

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Westminster, City of].

Contributors

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City of Westminster

City of Westminster.



REPORT
REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR

1928

ANDREW J. SHINNIE, M.D., D.P.H. (LOND.),

Medical Officer of Health and Administrative Tuberculosis Officer.

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Printed by Order of the Council.

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Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the City of Westminster.

1928.

MR. MAYOR, MY LORDS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1928.

This report is in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health submitted as an ordinary report. The fuller survey reports are required at the end of each quinquennium.

The work of the department in connection with the circumstances arising as a result of the Thames Flood in January was commented upon in last year's report. That work continued throughout the year and has called for extra effort from each member of the staff, whilst also entailing the employment of additional assistance.

The improvement of the Millbank area which had been previously mentioned was duly formulated in a scheme and submitted to Parliament as an Improvement Bill in the spring of the present year. Royal Assent was given to the measure in May. A report dealing with the sanitary survey of the area and the proof of evidence of the Medical Officer of Health have been submitted to the Ministry of Health as a special report. Certain details relating to it and to the Millbank Housing Scheme are given as part of an appendix to this report, together with a few illustrations.

In the appendix there are also set out certain details of the Ebury Bridge Housing Scheme and the proposed new Tuberculosis Dispensary and Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

Reference should also be made to a new Maternity and Child Welfare Centre which the Council proposes to erect for the northern area of the City. The scheme will be fully discussed in next year's report. This new centre will replace the present one at 9, Frith Street, Soho Square, which was taken as a temporary expedient, and consists of shop premises. The new centre will form part of large municipal premises containing public baths and wash-houses, highways department depot, and rate collector's offices, situated in Marshall Street and Dufours Place. The whole building will be completed about the end of 1930.

The health of the city has remained satisfactory throughout 1928. The birth-rate has risen from 10·0 to 10·3 per 1,000, and although the estimated population has fallen, the actual number of births has scarcely diminished. The infantile death-rate has fallen from 68·6 to 58·39 per 1,000 births; that for legitimate children showing a decrease of 11·3 on last year's figure.

The general death-rate has only decreased 0·8 per 1,000. In view of the considerably fewer deaths, 1,497, as compared with 1,682 in 1927, this rate of decrease should be greater, but is neutralised by the reduction in population as estimated by the Registrar-General, 136,500 to 129,700. This reduction is necessarily somewhat conjectural. The incidence and death-rate from tuberculosis has again fallen from 83·5 to 83·2 per 100,000.

Unfortunately, as if to emphasize the gravity of the problem which is being generally discussed, the deaths of women in childbed have increased from 5·7 to 12·4 per 1,000 births. As a contribution to preventive effort towards solving this serious problem the City Council has arranged with Westminster Hospital to admit for confinement women recommended from the four Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in the city. This scheme is discussed in detail in this report. With regard to infectious diseases, only two cases of the mild type of Small-pox occurred; Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever and Measles showed an increase on the figures of last year, whilst Whooping Cough and Pneumonia generally showed an appreciable decrease. In no sense was there any semblance of an outbreak of infectious disease even in the districts which were subjected to the unpleasant after-effects of the flood.

Food Administration.—Additional duties were imposed owing to the coming into force of the Merchandise Marks Acts and the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act. The proportion of adulterated samples was 1·7 per cent.

Housing.—A considerable amount of space is devoted to this aspect of public health work. The numbers of hard cases which the staff of the Medical Officer of Health has to investigate continue to increase, but it is hoped, that when the comprehensive policy of the Council is fully developed, the majority of those cases living in overcrowded or other insanitary conditions will be relieved. It should be noted that when schemes in hand are completed the Council will have provided almost 1,000 dwellings since the war.

A matter which is causing constant anxiety and which may require further consideration is the issue of dangerous structure notices on old dwelling houses. Whilst no one doubts the expert judgment of

those who issue these notices or the necessity for certifying dangerous structures, yet it would appear that piecemeal demolition is in the case of working-class dwellings frequently resorted to rather than methods of drastic repair and shoring up to render such structures secure. As a result some tenants suffer great hardships, for unless they can obtain other rooms almost immediately their homes are pulled down about their ears. Although they may be protected under the Rent Acts, these tenants are placed in an impossible position, as under the London Building Act a building certified as dangerous must be made secure or demolished.

Staff.—There were no changes in the permanent staff. Mr. Sanderson, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, was allocated certain duties of a supervisory nature in order to assist the Medical Officer of Health, and his salary was accordingly increased. The work of the department continues to increase mainly by reason of the measures for the improvement of the public health passed by the Legislature in recent years. Mr. Davies, one of the three temporary sanitary inspectors engaged after the flood, was retained throughout the year. Every member of the staff deserved praise for the work in connection with the flood, but it may not be inappropriate to mention the individual efforts of Mr. Sanderson and Mr. Manhood in the preparation of the evidence for the Millbank Improvement Scheme. To the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee, and to the staff of the department, I would offer my sincere appreciation and grateful thanks for their constant support and assistance.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

ANDREW J. SHINNIE.

