

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

Contributors

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Metropolitan Borough of Poplar

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

The Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1951





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METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF POPLAR.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1951-1952.

Councillor J. BOND, J.P., Mayor (*ex-officio*).

Chairman:

Alderman J. SMART.

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor A. L. ATKINS.

Councillor G. ANDERSON

„ J. G. BIGGS

„ E. BROWN

„ T. CHRISTY

„ A. E. CLEMENTS

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„ J. C. JEPHEART

„ G. H. MILLS

„ T. PHILLIPS

„ Mrs. M. M. SAUNDERS

„ Mrs. H. F. SMITH

„ Mrs. H. WOOD

*Council's representatives on the London County Council (Division 5)
Health Committee:*

Councillors Mrs. M. M. SAUNDERS and J. W. VICAT.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

W. T. DONOVAN, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (Died 15.10.51).

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

C. A. GRABHAM*§

Sanitary Inspectors:

R. A. BEGLEY†

F. S. JOLLIFFE‡§

G. L. BELSHAW†§

S. KELLY* (To 5.2.51)

N. L. BROWN†§

H. W. LUKE†§

A. L. DOVE†§||

J. C. McMANUS† (From 9.7.51)

G. W. EAST†

C. H. MEDLAND†§

I. M. G. FARRIES†

J. E. G. STEEDEN†

K. J. HADLER†§ (To 8.7.51)

C. S. WESTBROOK*§

Chief Clerk:

A. A. HAMILTON†

Clerks:

D. N. W. IRVINE¶

Miss S. FELS

A. CANNON

Mrs. E. D. LONG

W. J. CRONE

G. R. WILLIAMSON

Disinfectors:

W. HODGE (Chief)†

R. DESMOND (Assistant)

Public Analysts (Part-time):

ALBERT E. PARKES, F.I.C., F.C.S. H. A. PARKES, B.Sc., F.I.C.

* Cert. S.I.E. Board.

† Cert. R.S.I.

‡ Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

§ Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.

|| Cert. Smoke Inspector.

¶ D.P.A.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.
MEDICAL OFFICE OF HEALTH
1951-1952
W. T. DONOVAN, M.B. Ch.B. (D.P.H. (D.S. 1910))
TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS

OF THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF POPLAR.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health of the Borough during the year 1951.

The report is mainly confined to factual matters because the work of the department was carried out under the direction of my predecessor, Dr. W. T. Donovan, whose untimely death occurred in October, 1951.

Tribute must be paid to Dr. Donovan's untiring energy and zeal in the interests of the health of the citizens of the Borough, particularly in connection with housing and food hygiene.

The general standard of health throughout the Borough remained satisfactory, and there were no outbreaks of the more serious infectious diseases. The total number of cases of infectious disease was high, mainly on account of the large number of cases of measles.

Only one case of diphtheria was confirmed during the year, and this happy condition was undoubtedly due to immunisation against this disease. It cannot, however, be stressed too much that diphtheria has not been eradicated, but is merely being held in check, and that any serious falling off in the proportion of infants being immunised will result in further and possibly very serious outbreaks such as have occurred both in this country and abroad.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population of the Borough was 73,260, a decrease of 790 as compared with the previous year. The Birth Rate was 17.3 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 16.7 for the previous year, and with 15.5 for the country as a whole.

The Infantile Mortality Rate was 31.5, which was 3.9 above that for the previous year, and 1.9 above that for the country as a whole. It must be remembered, however, that when dealing with small numbers the rate varies considerably from year to year, and the figure given cannot by itself be regarded as an accurate indication of the standard of child care.

The Death Rate was 12.8 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 10.8 for the previous year.

The major amount of work in the Public Health Department was concerned with housing defects, and in spite of the continuing difficulties it was possible to maintain, and to some extent improve, the standard of house repair throughout the Borough.

Throughout the year also the inspectors continued, with some success, the campaign to secure improved standards of hygiene in premises and staff engaged in the manufacture, distribution and storage of food.

The documents and reports made during the year show the Council's interest in the health of the public, and I feel that it would be Dr. Donovan's wish to record his thanks to the Members of the Council and to the Officers and Staff, particularly of the Public Health Department.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

R. DUNCAN DEWAR,

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1952.

