

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

Contributors

Southwark (London, England). Metropolitan Borough.
Stott, William.

Publication/Creation

[1953?]

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METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK



Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE YEAR
1952

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

Medical Officer of Health



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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 1952.

During the year under review the health of the Borough remained satisfactory. There were no alarming outbreaks of infectious diseases; in fact, there was a reduction of this type of case by almost a thousand cases as compared with the year 1951. In spite of this great diminution of the infectious diseases, statistics unfortunately show an increase of the infant mortality rate by as much as ten per thousand births. The principal causes of this rise in infant deaths are due to a considerable increase in the deaths from congenital malformations and pneumonia.

The most alarming experience of the year was the week of fog experienced in the early part of December. During this week deaths were treble their usual number and it is due to this fact that the general death rate for the year was higher than usual. The after effects of the fog remained with us for several weeks after its dispersal. I reported fully to the Health Committee at the time and there is also a reference to it in the body of the Report. I would like to add, however, that so long as we persist in 'keeping the home fires burning' with soft bituminous coal the danger of a similar occurrence is ever with us.

The work of the Department during the year was very heavy as the figures in this Report indicate. Some of this increase was due to the renewed activity of the Council of its powers and duties under the Housing Act, particularly that in connection with the clearance of old and out-dated property of which there still remains much in the Borough.

Once more I wish to thank the members of the Council for their consideration and understanding, the staff of the Public Health Department, 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, 1952).

Chairman—J. J. SHEEN.

Aldermen:

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

Councillors:

A. E. BARNES, E. BARTLETT, J. BOOKER, C. CARLEY, Mrs. G. CHARLES,
F. W. COMBES (*Ex-officio*), Mrs. C. CLUNN, G. DARVELL, F. G.
ELLISON, K. FARROW, J. HARBOR, Mrs. M. HODGES, J. KEEN, D. LOW
(*Ex-officio*), Mrs. G. LUETCHFORD, J. PRENDERGAST, H. RAY, E. RIDGE,
H. STILLMAN, Mrs. G. STYLES, Mrs. M. WRIGHT.

Ex-Officio: Miss F. STROUD, J.P.—*Mayor*.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFICERS, 1952.

Medical Officer of Health:

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

SANITARY INSPECTORS:

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

H. ARCHER.

District Inspectors:

BIGGINS, W. (to February 17th); BISHOP, R. (Temporary, from June 23rd); CLIFFORD, G.; FINDLEY, J. (Temporary); GILES, H.; GOURLEY, Miss G.; HEATH, D. (to September 30th); LLOYD, T. (from April 17th); MURPHY, W. (from February 14th); STEELE, H.; SYMS, J. (to April 16th, Temporary, from December 15th); WARBOYS, R.; WORDEN, R. (Temporary, April 10th to August 21st).

Food Inspectors:

JOHNSON, A.; STUBBS, G.

Housing Act Inspectors:

ADAMSON, E.; MERCER, B. (to June 2nd); SMITH, J. (from August 18th).

Rodent Investigators and Assistant to Sanitary Inspectors:

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

CLERICAL STAFF:

Senior Clerk:

E. A. CLARK.

Infectious Diseases:

MARSDEN-WEBB, G.

Housing:

STRIPP, D. (to March 19th); ASHFORD, F. (from March 31st).

Sanitary Records:

CASS, Miss W.; DAVIES, E.; MURPHY, W. (to February 14th);
ROBERTSON, J.; STEVENS, R.

Shorthand Typist:

GILL, C.; PERRY, J. (Temporary, from March 31st).

General:

JENKINS, E. (to February 11th); JOHN, D. (to June 23rd); KNIGHT, D. (from June 23rd); LAWS, Miss M. (from April 7th); POTTER, R. (from July 7th).

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 1952 was only 40, and although the population is now higher than at any time since 1940 the increase during the current year was the lowest since then.

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

The birth-rate continued to fall, but there was again an increase in the death-rate. There was a decline in the still-birth rate but the infant death-rate was the highest since 1949.

AREA	1,132 acres
ESTIMATED NUMBER OF DWELLINGS (April, 1953) ..	24,690
RATEABLE VALUE—(Approximate)	£410,279

POPULATION:

Registrar General's estimate (mid-1952), including members of Armed Forces stationed in area ..	97,970
Estimated population, 1951 (mid-year)	97,930
Census, 1951	97,191

	1952	1951
LIVE BIRTH RATE per 1,000 population	17.6	18.04
Adjusted by comparability factor	17.2	17.8
STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 total Births	21.4	23.2
DEATH RATE per 1,000 population	14.0	13.5
Adjusted by comparability factor	14.1	13.6
MATERNAL DEATH RATE per 1,000 live and still births	0.5	1.6

INFANT DEATH RATE:

All infants per 1,000 live births	28.9	18.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live legitimate births	27.8	18.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births	34.4	18.6

<i>Estimated Population</i>	<i>Crude</i>		<i>Infant Death Rate</i>			<i>Still Birth Rate</i>
	<i>Birth Rate</i>	<i>Death Rate</i>	<i>Legiti- mate</i>	<i>Illegiti- mate</i>	<i>Total</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
1952 97,970	17.6	14.0	28	34	29	21.4

	<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									
1951	852	808	1,660	56	51	107	908	859	1,767
1952	845	769	1,614	69	47	116	914	816	1,730
Still Births									
1951	17	19	36	4	2	6	21	21	42
1952	14	23	37	—	1	1	14	24	38
Infant deaths (under 1 year)									
1951	17	14	31	2	—	2	19	14	33
1952	25	20	45	2	2	4	27	22	49

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 1952</i>	<i>Total 1951</i>
Males ..	27	3	1	51	200	460	742	722
Females	22	3	—	32	102	476	635	602
	49	6	1	83	302	936	1,377	1,324
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS

Causes of Death	Total Deaths 1951	Total Deaths 1952	Age Groups 1952:—							
			0—	1—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—
All causes—Males, Females										
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	32	45	—	—	—	2	13	19	6	5
Tuberculosis—other forms	7	4	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	9	8	—	—	—	—	1	3	4	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic diseases ..	2	4	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
Malignant neoplasm stomach	44	44	—	—	—	—	2	17	15	10
" " lung, bronchus	49	51	—	—	—	—	1	26	18	6
" " breast	12	19	—	—	—	—	—	11	6	2
" " uterus	6	3	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	125	92	—	—	—	—	3	27	23	39
Leukaemia, Aleukemia	1	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Diabetes	11	11	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	122	145	—	—	—	1	5	20	46	73
Coronary disease, angina	98	122	—	—	—	1	5	28	46	42

Classification of Deaths (continued)

Causes of Death	Total Deaths 1951	Total Deaths 1952	Age Groups 1952:—							
All causes—Males, Females			0—	1—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—
Hypertension with Heart disease ..	56	26	—	—	—	—	—	4	10	12
Other Heart disease	235	233	—	—	—	1	10	22	47	153
Other Circulatory disease	46	102	—	—	—	—	2	23	26	51
Influenza	31	11	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	6
Pneumonia	89	89	8	3	—	—	4	16	20	38
Bronchitis	156	171	2	1	—	—	2	40	52	74
Other diseases of Respiratory system ..	8	11	—	—	—	—	3	4	1	3
Ulcer of the Stomach and Duodenum ..	17	17	—	—	—	—	2	5	6	4
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	5	6	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	13	8	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	7	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ..	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Congenital Malformations	11	14	12	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	89	88	21	—	1	2	3	14	15	32
Motor Vehicle Accidents	7	6	—	—	—	3	1	1	—	1
All other accidents	23	23	1	1	—	—	2	5	8	6
Suicide	9	11	—	—	—	1	1	4	3	2
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	1,324	1,377	49	6	1	12	71	302	368	568

Infant Mortality.

