

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

Contributors

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Stott, William

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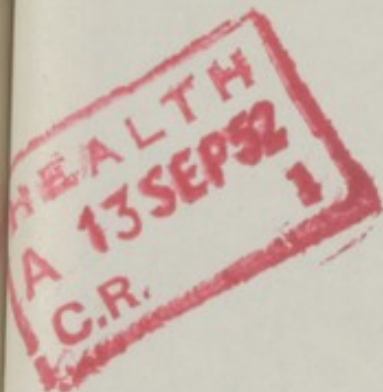
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METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK

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Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE YEAR
1951



W. STOTT, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health



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W. STOTT, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

SOUTHWARK BOROUGH COUNCIL

*With the Compliments of
The Medical Officer of Health*

Public Health Department,
Municipal Offices,
Marcom Street,
S.E.17

Rodney
5464

THE WAREHOUSE

With the first of the
Month of the year

Month of the year
of the year
of the year
of the year

BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
WALWORTH ROAD, S.E.17.

*The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
Metropolitan Borough of Southwark.*

YOUR WORSHIP, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1951.

Reviewing the year as a whole it may be said that this was one of the healthiest years in the records of the Borough. Whilst the number of deaths increased slightly on the previous year, over 900 of the 1324 deaths occurred in persons over 65 years of age. The infant mortality created another record by declining to 18.6 per 1000 births. Considering the infectious diseases, the fall in the tuberculosis mortality is outstanding. In spite of an epidemic of measles of some 1700 odd cases there were no deaths recorded as due to this disease. One heard very little of Diphtheria and Polio-myelitis, and there were no deaths from either. Except for an outbreak of dysentery there were very few cases of the other common infectious diseases.

It is also satisfactory to record the great decline in the number of food poisoning cases, particularly in view of the efforts being made by your staff in the Clean Food Campaign.

One cannot pass without mentioning certain conditions on the debit side which give rise to some anxiety. I refer to the increasing deaths from a number of diseases, particularly Cancer, mainly Cancer of the lungs, which now exceeds the deaths from tuberculosis of the lungs; Coronary Disease and high blood pressure; and diseases of the vessels of the brain.

Passing to the Sanitary Conditions of the Borough, I feel that the Inspectors are to be congratulated on their achievement as the Department has been working under great stress and difficulties owing to the perpetual changing of staff which has resulted in a severe shortage of Inspectors. This shortage is common to most of the London Boroughs, and I know is causing much concern to the Councils affected. Unfortunately the new training syllabus for Sanitary Inspectors becomes operative shortly, and as this extends the training time, it will create a further shortage for three or four years until the time lag created is overcome. The problem is, therefore, not an easy one to solve as it is a question of supply. The immediate concern, as I see it, is how to put a 'brake' on the

enticement of Inspectors from one town to another which is responsible for these frequent changes; this is greatly to the detriment of the services, owing to loss of continuity of thought and action which I believe to be the very essence of efficient work in a Health Department.

It might not be out of place to record here the retirement in October of Mr. George H. Duffield, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, who served this ancient Borough so well and so long. I think he is best remembered for his work as a food inspector and on the wharves where he excelled as my assistant under the Imported Food Regulations—his cheery disarming smile overcame many difficulties.

The Council were fortunate in replacing Mr. Duffield by Mr. Harold Archer, an inspector who has been brought up in Public Health Departments from youth and has had a vast experience in all branches of the service. Archer, like Duffield, also has a cheery smile, and I am confident that the Council chose well, and that he will carry on faithfully the traditions of the Council's Health Services of which it is so justly proud.

The housing situation remains acute and my remarks in my last Annual Report are as true today as they were then.

In the section dealing with Food it will be seen that over 1700 tons of food were examined during the year of which almost one-third was found to be unfit for human consumption. This is a high proportion and at times of shortages, as at present, it is a serious matter. There were several reasons for these losses, the main ones being inadequate processing by the manufacturers and too long storage. The Health Committee has been most concerned about the high percentage of condemnations and have drawn the Minister of Food's attention to the matter on more than one occasion. The Minister has now taken action and has requested full particulars on each occasion it is found necessary to condemn tinned food.

In the early part of the year the Old People's Welfare Committee was formed, and towards the end of the year it was found necessary to appoint a whole-time secretary. The Committee were fortunate in obtaining the services of Miss Morris, who had had considerable previous experience with the Wimbledon Old People's Welfare Committee.

Once more I wish to thank the members of the Council, the Public Health Department staff, and the Chief Officers and staffs of other Departments for their loyal co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

W. STOTT,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(As at December 31st, 1951).

Chairman—J. J. SHEEN.

Aldermen:

J. R. LILL, Mrs. E. L. MADDISON, J. F. STROUD, Rev. H. RUNACRES,
B.A., L. J. STYLES, J.P. (*Ex-Officio*).

Councillors:

E. BARTLETT, J. BOOKER, C. CARLEY, Mrs. G. CHARLES, Mrs. C. CLUNN, G. DARVELL, K. FARROW, J. HARBOR, Mrs. M. HODGES, J. KEEN, D. LOW (*Ex-Officio*), Mrs. G. LUETCHFORD, J. PRENDERGAST, H. RAY, E. RIDGE, H. STILLMAN, Miss F. STROUD, J.P. (*Ex-Officio*), Mrs. G. STYLES, Mrs. M. WRIGHT.
Ex-Officio: A. E. BARNES, J.P.—*Mayor*.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFICERS, 1950

Medical Officer of Health:

W. STOTT, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspectors:

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

G. H. E. DUFFIELD (to October 15th); H. ARCHER (from October 15th).

District Inspectors:

BIGGINS, W.; CLARK, K. (to August 2nd); CLIFFORD, G.; DRINKWATER, P. (to November 15th); FINDLEY, J. (Temporary), (from December 17th); GILES, H. (from October 1st); GOURLEY, Miss G.; HEATH, D.; PARRY, M. (to July 21st); ROBINSON, G. (to March 31st); STEELE, H.; SYMS, J.; TOMPKINS, J. (to July 15th); WARBOYS, R.; HUSK, C. (Assistant).

Food Inspectors:

JOHNSON, A.; STUBBS, G.

Housing Act Inspectors:

ADAMSON, E.; MERCER, B.

Rodent Investigators:

ROSS, Mrs. H. (Temporary); SMITH, Mrs. B. (Temporary).

Clerical Staff:

Senior Clerk:

E. A. CLARK.

Infectious Diseases:

MARSDEN-WEBB, G.

Housing:

STRIPP, D.

Sanitary Records:

CASS, Miss W.; DAVIES, E. (Temporary); MURPHY, W. (from May 28th); ROBERTSON, J.; STEVENS, R.; WORDEN, R. (to May 28th).

Shorthand Typist:

SUTHERLAND, J. (to October 8th); GILL, C. (from October 15th)

General:

ASHFORD, F.; CHARNICK, R. (to May 28th); JENKINS, E. (from May 25th).

Treatment and Bathing Centre:

AXTELL, Miss E.

Mortuary Attendant:

WEST, H.

Hall-Keepers:

WITTEN, R.; BISHOP, W.

Vital Statistics

The increase in the estimated population in this Borough for 1951 was 850 as compared with an increase of 270 during 1950.

Although the population is now higher than at any time since 1940 the increase during the current year was still considerably below the average increases in previous post-war years prior to 1950.

The current population estimated includes members of H.M. Forces stationed in the area.

The population figure shown by the 1951 Census was 97,191 as compared with 171,695 for the 1931 Census.

The birth-rate continued to fall, but there was an increase in the death-rate. The still-birth rate rose sharply although it was still below the 1949 figure. The infant deaths were the lowest for many years.

AREA	1,132 acres
ESTIMATED NUMBER OF DWELLINGS	{ Dwelling houses 24,044
(March, 1952)	{ Tenement houses 527
RATEABLE VALUE—(Approximate)	£1,049,547

POPULATION:

Registrar General's estimate (mid-1951), including members of Armed Forces stationed in area ..	97,930
Estimated population, 1950 (mid-year)	97,080
Census, 1951	97,191

	1950	1951
LIVE BIRTH RATE per 1,000 population ..	18.6	18.04
Adjusted by comparability factor ..	18.4	17.8
STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 total Births ..	16.8	23.2
DEATH RATE per 1,000 population	12.2	13.5
Adjusted by comparability factor ..	12.3	13.6
MATERNAL DEATH RATE per 1,000 live and still births	Nil	1.6

INFANT DEATH RATE:

All infants per 1,000 live births ..	19.9	18.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live legitimate births	17.4	18.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births	46.3	18.6

<i>Estimated Population</i>		<i>Birth Rate</i>	<i>Death Rate</i>	<i>Infant Death Rate</i> <i>Legiti- Illegiti- Total</i>			<i>Still Birth Rate</i>
1938	145,300	14.0	12.5	57	66	57	32.0
1939	141,120	14.0	13.9	47	38	47	30.8
1940	101,900	17.3	24.1	48	68	49	28.6
1941	69,740	15.9	27.5	82	59	80	34
1942	66,480	19.2	18.9	60	76	61	31.1
1943	68,470	18.3	18.8	48	62	49	24.1
1944	67,220	19.4	21.7	51	57	51	24.7
1945	71,160	18.3	16.1	43	57	39	26.1
1946	86,280	24.3	15.7	45	62	46	25.6
1947	92,070	26.4	15.6	38	60	39	26.1
1948	94,630	21.7	12.8	38	26	37	17.1
1949	96,810	19.5	13.0	26	71	29	27.1
1950	97,080	18.6	12.2	17	46	20	16.8
1951	97,930	18.0	13.5	19	19	19	23.2

	<i>Legitimate</i>			<i>Illegitimate</i>			<i>Totals</i>		
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
				Live Births					
1950	839	819	1,658	85	66	151	924	885	1,809
1951	852	808	1,660	56	51	107	908	859	1,767
				Still Births					
1950	12	16	28	1	2	3	13	18	31
1951	17	19	36	4	2	6	21	21	42
				Infant deaths (under 1 year)					
1950	9	20	29	4	3	7	13	23	36
1951	17	14	31	2		2	19	14	33

DEATHS

Male and Female Age Groups.