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SECTION A.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (excluding water)	2,136 acres
Population, estimated mid-year	73,260
Number of inhabited houses (according to Rate Books) ..	17,328
Rateable Value	£559,112
General Rate (1951-52)	19/- in £
Sum represented by a penny rate (1951-52)	£2,190

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

					Males	Females	Total
Live Births:	Legitimate	..	..	..	602	621	1,223
	Illegitimate	..	..	..	21	26	47
Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population:							
	Recorded	..	..	..	..	..	17.3
	Standardised	..	..	..	..	..	16.8
Stillbirths:	Legitimate	..	..	..	14	15	29
	Illegitimate	..	..	..	1	—	1
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births					..	..	23.1
Deaths	..	..	..	..	506	430	936
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population:							
	Recorded	..	..	..	..	..	12.8
	Standardised	..	..	..	..	..	14.4
Deaths of Infants under one year of age:							
	Legitimate	..	..	..	22	17	39
	Illegitimate	..	..	..	—	1	1
Death rate of Infants under one year of age:							
All infants per 1,000 live births					..	..	31.5
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births					..	..	31.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births					..	..	21.3

TABLE I.
DEATHS.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.	Sex	All ages	AGE GROUPS.								
			0-	1-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-	
ALL CAUSES	M	506	22	4	4	6	24	166	143	137	
	F	430	18	6	3	3	25	77	114	184	
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ..	M	22	—	—	—	2	2	11	7	—	
	F	5	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	
2. Tuberculosis, Other	M	3	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	
	F	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	
3. Syphilitic disease	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
4. Diphtheria	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
5. Whooping cough	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
6. Meningococcal infection ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
7. Acute poliomyelitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
8. Measles	M	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases.	M	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	M	13	—	—	—	—	—	10	2	1	
	F	13	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	4	
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	M	31	—	—	—	—	1	21	6	3	
	F	5	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	
12. Malignant Neoplasm, breast ..	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
	F	12	—	—	—	—	3	5	—	4	
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus..	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	48	—	1	1	—	3	15	15	13	
	F	33	—	—	—	—	3	13	10	7	
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ..	M	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	
16. Diabetes	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
	F	4	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	M	42	—	—	—	—	—	6	17	19	
	F	43	—	—	—	—	—	8	13	22	
18. Coronary Disease, Angina ..	M	52	—	—	—	—	2	22	19	9	
	F	38	—	—	—	—	—	8	12	18	
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	14	—	—	—	—	—	7	4	3	
	F	16	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	8	
20. Other Heart Disease	M	61	—	—	—	—	4	13	18	26	
	F	97	—	—	—	1	6	9	20	61	
21. Other Circulatory Disease ..	M	25	—	—	—	—	—	3	7	15	
	F	24	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	14	
22. Influenza	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	
23. Pneumonia	M	18	1	1	—	—	—	5	7	4	
	F	25	3	1	—	—	—	2	7	12	
24. Bronchitis	M	71	2	—	—	—	1	21	25	22	
	F	32	1	1	—	—	—	2	17	11	
25. Other Diseases of respiratory system.	M	8	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	1	
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.	M	8	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	1	
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.	M	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	
	F	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis ..	M	5	—	—	1	—	2	1	1	—	
	F	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate ..	M	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	

TABLE I—continued.

DEATHS.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.	Sex	All ages	AGE GROUPS.							
			0-	1-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	F	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations ..	M	7	4	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
	F	7	3	2	1	—	—	1	—	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	M	31	12	—	—	—	2	7	5	5
	F	37	9	—	1	1	3	6	9	8
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents ..	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
	F	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
34. All other accidents	M	13	2	1	1	1	4	2	1	1
	F	8	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	4
35. Suicide	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1
	F	3	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
36. Homicide and Operations of War.	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. (a) Laboratory Facilities.

During the year all bacteriological examinations for the Public Health Department were again undertaken, as part of the National Scheme, by the Public Health Laboratory Service (directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health) at the Laboratories, 134, Denmark Hill, S.E.5.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

The provision of ambulance transport within the administrative County of London is the responsibility of the London County Council.

