)
No. of houses dealt with by demolition orders or in respect of which undertakings were accepted ..	— (—)

One hundred and thirty-six (93) persons were displaced as a result of the Council's operations.

Closing Orders were determined or undertakings cancelled on 55 (57) basement rooms. No (3) upper rooms and no (7) mews premises had Orders determined or undertakings cancelled. Fifty-eight (46) other basement rooms but no (2) mews premises were made fit without recourse to formal proceedings.

Of the 1,300 basement rooms, 110 upper rooms and 16 mews premises closed, 1,227 basement rooms and 107 upper rooms were in premises de-requisitioned by the Council under the Requisitioned Houses and Housing (Amendment) Act, 1955. During the time that the rooms were under the Council's control they were considered to be unfit for housing purposes and were not used for that purpose. The closing orders were made to ensure that the position was maintained. One mews premises was also closed on de-requisition by the Council.

New Accommodation.

During the year the Council completed fifty new flats as set out below.

Wheatfield House	..	..	..	8 flats
Clifford Court	..	..	..	20 flats
St. Luke's Court	..	..	..	10 flats
Aldridge Court	..	..	..	12 flats

Housing Accommodation: Preferential Treatment.

During the year 216 (167) medical certificates were referred to me by the Borough Director of Housing for "pointing." Points are awarded for certified ill-health, and if the applicant's health is affected by his living conditions the Public Health Inspector investigates the adverse conditions and in many instances is able to get them remedied.

Land Charges Act, 1925.

This Act provides for the maintenance of a Register of Local Land Charges in which are registered statutory charges including closing and demolition orders made by the Council under the Housing Acts. Solicitors and others making a search in this Register almost invariably submit supplementary questions about various matters of concern to the Public Health Department. These include slum clearance areas, statutory notices under the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, and the Housing Acts, certificates of disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957, and the implementation of the provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956, in the Borough.

Some 1,769 (1,530) enquiries on these matters received the attention of the Department during the year.

SAFETY IN THE HOME.—Towards the end of 1957 matters relating to safety in the home were referred to the Public Health Committee. During 1958 pamphlets were distributed and posters exhibited drawing attention to the more common causes of accidents in the home and there was a Home Safety Campaign week in November for the public generally.

Earlier in the year however leaflets were issued through Post Offices and by organisations such as the Women's Voluntary Services drawing the attention of old people in particular to dangers in the home. The North Thames Gas Board were also supplied with the names and addresses of about 350 elderly people from the department's records and these were visited by Gas Board officials who arranged if necessary for adjustments to be made to meters, gas taps and connections with a view to minimising the risk of accidents. The Public Health Department also keeps a small supply of fireguards and these are loaned to old people without charge on the recommendation of the Visitors.

Both the Visitors and the Public Health Inspectors take the opportunities afforded by their work to make the public more home safety conscious by personal advice.

LEGISLATION

Artificial Lighting of Common Staircases.—Ministerial approval was received to byelaws made by the Council under Sec. 63 of the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1956. These byelaws provide for the adequate artificial lighting of any common staircase in tenement houses or flats and came into operation on the 1st April, 1958.

Drainage Work.—Section 30 of the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1958, enabled the Council to execute drainage work by agreement with the owners of premises in cases where the Council require such work. The Public Health Committee decided to charge interest when the repayment is by instalments and at present this is 5½ per cent., subject to review in any particular case of an exceptional nature.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ORGANISATIONS.—Among the Organisations to which the Council make grants the following are closely connected with the work of the Public Health Department.

Organisation	Amount of Grant		
	£	s.	d.
Family Welfare Association (Area 2)	100	0	0
Paddington Old People's Welfare Committee ..	825	0	0
Women's Voluntary Services (for meals-on-wheels service)	260	0	0
Salvation Army (for meals-on-wheels service) ..	50	0	0
Kensington and Paddington Family Service Unit ..	150	0	0
Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents ..	14	14	0
Central Council for Health Education	11	11	0

The Central Council for Health Education produces excellent pamphlets on subjects which are essential to public health such as food hygiene and the prevention of disease. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents covers a wide field but its Home Safety work is of most interest to the Department. The ageing population continues to make increasing demands on the Old People's Welfare Committee and the meals-on-wheels services.

The Family Welfare Association, amongst other bodies, help with social difficulties which come to our notice; and the Family Service Unit by its work in dealing with families and their problems as a whole save the taxpayer an amount far exceeding the subscriptions to the Unit.

CARE OF THE AGED

Holiday Home.—Following are figures showing the guests accommodated during the year at "Kincardine." Guests stay for a fortnight during January, February and March and for a week during the remainder of the year.