The total number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 49, the causes of death being as follows:

Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	4
Meningococcal Infections	1
Pneumonia	8
Bronchitis	2
Congenital malformations	12
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	21
All accidents, other than by motor vehicle ..	1
Total deaths under 1 year of age	<hr/> 49 <hr/>

Maternal Mortality.

One maternal death was recorded during the year.

Infectious Diseases

The final figures of corrected diagnoses of Infectious Diseases in the Borough during 1952 were only about two-thirds of the previous year's totals.

Substantial decreases will be noted in Dysentery, Measles and Whooping Cough, but in comparison with 1951, the current cases of Food Poisoning, Poliomyelitis, Pneumonia, Scabies and Scarlet Fever show an appreciable increase. There were four cases of Diphtheria, the highest since 1949; these all occurred together in an L.C.C. institution.

There was very little change in the number of Tuberculosis notifications.

Whilst the deaths from pneumonia were exactly the same as for 1951, those from Influenza were fewer; in both cases they were mostly in the over-45 age groups. There was an increase in respiratory Tuberculosis deaths, the majority being in the 45-64 age groups.

Only one other death from defined notifiable infectious diseases occurred, that of a baby from meningococcal infection.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

There was again an increase in these notifications. Of the 30 cases, 27 developed the infection in hospitals subsequent to admission for confinement; the remaining 3 cases were in home confinements.

CANCER OF LUNG AND BRONCHUS

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
1952 ..	51	45	1377

The highest mortality rate from both neoplasms of the lung and bronchus and also tuberculosis occurred in the 45 to 64 age group.

TUBERCULOSIS

The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, revoked and replaced the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, which became outdated and at variance with the present structure and operation of the tuberculosis services. The requirement regarding notification itself remains, in effect, unaltered, and the Minister of Health has emphasised the need for the closest co-operation between sanitary authorities, welfare authorities and the regional hospital boards.

PUBLIC HEALTH (AIRCRAFT) REGULATIONS, 1952

These Regulations superseded the 1950 Regulations, and were made in conformity with International Sanitary Regulations adopted by the Fourth World Health Assembly in May, 1951, for the sanitary control of aircraft arriving at or leaving aerodromes in England and Wales.

IMMUNISATION

There was again a substantial increase in Diphtheria Immunisation during 1952, particularly for children over five and the 'booster' injections.

The number of Whooping Cough immunisations was also considerably more than for the previous year.

Immunisation completed	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Confirmed diagnoses of previously Immunised cases	
			Whooping Cough	Diphtheria
Under 5 years of age	724	1,359	11	1
Over 5 years of age	3	114	9	2
Booster injections	—	666	—	—
	—	—	—	—
Total ..	727	2,139	20	3
	—	—	—	—
		Total 2,866		Total 23

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

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

DISEASE	Cases notified	Rem. to Hospital	CONFIRMED DIAGNOSES Age Groups:—1952														
			Total 1952	Total 1951	0—	1—	3—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	13	13	4	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	58	37	38	191	3	13	9	9	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1
Encephalitis:																	
Infective	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post infectious	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	18	5	18	12	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	4	4	3	1	3
Food Poisoning:																	
Bacterial	21	11	17	5	3	3	3	2	—	1	1	3	—	1	—	—	—
Toxic			3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Malaria	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	994	113	994	1,790	36	267	255	420	6	5	3	1	1	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal																	
Infection	9	9	5	5	2	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum	10	7	10	4	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Infectious Diseases (continued)

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

DISEASE	Cases notified	Rem. to Hospital	CONFIRMED DIAGNOSES Age Groups:—1952														
			Total 1952	Total 1951	0—	1—	3—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—
Pneumonia ..	58	7	58	40	1	3	8	13	1	—	4	6	7	7	2	5	1
Poliomyelitis:																	
Paralytic ..	5	4	4	3	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
† Non-paralytic ..	3	3	4	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	30	28	30	23	—	—	—	—	—	2	12	13	3	—	—	—	—
Scabies ..	34	—	34	14	1	—	2	2	2	1	6	6	1	1	—	2	10
Scarlet Fever ..	311	54	292	143	—	25	74	162	20	8	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough..	178	39	177	289	30	55	42	49	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Zymotic Enteritis	9	9	7	7	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	1,753	340	1,696	2,532	86	374	399	662	33	19	28	33	17	16	6	8	15

*Notifiable from July to September only.

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

TUBERCULOSIS

There was a very slight increase in Tuberculosis notifications during 1952, and although the number of cases removed from the Register was fewer, the deaths during the year showed some increase.

		Age Groups											Total
		0-	1-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	Total
PULMONARY:													
Primary	M.	-	6	3	2	7	5	20	14	21	10	11	99
Notifica-	F.	-	3	1	1	13	12	22	9	5	-	-	66
tions													
New cases	M.	-	1	-	2	2	5	10	3	7	4	3	37
other than	F.	-	1	1	-	-	9	12	3	-	1	-	27
by formal													
notification													
Totals 1951	..	1	7	5	6	15	36	46	32	35	26	14	223
1952	..	-	11	5	5	22	31	64	29	33	15	14	229
NON-PULMONARY													
Primary	M.	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	1	9
Notifica-	F.	-	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	-	-	11
tions													
New cases	M.	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3
other than	F.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
by formal													
notification													
Totals 1951	..	1	5	3	2	2	1	3	2	-	1	-	20
1952	..	-	1	4	3	2	2	4	3	4	-	2	25

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Cases on Register, end of 1951 ..	1,202	191
Notified cases, 1952 (including transfers, posthumous and primary notifications)	229	25
Cases removed from Register during 1952	165	13
Cases remaining at end of 1952 ..	1,266	203

Treatment and Bathing Centre

There was a slight decrease in the number of verminous persons treated during the year, and the majority of the treatments were for head-lice. Body-lice infestations were, with few exceptions, confined to aged persons and some vagrants. This fact may well be indicative of the general higher standards of living. Aged and infirm people who might have required cleansing were visited at regular intervals and conveyed to the Centre for treatment when necessary.

Pubic lice infestations commonly occurred only to adult male persons, but some instances of this form of infestation were observed on children's hair and eyebrows.

The somewhat higher figure for the treatment of premises with various forms of insect vermin infestations is understandable, in view of the early warm summer, and the fact that, in general, the public now realise that with the availability of modern means of disinfection, such infestations need not be endured.

The higher number of infectious disease enquiries and visits was due mainly to the increase in Scarlet Fever notifications, many of which were nursed at home. In addition, disinfection of premises was offered to the occupants in every case of the removal to hospital or the death of a Tuberculosis sufferer.

24 demonstrations, attended by 153 students, were held at the Centre during the year. Those attending were mostly student nurses and medical students.

A considerable amount of work was carried out in connection with burials under the National Assistance Act. The goods and effects of such cases are collected, disinfected and stored at the Centre prior to arrangements made for their removal.

In addition to the above, the functions of the Centre include disinfection and disinfestation of trade goods, and bedding, etc., in connection with the Councils' rehousing scheme; and also departmental laundry.

Infectious Disease Cases: Enquiries and Visits.

Total—525 as under:

Tuberculosis deaths and removals: 36

Scarlet Fever	312	Food Poisoning	10
Diphtheria	8	Erysipelas	17
Poliomyelitis	22	Dysentery	34
Paratyphoid	2	Meningococcal infections	15

Special fog death enquiries: 53

Other investigations: 16

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	109	44	8	3
Pallliasses	418	46	107	7
Bolsters	151	14	13	3
Pillows	612	40	179	6
Cushions	76	12	6	—
Blankets	1,261	5	267	—
Sheets	477	4	106	—
Quilts	492	—	35	—
Pieces	14,951	51	196	—

Scabies and Vermin Treatments.