2. Hospitals.

There are three Hospitals in the Borough, St. Andrew's, St. Clement's and Poplar, with a total bed complement of 642, 154 and 120 respectively. The full complement of beds is not necessarily staffed and in use.

These Hospitals, together with the Poplar Chest Clinic, Wellington Way, E.3, which continued to operate during the year, are under the control of the North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

3. Personal Health Services.

The following information and statistics relating to the operation of the Personal Health Services in this Borough during the year have been furnished by the Divisional Medical Officer (Dr. G. O. Mitchell), Division 5, London County Council.

(a) Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Ante-natal:

Ruston Street, E.3...	..	Wed.: p.m.
Wellington Way, Bow, E.3	..	Mon.: p.m.
54, West Ferry Road, E.14	..	Fri.: p.m.
69, East India Dock Road, E.14	..	Thur.: a.m.

Infant Welfare:

Ruston Street, E.3...	..	Thur.: p.m.
Wellington Way, Bow, E.3	..	Wed.: p.m. Thur.: p.m.
154, Poplar High Street, E.14	..	Mon.: p.m. Tues.: p.m.
54, West Ferry Road, E.14	..	Wed.: a.m. and p.m.
69, East India Dock Road, E.14	..	Wed.: a.m. Thur.: p.m.
All Hallows Hall, Devons Road, E.3	..	Tues.: a.m. and p.m.
St. Michael's Hall, Ullin Street, E.14	..	Mon.: a.m. and p.m.

Toddlers:

Ruston Street, E.3...	..	Fri.: a.m.
Wellington Way, Bow, E.3	..	Wed.: a.m. { Alternate
69, East India Dock Road, E.14	..	Wed.: a.m. { weeks
54, West Ferry Road, E.14	..	Wed.: a.m. }

Artificial Sunlight:

Wellington Way, Bow, E.3	..	Tues.: a.m. Thurs.: p.m.
154, Poplar High Street, E.14	..	Mon.: a.m. Wed.: a.m. and p.m. Fri.: p.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation:

Wellington Way, Bow, E.3	..	Wed.: p.m.
54, West Ferry Road, E.14	..	Mon.: p.m.

Whooping Cough Immunisation:

Wellington Way, Bow, E.3	..	Wed.: p.m.
54, West Ferry Road, E.14	..	Mon.: p.m.

Vaccination:

Wellington Way, Bow, E.3	..	Wed.: p.m.
54, West Ferry Road, E.14	..	Mon.: p.m.
154, Poplar High Street, E.14	..	Tues.: p.m.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough immunisations also carried out at Infant Welfare Sessions.

(b) Statistics.

(1) Infant Welfare Centres.

Total No. of children who first attended during the year and who on the date of their first attendance were

Under 1 year of age	..	..	..	..	1,147
1-5 years of age	..	..	..	..	160

Total No. of children who attended and who at the end of the year were

Under 1 year of age	..	..	..	..	956
1—5 years of age	..	..	..	..	2,154

Total attendances by children

Under 1 year of age	..	..	..	..	15,404
1—5 years of age	..	..	..	..	10,493

(2) Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics.

Ante-natal consultations:—

No. of women who attended for the first time	..	394
No. of women who attended	..	588
Total attendances	..	3,525

Post-natal consultations:—

No. of women who attended	..	136
---------------------------	----	-----

(3) Dental Clinic.

Urgent cases treated at St. Andrew's Hospital.

(4) Health Visitors.

No. of infants under one year of age visited for first time

..	..	..	..	1,771
Total visits to infants under 1 year of age	..	..	12,093	
Total visits to children 1 to 5 years of age	..	..	21,662	
No. of expectant mothers visited	..	..	682	
Total visits to expectant mothers	..	..	1,334	

(5) Infant Life Protection.

No. on Register, 1st January, 1951:—

Foster mothers	11
Foster children	10

No. on Register, 31st December, 1951:—

Foster mothers	15
Foster children	11

(6) Child Minders (Daily Guardians).

No. of Daily Guardians:—

Statutory	—
Voluntary	46

No. of Children Minded:—

Statutory	—
Voluntary	4

(7) Care of Premature Infants.