	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1-4</i>	<i>5-14</i>	<i>15-44</i>	<i>45-64</i>	<i>65 and over</i>	<i>Total 1951</i>	<i>Total 1950</i>
Males ..	19	8	6	36	189	464	722	671
Females	14	8	3	29	108	440	602	521
	33	16	9	65	297	904	1,324	1,192
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS

Causes of Death	Total Deaths 1950	Total Deaths 1951	Age Groups 1951:—							
			0—	1—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—
All causes—Males, Females										
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	51	32	—	—	—	4	3	15	8	2
Tuberculosis—other forms	5	7	—	2	3	1	1	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	8	9	—	—	—	—	1	4	3	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic diseases ..	3	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Malignant neoplasm stomach	34	44	—	—	—	—	1	14	14	15
" " lung, bronchus	47	49	—	—	—	—	6	25	14	4
" " breast	16	12	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	5
" " uterus	11	6	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	109	125	—	1	—	—	7	31	40	46
Leukaemia, Aleukemia	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diabetes	6	11	—	—	—	—	—	6	3	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	101	122	—	—	—	—	2	23	42	55
Coronary disease, angina	111	98	—	—	—	—	—	24	42	32

Classification of Deaths (continued)

Causes of Death	Total Deaths 1950	Total Deaths 1951	Age Groups 1951:—							
All causes—Males, Females			0—	1—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—
Hypertension with Heart disease ..	50	56	—	—	—	—	—	12	20	24
Other Heart disease	213	235	—	—	—	—	4	25	60	146
Other Circulatory disease	35	46	—	—	—	—	2	5	11	28
Influenza	7	31	—	—	—	—	—	7	13	11
Pneumonia	57	89	2	4	—	—	1	12	22	48
Bronchitis	105	156	1	2	—	—	2	42	45	64
Other diseases of Respiratory system ..	8	8	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	2
Ulcer of the Stomach and Duodenum ..	22	17	—	—	—	—	1	8	6	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	6	5	—	1	—	—	—	2	2	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	11	13	—	—	1	1	2	5	3	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	10	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ..	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	10	11	4	2	1	—	—	2	2	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	90	89	23	3	1	2	6	15	14	25
Motor Vehicle Accidents	11	7	—	1	1	—	1	2	1	1
All other accidents	33	23	2	—	1	1	4	4	2	9
Suicide	12	9	—	—	1	1	4	1	—	2
Homicide and operations of war ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	1,192	1,324	33	16	9	10	55	297	373	531

Infant Mortality.

The total number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 33, the causes of death being as follows :

Meningococcal Infections	..	..	..	1
Pneumonia	..	..	..	2
Bronchitis	..	..	..	1
Congenital malformations	..	..	..	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..			23
All accidents, other than by motor vehicle	..			2
Total deaths under 1 year of age	..	..		<u>33</u>

Maternal Mortality.

Three maternal deaths were recorded during the year.

Infectious Diseases

The final figures of corrected diagnoses of Infectious Diseases in the Borough during 1951 were one thousand more than for 1950; the latter, however, was a very low total. Nearly all of these additional cases were Measles, so that generally speaking the position may be regarded as satisfactory.

Substantial decreases will be noted in Poliomyelitis, Food Poisoning, Whooping Cough, Enteritis and Tuberculosis, whilst there was practically no change in Scarlet Fever, and only one confirmed case of Diphtheria.

There were considerably more deaths from Influenza and Pneumonia than in 1950, although these were mostly in the over-45 age groups. Deaths from Tuberculosis, however, were appreciably fewer, and only one death occurred from all other notifiable infectious diseases, that of an infant suffering from meningococcal infection.

DYSENTERY AND FOOD POISONING

Unfortunately there was a particularly heavy increase in Dysentery during the year both in Southwark and throughout the country as a whole. Careful investigations were made in each instance and although there was no tangible evidence as to the cause of the infection, it was found that of the 191 confirmed cases, 17 occurred amongst children in L.C.C. day nurseries, four were nursery staff, and six were parents or other family contacts of the affected nursery children.

It is safe to assume that the above cases of nursery staff, children and their parents were all directly associated as the related cases all occurred within a short interval of each other.

In 12 other cases there was also little doubt of cross infection between two members of the same family, and in six cases there was cross infection between three members of the same family. In two other cases, one family of four members and one family of five members were all affected within a short period of each other.

18 cases occurred in the L.C.C. Newington Institution.

Food Poisoning, however, has decreased both locally and nationally.

			1949	1950	1951
<i>Dysentery.</i>					
England and Wales	..	..	4,530	17,223	28,540
London	..	..	440	957	4,069
Southwark	..	..	10	71	191
<i>Food Poisoning.</i>					
England and Wales	..	..	6,188	7,503	5,797
London	..	..	707	862	770
Southwark	..	..	1	27	6

The 6 confirmed Food Poisoning cases during the year were all individual and unrelated cases, the responsible organisms or agents being as follows:—

Salmonella typhi-murium	...	...	...	45
Staphylococci	...	...	...	1

The Staphylococcal case was caused by contaminated ham, and one Salmonella infection was discovered during a blood test for transfusion taken ten days after admission to hospital for infective endo-carditis; the patient suffered no apparent symptoms of Food Poisoning.

No suspected food was found for 3 of the Salmonella typhi-murium cases. In the fourth, the patient and her husband had eaten duck eggs at the same time, but the man was unaffected.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

There was also a considerable increase in these notifications. Of the 23 cases, 19 developed the infection in hospitals subsequent to admission for confinement; the remaining 4 cases were in home confinements.

During the year the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1951 came into force. These replaced in London the Public Health (Notifications of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations of 1926 and 1928, and gave a revised definition of Puerperal Pyrexia.

Local Authorities remained responsible for investigating the causation and course of outbreaks, but the Minister of Health has suggested that in Counties this investigation can best be made by the County Medical Officer of Health, in view of the County Council's special responsibilities as local health authority for the Maternity Services.

LEPROSY

The Public Health (Leprosy) Regulations, 1951, require medical practitioners to notify cases of Leprosy direct to the Ministry of Health.

CANCER OF LUNG AND BRONCHUS

The incidence of malignant neoplasms of the lung and bronchus has been the subject of recent investigation.

In the absence of notification of these conditions, accurate data is not available, but the following information has been obtained in respect of deaths of Southwark residents since 1946, and it may be interesting to compare these with local Respiratory Tuberculosis deaths:—

Deaths From.

		<i>Neoplasm of Lung and Bronchus</i>	<i>Respiratory Tuberculosis</i>	<i>All Causes</i>
1946	..	39	62	1358
1947	..	30	77	1436
1948	..	39	81	1214
1949	..	44	60	1261
1950	..	47	51	1192
1951	..	49	32	1324

The highest mortality rate from neoplasms of the lung and bronchus occurred in the over-45 age group, and it is also interesting to observe from the occupations involved that there is no unduly high rate for industrial workers.

INFLUENZA

A severe epidemic struck most of the country early in the year and caused the Ministry to issue a general alert. Careful watch was kept on local figures, and contact maintained with

the local office of the Ministry of National Insurance and several of the larger firms in the Borough, but there appeared to be no particularly serious outbreak in this district. There were 31 deaths, mainly in the over-50 age groups.

IMMUNISATION

The combined antigen for Diphtheria and Whooping Cough is no longer used.

Immunisation figures are available only in respect of cases dealt with at L.C.C. Welfare Centres, and although these show a substantial increase in Diphtheria Immunisation during 1951 with a total of 1,560 as compared with 1,375 (Diphtheria and combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough) in 1950, this was mainly due to the number of booster injections which had trebled.

There was a slight drop in initial Diphtheria Immunisation, as compared with the 1950 totals for the Diphtheria and combined antigens.

<i>Immunisation completed</i>	<i>Welfare Centres</i>		<i>Confirmed diagnoses of previously Immunised cases</i>	
	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Diphtheria</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Diphtheria</i>
Under 5 years of age	513	1,173	30	—
Over 5 years of age	1	39	21	—
Booster injections	—	348	—	—
Total	514	1,560	51	—
		Total 2,074	Total 51	

TUBERCULOSIS

There was a noticeable decrease in Tuberculosis notifications during 1951, and although the number of cases removed remained almost unchanged, the deaths during the year were fewer than in the previous year.