	<i>Scabies</i>		<i>Vermin</i>	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Lambeth cases	19	18	71	185
treatments	33	50	73	191
Southwark cases	26	52	905	309
treatments	43	105	905	309
L.C.C. Schoolchildren (Male and Female)	91		1,595	
treatments	329		2,559	
Total treatments	560		4,037	

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

<i>Males:</i>		<i>Females:</i>	
Salvation Army Hostel ..	339	83, Blackfriars Road ..	35
Rowton House, Church-yard Row	195	78, Camberwell Road ..	16
Rowton House, Vauxhall ..	42	Cecil House	11
Marshalsea Road Common Lodging House ..	18	Elizabeth Baxter Hostel ..	1
Hungerford Club ..	25	Hungerford Club ..	7
Southwark casuals ..	295	90, Camberwell Road ..	2
		Southwark casuals ..	1
Totals	914		73

Analysis of work carried out during the year.

Verminous premises Sprayed (D.D.T.) ..	2,324 domestic rooms. 45 non-domestic premises.
Verminous Household Goods Destroyed ..	12 tons 17 cwts.
Infected Rooms Sprayed (Formaldehyde)	344.
Infected Household Goods Destroyed ..	2 cwts.
Hospital Wards disinfected	43.
Common Lodging Houses disinfested ..	132 rooms.
Rooms disinfected by request (Tuberculosis, Measles, Cancer deaths, etc.) ..	75.
Trade goods disinfected (steam)	250 sacks, 1 settee, 2 arm-chairs.
Library books disinfected	212.
Departmental laundry	4,699 towels, 769 swab and dusters, 9 sheets
Council's Rehousing (Disinfection of bedding, etc.)	115 families.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Whilst the number of complaints of sanitary nuisances was more or less the same as last year, there was a substantial increase in the total number of inspections made.

This was particularly the case in connection with food and food premises, and decreases in the number of drainage and rehousing visits were more than offset by a much higher number of revisits. The total figures show nearly 1,000 more inspections than in 1951.

Fewer intimation notices were issued, but 432 more statutory notices were served than in 1951, and 192 more complied with.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

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

Inspections upon receipt of complaint	4,322
Drainage and miscellaneous inspections	1,972
Inspection of Factories	266
Inspection of Outworkers	130
Inspection of Common Lodging Houses	45
Rehousing visits	1,342
Smoke Observations	122
Rodent visits (Sanitary Inspectors), Industrial premises ..	144
" " " " " Dwellings	152
Inspection of Slaughterhouses	4
Inspection of Offensive Trades Premises	16
Inspection and food sampling visits, shops and markets ..	1,969
Inspection and sampling visits, Catering and Ice Cream Premises	2,043
Inspection of food at Wharves and Warehouses	2,413
Visits to Bakehouses	127
Visits to Fried Fish Shops	34
Visits to Fishmongers premises	19
Revisits	9,053
Miscellaneous	513
Pet Animals Act and Sunday Market Inspections	221

NOTICES

Intimation Notices	2,516
Statutory Notices	1,509
Defects in Council controlled property reported to Housing Manager.. .. .	89
Intimation Notices complied with	1,112
Statutory Notices complied with	1,191

RENT & MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTIONS ACTS, 1920-1939

Thirty 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-five inspections of these premises were made by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year, 6 of men's lodging houses and 39 of women's. 6 Intimation notices were served in respect of Women's Common Lodging Houses, of which 5 have been complied with.

HYDROGEN CYANIDE (FUMIGATION) ACT, 1937

The Hydrogen Cyanide (Fumigation of Buildings) Regulations No. 1759-1951) replaced those made in 1938 under the Act, with corresponding regulations governing the fumigation of ships, Hydrogen Cyanide (Fumigation of Ships) Regulations No. 1760-1951.

HOSTEL BY-LAWS

Early in the year it was suggested that consideration should be given to the making of by-laws under Section 155 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, relating to hostels in the Borough. These would simplify the inspection of certain premises being used as hostels.

A hostel was defined as premises other than a common lodging house as interpreted under section 235 of the Public Health Act, 1936, where sleeping accommodation with or without meals is provided for six or more lodgers not of the same family, who occupy common sleeping rooms.

The by-laws made provision for inspections, sleeping accommodation, cleansing and ventilation, and sanitary arrangements, and after approval by the Minister of Housing and Local Government came into effect on 1st October, 1952.

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. In two cases the cause was a dirty storage tank, and discolouration due to disturbance of the mains; the third sample was 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 454 new dwellings as follows:—

BARRETT HOUSE, BROWNING ESTATE	20 flats.
JESSON HOUSE, ORB STREET	45 ..
PENROSE HOUSE, PENROSE STREET	138 ..
COOKS ROAD, 101A-F AND 103 A-F	12 ..
SELBOURNE HOUSE, GREAT DOVER STREET	47 ..
SHERE HOUSE, GREAT DOVER STREET.. .. .	47 ..
STANDARD FLATS, EAST STREET, 184A-F AND 218A-F	12 ..
STANDARD FLATS, CHATTERIS ROAD, 30-32-34-36-38-40	6 ..
STANDARD FLATS, PELIER STREET, 2A-F AND 4A-F.. .. .	12 ..
HALLING HOUSE, LONG LANE, 1-12	12 ..
SUMNER BUILDINGS, SUMNER STREET, 11-30 CONS.	20 ..
HILLINGDON STREET, 1-11 (ODD)	6 ..
HILLINGDON STREET, 70A-F AND 72A-F	12 ..
PENROSE HOUSE, 139 TO 150	12 ..
BRENLEY HOUSE, LONG LANE, 1-40	40 ..
BITTERN HOUSE, GREAT DOVER STREET	1 ..
SHARSTED STREET FLATS	12 ..
	454

Public Health (London) Act, 1936 - Section 98

During the year 42 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 & Others</i>	<i>Total</i>
I. Total properties	30	24,690	4,790	29,510
II. Properties inspected as a result of:—				
(a) Notification	—	1,631	612	2,243
(b) Otherwise	4	786	334	1,124
III. Number of properties (under II) infested by rats:				
Major	1	—	—	1
Minor	3	459	586	1,048
IV. Number of properties (under II) seriously infested by mice	—	880	86	966
V. Number of infested properties (III and IV) treated by local authority ..	4	1,339	672	2,015
VI. Notices served under Sec. 4:—				
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural, i.e., proofing	—	—	—	—
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	51	—	—	—

	<i>Domestic</i>	<i>Business</i>
Visits by Sanitary Inspectors	868	133
Visits by Rodent Staff	8,526	3,513
Drains tested	413	130
Drains defective	102	35
Drains repaired	73	15
Drains opened for examination	55	14
Prebaiting laid	7,580	49,288
Poison baits	16,124	7,010
Bodies recovered	310	300
Works completed by arrangement	31	8

Two maintenance treatments were carried out in May and November at approximately 820 manholes on each treatment.

OUTWORKERS

One hundred and thirty 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.	..	..	..	23
	{ 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	..	..	..	..	1
Nets, other than wire nets	..	..	..	..	—
Tents	..	..	..	..	—
Sacks	..	..	..	..	—
Racquets and tennis balls	..	..	..	..	1
Paper bags	..	..	..	..	2
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	..	..	..	..	8
Brush making	..	..	..	..	1
Pea picking	..	..	..	..	—
Feather sorting	..	..	..	..	1
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.	..	..	..	..	2
Stuffed toys	..	..	..	..	1
Basket making	..	..	..	..	—
Chocolates and sweetmeats	..	..	..	..	—
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas Stockings, etc.	..	..	..	..	—
Textile weaving	..	..	..	..	—
Lampshades	..	..	..	..	2
TOTAL	..	..	..	..	43

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are two premises engaged in offensive trades in the Borough as follows:—Fur Dresser, 1—Tripe Boiler, 1.

During 1952, 16 inspections were made.