No. of premature births during the year	93
No. of deaths under 1 month	9

(8) Diphtheria Immunisation.

No. of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation:—

Under 5 years of age	918
5-14 years of age	274

No. of children who were given a secondary or re-inforcing injection

831

(9) Vaccination.

No. of children successfully vaccinated	360
No. found to be insusceptible to vaccination	—

(10) Domestic Help Service.

No. of cases in which help was provided:—

Maternity (including expectant mothers)	30
Tuberculosis	18
Other	621

4. Notification of Births.

1,263 live births (623 male and 640 female) and 29 stillbirths (14 male and 15 female) were notified during the year. These figures represent corrected totals after adjustment for inward and outward transfers.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply.

The Borough is provided with a domestic water supply by the Metropolitan Water Board, and samples of the water are subjected to routine chemical and bacteriological examinations at the Board's laboratories. The condition of the water supplied was satisfactory.

445 water supply certificates were granted in accordance with Section 95 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936.

2. Drainage and Sewerage.

76 plans of drainage work to new and existing buildings were submitted and approved during the year.

3. Public Cleansing.

The arrangements for collection, removal and disposal of refuse are under the control of the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, who has supplied the following information.

Refuse. During the year 24,959 tons of House, Trade, Street, Gully, Market and Kitchen refuse were collected and disposed of at the controlled tip.

In addition 18,291 tons of refuse from a neighbouring borough were also dealt with at the Council's Refuse Disposal Depot.

Street Cleansing. Two mechanical sweeper-collector machines supplement the work of manual sweepers in the daily cleansing of the streets in the Borough, and when necessary three machines are employed for the purpose of washing and watering the main thoroughfares.

Gully Cleansing. Four gully emptying machines have carried out 12,938 cleansings of the gullies during the year.

4. Closet Accommodation.

The use of Elsan closets is permitted at a Fairground which is established in a part of the Borough from time to time. Supervision of the sanitary conditions during the period of the Fair is maintained by the staff of the department.

5. Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

TABLE II

INSPECTIONS, INSANITARY CONDITIONS FOUND EXISTING, AND RE-INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1951.

Number of Complaints Received					3,560
Number of Inspections	Dwelling Houses	House-to-House			—
		On complaint			3,558
		After Infectious Disease			111
	Factories ..	Where power is used			637
		No power used			51
		Others			6
Outworkers .. .. .	..	..	..	53	
Stables .. .. .	..	..	..	33	
Smoke observations					85
Miscellaneous visits and inspections (including visits to infectious disease contacts, school inspections, etc.)					3,331
Re-inspections					15,293
Premises requiring amendment	Dwelling Houses			3,090	
	Others			23	
Service of Intimations, etc.					
Intimations served					2,790
Intimations complied with					1,794
Notices served					1,317
Notices complied with					1,043
Final Notices served					354
Final Notices complied with					356
Summonses applied for					88
Work done (number of instances not included above):					
(a) After legal proceedings					62
(b) Voluntarily					183
Defects, etc., Found in Dwelling Houses:					Nuisances, Works etc., found. completed.
Drainage: Drains defective					69 103
Drains obstructed					170 198
Waste pipes defective, etc.					121 153
Rainwater pipes not disconnected					2 5
W.C.'s and flushing apparatus defective					291 343
Dampness: (Not due to defects shown elsewhere)					1,179 958
Water: Supply cut off					23 34
Dust Receptacles: Insufficient or defective					42 71
Miscellaneous:					
Rooms, etc., dirty and/or verminous					1,642 1,677
Cases of overcrowding					11 —
Yards, etc., not properly paved or drained					123 132
Roofs defective					1,522 1,509
Rainwater pipes and gutters defective					397 430
Public House Urinals requiring cleansing					— —
Other nuisances or defects					6,267 5,395
Defects, etc., found in Factories:					
Sanitary defects					18 21
W.C. accommodation insufficient or unsuitable					20 25
Overcrowding					— —
Stables: Accumulations found					1 1

Disinfestation of Persons and Clothing.