June, 1929.

SUMMARY OF PARTICULARS REQUIRED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)—2,502·7.

Population (Census 1921)—141,578.

Population, June, 1928 (Registrar-General's Estimate)—132,700.

„ „ „ Civilian—129,700.

Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)—25,321.

Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921)—33,946.

Rateable value—£9,690,000 (March, 1929).

Sum represented by a penny rate—£38,760.

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

Births—

				<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Birth-rate.</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	642	578	1,220	10·3
Illegitimate	..	..	..	80	70	150	
Totals	..	..	..	722	648	1,370	

Deaths—1,497. Death-rate—11·5.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth :—

Puerperal fever, 3	}	12·4 per 1,000 births.
From other causes, 14		

Number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 births—58·39.

Legitimate rate, 53·2 ; Illegitimate rate, 100·0.

Number of deaths from measles (all ages)—5.

„	„	diphtheria—13.
„	„	whooping cough (all ages)—3.
„	„	scarlet fever—1.
„	„	diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)—15.
„	„	typhoid fever—6.

Other particulars asked for are given in the body of the Report.

A list of the staff of the Public Health Department is included in the Report.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The provision of hospital accommodation for the isolation and treatment of patients suffering from Infectious Diseases is organized and maintained for the County of London as a whole by the Metropolitan Asylums Board. The Board's hospitals, 14 in number, are situate in various parts of London and neighbouring districts as follows:—

Brook Hospital, Shooters Hill, Woolwich, S.E.
 Eastern Hospital, Brooksby's Walk, Homerton.
 Grove Hospital, Tooting Grove, S.W.
 North Eastern Hospital, St. Ann's Road, N.15.
 North Western Hospital, Lawn Road, Hampstead.
 Park Hospital, Hither Green, S.E.
 South Eastern Hospital, Avonley Road, S.E.
 South Western Hospital, Landor Road, Stockwell.
 Western Hospital, Seagrave Road, Fulham, S.W.
 Joyce Green, Dartford.
 Northern Hospital, Winchmore Hill, N.21.
 Southern Hospital, Dartford.
 Long Reach Hospital, Dartford.
 Orchard Hospital, Dartford.

Since the passing of the National Insurance Act, 1911, and other measures enabling public authorities to provide treatment for diseases other than those scheduled in Sec. 55 (8) of the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, the Board has provided the following hospitals and sanatoria for tuberculosis and beds at certain of its hospitals for certain specified diseases as under:—

Tuberculosis—

Pulmonary (Adults).

King George V Sanatorium, Godalming, Surrey (Males).
 Pinewood, Wokingham, Berks. (Females).
 Colindale Hospital, Hendon (Males).
 St. George's Home, Chelsea (Females).
 Grove Park Hospital, Lee (both sexes).

Children (both sexes).

Millfield, Rustington, Sussex.
 High Wood Hospital for Children, Brentwood, Essex.

*Tuberculosis—contd.**Non-Pulmonary (Adults).*

St. Luke's Hospital, Lowestoft (both sexes).

Grove Park Hospital, Lee (both sexes).

Children (both sexes).

Queen Mary's Hospital for Children, Carshalton.

Princess Mary's Hospital, Margate.

Millfield, Rustington, Sussex.

Measles.—All the fever hospitals.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.—North Western Hospital, Lawn Road, Hampstead.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—All the fever hospitals. After treatment: Northern Hospital, Winchmore Hill.

Zymotic Enteritis.—All the fever hospitals.

Marasmus.—St. Margaret's, Leighton Road, N.W.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—St. Margaret's, N.W.

Venereal Diseases.—Sheffield Street Hospital, Kingsway, W.C.

Rheumatism.—High Wood Hospital for Children, Brentwood, Essex.

The most notable additions in recent years to its hospital services have been 170 beds (the number of beds available at Carshalton will be increased to 350) for the treatment of rheumatic children whether in a pre-rheumatic state or during acute or chronic illness. There are now available at Winchmore Hill Hospital 56 beds for those cases, admission being secured on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health. There is likewise provision for acute and chronic cases of poliomyelitis and encephalitis lethargica in children which has recently been extended to include adult cases, 50 beds having been set aside at the Northern Hospital for this purpose.

The Board also deals with cases of non-notifiable infectious diseases such as measles, whooping cough and mumps, as accommodation permits. With regard to measles, on occasions when beds are in great demand the standing arrangement is that cases of measles where home conditions are unsuitable will be admitted in preference to those of scarlet fever of mild type and which can suitably be nursed at home.