FACTORIES

Two hundred and sixty-six inspections of Factories were made during the year, and 53 notices were served. There are now 894 factories of all types on the register, comprising 233 factories without mechanical power, and 661 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	233	40	9	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	661	226	44	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	894	266	53	—

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)	22	21	—	5	—
Overcrowding (S2)	—	1	—	1	—
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	13	15	—	3	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S7) ..					
(a) insufficient	4	5	—	4	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ..	19	15	—	12	—
(c) not separate for sexes ..	1	1	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	37	54	—	17	—
Total	96	112	—	43	—

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Under this Act, which came into operation in 1952, local authorities are responsible for issuing licences to persons for keeping pet shops, and for the inspection of premises so licensed to ascertain whether the requirements are complied with.

The Act includes requirements as to the suitability of the accommodation; the adequate supply of suitable food and drink for animals; that mammals are not to be sold at too early an age; and for reasonable precautions against fire and spread of infectious diseases amongst animals.

It is also an offence to sell animals as pets in any part of the street or public place except at a stall or barrow in a market, or to children under twelve years of age.

The Metropolitan Boroughs' Standing Joint Committee recommended conditions to be applied to all licences issued.

Of twenty-two applications received, seventeen were found to be satisfactory, and accordingly registered under the Act.

221 Inspections were made during the year.

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 old Bankside Generating Station. There has been considerable correspondence and interviews with the British Electricity Authority, who still consider that the cost of fitting grit arresters would not be justified.

In May, 1952, there was a discussion at the Town Hall on the comprehensive report prepared by the Fuel Research Station on the problem. The representatives of the British Electricity Authority stated that the use of the old station had been reduced and the Authority were desirous of discontinuing the use of the station as soon as possible, as the plant was uneconomic. It was hoped that the first unit of the new power station would be in operation before the end of 1952, and a further unit by the middle of next year. This would mean a rapid reduction in the use of the old plant. It was estimated there would be four months' use in the winter of 1952-53, and about two months during the following winter, subject to normal weather conditions. Whilst it was proposed to keep the old station available until 1956, the "use factor" would be exceedingly small. The Authority submitted that the installation of grit arresters at this time would be a waste of money. They would, however, make every endeavour to minimise the nuisance.

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

1952		Walworth Road	Bankside				
January	.. ..	21.4	151.6	tons	per	sq.	mile.
February	.. ..	23.0	98.1	..	..	..	..
March	.. ..	28.2	51.4	..	..	..	..
April..	.. ..	16.2	48.9	..	..	..	..
May ..	.. ..	17.9	28.7	..	..	..	..
June ..	.. ..	15.6	63.7	..	..	..	..
July ..	.. ..	9.9	38.5	..	..	..	..
August	.. ..	16.0	42.4	..	..	..	..
September	.. ..	18.2	66.7	..	..	..	..
October	.. ..	24.4	67.9	..	..	..	..
November	.. ..	24.8	42.7	..	..	..	..
December	.. ..	24.9	192.4	..	..	..	..

During the year seven complaints were received regarding smoke emissions in the Borough, and 122 observations and visits were made by the Inspector.

FOG.

In December London experienced a very severe fog. It commenced and gradually became worse on Friday, 4th December, lifted somewhat on the 7th, but returned the next day.

The peculiar atmospheric conditions prevailing at the time appeared to be similar to those which occurred in the Meuse Valley in December, 1930, and Donora, Penn., U.S.A., in October, 1948, and which were entirely due to atmospheric pollution; they were responsible for a large amount of respiratory illnesses and many deaths of the people living in these particular valleys.

By the time the fog had abated there was a heavy incidence of respiratory illness and mortality amongst those suffering from chest and heart troubles, particularly older people.

The total deaths in the Borough from Influenza, Pneumonia, Bronchitis and other respiratory diseases for the two weeks from December 6th to 20th were 95, as compared with 76 from the same causes for the three months' period from November, 1951, to January, 1952. Whilst some of the persons who died had previous histories of respiratory disorders, others died suddenly in their sleep without previous illness.

The atmospheric pollution at the time was so heavy our instruments were incapable of measuring the quantity.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

During the year twelve samples were taken and submitted to the prescribed Analyst, Mr. John Hudson, M.A., F.C.S., Chiltern Research Laboratories, Ltd., High Wycombe. Two of these samples did not comply with the requirements of the

Regulations, and cautionary letters were sent to the manufacturers.

Nine premises are registered for the use of filling materials, and one licensed for manufacture or storage of Rag Flock. One licence was discontinued.

HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS.

The Metropolitan Boroughs' Standing Joint Committee was requested to consider whether barbers' shops and hairdressing establishments should be subject to registration, and the cleanliness of premises, instruments, towels, materials and equipment, and of persons employed, should be made the subject of by-laws.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORKS COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR

House drain addition or reconstruction	..	..	..	2
Drains repaired	..	..	..	137
Drains unstopped	..	..	..	147
W.C. pan and seats repaired or renewed	..	..	..	166
Flushing apparatus repaired or renewed	..	..	..	116
Soil pipes repaired or renewed	..	..	..	4
Soil pipes provided	..	..	..	1
Vent pipes provided	..	..	..	7
Taps fixed on rising main	..	..	..	5
Sinks provided	..	..	..	45
Waste pipes provided	..	..	..	22
Waste pipes repaired	..	..	..	71
Yards paved, repaired or drained	..	..	..	47
Dustbins provided	..	..	..	101
Accumulation of filth, etc., removed	..	..	..	69
Roofs and gutters repaired	..	..	..	821
Rain water pipes repaired or renewed	..	..	..	113
Dwellings provided with water	..	..	..	213
Dampness remedied	..	..	..	809
Window frames, sashes and glazing repaired	..	..	..	193
Cills and reveals repaired	..	..	..	83
Sashcords renewed	..	..	..	283
Fireplaces and flues repaired	..	..	..	349
Floors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	208
Brickwork and pointing repaired	..	..	..	55
Staircases repaired	..	..	..	21
Rooms cleansed	..	..	..	1,180
Walls and ceilings repaired	..	..	..	1,524
Other sanitary works executed	..	..	..	287
TOTAL	..	..	..	7,079

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>	
158, Westmoreland Road ..	Summons withdrawn.	£2 2s. costs.
29, Runham Street ..	Summons withdrawn.	£1 1s. costs.
21, Blackwood Street ..	Summons withdrawn.	£1 1s. costs.
143, Lorrimore Road ..	Adjourned <i>sine die</i> .	
58, Darwin Street ..	Summons withdrawn.	£1 1s. costs.
158, Westmoreland Road ..	Adjourned <i>sine die</i> .	
2, Park Street Dwellings ..	Closing Order made.	
68, Darwin Street ..	Summons withdrawn.	£1 1s. costs.
21, Blackwood Street ..	Nuisance Order 28 days.	
8, Heiron Street ..	Nuisance Order 28 days.	£3 3s. costs.
131, Kennington Park Road ..	Adjourned <i>sine die</i> .	£1 10s. costs.
129, Kennington Park Road ..	Nuisance Order 21 days	£1 1s. costs.
126, John Ruskin Street ..	Nuisance Order 21 days	£2 2s. costs.
25, Runham Street ..	Summons withdrawn.	£1 1s. costs.
25, Runham Street ..	Summons withdrawn.	£1 1s. costs.
2A, Alvey House ..	Summons withdrawn.	£1 1s. costs.

Food

THE INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

During the year, 2,878 tons, 12 cwts., 15 lbs. of food were examined in detail at wharves, warehouses, shops, etc., in the Borough.

Of this amount, 235 tons, 2 cwts, 1 qtr., 25lbs. were found to be unfit for human consumption, and were disposed of as follows:—

Destroyed—117 tons 3 cwts. 9 lbs.

comprising mainly—

23 tons puree, pulp and fruit juices.	2 tons poultry.
11 tons cooked hams.	8 tons tinned vegetables.
4 tons confectionery.	2 tons dried fruit.
1 ton vegetables.	1½ tons offal.
10 tons meat products.	1¼ tons meat.
4 tons tinned fish.	1¼ tons bacon.
44 tons tinned fruit.	1 ton tinned meat.
1 ton tinned soup.	1 ton preserves.
Inspected at shops, etc. ..	5 tons 1 cwt. 3 qtrs. 21 lbs.
„ „ wharves and warehouses ..	112 tons 1 cwt. 16 lbs.