The following is a summary of the work carried out at the Disinfecting and Cleansing Station during the year:—

		Verminous.	Scabies.	Total.
(i) Persons:	Adults	42	24	66
	Children	482	27	509
	Total	524	51	575
(ii) Clothing:	Articles	6,786	643	7,429

Disinfection and Verminous Premises.

		Premises: Visited.	Disinfected.	Articles Disinfected.
(a) Disinfection:				
	Infectious Disease	—	445	3,868
	Tuberculosis	—	68	356
	Verminous	—	—	6,786
	Miscellaneous	—	246	11,472
	Total	540	759	22,482

(b) Verminous Premises.

During the course of inspection five premises were found to be verminous and appropriate action was taken.

Rodent Control.

Details of the work carried out in connection with the Council's Rodent Control Scheme in accordance with the methods approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, are as follows:—

(a) Dwelling Houses.

975 complaints of rats or mice relating to 601 premises were investigated, and 2,470 treatments were applied.

13 complaints relating to 10 premises were outstanding and receiving treatment at the end of the year.

1,279 inspections and revisits, and 4,017 visits to apply treatments were made by the Rodent Staff.

(b) Business and Other Premises (Contributory Scheme).

Number of contributors: December, 1951 .. 240.

Treatments carried out: 1,997 treatments to 248 premises of 240 contributors, plus 48 treatments to five Poplar Borough Council premises.

59,887 prebait and 7,919 poison baits were laid; 866 traps were set, and 328 rat-sticker boards were used.

2,480 inspections and revisits, and 9,998 visits to apply treatments were made by the Rodent Staff.

(c) Others.

347 inspections and revisits and 32 test baitings were carried out at premises not participating in the Scheme.

(d) Sewers.

The 15th and 16th Sewer Maintenance Treatments were carried out in June and December, in conjunction with the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department, neighbouring

Local Authorities and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Infestation Division).

1,840 manholes and 1,720 manholes were baited in June and December treatments respectively.

6. Shops Act, 1950.

35 visits were made under the provisions of this Act, and in two instances notices were served in respect of the w.c. accommodation.

No exemption certificates under the Act were issued during the year.

7. Factories.

Details of the work carried out in connection with the Factories Act, 1937, are given in the following tables:—

TABLE III
INSPECTIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH
(including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	51	27	2	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	637	177	25	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	6	12	—	—
TOTAL	694	216	27	—

TABLE IV.
CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

PARTICULARS.	No. of Cases in which defects were:				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	by H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness	6	16	—	1	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	1	1	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	8	2	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage to floors	1	2	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	4	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	17	24	—	16	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	3	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	2	—	1	1	—
TOTAL	38	46	1	22	—

NATURE OF WORK		SECTION 110			SECTION 111		
		No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec. 110 (1) (c) (3)	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.
Wearing apparel	Making, etc.	129	—	—	—	—	—
	Cleaning and Washing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ..		109	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL		238	—	—	—	—	—

8. Houses let in lodgings.

Number of Houses on Register at end of year	144
Inspections	13

9. Common Lodging Houses.

There are two licensed Common Lodging Houses, with accommodation for 295 and 40 males respectively, in the Borough.

64 inspections were made during the year.

10. Seamen's Lodging Houses.

There are three licensed Seamen's Lodging Houses, providing accommodation for 126, 45 and 26 males respectively, in the Borough.

Inspections made during the year totalled 26.

11. Smoke Abatement.

20 complaints of nuisance from smoke were received during the year. 85 smoke observations were carried out, and as a result 4 Intimations were served.

12. Swimming Baths and Pools.

The water in the Council's swimming baths is subjected to continuous filtration and chlorination. Samples of swimming bath water are submitted periodically for bacteriological examination.

All samples taken during the year proved satisfactory.

13. Eradication of Bed Bugs.

The following is a summary of disinfestation work carried out in the Borough during the year:—

Inspections:

Number of visits	958
Premises requiring treatment	573
Furniture requiring treatment	287
Reinspections after disinfestation	94
Miscellaneous visits and revisits	671

Disinfestation carried out:

Rooms (in 573 premises)	1,434
Beds, Bedding, etc., articles	2,176
Furniture, articles	3,856
Miscellaneous	1,871

14. Offensive Trades.

One Dresser of Furskins and one Soap Boilers are established in the Borough.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

CLOSING ORDERS.