		Age Groups											Total
		0-	1-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	Total
PULMONARY:													
Primary Notifica- tions	M.	-	4	1	4	4	13	13	14	21	18	7	99
	F.	1	3	4	2	10	9	6	4	-	-	1	40
New cases other than by formal notification	M.	-	-	-	-	1	5	13	10	10	7	6	52
	F.	-	-	-	-	-	9	14	4	4	1	-	32
Totals 1951	..	1	7	5	6	15	36	46	32	35	26	14	223
1950	..	3	9	3	7	24	46	61	28	35	20	18	254
NON-PULMONARY													
Primary Notifica- tions	M.	1	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
	F.	-	1	2	1	-	-	2	2	-	1	-	9
New cases other than by formal notification	M.	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
	F.	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
Totals 1951	..	1	5	3	2	2	1	3	2	-	1	-	20
1950	..	-	6	3	3	5	4	6	5	-	-	-	32

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Cases on Register, end of 1950 ..	1,149	188
Notified cases, 1951 (including transfers, posthumous and primary notifications)	223	20
Cases removed from Register during 1951	173	18
Cases remaining at end of 1951 ..	1,199	190

INFLUENZA

A severe epidemic struck part of the country early in the year and caused the Ministry to issue a general alert. Careful watch was kept on local figures, and contact maintained with

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

SUMMARY OF NOTIFICATIONS, AGE GROUPS OF CONFIRMED CASES, AND HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS.

DISEASE	Cases notified	Rem. to Hospital	CONFIRMED DIAGNOSES Age Groups:—1951														
			Total 1950	Total 1951	0—	1—	3—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—
Anthrax	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	9	9	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	224	49	71	191	16	58	41	44	7	1	4	8	5	3	1	2	1
Encephalitis:																	
†Infective	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Post infectious ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	12	2	18	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	7	1	1	1
Food Poisoning:																	
Bacterial	28	7	27	5	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Toxic			—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Malaria	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	1,791	103	806	1,790	89	602	695	384	8	5	4	3	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal																	
Infection	9	9	8	5	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum	4	2	6	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

†Certain of these confirmed cases were notified as other diseases, and diagnoses later corrected.

Infectious Diseases (continued)

SUMMARY OF NOTIFICATIONS, AGE GROUPS OF CONFIRMED CASES, AND HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS.

DISEASE	Cases notified	Rem. to Hospital	CONFIRMED DIAGNOSES Age Groups:—1951														
			Total 1950	Total 1951	0—	1—	3—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—
†Pneumonia ..	39	5	23	40	3	1	7	5	1	—	—	1	5	1	8	6	2
Poliomyelitis:																	
Paralytic ..	5	4	10	3	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic ..	2	2	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	23	20	8	23	—	—	—	—	—	3	8	10	2	—	—	—	—
†Scabies ..	13	—	19	14	1	2	1	2	2	—	—	2	1	—	2	—	1
Scarlet Fever ..	150	33	149	143	—	17	42	74	8	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ..	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough..	293	62	354	289	51	92	71	71	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Zymotic Enteritis	9	8	30	7	4	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	2,613	316	1,539	2,532	171	777	863	581	30	10	18	29	14	12	13	9	5

*Notifiable from July to September only.

†Certain of these confirmed cases were notified as other diseases, and diagnoses later corrected.

Treatment and Bathing Centre

This Centre deals with the disinfection and disinfection of infected, verminous, and scabious persons, premises and goods. The Superintendent investigates all cases of infectious disease where disinfection, special enquiries, or supervision of contacts are necessitated.

Whilst the decline in scabies has resulted in a decrease in treatments for this disease, there was again a substantial increase in the number of verminous treatments due to the large number of both male and female casual cases from hostels, etc., where much stricter precautions are being taken, and also to the numerous members of schoolchildren's families who were themselves found to be verminous.

There has also been an increase in the amount of verminous bedding and premises dealt with, but this was probably due more to higher standards of living than to any great increase in vermin.

Disinfection of trade goods is also carried out at this Centre, and whilst the quantity has been much less than last year, a large amount of disinfection of bedding, etc., in connection with the Council's Rehousing Scheme has been undertaken, and there has also been a considerable increase in the amount of departmental laundry which is carried out at these premises.

The work of the Centre includes enquiries into cases for burial under the National Assistance Act, and the disinfection, storage, and sale or disposal of the effects of these persons.

Demonstrations of the work of the Treatment Centre are always in frequent demand, and during 1951 sessions were arranged for 86 students.

Analysis of work carried out during the year.

Verminous Rooms Sprayed (D. D. T.)	..	2,270
Verminous Household Goods Destroyed	..	29 tons 15 cwts.
Infected Rooms Sprayed (Formaldehyde)		160
Infected Household Goods Destroyed	..	Nil
Hospital Wards disinfected	.. ..	68
Common Lodging Houses disinfected	..	329 rooms
Rooms disinfected by request (Tuberculosis, Measles, Cancer deaths, etc.)	..	72
Trade goods disinfected (steam)	..	257 bales straw envelopes and 4 feather beds.
Library books disinfected	.. ..	138
Departmental laundry	.. ..	5,042 towels, 632 swabs and dusters, 9 sheets.
Council's Rehousing (Disinfection of bedding, etc.)	.. ..	104 families.

Infectious Disease Cases: Enquiries and Visits.

Total—461 as under:

Scabies	2	Food Poisoning	24
Scarlet Fever	150	Erysipelas	14
Diphtheria	13	Dysentery	172
Enteritis	2	Smallpox Contacts	53
Poliomyelitis	16	Meningococcal	
Typhoid	2	infections	13

Scarlet Fever cases kept at home: 118

Treatment of Verminous and Infected Articles.

	<i>Verminous articles treated</i>	<i>Verminous articles destroyed</i>	<i>Infected articles treated</i>	<i>Infected articles destroyed</i>
Beds	200	75	11	3
Palliasses	492	102	24	—
Bolsters	168	32	5	—
Pillows	802	77	60	—
Cushions	150	32	1	—
Blankets	1,737	7	99	—
Sheets	503	5	41	—
Quilts	565	7	4	—
Pieces	14,386	214	61	23

Scabies and Vermin Treatments.

	<i>Scabies</i>		<i>Vermin</i>	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Lambeth cases	20	36	45	104
treatments	30	68	47	110
Southwark cases	19	45	908	384
treatments	35	89	908	391
L.C.C. Schoolchildren (Male and Female)	95		1,978	
treatments	373		2,669	
Total treatments	595		4,125	

Verminous Treatments from Hostels, Common Lodging Houses, etc. (Included in above.)

<i>Males:</i>		<i>Females:</i>	
Salvation Army Hostel ..	245	83, Blackfriars Road ..	32
Rowton House, Church- yard Row	288	78, Camberwell Road ..	16
Rowton House, Vauxhall	6	Cecil House	11
Marshalsea Road Common Lodging House ..	10	Elizabeth Baxter Hostel ..	—
Hungerford Club ..	28	Hungerford Club ..	5
Southwark casuals ..	299	90, Camberwell Road ..	—
		196, New Kent Road ..	1
		Southwark casuals ..	5
Totals	876		70

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

The number of complaints of sanitary nuisances received during the year was about 800 less than in 1950 and nearly 1,600 less than in 1949. It is reasonable to assume that part, at least, of this decrease is due to the vigilance of the Sanitary Inspectors in the past.

This, however, does not fully account for the very considerable decrease in the figures of the District Sanitary Inspectors' work for the year. The total visits were more than 6,500 fewer than in 1950 whilst the total of sanitary works completed was over 3,000 less than the previous year. This has been due very largely to the continued and extremely serious shortage of Sanitary Inspectors in the Department.

The work of the Food Inspectors, who have not been so affected by these staffing difficulties, shows a considerable increase during the year, with over 1,100 more visits than in 1950.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

(Separate statistics for certain of the following headings are given in the Housing section).

Inspections upon receipt of complaint	4,383
Drainage and miscellaneous inspections	2,779
Inspection of Factories *	249
Inspection of Outworkers	111
Inspection of Common Lodging Houses	40
Rehousing visits	1,792
Smoke Observations	96
Rodent visits (Sanitary Inspectors), Industrial premises ..	193
" " " " Dwellings	164
Inspection of Slaughterhouses	4
Inspection of Offensive Trades Premises	8
Inspection and food sampling visits, shops and markets ..	1,868
Inspection and sampling visits, Catering and Ice Cream Premises	1,957
Inspection of food at Wharves and Warehouses	2,036
Visits to Bakehouses	118
Visits to Fried Fish Shops	51
Visits to Fishmongers premises	19
Revisits	7,616
Miscellaneous	312

NOTICES

Intimation Notices served	.. .. .	2,437
Statutory Notices served	.. .. .	1,077
Defects in Council controlled property reported to Housing Manager..	.. .. .	81
Intimation Notices complied with	.. .. .	2,305
Statutory Notices complied with	.. .. .	999

RENT & MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTIONS ACTS, 1920-1939

Thirty-eight certificates as to the state of repair of dwelling houses were issued during the year under the above Acts.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are four women's and two men's common lodging houses in the Borough, which are fully occupied nightly. Forty inspections of these premises were made by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year, 12 of men's lodging houses and 28 of women's. 9 Intimation notices were served in respect of Women's Common Lodging Houses, of which 5 have been complied with.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

This Act which came into operation on November 1st 1951, is founded upon the recommendations of the Interdepartmental Committee on the Rag Flock Acts under the Chairmanship of Lord Merthyr, whose report was published in 1946, and sets up a system of control of the filling materials used in upholstery. The Act repeals the Rag Flock Acts 1911 and 1928 and Section 136 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, and makes it unlawful, in the course of a business, to use certain filling materials (specified in the Act) for the purposes of upholstering, the stuffing or lining of bedding, toys, baby carriages and certain other such articles, except at premises registered by the local authority.