Released for Animal Feeding — 96 tons 8 cwts. 1 qtr. 24 lbs.

comprising mainly—

- 1 ton cooked hams.
- 10 tons cereals.
- 7 tons purees, pulp and fruit juices.
- 2 tons dried fruit.
- 6 tons preserves.

3 tons meat products.

5 tons confectionery.

1 ton tinned fruit.

60 tons tinned soup.

Inspected at shops, etc. .. 19 cwts. 8 lbs.

,, ,, wharves and

warehouses .. 95 tons 9 cwts. 1 qtr. 16 lbs.

Released for Technical Purposes—15 tons 11 cwts. 2 qtrs. 12 lbs.

comprising mainly—

6½ tons bacon. 13 cwts tinned fruit.

8 tons meat. 6 cwts cereals.

Inspected at shops, etc. .. 1 cwt. 2 qtrs. 24 lbs.

,, ,, wharves and

warehouses .. 15 tons 9 cwts. 3 qtrs. 16 lbs.

Released for Food Manufacturing Purposes—5 tons 19 cwts.

1 qtr. 8 lbs.

comprising mainly—

1 ton tinned fish.

1 ton fruit.

1½ tons tinned milk.

2 tons confectionery.

Inspected at wharves and

warehouses .. 5 tons 19 cwts. 1 qtr. 8 lbs.

LIQUEUR CHOCOLATES

The Ministry of Food, as a result of the successful prosecution of a manufacturer of "liqueur chocolates," has been in consultation with Associations representing chocolate and sugar confectionery manufacturers concerning the description to be applied to products containing a non-spirituous flavoured syrup. It has been agreed that they should in future be described as "Imitation liqueur chocolates (non-alcoholic)." The Ministry suggested that food and drug authorities should allow a reasonable time to elapse before considering proceedings in respect of samples that may be found in their area still bearing the old description of "liqueur chocolates."

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1952

These Regulations provide for a third method of heat treatment of ice cream mixture as alternative to the two existing methods prescribed by the 1947-51 Regulations.

ICE CREAM

There are 182 ice-cream dealers and 22 manufacturers in this Borough, an increase of 12 dealers, and a decrease of 5 manufacturers since last year. Most of the dealers sold only pre-packed ice-cream, obtained from the large manufacturers.

During the year 69 samples of ice-cream were taken with the following results:—

- 35 samples, Grade I.
- 15 samples, Grade II.
- 9 samples, Grade III.
- 10 samples, Grade IV.

In addition:

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

Periodical visits were made to all premises. A "Code of Standards" was sent to each new dealer and inspections were carried out before the registration of any new premises to ensure that they were satisfactory and all requirements fully understood.

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, special investigations were made at the premises in an effort to detect some fault which may have caused the unsatisfactory gradings.

FOOD STANDARDS (ICE-CREAM) (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1952

This Order came into operation in July, 1952; it amends the Food Standards (Ice-Cream) Order, 1951, and reduces, from 7th July, 1952, the minimum quantity of fat and milk solids other than fat required to be contained in ice-cream.

The modified standard became necessary in order to avoid a reduction in the supply of ice-cream, as owing to shortages milk powder and fats could not be allocated to ice-cream manufacturers at the same rate as in 1951.

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.

135 Dealers' Licences for Sterilised Milk.

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

Forty-eight 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 164 registered milk distributors in the Borough, whilst the number of distributors purveying milk in the Borough from registered premises elsewhere was 21. 343 Inspections of Milkshops and Dairies were made during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH (CONDENSED MILK)

REGULATIONS, 1923 and 1947

Thirteen samples of condensed milk were purchased for analysis under the above regulations. They were all certified by the Public Analyst to comply with the said regulations.

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 445 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 31 Bakehouses in use in Southwark, of which 8 were underground.

During the year Basement Bakehouses at 21 Ontario Street and 304 Old Kent Road were closed by the occupiers.

127 visits were made by the Inspector.

BY-LAWS FOR THE PROTECTION OF FOOD

New by-laws were made by the London County Council under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food sold or intended for sale for human consumption, and in connection with the sale or exposure for sale in the open air of food intended for human consumption.

The new by-laws came into operation on the 3rd November, 1952, on which date the by-laws made by the London County Council under Section 6 of the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1932, ceased to have effect.

FOOD STANDARDS (COFFEE MIXTURES) ORDER, 1952

This Order, prescribing a minimum coffee content for coffee and chicory mixtures and for coffee with fig flavour or fig seasoning, came into force in September, 1952, for all sales.

The minimum coffee content prescribed for coffee and chicory mixtures is the same as that maintained in the Coffee Order, 1951, until that Order was revoked on August 20th, 1952. The standard prescribed for coffee and fig mixtures is introduced for the first time.

The new Order also provided that coffee and chicory mixtures shall contain only coffee and chicory, and that coffee and fig mixtures shall contain only coffee and figs.

MINERAL OIL IN FOOD (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1952

This Order was amended by Statutory Instrument, 1952, No. 1822, so as to reduce the less amount of mineral oil that may be present in dried fruit from not more than 1 part per 100 parts by weight of dried fruit to not more than 0.5 parts per 100 parts by weight of dried fruit. Corresponding reductions were made as respects the mineral oil content of foods in which dried fruit has been used as an ingredient.

The Ministry explain that a satisfactory substitute for mineral oil for the surface treatment of dried fruit has not yet been found. Investigation into alternative methods of treatment is still proceeding, and it is hoped that it may be possible eventually to dispense with the need to use mineral oil for this purpose.

THE MEAT PRODUCTS No. 2 ORDER, 1952 THE MEAT PRODUCTS (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1952

This Order re-enacts with amendments the Meat Products Order, 1952, which replaced the Meat Products and Canned Meat (Control and Maximum Prices) Order, 1948, as amended. Among other things the Order prescribes a minimum meat content requirement for the majority of meat products.

The definition of "meat" for the purpose of the Order has been amended, and no longer includes poultry, game, rabbit, hare, venison or goats-flesh.

The restriction on the use of soya in the manufacture of sausages is removed; and milk powder and vegetable fat will no longer count as part of the meat content. It is, however, the Ministry's intention to provide sausage manufacturers with individual licences allowing milk powder to count as part of the meat content until their present stocks of milk powder are exhausted.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1952

These Regulations amend, from the 31st August, 1952, the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, as amended, so as to extend to horses, asses and mules the application of Part II of those Regulations which relate to slaughter-houses and the slaughter of cattle, swine, sheep and goats for sale for human consumption and requires, *inter alia*, not less than three hours' notice to the Council of intention to slaughter.

The Regulations should facilitate the inspection of meat intended for sale for human consumption derived from horses, asses and mules, and the prior notice of intention to slaughter such animals should be useful in the execution and enforcement of the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 and 1951.

FOOD STANDARDS (SUET) ORDER, 1952

This Order came into force in December, 1952, prescribing a standard for block suet and revising the standard for shredded suet. The standards require that the fat contained in both types of suet shall be refined beef fat only.

JELLIED VEAL.

Two separate consignments, each comprising 140 cases of imported Jellied Veal from Australia, were detained in cold store at New Hibernia Wharf, owing to a high percentage of blown tins. Samples submitted for bacteriological examination disclosed heavy contamination, and following further tests all blown and doubtful tins were surrendered for destruction, and the remainder freed. The Medical Officers of Health of the districts receiving the apparently sound tins were warned of our action.

PORK IN NATURAL JUICES.

A consignment of Pork in Natural Juices from Belgium was detained at Stamford Cold Store in August. Thirteen representative samples were submitted for bacteriological examination on three separate occasions; and the results showed that "the tins are not processed under conditions which ensure sterility, they are subject to spoilage at atmospheric temperature, and cannot be considered safe for human consumption unless the instructions to keep under refrigeration are rigidly carried out."