During the year legal proceedings instituted by the Department to secure the abatement of nuisances resulted in Closing Orders being made by the Magistrate on 21 premises in the Borough. Closing Orders in respect of five premises in the Borough were revoked by the Magistrate, on the application of the owners, on the grounds that the necessary works had been carried out.

Closing Orders in respect of part of seven premises (underground rooms and similar dwellings which do not comply with the Regulations) were made under the Housing Act, 1936, by the Council.

OVERCROWDING (Housing Act, 1936).

Particulars of overcrowding and abatement of cases of overcrowding in the Borough during the year are as follows:—

Number of cases reported during the year	144
Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year (Rehoused: by L.C.C. 96, P.B.C. 5)	101
Number of persons concerned in such cases	402

NEW HOUSING.

Details of new housing accommodation provided in the Borough during the year were as follows:—

Estate.	By whom provided	No. of tenements
Huntshaw House, Devons Estate		20
Longmead House, Devons Estate		25
Stanborough House, Coventry Cross Estate		28
Pusey House		12
Chilcot Close		21
Pekin Close		8
Kerbey Street		13
Canton Street		11
Gladstone House	London	15
Rigden Street	County	5
Duff Street	Council	6
Baring House	Lansbury Estate ..	24
Grundy Street		16
Overstone House		17
Pekin Street		8
Market Way		9
Shepherd House		18
Granville House		36
Market Square		7
		299

In addition to the above, 48 new tenements were provided by the Poplar Borough Council.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—
 - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 3,687
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. 19,671
 - (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .. 129
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. 129
 - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 36
 - (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 2,973
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 1,656
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—
 - (a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs Nil
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—
 - (a) By owners Nil
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners .. Nil
 - (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. 1,317
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:—
 - (a) By owners 1,043
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners .. Nil
 - (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 9
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 4

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	7
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

(e) Proceedings under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses included in Clearance Areas	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished as a result of Clearance Area procedure	Nil

4. Miscellaneous visits and inspections (not included above) made by the Housing Inspector during the year 1,164

REHOUSING PROGRAMME.

The following particulars relate to the number of families and persons rehoused by the Housing Committee during the year:—

	Families.	Persons.
Pre-war Council flats and houses ..	15	56
Post-war Council flats and houses ..	26	87
Temporary bungalows	2	9
Temporary hutments	1	4
Requisitioned and other properties ..	32	101
Total ..	76	257

Applications for housing accommodation registered up to 31st December, 1951 4,632

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. Milk Supply.

(a) Inspection of premises.

During the year 1951 the Inspectors made 286 inspections of dairies and other premises in the Borough used in connection with the distribution of milk and found conditions to be satisfactory.

(b) Registration and Licensing.

(i) Registrations under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949:

Dairies	.. .. .	16
Distributors {	Inside the Borough	135
	Outside the Borough	25

(ii) Licensing under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, and Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949:

	Sterilised.	Pasteurised.	Tuberculin Tested.
Dealers'	129	67	19
Supplementary ..	25	22	19
Pasteurisers' ..	—	2	—

(c) Milk Sampling.

100 samples of milk (78 formal, 22 informal) were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical examination, and of this number one sample was found to be adulterated. Appropriate action was taken.

112 samples of designated milk (89 Pasteurised, 12 Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised and 11 Sterilised) were submitted to Phosphatase, Methylene Blue and Turbidity Tests. One sample of Pasteurised Milk failed the Phosphatase Test and five samples of Pasteurised Milk failed the Methylene Blue Test.

(d) Milk delivered to Schools.

104 samples of milk delivered to London County Council Schools were taken during the year.

52 of these samples were submitted for chemical examination, one of them being reported as deficient in fat.

52 were submitted for bacteriological examination, the results showing that four of these samples failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test and the Phosphatase Test.

Appropriate action was taken in respect of the unsatisfactory samples.