The sale of unclean filling materials is made an offence. Additional safeguards are provided for rag flock which may be manufactured or stored only at licensed premises. The sale of rag flock not coming from licensed premises is an offence.

The duty of enforcement of the Act in Southwark, including inspection of premises and sampling, are placed upon the Public Health Department.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

The figures of deposited matter in the vicinity of the Bankside area were again very high and, as in previous years, the main source of pollution was due to grit emitted from the chimneys of the Bankside Electricity Station where 12 of the solid fuel furnaces are not fitted with grit arrestors. There have been interviews and correspondence with the British Electricity Authority who stated that the cost of fitting grit arrestors would not be justified. They explained that on completion of the new Electricity Station, now in course of erection, the existing station would cease to operate.

The Council approached the Director of the Fuel Research Station to investigate and advise whether any positive steps short of large scale structural alterations to reduce atmospheric pollution could be taken. In reply he stated that his Department had for some time been working in close co-operation with the British Electricity Authority and he added that without the installation of grit arresting plant of recognised design, which is costly, he knew of no inexpensive method for avoiding the emission of grit and dust. The Director is going into the matter more closely and his observations are awaited.

The figures of the deposited matter as recorded on the sites in Walworth Road and Bankside are as follows:—

		<i>Walworth</i>			
1951		<i>Road</i>	<i>Bankside</i>		
January	.. ..	24.6	172.7	tons per sq. mile	
February	.. ..	28.8	107.0	,, ,, ,, ,,	
March	.. ..	26.1	103.6	,, ,, ,, ,,	
April	.. ..	20.7	79.3	,, ,, ,, ,,	
May	.. ..	20.5	28.2	,, ,, ,, ,,	
June	.. ..	15.2	45.8	,, ,, ,, ,,	
July	.. ..	14.8	80.3	,, ,, ,, ,,	
August	.. ..	15.3	94.1	,, ,, ,, ,,	
September	.. ..	18.5	60.3	,, ,, ,, ,,	
October	.. ..	27.5	44.1	,, ,, ,, ,,	
November	.. ..	22.6	138.4	,, ,, ,, ,,	
December	.. ..	21.6	134.2	,, ,, ,, ,,	

During the year 16 complaints were received regarding smoke emissions in the Borough, and 96 observations were made by the Inspector.

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL (GENERAL POWERS) ACT 1951

The London County Council (General Powers) Act 1951 came into effect on 1st August, 1951.

Part 2 provides for the revision of certain sections of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, so that the determination of questions arising between sanitary authorities and persons aggrieved by the acts and decisions of such authorities, and the hearing of appeals, are now matters for a court of summary jurisdiction, whilst expenses formerly recoverable by sanitary authorities from the owners of premises may now be secured by a charge upon such premises, on the lines of Section 291 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which applies outside London.

WATER SUPPLY

The domestic water supply of the Borough is supplied by the Metropolitan Water Board, and has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

During the year, three complaints were received regarding the taste of water. The Metropolitan Water Board was informed and samples analysed, but in each instance they were found to be satisfactory.

Public Health (London) Act, 1936 - Section 95

Certificates have been issued in respect of the provision of a proper and sufficient supply of water at 145 new dwellings as follows:—

AMBERGATE STREET, 25-31 ODD	..	4 flats
NORTHFLEET HOUSE	.. ..	60 ..
BLOCK B ALMSHOUSE, CLOCK PLACE	..	4 ..
BOUGHTON HOUSE	.. ..	50 ..
ABINGER HOUSE	.. ..	24 ..
GREAT GUILDFORD STREET	.. ..	3 ..

Public Health (London) Act, 1936 - Section 98

During the year 50 notifications of the withdrawal of water supply were received from the Metropolitan Water Board.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	<i>Type of Premises.</i>			
	<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Business</i>	<i>Total</i>
I. Total properties	33	2,4571	4,768	29,372
II. Properties inspected as a result of:—				
(a) Notification	—	1,021	426	1,447
(b) Otherwise	4	44	193	241
III. Number of properties (under II) infested by rats:				
Major	1	1	1	3
Minor	3	415	409	827
IV. Number of properties (under II) seriously infested by mice	—	480	42	522
V. Number of infested properties (III and IV) treated by local authority ..	4	896	439	1,339
VI. Notices served under Sec. 4:—				
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural, i.e., proofing	—	23	5	28
Total	45	27,451	6,283	33,779
VII. Number of cases in which default action taken by local authority following Sec. 4 notice	—	—	—	—
VIII. Legal Proceedings ..	—	—	—	—
IX. Number of “block” control schemes carried out	—	19	—	—

	<i>Domestic</i>	<i>Business</i>
Visits by Sanitary Inspectors	164	193
Visits by Rodent Staff	6,515	3,658
Drains tested	350	111
Drains defective	94	41
Drains repaired	53	24
Drains opened for examination	55	29
Prebait laid	6,366	39,165
Poison baits	7,438	6,455
Bodies recovered	83	400
Works completed by arrangement	37	11

Two maintenance treatments were carried out in June and December at approximately 826 manholes.

OUTWORKERS

One hundred and eleven visits to homes of outworkers were made during the year. The conditions generally were found to be quite satisfactory. There were no cases of default in sending lists of outworkers to the Council, nor was it necessary to serve any notices or institute any prosecutions for work carried on in unwholesome premises (Sec. 111).

<i>Nature of work</i>					<i>No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)</i>
Wearing Apparel	{ Making, etc.	..	..	..	59
	{ Cleaning and washing	..	..	..	—
Household Linen	..	..	..	..	—
Lace, lace curtains and nets	..	..	..	..	1
Curtains and furniture hangings	..	..	..	..	—
Furniture and upholstery	..	..	..	..	—
Electro-plate	..	..	..	..	—
File making	..	..	..	..	—
Brass and brass articles	..	..	..	..	—
Fur pulling	..	..	..	..	—
Iron and steel cables and chains	..	..	..	..	—
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels	..	..	..	..	—
Cart gear	..	..	..	..	—
Locks, latches and keys	..	..	..	..	—
Umbrellas, etc.	..	..	..	..	—
Artificial flowers	..	..	..	..	—
Nets, other than wire nets	..	..	..	..	1
Tents	..	..	..	..	—
Sacks	..	..	..	..	—
Racquets and tennis balls	..	..	..	..	—
Paper bags	..	..	..	..	5
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	..	..	..	..	26
Brush making	..	..	..	..	3
Pea picking	..	..	..	..	—
Feather sorting	..	..	..	..	—
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.	..	..	..	..	—
Stuffed toys	..	..	..	..	—
Basket making	..	..	..	..	—
Chocolates and sweetmeats	..	..	..	..	—
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas Stock- ings, etc.	..	..	..	..	18
Textile weaving	..	..	..	..	—
Lampshades	..	..	..	..	22
TOTAL	..	..	..	..	135

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936—LEGAL FACTORIES

Two hundred and forty-nine inspections of Factories were made during the year, and 57 notices were served. There are now 841 factories of all types on the register, comprising 239 factories without mechanical power, and 602 factories with mechanical power.

Inspections :

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of:—</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	239	50	13	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	601	198	43	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	1	1	1	—
Total	841	249	57	—

Defects found and remedied :

No. of cases in which defects were:—

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>found</i>	<i>remedied</i>	<i>referred to H.M. Insp.</i>	<i>referred by H.M. Insp.</i>	<i>No. of Prosecutions</i>
Want of cleanliness (S1) ..	26	33	—	7	—
Overcrowding (S2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	8	5	—	3	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S7) ..					
(a) insufficient	2	2	—	5	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ..	27	30	—	8	—
(c) not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	51	24	1	28	—
Total	114	94	1	52	—

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are seven premises engaged in offensive trades in the Borough as follows :—

Fellmongers, 5—Tripe Boiler, 1—Soap Boiler, 1.
During 1951, 8 inspections were made.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORKS COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR

House drain addition or reconstruction	..	..	..	11
Drains repaired	..	..	..	87
Drains unstopped	..	..	..	109
W.C. pan and seats repaired or renewed	..	..	..	110
Flushing apparatus repaired or renewed	..	..	..	75
Soil pipes repaired or renewed	..	..	..	1
Soil pipes provided	..	..	..	—
Vent pipes provided	..	..	..	7
Baths provided	..	..	..	3
Sinks provided	..	..	..	40
Waste pipes provided	..	..	..	5
Waste pipes repaired	..	..	..	79
Yards paved, repaired or drained	..	..	..	14
Dustbins provided	..	..	..	80
Accumulation of filth, etc., removed	..	..	..	44
Roofs and gutters repaired	..	..	..	1,001
Rain water pipes repaired or renewed	..	..	..	79
Dwellings provided with water	..	..	..	4
Dampness remedied	..	..	..	876
Window frames, sashes and glazing repaired	..	..	..	193
Cills and reveals repaired	..	..	..	40
Sashcords renewed	..	..	..	230
Fireplaces and flues repaired	..	..	..	322
Floors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	203
Brickwork and pointing repaired	..	..	..	28
Staircases repaired	..	..	..	15
Rooms cleansed	..	..	..	1,456
Walls and ceilings repaired	..	..	..	1,740
Other sanitary works executed	..	..	..	228
TOTAL	..	..	..	7,080

Separate statistics under certain of the headings in the foregoing section are given in the Housing Section, relating to the work of the Housing Act inspectors.