Almost half of the tins in the consignment were blown; eighteen appearing normal were taken from the remainder and kept at normal room temperature, and within 24 hours seventeen were blown. After discussions with representatives of the Importers and the Insurance Assessors the surrender of the whole consignment was accepted.

FOOD SAMPLING

During the year under review, 807 formal samples and 960 informal samples were submitted to the Public Analyst. Of these, 16 and 35 respectively revealed adulteration or other infringements, as follows:—

	Samples Examined.		Non-genuine Samples	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Milk	204	54	—	1
Condensed Milk	—	13	—	—
Ice Cream	—	27	—	2
Fats, cheese, etc... .. .	56	26	—	—
Meat and Fish preparations	89	143	2	6
Cake Mixtures, etc.	67	83	1	3
Cereal preparations	59	76	2	4
Vinegars and Non-Brewed Condi- ments	35	43	3	—
Herbs	38	49	2	—
Spices and Condiments	63	71	2	4
Pickles, Sauces, etc.	29	53	—	—
Jams and Preserves	13	8	—	1
Wines, Spirits and Ales	—	64	—	—
Soft Drinks	—	35	—	2
Drugs and Medicine preparations	47	87	4	6
Canned Fruit	17	13	—	2
Dried Fruit	14	33	—	—
Canned Vegetables	13	17	—	3
Custard Powders, Jellies, etc. .. .	29	33	—	1
Confectionery	23	19	—	—
Miscellaneous	11	13	—	—
Totals	807	960	16	35

SPANISH GRAPES.

On the 20th October, 1952, information was received from H.M. Customs, Grande Vitesse Depot, that 22,000 trays of Spanish Grapes had been imported, and some were coated with a white powder. Distribution of the majority had already taken place, but a check sample was taken and the Public Analyst reported on the 23rd October, 1952, as follows:—

- I. Grapes with adhering loose dust.
Arsenic—2 parts per million. Lead 16 parts per million.
- II. After thorough brushing to remove all loose dust, a film of adhering dust remaining.
Arsenic 1 part per million. Lead 9 parts per million.
- III. After washing with dilute acid and water.
Arsenic—nil. Lead 6 parts per million.

Immediate representations were made to the Importers, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Food, and Spanish Embassy. The grapes came from Almeira and the particular area concerned was Dallas. As a result of our representations grapes from the Dallas area were stopped at the Spanish frontier. One truck escaped this 'stop,' and on arrival in this country it was re-exported.

Formal Samples :

<i>No.</i>	<i>Sample of</i>	<i>Result.</i>	<i>Action taken.</i>
658	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine.	33 per cent. deficient in ammonia.	Caution.
761	Elixir of Ammoniated Quinine and Cinnamon.	8 per cent. deficient in ammonia. 16 per cent. deficient in quinine.	Caution.
777	Vinegar.	Consisted of "Non-brewed condiment."	Caution.
798	Pepper.	Contained 10 per cent. foreign starch.	Summons.
88	Pearl Barley.	Contained living acari, their ova and excreta.	Used for poultry food.
118	Non-brewed Condiment.	7.5 per cent. deficient in Acetic Acid.	Caution.
224	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine.	16.5 per cent. deficient in ammonia.	Caution.
301	Cayenne Pepper.	Of poor quality and probably partly exhausted.	Caution. (Old Stock).
306	Glauber Salts.	Completely effloresced.	Stock withdrawn
320	Pork Sausages.	20 per cent. deficient in meat.	Summons.
321	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine.	16 per cent. deficient in ammonia.	Caution.
325	Preserved Pork Sausages.	9 per cent. deficient in meat.	Caution.
376	Curry Powder.	Lead 15 parts per million.	Caution.
423	Vinegar.	30 per cent. deficient in acetic acid.	Caution.
428	Pearl Barley.	Contained acari.	Caution.
464	Sage.	Contained 10 per cent. of leaf of a species of Cistus.	Caution.

Informal Samples.

642a	Canned Cherries in Syrup.	Odour and taste of sulphuretted hydrogen.	No more in stock
655a	Tomato Paste. (Canned).	Copper 120 parts per million. Tin 3.2 grains to the pound.	Stock destroyed.

Informal Samples—*contd.*

<i>No.</i>	<i>Sample of</i>	<i>Result.</i>	<i>Action taken.</i>
663a	Pepper.	Contained 25 per cent. wheat flour.	No more in stock
695a	Pork Sausages.	24 per cent. deficient in meat.	Formal sample satisfactory.
696a	Guava Jelly.	Fermented.	Stock destroyed.
699a	Pearl Barley.	Contained acari.	Used for poultry feeding.
720a	Canned Bloater Spread.	Tin 10 grains to the pound.	Stock destroyed.
723a	Canned Brisling Paste.	Tin 10.5 grains to the pound.	Stock destroyed.
733a	Canned Cherries in Syrup.	Can blown.	Stock destroyed.
768a	Elixir of Ammoniated Quinine and Cinnamon.	8 per cent. deficient in ammonia. 16 per cent. deficient in quinine.	Formal sample taken. 761.
785a	Pepper.	Contained 20 per cent. foreign starch.	Formal sample 798.
830a	Pearl Barley.	Contained acari.	Used for poultry food.
839a	Pepper.	Contained 10 per cent. foreign starch.	Formal sample 798.
233c	Milk.	1.4 per cent added water.	Subsequent samples genuine.
82a	Pearl Barley.	Contained living acari.	Used for poultry food.
103a	Ice Cream.	52 per cent. deficient in fat.	Manufacturer notified, subsequent sample satisfactory.
113a	Glauber Salts.	Completely effloresced.	Stock withdrawn
204a	Tomato Soup (canned).	Not labelled with ingredients.	No more in stock
222a	Ice Cream.	60 per cent. deficient in fat. 13 per cent. deficient in non-fatty milk solids.	Formal sample taken.
232a	Gelatine.	Boron preservative 600 parts per million.	No more in stock

Informal Samples—*contd.*

<i>No.</i>	<i>Sample of</i>	<i>Result.</i>	<i>Action taken.</i>
254a	Pork Sausages.	14 per cent. deficient in meat.	Formal sample satisfactory.
255a	Still Lemon.	Carbonated.	Subsequent sample satisfactory.
268a	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine.	19 per cent. deficient in ammonia.	Formal sample 224.
336a	Glauber Salt.	Effloresced.	Stock withdrawn
349a	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine.	22 per cent. deficient in ammonia.	Formal sample 224.
396a	Pork Sausages.	21 per cent. deficient in meat.	Formal sample 320.
403a	Pearl Barley.	Contained acari and their excreta.	Used for poultry food.
406a	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine.	20 per cent. deficient in ammonia.	Formal sample 321.
446a	Table Jelly.	11 per cent. deficient in sugar.	Formal sample taken.
448a	Baking Powder.	30 per cent. deficient in available carbon dioxide.	Formal sample taken.
450a	Canned Vegetable Soup.	Tin 4.5 grains per pound. Not labelled with ingredients.	No more in stock
451a	Canned Tomato Soup.	Not labelled with ingredients.	No more in stock
466a	Curry Powder.	Lead 20 parts per million.	Formal sample 376.
542a	Ginger Cordial.	Contained a deposit of vegetable extractive matter.	Old Stock. No more obtainable
620a	Pork Sausages.	15 per cent. deficient in meat.	Formal sample satisfactory.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS: FOOD & DRUGS ACT.