2. Meat and Other Foods.

Visits made during the year to shops and other premises where food is sold, prepared for sale or stored were as follows:—

Milkshops	286
Butchers	202
Fried Fish Shops and Fish Curers	19
Restaurants	200
Bakehouses	42
Ice Cream premises	146
Other Food premises	1,058
Total	1,953

Unsatisfactory conditions were found to exist at 36 of the above-mentioned premises and appropriate action was taken.

3. Unsound Food.

Details of unsound food examined and dealt with by the Food Inspector on 372 occasions during the year are given below.

	Tons.	cwts.	lbs.	Packages.
Bacon	—	2	103	—
Cake, Biscuits, etc.	9	13	84	—
Confectionery	—	6	108	17 cases.
Drugs, etc.	1	2	56	—
Eggs	—	—	—	568
Fish	—	1	50	683 tins.
Fruit (Fresh and Dried), juices, etc.	12	2	34	2,666 tins, etc.
Groundnuts	—	15	104	—
Ham	4	5	86	—
Meat	—	11	7	1,083 tins.
Milk (Dried, etc.)	3	13	56	1,262 tins.
Offal (Butchers)	1	16	76	—
Pickles and Sauces	—	—	—	136 cases, etc.
Sausages	—	—	80	—
Suet	—	—	—	1 crate, etc.
Syrup	1	—	—	—
Vegetables	25	—	—	5,634 tins.
Sundry foods	—	—	82	836 cases, etc.
	60	14	30	—

4. Food and Drugs Act.

707 samples (108 formal and 599 informal), which included 172 varieties of food, drugs, etc., were procured under the Food and Drugs Act, 1936, and submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst.

10 samples (3 formal and 7 informal) were found to be adulterated, and details of the action taken in respect of these samples are given in the following table:—

TABLE VI

Sample No.	Article.	Result of Analysis	Action.	Result
91 (Inf.)	Medicinal Peppermints	Deficient in magnesium carbonate 78 per cent.	Balance of stock withdrawn from sale	
107	Lemon Juice	Contained sulphur dioxide 630 parts per million	To be subjected to treatment before sale	
210 (Inf.)	Baking Powder	Deficient in available carbon dioxide 37 per cent.	Remainder of stock surrendered and destroyed	
216 (Inf.)	Milk	Deficient in fat 16.6 per cent.	Letter to Producer	
235 (Inf.)	Baking Powder	Deficient in available carbon dioxide 37 per cent.	Remainder of stock surrendered and destroyed	
317 (Inf.)	Ice Cream ..	Deficient in fat 6 per cent.	Formal sample taken	Genuine
456 (Inf.)	Curry Powder	Contained lead 16 parts per million	Formal sample taken (No. 466)	—
466	Curry Powder	Contained lead 15 parts per million	Letter to Manufacturer	—
474 (Inf.)	Savoury Spread	Contained tin 9.5 grains per lb.	Remainder of stock surrendered and destroyed	
594 (Inf.)	Pork Sausages	Deficient in meat 8 per cent.	Formal sample taken	Genuine

5. Preservatives in Food.

There was no contravention of the Preservatives in Food Regulations in relation to the samples submitted for analysis.

6. Ice Cream.

Number of premises on the register at the end of 1951:—

Manufacture and sale of ice cream	31
Sale and storage of ice cream	131

During the year 146 inspections were made and conditions found to be satisfactory.

34 samples of ice cream were submitted to the Methylene Blue Test and were graded as follows:—

Grade 1—22; Grade 2—10; Grade 3—2.

In addition 42 samples were examined under the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1951, one sample being found to be below the standard.

7. Food Premises.

Number of premises on the Register at the end of the year:—

(a) Margarine, Margarine-Cheese, Butter and Milk Blended Butter:	
Wholesale Dealers in Margarine.. ..	15
Butter Factories	2
(b) Preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled, or preserved food ..	
	42

8. Slaughterhouses.

None of the three licensed slaughterhouses in the Borough were in use during the year.

9. Food Poisoning.

Five cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

Investigations failed to establish a specific cause in any of these cases.

10. Food Hygiene.

Attention remains focussed on the need for cleanliness in the storage and preparation of food. A demand for the highest standards of food hygiene continues. The food trade is obviously conscious of this demand and is making praiseworthy efforts to meet it.