PUBLIC HEALTH (LONDON) ACT, 1936—LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Failure to Abate Nuisances.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Result.</i>
85, Beckway Street ..	Adjourned <i>sine die</i> . £1 ls. costs.
21, Blackwood Street ..	Adjourned <i>sine die</i> .
14, Salisbury Row ..	Summons withdrawn. £1 ls. costs.
88, Bethwin Road ..	Summons withdrawn. £1 ls. costs.
86, Mann Street ..	Summons withdrawn. £1 ls. costs.
27, Runham Street ..	Summons withdrawn. £1 ls. costs.
31, Runham Street ..	Summons withdrawn. £1 ls. costs.
163, Boyson Road ..	Summons withdrawn. £1 ls. costs.
85, Westmoreland Road..	Summons withdrawn. £1 ls. costs.
167, Boyson Road ..	Summons withdrawn. £1 ls. costs.
53, Lant Street ..	Nuisance Order, 28 days, £2 4s. costs.
55a, Lant Street ..	Nuisance Order, 28 days, £2 4s. costs.
102, Dunton Road ..	Nuisance Order, 28 days.

Food

THE INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

During the year, 1,789 tons 5 cwts. 1 qtr. 5 lbs. of food were examined in detail at wharves, warehouses, shops etc., in the Borough.

Of this amount, 571 tons 18 cwts. 1 qtr., 25 lbs. were found to be unfit for human consumption, and were disposed of as follows :—

Destroyed—214 tons 6 cwts. 2 qtrs. 7 lbs.

comprising mainly—

- 38 tons fruit.
- 48 tons puree, pulp and fruit juices.
- 32 tons cooked hams.
- 4 tons confectionery.
- 26 tons vegetables.
- 5 tons meat and meat products.
- 18 tons tinned fish.
- 6 tons tinned fruit.
- 31 tons tinned soups.
- 2 tons poultry and rabbits.
- 3 tons tinned vegetables.

Inspected at shops, etc. ... 12 tons 4 cwts. 27 lbs.
 ,, ,, wharves and
 warehouses ... 202 tons 2 cwts. 1 qtr. 8 lbs.

Released for Animal Feeding—323 tons 14 cwts. 1 qtr.

comprising mainly—

179 tons tomato paste.
 7 tons vegetables.
 62 tons milk powder.
 47 tons tinned fish.
 16 tons fruit.
 6 tons tinned vegetables.
 5 tons confectionery.

Inspected at shops, etc. ... 8 tons 8 cwts. 1 qtr. 18 lbs.
 ,, ,, wharves and
 warehouses ... 315 tons 5 cwts. 3 qtrs. 10 lbs.

Released for Technical Purposes—9 tons 10 cwts. 2 qtrs. 2 lbs.

comprising mainly—

6 tons bacon.
 3½ tons meat.
 Inspected at shops, etc. ... 1 cwt. 3 qtrs. 2 lbs.
 ,, ,, wharves and
 warehouses ... 9 tons 8 cwts. 3 qtrs.

Released for Food Manufacturing Purposes—24 tons 7 cwts. 16 lbs.

comprising mainly—

9 tons dried fruit.
 2 tons meat.
 3½ tons tinned milk.
 4½ tons bacon.
 4 tons confectionery.
 1 ton sugar.
 Inspected at shops, etc. ... 1 ton 1 cwt. 2 qtrs.
 ,, ,, wharves and
 warehouses ... 23 tons 5 cwts. 2 qtrs. 16 lbs.

FOOD STANDARDS (ICE CREAM) ORDER, 1951

The above Order came into operation on 1st March, 1951, and prescribed standards of ice-cream as follows:—

Ice-cream shall contain not less than 5 per cent. fat, 10 per cent. sugar and $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. milk solids other than fat:

Provided that—

- (i) ice-cream containing any fruit, fruit pulp or fruit puree shall either conform to the standard set forth or alternatively, the total content of fat, sugar and milk solids other than fat shall be not less than 25 per cent. of the ice-cream including the fruit, fruit pulp or fruit puree as the case may be and such total content of fat, sugar and milk solids other than fat shall include not less than $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. fat, 10 per cent. sugar and 2 per cent. milk solids other than fat.
- (ii) "Parev" (Kosher) ice-cream sold, offered or exposed for sale under that description shall contain not less than 10 per cent. fat and not less than 14 per cent. sugar, and the standard for ice-cream set forth above shall not apply to this product.

For the purpose of the standards prescribed above, "sugar" means sucrose, invert sugar or the solids of any sweetening material derived from starch, so, however, that no ice-cream shall contain less than seven per cent. sucrose.

Each reference to any proportion or percentage means that proportion or percentage by weight.

The standard is not intended to apply to water ices sold as such, or to "ice lollies."

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1951

These Regulations appointed March 1st, 1951, as the date from which local authorities may require the use of thermometers to indicate and record temperatures to which ice-cream mixture is subjected in the manufacture of ice-cream.

ICE CREAM

There are 170 ice-cream dealers and 27 manufacturers in this Borough, an increase of 21 dealers and 1 manufacturer from last year. Most of the dealers sold only pre-packed ice-cream, obtained from the large manufacturers.

During the year, 62 samples of ice-cream were taken with the following results, which show an improvement on those of last year :—

35 samples, Grade I.

11 samples, Grade II.

9 samples, Grade III.

7 samples, Grade IV.

Periodical visits were made to all premises and advice given where necessary. A code of standards was sent to each new dealer in the Borough, and copies of the Public Analyst's reports on samples taken were forwarded to the vendors concerned. In the case of Grade III and IV samples, which were a lower percentage than in 1950, attention was drawn to the need for stricter care in the hygiene or manufacture, handling and distribution; special investigations were made at the premises in an effort to detect some fault which may have been causing the unsatisfactory gradings, and improvements were always apparent in subsequent results.

25 samples were chemically examined for compliance with the prescribed standards of composition for ice-cream. Two of these samples did not contain the requisite amount of fat and the vendors were cautioned. Samples subsequently taken at their premises were satisfactory.

Inspections were carried out before the registration of any new premises to ensure that they were satisfactory and the requirements of the Heat Treatment Regulations fully understood and complied with.

The majority of ice-cream makers in this Borough are small one-man businesses, and the trade generally has continued to co-operate to the utmost extent to secure the highest standard of hygiene and purity in their products.

DESIGNATED MILK

During the year the following Licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, and Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

1 Pasteuriser's Licence.

101 Dealers' Licences for Pasteurised Milk.

139 Dealers' Licences for Sterilised Milk.

76 Dealers' Licences for Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Supplementary Licences.

13 Supplementary Licences for Pasteurised Milk.

13 Supplementary Licences for Sterilised Milk.

12 Supplementary Licences for Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Fifty-eight samples of Designated Milks were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. All these satisfied the prescribed tests.

Forty samples of Pasteurised Milk supplied to local schools were also examined by the Public Analyst, and the London County Council informed of the results.

MILK SELLERS

At the close of the year there were 160 registered milk distributors in the Borough, whilst the number of distributors purveying milk in the Borough from registered premises elsewhere was 22. 383 inspections of Milkshops and Dairies were made during the year.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (SPECIFIED AREAS) ORDER, 1951

The above Order which came into operation on October 1st, 1951, was made in conformity with Section 23 of the Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950, which empowers the Minister of Food to make Orders specifying areas within which the use of Special Designations in relation to milk sold by retail becomes obligatory.

The effect of this Order is that from the operative date all milk sold within the County of London and certain other defined areas must be Special Designated milk, i.e. sterilised, pasteurised, tuberculin tested or accredited milk.

PUBLIC HEALTH (CONDENSED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1923 and 1947

Five samples of condensed milk were purchased under the above regulations for analysis. They were all certified by the Public Analyst to comply with the said regulations, but one contained patches of mould hyphae and spores and was very thick in consistency.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There is only one licensed slaughterhouse in the Borough, which is not in use. Four inspections of the premises were made during the year to ensure that no slaughtering was in operation.

CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS

There are 380 catering establishments in the Borough. These include riverside snack bars, cafes, coffee stalls, mobile snack bars, public house restaurants, and industrial canteens, all of which have received systematic inspection during the past year.