Restaurant Proprietor	3 summonses in respect of dirty conditions of premises.	Fined £2 and £3 costs.
do.	Assault on Sanitary Inspector.	Fined £3.
Grocer	Selling pepper containing 10 per cent. starch foreign to pepper.	Fined £3 and £1 1s. 0d. costs.
Grocer	do.	Fined £2 and £2 2s. 0d. costs.
Butcher	Failed to display a notice stating that Horseflesh was sold in the shop.	Fined £5.
do.	Supplied Horseflesh for human consumption to customer who had not asked for horseflesh.	Fined £10 and £10 10s. 0d. costs.
do.	do.	do.
Butcher's Manager	2 summonses in respect of aiding and abetting Butcher to commit an offence.	Fined £5 and £1 1s. 0d. costs.
Butcher's Assistant	do.	Fined £5 and £2 2s. 0d. costs.

Twelve cautionary letters were sent in respect of other non-genuine samples and seven cautionary letters were sent in respect of other articles of food complained of by the Public.

PHARMACY & POISONS ACT, 1933

During the year 110 visits were paid to the various premises listed by the Council for the sale of Part II Poisons under the above Act.

There are 68 names of persons on the Council's list of Sellers of Part II Poisons.

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.

HOUSING ACT, 1936

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

Five formal notices under Section 9 of the Act were served during the year involving twelve properties. One hundred and seventy-eight notices were issued requesting voluntary action by the owner, and 187 houses have been rendered fit for habitation.

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

The following properties were represented during the year and Demolition Orders made:—

	<i>Demolition Order made.</i>
Cyril Street, 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 and 10	17.12.52
Dickens Square, 36	9. 4.52
Dolben Street 33	9. 4.52
" " 34	9. 4.52
Comus Place, 27	16. 7.52
The Cut, 3	18. 6.52
Madron Street, 14a, b, c, d	16. 7.52
Stanford Place, 8	22.10.52
Walworth Road, 122	13. 2.52
Webber Street, 81	13. 2.52

The following properties were represented during 1952, but orders not made in 1952:—

Alpha Square, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25/26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32/33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41/42.	
Deverell Street, 23	
Hampton Street, 10	
Lytham Street, 49	
New Kent Road, 36	
" " 38	
Sayer Street, 8	
" " 10	
Sutherland Square, 61	
Theobald Street, 27	
Trafalgar Street, 1	

The following were represented for demolition during 1951, but undertakings received during 1952:—

Deverell Street, 46

Massinger Street, 9

Peacock Square, 1

2

Premises Demolished (Section 11)

Order made.

122 Walworth Road

9.4.52

81 Webber Street

13.2.52

Parts of premises closed (Section 12)

75 Closing Orders were made on the following dates, involving 148 rooms:—

Albany Road, 14, Basement front and back rooms	18. 6.52
--	----------

16, " " " " "

(Use of basement back room as bathroom at No. 16 approved)

Albany Road, 18, Basement front and back rooms . 14. 5.52

Alberta Street, 1, Basement front and back rooms	14. 5.52
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Colnbrook Street, 1, Basement front and back rooms 19.11.52

Dolben Street, 3-13 (Consec.), 15, 42, 47, 48, 50, 52-55

(Consec.), Basement front and back rooms. (Use of front basement rooms for storage and back basement rooms for washing purposes approved.)

Gaywood Street, 22, Basement front and back rooms 22.10.52

Lant Street, 33, Basement front and back rooms	9. 4.52
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Lant Street, 35, Basement front and back rooms

(Agreed that gas cooker remain in kitchen-BF-and
water supply and sink in the scullery-BB)

Lant Street, 39, Basement front and back rooms 9. 4.52

Lant Street, 41, Basement front and back rooms 9. 4.52

Lant Street, 45, Basement front and back rooms

(Use of basement front room for storage and cooking purposes and basement back room for washing purposes approved.)

Lant Street, 47, Basement front and back room 9. 4.52

Lant Street, 49, Basement front and back room 9. 4.52

Lant Street, 51, Basement front and back room 9. 4.52

Lant Street, 55a, Basement front and back room 9. 4.52

Marsland Road, 27, Basement front and back room 14. 5.52

Newington Butts, 211, Top floor front and top floor

back rooms. (Use of rooms for storage purposes approved and consent under Defence Regs. 68CA granted.)

Nicholson Street, 2, Basement front and back rooms

(Use of basement back room as kitchen-scutlery approved.)

Nicholson Street, 4, Rooms and proviso as No. 2	14. 5.52
Nicholson Street, 6, Rooms and proviso as No. 2	14. 5.52
Nicholson Street, 7, Rooms and proviso as No. 2	14. 5.52
Nicholson Street, 8, Rooms and proviso as No. 2	14. 5.52
Nicholson Street, 9, Rooms and proviso as No. 2	14. 5.52
Park Street Dwellings, 2, Ground floor back room (Use for storage purposes approved.)	9. 4.52
Pasley Road, 26, Basement front and back rooms	14. 5.52
Pasley Road, 28, Basement front and back rooms	14. 5.52
St. George's Road, 63 (Use of basement front room for storage and basement back room for cooking and washing purposes approved.)	9. 4.52
St. George's Road, 65, Rooms and proviso as No. 63	9. 4.52
St. George's Road, 67, Rooms and proviso as No. 63	9. 4.52
St. George's Road, 69, Rooms and proviso as No. 63	9. 4.52
St. George's Road, 71, Basement front and back rooms (Use of basement front room for storage and basement back room for all purposes other than sleeping for the time being, approved.)	9. 4.52
St. George's Road, 73, Basement front and back rooms. (Use of basement front room for storage and basement back room for cooking and washing approved.)	9. 4.52
St. George's Road, 75, Rooms and proviso as No. 73	9. 4.52
St. George's Road, 77, Rooms and proviso as No. 73	9. 4.52
St. George's Road, 79, Rooms and proviso as No. 73	9. 4.52
St. George's Road, 81, Rooms and proviso as No. 73	9. 4.52
St. George's Road, 83, Rooms and proviso as No. 73	9. 4.52
Scoresby Street, 2-17 (Consec.), Basement front and back rooms. (Use of basement front rooms for storage and basement back rooms for washing pur- poses approved.)	14. 5.52
Sutherland Square, 54, Attic room	18. 6.52

The following property was represented in 1951 but order made in 1952:—

Gurney Street, 81, Attic front and back rooms	12. 3.52
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The following premises were represented during 1952, but orders not made during the year:—

Boyson Road, 8, Basement front and back rooms
 Boyson Road, 12, Basement front and back rooms
 Boyson Road, 22, Basement front and back rooms
 Boyson Road, 77, Basement front and back rooms
 Causeway Place, 7 and 8, First floor front rooms (2)
 The Cut, 17, Top floor front and top floor back attic rooms
 Faunce Street, 3, Basement front and back rooms

Penton Place, 44, Basement front and back rooms
 Queens Buildings, Collinson Street, 155j, First floor back (N)
 slip room
 St. George's Road, 123, Basement front and back rooms
 Sutherland Square, 4, Basement front and back rooms
 Sutherland Square, 52, Top floor front attic room
 Sutherland Square, 65, Basement front and back rooms
 Thurlow Street, 79, Basement front and back rooms
 Walworth Road, 217, Basement back room.
 Westmoreland Road, 158, Basement front and back rooms

Clearance Areas (Section 25)

During the year 369 visits were made in connection with clearance areas. Three areas have been represented for clearance under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936, involving 55 properties, as follows:—

DOCTOR STREET AREA—represented—2, 7, 52

(later designated Lytham Street No. 1 and 2 Areas)

Lytham Street No. 1 Area—31, 33, 34, 35, 37, 38 and 39,
 Lytham Street

Lytham Street No. 2 Area—1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12,
 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30, Lytham
 Street. 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 27, 29, 32 and 34, Phelp Street.
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, Doctor Street.

QUILP STREET AREA—represented—2, 7, 52

Quilp Street 1 and 2.