During the year the Council's Officers made 1,953 visits to food premises offering advice and encouragement, and where necessary taking appropriate action to enforce the maintenance of the standards required. These visits have resulted in many improvements being made, both with regard to premises and equipment.

Considerable progress has been made in connection with post-war reconstruction of the larger food factories in the Borough. Organisations concerned with these schemes are making full use of the opportunity presented by rebuilding operations, not only to effect improvements in the design and sanitation of buildings, but also to introduce modern methods of production calculated to place the article manufactured entirely beyond any doubt as to its hygienic condition.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The total number of notifications of infectious diseases received during the year was 2,631 as compared with 1,342 in the previous year.

Measles.

1,763 cases of measles, two of which were not confirmed, were notified during the year. One case proved fatal. Corresponding figures for 1950 were 423 cases notified, four of which were not confirmed. There were no deaths.

Whooping Cough.

352 notifications of cases of whooping cough were received. The diagnosis was not confirmed in two cases. 481 cases were notified during 1950, and two of these cases were fatal.

Diphtheria.

Of the five cases notified and removed to hospital only one was confirmed. In the previous year four cases were notified, the diagnosis being confirmed in two cases only.

Dysentery.

During the year 42 cases were notified, the diagnosis not being confirmed in one instance. 26 cases were notified in the previous year, one case not being confirmed.

Zymotic Enteritis.

94 notifications were received, of which six were not confirmed, as compared with 61 notifications, 11 not confirmed, in the previous year.

Acute Poliomyelitis.

During the year two cases of Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-paralytic) were notified, but the diagnosis was not confirmed in either case.

Cancer.

During 1951 deaths certified as being due to Cancer totalled 157 (93 male, 64 female), a slight decrease on the 160 deaths (91 male and 69 female) from this disease recorded in the previous year.

TABLE VII.
INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Disease.	NOTIFICATIONS.								Total notified.	Corrected notifications.	Removed to Hospital.	Deaths.
	0-1 year	1-2 years	2-5 years	5-15 years	15-25 years	25-45 years	45-65 years	65-years				
Scarlet Fever	1	2	55	70	2	—	—	—	130	130	19	—
Whooping Cough	32	46	167	105	—	2	—	—	352	350	31	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Para.)	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
Measles	76	209	916	557	4	—	—	1	1,763	1,761	26	1
Diphtheria	—	—	3	1	—	—	1	—	5	1	5	—
Acute Pneumonia	4	4	19	16	6	15	24	23	111	112	—	1
Dysentery	2	3	18	9	5	3	1	1	42	41	24	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	2	11	11	3	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	9	8	—	—	17	17	17	—
Zymotic Enteritis	42	22	30	—	—	—	—	—	94	88	25	—
Scabies	—	—	1	2	2	1	2	1	9	9	—	—
Acute Encephalitis (Post-Inf.)	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	2	—	3	2	25	29	19	3	83	—	—	27
Tuberculosis, Other forms	—	1	2	2	2	1	1	—	9	—	—	5
TOTALS	160	287	1,215	766	55	64	53	31	2,631	2,523	155	36

Tuberculosis.

During the year 92 cases of tuberculosis (83 respiratory, 9 non-respiratory) were notified under the Regulations.

The following table shows age and sex incidence of the cases notified.

TABLE VIII.

Age Periods.	PRIMARY NOTIFICATIONS.													Total
	0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	
Respiratory, males	1	—	1	1	1	3	5	8	4	9	8	3	—	44
Respiratory, females	1	—	2	—	—	7	10	12	5	1	1	—	—	39
Non-respiratory, males	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	4
Non-respiratory, females ..	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	5

In addition to the above 41 other cases were added to the register as a result of information received from the following sources:—

Registrar-General's Death Returns (transferable deaths)	1
Local Death Returns	7
Transfers from other areas	26
Other sources	7

During the year 32 deaths were certified as being due to tuberculosis.

The Number of cases remaining on the Register at 31st December, 1951, after adjustments in respect of deaths and transfers, was as follows:—

	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Total.
Males	341	61	402
Females	219	48	267
Total	560	109	669



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