Notices were served and a considerable amount of work has been carried out. As a result, there has been a marked improvement in the general condition of premises, and a reasonably high standard is being maintained.

Close contact has been kept with the Local Food Office in regard to the proposed new premises and traders, to ensure that all premises comply with Public Health requirements before the issue of food licences.

BAKEHOUSES

At the end of the year there were 34 Bakehouses in use in Southwark, of which 10 were underground.

During the year Basement Bakehouses at 70 Darwin Street, 101 Great Dover Street, 2 Stoney Street, 388 Walworth Road were closed by the occupiers.

118 visits were made by the Inspector.

MEAT AND FISH PRODUCTS

During the year certain amendments were introduced to the Meat Products and Canned Meat (Control and Maximum Prices) Order 1948.

In the first of these, Milk Powder used in the manufacture of pork and beef sausages etc., is deemed to be equivalent to five-thirds of its own weight in meat if the quantity of powder does not exceed 6 per cent. of the total weight of the product; fat of vegetable origin used in beef sausages etc., is deemed to be meat for the purpose of assessing meat content, if the total quantity of such fat does not exceed 25 per cent of the prescribed minimum meat content of the product. The Ministry point out that the amendment may be of significance when authorities are considering evidence in connection with alleged offences against the Food and Drugs Acts and the Defence (Sale of Food) Regulations.

The Public Health Committee expressed the view that the use of milk powder in the manufacture of pork and beef sausages and similar products, and the use of vegetable fats in beef sausages etc., in substitution for meat, was to be deprecated,

and accordingly the Metropolitan Boroughs' Standing Joint Committee was requested to consider submitting a protest to the Ministry of Food against the use of milk powder and vegetable fats in sausages, sausage meat and slicing sausage, in lieu of a proportion of the prescribed meat content.

The Metropolitan Boroughs Standing Joint Committee supported this request, and received a reply from the Ministry of Food to the effect that the reasons for this step were given to the House of Commons on the 14th March 1951 during the debate on the Prayer for the annulment of the Order, and the Ministry regretted that they had nothing to add to this statement.

In connection with the question of lean meat content for sausages, the General Purposes Sub-Committee of the Metropolitan Boroughs Standing Joint Committee considered the question raised by the Public Health Committee that a minimum standard of lean meat for sausages should be set up. The Sub-Committee decided, however, that in the present circumstances and difficulties they could not recommend any action being taken as suggested.

The second amendment to the above Order took effect in June, 1951, and :—

- (a) restricts the use of milk powder in sausages to "skim milk powder;"
- (b) permits whalemeat to be mixed with other meats provided that the product is labelled and sold as a whalemeat product;
- (c) frees meat paste and fish paste from control both as regards price and composition.

This was followed by the Food Standards (Meat Paste) Order 1951 and the Food Standards (Fish Paste) Order 1951, which prescribed a minimum content of 55 per cent meat and 70 per cent fish respectively, and the discontinuation of the five per cent tolerance previously allowed.

CURRY POWDER

A formal sample of Curry Powder revealed a lead content of 24 parts per million; the limit prescribed by the Food Standards Order is 10 parts per million.

The Food Standards Division of the Ministry of Food were consulted on this matter, and it appeared that representations were being made by the Curry Powder Manufacturers regarding the lead content of curry powders. The manufacturers stated that the analyses of samples taken from the

same bulk of curry powder often gave different results, as the lead content was unevenly distributed, and the manufacturers had requested the Ministry to agree that no prosecution should take place unless the lead content of curry powder is in excess of 20 parts per million.

The Ministry had not reached any decision in this matter, but suggested that a cautionary letter would meet this particular case, and proceedings should be taken in the event of further samples exceeding the permitted limit.

IMPORTED PEARS

On May 10th, 500 cases of pears arrived at Gravel Lane from Italy, and on inspection some of the pears were found to be contaminated with what appeared to be an arsenical spray. The owners were asked to give an undertaking that the contaminated pears would be suitably dealt with prior to sale, but the next day a letter was received from them refusing to give any undertaking whatever, and threatening proceedings against me for loss of time in transit. Half of the consignment was for a certain buyer in Dublin, and this portion was immediately freed and the Medical Officer of Health for Dublin notified of the condition.

The Public Analyst reported that the powder found on the pears contained fairly heavy quantities of arsenic and lead—much above the standard which would have been normally passed—and the matter was placed before the magistrate in order to obtain a decision concerning these contaminated pears. He postponed the hearing until the following day when the owner gave an undertaking to have the pears sorted at his Portsmouth warehouse under the supervision of the Portsmouth Medical Officer of Health.

On the 17th May I heard from the owner that the consignment which had gone to Dublin had been held up owing to a dock strike, and it was intended to bring these back once more to Gravel Lane. They were received early on the morning of May 19th, and were also forwarded to Portsmouth for sorting under supervision.

It would appear that the owner, who suffered serious financial loss two years ago when similar types of pears were brought into the country, was anxious to make this a test case, as he felt that the action taken caused undue delay in transit, and that the material on the pears was quite harmless.

Under the Imported Food Regulations a Medical Officer of Health has power to stop any Foodstuffs which he intends to sample or place before a magistrate, for a period of 48 hours or longer if agreement is come to with the owner.

In this case it was possible to complete the matter in less than 48 hours, and there is a code of practice between the Ministry and the Society of Port Medical Officers that when standards of contamination with poisonous metals are exceeded it is a matter of public safety that such contaminated foodstuffs should not be allowed to enter the market without treatment to prevent danger, or destruction if it is not possible to render the food in question harmless.

PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Consequent upon the Government's acceptance of the recommendations of the First Report of the Local Government Manpower Committee the Ministry of Health revised the Regulations of 14th July, 1920, under which grant in aid of expenditure incurred by Port and Riparian Health Authorities on Port Health Administration and reimbursement of the expenditure of such Authorities in connection with the medical inspection of aliens has hitherto been made. The revised conditions of grant, as approved by H.M. Treasury in consultation with the Association of Sea and Airport Health Authorities, became operative from 1st April, 1950.

PORT OF LONDON AUTHORITY

In November the Minister of Food stated that he had been requested by the Port of London Health Authority to consider the assignment to that Authority under Section 76 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and Section 6 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, of certain functions, rights and liabilities of a local authority or Food and Drugs authority.

The Port of London Health Authority is concerned with the administration of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, in relation to the supervision of foodstuffs sold or offered for sale in the canteens and establishments throughout the Port, and also on pleasure boats plying the Thames.

Theoretically the 1938 Act is administered by each of the riparian authorities concerned, but in practice the necessary rights of entry and inspection have been exercised by the Port Health Authority with the tacit consent of the riparian authorities. This arrangement has worked satisfactorily, but it cannot operate, for example, to the extent of making byelaws under Section 15 of the Act, and technically the Authority is unable to enter any premises or board any river craft for the inspection, sampling or condemnation of food.

The Port Health Authority, therefore, suggested that the Minister of Health should make an Order assigning to them certain of the functions, rights and liabilities of a local authority and of a Food and Drugs Authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for this purpose.

Whilst forty riparian authorities fall within the area of the Port Health Authority, only a few are directly concerned; namely those in whose area lie the whole or the part of the five great dock groups, i.e. the London and St. Katherine Docks, (including the Regents Canal Dock), the Royal Docks, Tilbury Docks and the Surrey Docks.

There was no intention to secure the transfer of duties devolving upon certain authorities in the application of the Imported Food Regulations or the Food and Drugs Act in wharves and warehouses in the riparian area, excepting those within the curtilage of the dock groups.

This matter is still under consideration.

PHARMACY & POISONS ACT, 1933

During the year 107 visits were paid to the various premises listed by the Council for the sale of Part II Poisons under the above Act.

There are 72 names of persons on the Council's list of Sellers of Part II Poisons.

PROTECTION OF FOOD

Last year the Public Health Committee considered and approved revised draft byelaws in regard to the protection of food under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Additional suggestions were made relating to the location of lavatories in premises concerned with food handling, the use of cracked or chipped crockery, and the observation of personal cleanliness of persons handling food in the open air. The scope of the byelaws, however, is governed by the byelaw making powers given by Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, and after consideration it was felt that the only suggestion admissible was that persons offering food for sale in the open air should be subject to the same requirements as regards cleanliness as those engaged in handling, wrapping, or delivery of food. This suggestion was accordingly passed to the Standing Joint Committee.

Particular attention has been paid to the question of hygiene in all catering premises and premises where food is prepared. Special Sanitary Inspectors have been detailed for this purpose and careful records compiled of all such premises and the conditions found upon inspection.

At the end of the year, a small display was presented in the Health Department, with the co-operation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Central Council for Health

Education, to demonstrate the dangers of food contamination by handlers and through exposure to vermin.

Whilst, unfortunately, but little public interest was shown, a large number of catering trade students as well as school-children attended the display and lectures.

HORSE FLESH

The Public Health Committee at its meeting in February, 1951, directed that suggestions should be made to the Metropolitan Boroughs Standing Joint Committee that action should be taken to have the Meat Regulations applied to the sale of horse flesh for human consumption.