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.	..	..	194
Inspections, Section 9, etc.	..	..	7
Clearance area survey visits	..	..	369
Other visits (complaints etc.)	..	..	378
Reinspections	..	..	2,402
Informal Notices	..	..	178
Informal Notices complied with	..	..	187
Section 9 Notices	..	..	5
			(12 properties)
Section 9 Notices complied with..	..	..	2

Summary of works completed during 1952 as a result of Notices served following inspections under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925/1932:—

Drains repaired and/or cleansed	52
Inspection chambers constructed	3
W.C. pans and seats repaired or renewed	5
Flushing apparatus repaired or renewed	7
Soil pipes and ventilating shafts repaired or renewed	1
Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	19
Chimney pots provided and flauched	50
Sinks provided or renewed	51
Dwellings provided with internal water supply	30
Waste pipes provided or repaired	60
Gullies provided	6
Yards paved, repaired or drained	12
Dustbins provided and chutes repaired	16
Accumulations of filth, etc., removed	27
Roofs and gutters repaired or renewed	44
Parapet walls rebuilt	5
Rain-water pipes repaired or renewed	26
Dampness remedied	38
Window frames, sashes and glazing repaired (Number of rooms)	483
Cills and reveals repaired	225
Sashcords renewed (Number of rooms)	354
Fireplaces, ranges and flues repaired	42
Floors repaired or renewed	26
Brickwork repaired and pointing renewed	46
Walls repaired or rebuilt	2
Staircases repaired	14
Staircases cleansed and redecorated	8
Walls and ceilings repaired and decorated (number of rooms) ..	588
Doors repaired or renewed	54
Ventilated food cupboards provided	49
Ventilated lobbies provided to water closets	15
Sub-floor ventilation provided or increased	3
TOTAL	2,361

REHOUSING

Whilst there was a considerable increase in the number of applicants who sought the assistance of the Public Health Department for rehousing on medical, overcrowding or sanitary grounds, there was a continuation of the decline in new cases of overcrowding reported. There is, however, practically no improvement yet in the number of such cases rehoused.

Illegal overcrowding is sometimes deliberately caused in an effort to secure priority rehousing, and although under existing conditions it is seldom practicable to take action in these cases, the most careful investigations are made to ensure that they do not receive recommendations for rehousing.

The housing shortage renders it necessary to impose severe limitations in recommending only the most serious medical cases. Although medical recommendations during the year were only two less than those made in 1951, sixteen fewer cases were rehoused.

468 cases were referred to the London County Council and Borough Council for rehousing on sanitary grounds (as distinct from medical or overcrowding recommendations). During the year 115 cases in this category were rehoused.

OVERCROWDING

	1950			1951			1952		
	<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 1949)</i>			<i>(End of 1950)</i>			<i>(End of 1951)</i>		
Remaining on register	1,081	1,269	6,006	568	680	3,298	598	725	3,404
New Cases reported and recommended	244	316	1,284	162	216	881	103	132	583
Total	1,325	1,585	7,290	730	896	4,179	701	857	3,987
Overcrowding abated	164	193	847	84	112	471	104	125	571
Remaining on register	1,161	1,392	6,443	646	784	3,708	597	732	3,416
Cases removed by overcrowding survey	593	712	3,145	48	59	304	—	—	—
Amended Total ..	568	680	3,298	598	725	3,404	597	732	3,416
<i>Overcrowding abated:</i>									
Rehoused by L. C. C.	142	163	727	66	87	362	78	93	413
Rehoused by Borough Council	7	8	9	13	16	73	13	13	66
Rehoused by other Boroughs ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rehoused by owners	1	1	5	2	3	18	13	19	92
Moved away	9	10	53	—	—	—			
Found own accommodation	4	10	30	3	6	18			
Total	163	192	824	84	112	471	104	125	571

	1949	1950	1951	1952
Cases investigated on medical, over-crowding and sanitary grounds ..	1,669	2,156	1,509	1,990
No. of visits involved	2,298	2,587	1,792	2,328

MEDICAL

<i>Recommendations.</i>	1949	1950	1951	1952
Cases recommended to L.C.C. on grounds of Tuberculosis	51	47	54	52
Cases recommended to L.C.C. on other medical grounds	101	40	43	56
Cases recommended to Southwark Borough Council on medical grounds	107	100	113	100
Total cases recommended ..	259	187	210	208

<i>Rehoused.</i>	1949	1950	1951	1952
Cases rehoused by L.C.C. on grounds of Tuberculosis	43	32	16	16
Cases rehoused by L.C.C. on other medical grounds	48	34	21	13
Cases rehoused by Southwark Borough Council on grounds of Tuberculosis	—	2	1	1
Cases rehoused by Southwark Borough Council on other medical grounds ..	24	31	28	19
Cases rehoused by other authorities on grounds of Tuberculosis	—	1	—	1
Total cases rehoused	115	100	66	50

OTHER CASES

Cases referred to L.C.C.	292
Cases referred to Southwark Borough Council	176
Total cases referred	468
Cases rehoused by L.C.C.	66
„ „ Southwark Borough Council	30
Found own accommodation	19
Total cases rehoused	115
No. of Dwellings in Borough	24,690

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 5,270

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 16,725

(2) (a) Number of dwellings (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 194

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 1,768

(3)	Number of dwellings found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	65
(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	2,406

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	1,299
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3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—*

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs (178 "informal" section 9 notices were issued, and 187 complied with)	12
(2)	Number of dwellings which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a)	By owners	2
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1)	Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2,216
(2)	Number of dwellings in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a)	By owners	1,191
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of dwellings in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	10
(2)	Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	2

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | 75 |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil |

WELFARE OF THE AGED.

It is gratifying to note that Miss Mary Morris, the Organising Secretary of the Southwark Old People's Welfare Committee, in her Annual Report has been able to claim considerable and encouraging progress in her difficult task, mainly as a result of increased financial support and generous help from the Council, voluntary workers, local organisations and individuals in the Borough.

The former Navillus Civic Restaurant has been converted into a congenial luncheon club for old people, supplying up to 160 meals daily, with comfortable amenities for a Social Club and Library. Meals on Wheels have been extended to provide a service four days a week, and up to the end of the year under review, 1,170 meals have been sent to housebound old people, in addition to 943 to the Women's Voluntary Service. Plans are being made to increase this service further to cope with the increase in demand.

Through the generosity of Mr. N. Howard Tertis, F.C.Ch., L.Ch., who has given his services free, a monthly Chiropody Clinic was commenced during the year. It is hoped to acquire more suitable premises, and to increase the sessions to weekly intervals.

Parties, outings and other social functions have been arranged, also a fortnight's holiday at Broadstairs, part of the cost of which was paid by the old people themselves through a savings scheme. It is, however, hoped that by means of a National Assistance Act grant, the holiday scheme can be extended to include those who need a rest and change on medical grounds, but who are unable to afford a contribution.

At the same time the needs of the housebound and handicapped who may not be able to participate in these pleasures are not being overlooked in future plans. Nearly 400 aged sick persons were referred to this Committee by hospitals, doctors, district nurses, etc., and all were visited by the Organising Secretary, and efforts made to assist them as necessary. Voluntary visitors have given invaluable help in visiting both the sick and the many old people who are deprived of companionship through being unable to leave their homes.

There still remains an urgent need for more persons with sufficient spare time and the necessary sympathy and patience for this most important work.

Seventy-six cases were referred to the Public Health Department during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT.

Compulsory Removals.

During the year one case was dealt with under Section 47, and the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, which provides for the removal of persons in need of care and attention.

The person concerned was aged and living under insanitary conditions owing to neglect and in need of proper care and attention. She had refused assistance, and an Order was made for her compulsory removal to hospital, but she died soon after admission.

Burial of the Dead.

During the year the Council arranged for eighteen burials under Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, at a total cost of £175 2s. 6d.

MORTUARY.

Post-mortems without Inquest	1,276
Post-mortems with Inquest	205
Inquests without Post-mortems	—
Inquests, Post-mortems held elsewhere	34
Bodies brought in for convenience	1
Infectious disease deaths	—
	<hr/>
	1,516
	<hr/>