Number of applications received	873
Number of guests accommodated	591

Number of applicants refusing or unable to accept the holiday offered for the reasons given.

(a) Date offered being too early or too late ..	86
(b) Private reasons	106
(c) Illness	61
(d) Death	21

Number of applicants not offered a holiday for the reasons given.

(a) Removed from Borough	2
(b) Died	5
(c) Refused by Selection Committee ..	1

Of the 591 guests accommodated as shown above, 116 were having their first holiday at the Home.

The Home was again open for a week at Christmas and a further sixteen guests (the maximum which can be catered for) were selected from forty-six applicants for this period.

National Assistance Acts.—It was found necessary to apply to the Court for one compulsory removal order during the year. The patient (a man aged 76 years) was removed to a local general hospital and subsequently admitted to a mental institution.

Home Bathing and Laundry Service.—Five hundred and sixty-nine (601) baths were given at home to forty-two persons during the year and the number of cases being dealt with at the end of the year by the laundry service was nine (10). Thirty-one (29) people received help from the laundry service during the year.

General.—At the end of the year there were 135 (145) names on the register of old people maintained in the Department for regular visiting. In addition 135 other old people were visited but it was not found necessary to put them on the register. The female visitors made 1,575 (1,211) visits, and the male inspectors 50 (30) visits to old people during the year.

APPENDIX

Report of the Public Analyst (C. Harcourt Wordsworth, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.) for the year ended 31st December, 1958.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF PADDINGTON.

YOUR WORSHIP, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

During the year 1958, six hundred samples were purchased by your Inspectors for examination under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, twenty being taken formally and five hundred and eighty informally. A total of twenty-nine samples were reported as being either adulterated, irregular or abnormal.

A summary of the number and types of samples is given below:—

	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Total</i>
Drugs.. .. .	—	17	17
Meat and Meat Products	—	39	39
Milk	20	255	275
Other Articles	—	269	269
	20	580	600

Nine of the samples of milk examined were found not to conform with the presumptive standards of composition for genuine milk but in each case the Hortvet Freezing Point showed that water had not been added and the samples were reported as abnormal.

A sample of baking powder was shown to be deficient in carbon dioxide. The composition of this product is governed by a Food Standard and the efficacy of the article depends on the amount of carbon dioxide released when the powder is moistened. Samples packed in cardboard or paper frequently lose strength.

A tin of Zinc and Castor Oil Cream was found to contain an excess of zinc oxide which was probably caused by poor mixing.

A sample of orangeade was found to have a faulty label in that no trade mark or maker's name and address was disclosed. Two other soft drinks were submitted in connection with a complaint and although one was found to have an unpleasant smell nothing toxic was found in either.

During the year some consignments of foreign apples were found to have been imported into this country containing residues from toxic sprays. Two samples submitted were found to contain excessive amounts of lead and arsenic and it was suggested that the fruit should be scrubbed before being eaten to remove all visible traces of spray residue.

A sample of butter received following a complaint was found to contain a slight excess of water but was otherwise normal.

A complaint was received concerning foreign matter in bread and examination showed that the material was a small piece of general dirt and grease which might have come from a greased part of the machinery.

A sample of ready cooked oats was examined and found to contain a mixture of sand and glass fragments. Some of the fragments were coloured and fused and this was perhaps one of the most unusual foreign bodies to be found in food during the year. Yet another sample of oats was found to have a smell of soap but otherwise was satisfactory.

Another type of breakfast food examined was found to be infested with the larvae of a moth, and a sample submitted as a control was also found to be infested and the stock of the shop was dealt with accordingly.

A sample of minced meat was found to contain sulphite preservative. Such addition is prohibited by regulation and the sample was reported against.

Although not strictly within the Food and Drugs Act samples are checked for weight and in one case a sample of prepacked currants was found to be under weight.

Bottles of milk were again submitted for examination following complaints of deposits and contamination. In one instance paint was found, in another a growth of algae showed that the washing process was at fault whilst a third sample was found to contain a gelatinous mass derived from the protein of the milk by the action of organisms. Although unsightly it was not considered harmful.

Other samples calling for comment included fermenting tomato juice cocktail and whole rice of a rather unusual brown colour. A few samples were found to have labels which, although not misleading, were considered to be ambiguous and attention was drawn to these in the reports

This report will, it is hoped, give some brief indication of the variety of foods and drugs examined in the Borough and although the faulty samples are naturally the most interesting, it should be pointed out that the majority of the articles analysed are quite satisfactory.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. HARCOURT WORDSWORTH,

Public Analyst.