In this connection, in their report of April, 1951, the Inter-Departmental Committee on Meat Inspection recommended that the Public Health (Meat) Regulations should be amended to include horsemeat intended for sale for human consumption as it was thought that such meat should be inspected, handled, stored and transported in the same manner as other meat.

FOOD SAMPLING

During the year under review, 832 formal samples and 898 informal samples were submitted to the Public Analyst. Of these, 27 and 37 respectively revealed adulteration or other infringements, as follows:—

	Samples Examined		Non-genuine Samples	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Milk	195	64	4	—
Jellies, Custard Powders etc. ..	36	40	1	1
Condensed Milk	—	5	—	—
Fats, Cheese, etc.	54	43	—	—
Meat and Fish preparations ..	69	131	3	4
Cake Mixtures, etc.	61	73	—	1
Cereal preparations	76	89	4	3
Tea, Coffee, Cocoa, etc. ..	75	32	—	—
Vinegar	17	19	1	2
Herbs	34	57	—	2
Sweets and Chocolates	30	14	—	—
Spices and Condiments	61	52	5	4
Pickles, Sauces, etc.	47	43	—	1
Jams and Preserves	21	6	—	—
Wines, Spirits, Soft Drinks, etc.	4	91	2	4
Drugs and Medicine Preparations	19	73	5	9
Dried Fruits	16	19	2	1
Ice Cream	—	25	—	2
Miscellaneous Samples	17	22	—	3
Totals	832	898	27	37

Formal Samples :

<i>No.</i>	<i>Sample of</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
659	Glauber Salts.	Effloresced.	Stock withdrawn from sale.
710	Glauber Salts.	Effloresced.	Stock withdrawn from sale.
717	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine.	60 per cent. deficient in ammonia.	Summons.
726	Figs.	Infected with acari and moulds.	Stock destroyed.
1062	Vinegar.	Consisted of Non-brewed Condiment.	Caution.
1075	Curry Powder.	Lead 20 parts per million.	Caution.
106	Glauber Salts.	Effloresced.	Stock withdrawn
141	Pork Sausages.	15 per cent. deficient in meat.	Summons.
150	Gin.	40 degrees under proof.	Summons.
177	Milk.	10 per cent. deficient in fat.	Summons.
180	Milk.	6 per cent. deficient in fat.	Summons.
213	Pearl Barley.	Contained a number of living beetles.	Used for poultry food
219	Glauber Salts.	Completely effloresced.	Withdrawn from sale.
276	Pearl Barley.	Contained acari ova and excreta.	Used for poultry food.
310	Table Jelly.	Contained 61.5 per cent. sugar and did not comply with the prescribed setting test.	Summons.
330	Pepper.	Contained 75 per cent. wheat flour.	Summons.
359	Curry Powder.	Contained 24 parts of lead per million.	Authority concerned notified.
366	Pepper.	Contained 20 per cent. maize starch.	Summons.
394	Pearl Barley.	Contained the ova of an insect.	Used for poultry food.
412	Pepper.	Contained 10 per cent. Ground Ginger.	Summons.

Formal Samples—*contd.*

<i>No.</i>	<i>Sample of</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
429	Glauber Salts.	Completely effloresced.	Withdrawn from sale.
460	Rum.	39.5 degrees under proof	Summons.
507	Glauber Salts.	Effloresced.	Withdrawn from sale.
523	Figs.	Infested with mites.	Destroyed.
540	Pearl Barley.	Contained acari ova and excreta.	Used for poultry food.
565	Milk.	1.2 per cent. added water.	Caution.
571	Milk.	1.6 per cent. added water.	Caution.

Informal Samples :

740a	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine.	60 per cent. deficient in Ammonia.	Formal sample 717.
761a	Glauber Salts.	Effloresced.	Stock withdrawn from sale.
16a	Potted Meat.	10 per cent. cereal filler.	Ministry of Food notified.
57a	Glauber Salts.	Effloresced.	Stock withdrawn
71a	Glauber Salts.	Effloresced.	Stock withdrawn
73a	Mixed Herbs.	Ingredients not specified.	No more in stock
86a	Pearl Barley.	Contained acari ova and excreta.	Used for poultry food.
112a	Glauber Salts.	Effloresced.	Stock withdrawn
122a	Pork Sausages.	40 per cent. deficient in meat.	Formal sample 141.
125a	Gin.	40 degrees under proof.	Formal sample 150.
180a	Ice Cream.	Fat 2.8 per cent.	Caution.
181a	Ice Cream.	Fat 3.4 per cent.	Caution.
303a	Canned Spinach Leaf.	Tin 2.7 grains to the pound.	Withdrawn from sale.
308a	Vinegar.	Consisted of Non-brewed Condiment.	Caution.

Informal Samples—*contd.*

<i>No.</i>	<i>Sample of</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
321a	Royal Dessert.	Not labelled with ingredients.	Stock withdrawn
322a	Pepper.	Contained 25 per cent. maize starch.	Formal sample 366.
339a	Pepper.	Contained 75 per cent. wheat flour.	Formal sample 330.
349a	Pork Sausage Meat.	Slightly deficient in meat.	Formal sample to be taken.
353a	Preserved Tomato Ketchup.	Contained 100 parts copper per million.	Further action pending.
369a	Vinegar.	Consisted of Non-brewed Condiment.	Caution.
370a	Pearl Barley.	Contained the larvae of an insect.	Formal sample taken.
455a	Pepper.	Contained 70 per cent. wheat flour.	No more in stock
473a	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine.	Deficient in ammonia.	Formal sample taken.
475a	Glauber Salts.	Effloresced.	Withdrawn from sale.
482a	Glauber Salts.	Effloresced.	Withdrawn from sale.
516a	Rum.	40 degrees under proof.	Formal sample 460.
557a	Mixed Herbs.	Not labelled with ingredients.	No more in stock
566a	Malt Chocolate Spread.	Contained the larvae of an insect.	Old stock destroyed.
570a	Culinary Flavour Powder.	Not labelled with ingredients.	Withdrawn from sale.
578a	Table Jelly.	Mouldy.	Stock destroyed.
586a	Pork Sausages.	Deficient in meat.	Formal sample taken.
622a	Blackcurrant Cordial.	Contained no black-currant juice.	Label to be amended.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938—LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Cause of proceedings.</i>	<i>Result.</i>
558	Selling Pork Sausage Meat 38.5 per cent. deficient in meat.	Fined £2 and £1 1s. 0d. costs.
717	Selling Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine B.P. 1932 60 per cent. deficient in ammonia.	Fined £4 and £1 1s. 0d. costs.
141	Selling Pork Sausages 15 per cent. deficient in meat.	Fined £2 10s. 0d. and £3 3s. 0d. costs.
150	Selling Gin 40 per cent. under proof.	Fined £10 and £3 3s. 0d. costs.
177	Selling milk with 10 per cent. fat abstracted.	Fined £4 and £3 3s. 0d. costs.
180	Selling milk with 6 per cent. fat abstracted.	Fined £4 and £3 3s. 0d. costs.
330	Selling pepper containing 75 per cent. wheat flour.	Fined £9 and £3 3s. 0d. costs.
366	Selling pepper containing 20 per cent. maize starch.	Fined £7 and £3 3s. 0d. costs.
412	Selling pepper containing 10 per cent. of foreign matter consisting mainly ground ginger.	Fined £2 and £3 3s. 0d. costs.
310	Selling Table Jelly which did not comply with the "Setting test" prescribed by the Table Jelly Order 1949.	Fined £1 and £5 5s. 0d. costs.

Six cautionary letters were sent in respect of other non-genuine samples.

Housing

The duties of the Housing section of the Public Health Department are divided between action under the Housing Act in relation to overcrowded, unfit and insanitary premises, and negotiations between the London County Council, the Council's Housing Manager and other authorities in connection with applications for rehousing on grounds of medical necessity, overcrowding and insanitary conditions.

It has, unfortunately, been necessary to curtail somewhat Housing Act activities during the year owing to the acutely serious shortage of Sanitary Inspectors.

HOUSING ACT, 1936

Insanitary houses capable of repair at reasonable expense (Section 9)

Two formal notices under Section 9 of the Act were served during the year involving fifteen flats. Two hundred and fifty notices were issued requesting voluntary action by the owner, and 127 houses have been rendered fit for habitation.

Insanitary houses incapable of repair at reasonable expense (Section 11)

The following property was represented during the year and a Demolition Order made:—

Phelp Street, 19—Demolition Order made 17.10.51

Premises Demolished (Section 11)

	<i>Order made.</i>	<i>Demolished.</i>
Burman Street, 31 ..	9. 1.50	August, 1951
Comus Place, 12.. ..	18.10.50	May, 1951
do. 13.. ..	do.	May, 1951
do. 14.. ..	do.	February, 1951

Premises demolished other than by Orders under Section 11.

Beckway Street, 60
 Boyson Road, 65
 Dawes Street, 86 & 88
 East Street, 52, 58, 60, 62, 64
 Elephant Road, 19
 Great Dover Street, 114-116, 118-129, 132-134 (consecutive)
 Great Suffolk Street, 146 and 148
 Hatfields, 57 and 59
 Isabella Street, 14, 15 and 16
 John Ruskin Street, 4
 Kings Place, 5
 Lorrimore Road, 4-20 (alternately)
 Lucas Road, 28
 Munton Road, Flats 22/68

Rodney Road, Flats, 82/100
 St. Gabriel Street, 2, 2a, 4, 16, 18, 22
 Sondes Street, 12, 13, 14
 Surrey Square, 18
 Tabard Street, 276-280, 284-292 (alternately)
 Theobalds Street, 38
 Webber Street, 78, 79, 80, 82
 Westmoreland Road, 37 and 131

Parts of premises closed (Section 12)

(i) The following premises were represented and Closing Orders made on the dates shewn:—

New Kent Road, 62, Basement front and back rooms	16.5.51
New Kent Road, 64, Basement front and back rooms	16.5.51
New Kent Road, 217, Basement front room	12.12.51
Nicholson Street, 3 and 5, Basement front and back rooms	14.11.51
The Cut, 11, Third floor front and back rooms	17.10.51
Westmoreland Road, 86, Basement front and back rooms	12.12.51

(ii) The following requisitioned properties were found to be unfit for human habitation:—

Boyson Road, 32	12.12.51
Boyson Road, 96	12.12.51
Brockham Street, 12	19.10.51
Delaune Street, 10	24.10.51
Faunce Street, 3	11.4.51
Inville Road, 4	24.6.51
New Kent Road, 235	1.11.51
Sharsted Street, 19	13.4.51
Sutherland Square, 30	18.5.51
Trinity Church Square, 5	5.2.51
Westmoreland Road, 96	5.7.51
West Square, 38	24.10.51

Clearance Areas (Section 25)

During the year 504 visits were made in connection with clearance areas. Three areas have been represented for clearance under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936, as follows:—

<i>Area.</i>	<i>Date Represented.</i>
Gaza Street, Nos. 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19 To be included in L.C.C. Scheme	16.8.51
Massinger Street, Nos. 1-8 consecutively Still under consideration by Council	28.11.51
Stanford Place, Nos. 1-11 consecutively Still under consideration by Council	28.11.51

Overcrowding (Section 59)

There has been no legal action in regard to overcrowding during the year. This matter is dealt with more fully in the Rehousing section.

SUMMARY

Inspections, Housing Consolidated Regs.	..	..	283
Inspections, Section 9, etc.	..	..	Nil
Clearance area survey visits	..	..	504
Other visits (complaints etc.)	..	..	1,261
Reinspections	..	..	1,719
Informal Notices	..	..	250
Informal Notices complied with	..	..	127
Section 9 Notices	..	..	2
			(15 flats)
Section 9 Notices complied with..	..	..	Nil

Summary of works completed during 1951 as a result of Notices served following inspections under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925/1932:—

Drains repaired and/or cleansed	..	..	..	13
W.C. pan and seats repaired or renewed	..	..	..	9
Flushing apparatus repaired or renewed	..	..	..	3
Soil pipes repaired or renewed	..	..	..	1
Chimney stacks repaired	..	..	..	7
Sinks renewed	..	..	..	1
Waste pipes provided or repaired	..	..	..	16
Yards paved, repaired or drained	..	..	..	12
Dustbins provided and chutes repaired	..	..	..	5
Accumulation of filth, etc., removed	..	..	..	6
Roofs and gutters repaired or renewed	..	..	..	49
Rain water pipes repaired or renewed	..	..	..	18
Dampness remedied	..	..	..	9
Window frames, sashes and glazing repaired (number of rooms)				318
Cills and reveals repaired	..	..	..	73
Sashcords renewed (number of rooms)	..	..	..	152
Fireplaces, ranges and flues repaired	..	..	..	31
Floors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	35
Brickwork and pointing repaired	..	..	..	21
Staircases repaired	..	..	..	8
Walls and ceilings repaired and decorated (number of rooms)				386
Doors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	15
Ventilated food cupboards provided	..	..	..	15
TOTAL	..	..	..	1,203

REHOUSING

Despite the continuing increase in the local population, fewer applicants last year sought the assistance of the Public Health Department for rehousing on medical, overcrowding or sanitary grounds, although the figures for 1950 showed a very steep increase in comparison with previous years. The number of cases investigated and the number of visits involved by Sanitary Inspectors last year were in fact almost identical with the 1948 level.

Particularly noticeable was the considerable decrease in the number of new overcrowding cases reported. One cannot explain this rather unexpected and sudden trend unless it be that higher costs are deterring the influx of people into the Metropolis, but nevertheless the fact in itself is gratifying.

Overcrowding is sometimes deliberately created in order to try to obtain priority rehousing, but the most careful investigations are made to ensure that these cases are not recommended; whilst wilful overcrowding renders the offender liable for prosecution, it is not considered practicable under present-day conditions to make any such prosecutions.

During the year a check was made on all overcrowded cases on the register, and as a result it was found that 48 premises, 59 families and 304 persons were no longer overcrowded.

SUMMARY OF OVERCROWDING CASES

	1949			1950			1951		
	<i>Prem- ises</i>	<i>Fami- lies</i>	<i>Per- sons</i>	<i>Prem- ises</i>	<i>Fami- lies</i>	<i>Per- sons</i>	<i>Prem- ises</i>	<i>Fami- lies</i>	<i>Per- sons</i>
<i>New Cases:</i>	<i>(End of 1948)</i>			<i>(End of 1949)</i>			<i>(End of 1950)</i>		
Remaining on register	1,064	1,244	5,952	1,081	1,269	6,006	568	680	3,298
New Cases reported..	224	282	1,168	244	316	1,284	162	216	881
Total	1,288	1,526	7,120	1,325	1,585	7,290	730	896	4,179
Overcrowding abated	207	257	1,114	164	193	847	84	112	471
Remaining on register	1,081	1,269	6,006	1,161	1,392	6,443	646	784	3,708
Cases removed by overcrowding survey	—	—	—	593	712	3,145	48	59	304
Amended Total ..	1,081	1,269	6,006	568	680	3,298	598	725	3,404

Summary of Overcrowding Cases—*contd.*

	1949			1950			1951		
	Prem- ises	Fami- lies	Per- sons	Prem- ises	Fami- lies	Per- sons	Prem- ises	Fami- lies	Per- sons
<i>Overcrowding abated:</i>									
Rehoused by L.C.C.	150	187	803	142	163	727	66	87	362
Rehoused by Borough Council	18	23	88	7	8	9	13	16	73
Rehoused by other Boroughs ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rehoused by owners	2	2	8	1	1	5	2	3	18
Moved away	33	41	190	9	10	53	—	—	—
Found own accommodation				4	10	30	3	6	18
Familles reduced in size owing to death, etc.	4	4	25	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases reported but later found to be not overcrowded ..	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	—	—
Total	207	257	1,114	164	193	827	84	112	471

The housing shortage has made it imperative to adopt the most stringent standards in recommending only the most serious of medical cases, with the result that in 1950 fewer cases were recommended on medical grounds, although there was an increase in the number of medical applications that year. In 1951, however, despite these standards and the smaller total number of applications for rehousing which came to the Department, it was found that there were even more cases than in the previous year which warranted medical recommendations for preferential rehousing.

Whilst the Borough Council rehoused many more overcrowded and medical cases in 1951 than in the previous year, the numbers of both types of cases who found other accommodation through the L.C.C. and other sources were considerably fewer than in 1950.

	1948	1949	1950	1951
Cases investigated on medical, overcrowding and sanitary grounds ..	1,450	1,669	2,156	1,509
No. of visits involved	1,814	2,298	2,587	1,792

<i>Recommendations.</i>	1948	1949	1950	1951
Cases recommended to L.C.C. on grounds of Tuberculosis	136	51	47	54
Cases recommended to L.C.C. on other medical grounds	69	101	40	43
Cases recommended to Southwark Borough Council on medical grounds	92	107	100	113
Total cases recommended ..	297	259	187	210

<i>Rehoused.</i>	1948	1949	1950	1951
Cases rehoused by L.C.C. on grounds of Tuberculosis	49	43	32	16
Cases rehoused by L.C.C. on other medical grounds	28	48	34	21
Cases rehoused by Southwark Borough Council on grounds of Tuberculosis	4	—	2	1
Cases rehoused by Southwark Borough Council on other medical grounds ..	22	24	31	28
Cases rehoused by other authorities on grounds of Tuberculosis	—	—	1	—
Total cases rehoused	103	115	100	66

No. of Dwellings in Borough 24,571

1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses:—*

- (1) (a) Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 6,431
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 15,766
- (2) (a) Number of dwellings (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 279
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 1,538
- (3) Number of dwellings found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 27
- (4) Number of dwellings (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 2,702

2. *Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices:—*

Number of defective dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its officers 2,432

The detention period authorised under this new Act is limited to three weeks, and any extension necessary has to be made in accordance with the provisions of the 1948 Act.

Burial of the Dead.

During the year the Council arranged for twenty-eight burials under Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, at a total cost of £234 8s. 5d.

Mortuary

Post-mortems without Inquest	1,213
Post-mortems with Inquest	199
Inquests without Post-mortems	18
Inquests, Post-mortems held elsewhere	34
Bodies brought in for convenience	—
Infectious disease deaths	—
	<hr/>
	1,464
	<hr/>

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