Accommodation for infectious cases for those who can pay for such isolation and treatment is available at the London Fever Hospital, Liverpool Road, N.

All cases of small-pox must be isolated at the Board's hospitals at Joyce Green and the Orchard, near Dartford, some 2,000 beds being provided for the purpose.

Tuberculosis.—The Board provides hospitals as already detailed. Cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis in their initial stages are usually treated for a time at most of the voluntary hospitals of the City, while pulmonary cases (consumption) occasionally, and for only limited periods may also be treated there.

Maternity Hospitals.—While there are no hospitals in the City devoted exclusively to maternity, there are maternity departments and beds in the following general hospitals :—

	Maternity beds.
Westminster Hospital	15
St. George's Hospital	11
Charing Cross Hospital	15

There are also 28 maternity beds at St. Stephen's Hospital (Westminster Guardians) situate in the borough of Chelsea; and 52 beds at Sheffield Street Hospital (for lying-in women suffering from venereal disease).

Other hospitals not within the City to which Westminster women are admitted for confinement are St. Thomas' Hospital, The General Lying-In Hospital, York Road, Lambeth (45 beds), The Middlesex Hospital, City of London Lying-In Hospital, City Road (71 beds), Queen Charlotte's Lying-In Hospital (75 beds). Clapham Maternity Home (moderate fees) (50 beds).

The City Council as a Maternity and Child Welfare Authority has arrangements with St. George's and Westminster Hospitals for providing maternity beds for Westminster women. Detailed reference to this provision will be found in the Maternity and Child Welfare section of this Report.

Children.—In-patient and Out-patient treatment for sick children is provided at the following hospitals :—Westminster, St. George's, Charing Cross, the Infants Hospital, Vincent Square (up to 5 years of age); and at other hospitals in the City established for the treatment of particular conditions or diseases of special organs, such as All Saints' Hospital, Vauxhall Bridge Road (30 beds) and St. Peter's Hospital, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden (32 beds) for Genito Urinary Diseases; St. John's Hospital, Leicester Square, for Diseases of the Skin. (In-patient Department, 262, Uxbridge Road (35 beds)).

Blind.—The London Association for the Blind, Rosedale House, 144A, Warwick Street, S.W. (Hostel—67, Belgrave Road, S.W.) for the training and welfare of the blind.

Orthopædic.—Surgical orthopædic treatment is carried out in special departments of Westminster, St. George's and Charing Cross Hospitals. At Westminster Hospital there is in addition facilities for continuing the

after treatment of orthopædic cases by means of massage, electro-therapy and remedial exercises under the care of expert instructors. There is also a large out-patient institution, "The London Clinic," in Ranelagh Road, at which, in addition to light therapy, a complete system of treatment by exercises and massage is carried on. Other hospitals in the City are the following:—

HOSPITALS IN WESTMINSTER.

All Saints' Hospital, 49, Vauxhall Bridge Road. Genito urinary diseases.

Charing Cross Hospital, Agar Street, W.C.

Golden Square, Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital.

Gordon Hospital, 126, Vauxhall Bridge Road. Rectal diseases.

Grosvenor Hospital for Women, Vincent Square, S.W.

Hospital for Women, Soho Square, W.

Infants' Hospital, Vincent Square.

King Edward VII Hospital for Officers, 17, Grosvenor Crescent, S.W.

London Lock Hospital, 91, Dean Street, W.

Royal Dental Hospital, 32, Leicester Square, W.C.

St. George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner, S.W.

St. John's Hospital, Leicester Square. Diseases of the skin.

St. Peter's Hospital, Henrietta Street, W.C. Diseases of the bladder, etc.

Sheffield Street Hospital, Clare Market (Female). Under the control of the Metropolitan Asylums Board.

Westminster Hospital, Broad Sanctuary, S.W.

St. Stephen's Hospital (City of Westminster Infirmary), under the control of the Guardians of the City of Westminster, is situated at 369, Fulham Road, S.W.

Dispensaries:—City of Westminster Tuberculosis Dispensary, 1, Pimlico Road. A well-equipped dispensary under the control of the Guardians is held at the Union Offices, Princes Row, S.W.

Public Dispensary, 122, Drury Lane, W.C.

Western Dispensary, 40, Rochester Row, S.W.

Westminster General Dispensary, 9, Gerrard Street, W.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants and Homeless Children in the Area.—These are as follows :—

63, Sutherland Street.

67, Denbigh Street.

St. John the Baptist's Home, 159, Tulse Hill.

Two of these three homes for unmarried mothers are in the City, while the third, formerly in the City, was moved to the suburbs a few years ago. Women are admitted on the recommendation of church or rescue workers and are maintained there with their infants for a period before confinement and for some months afterwards, a period in all of some twelve months. The Westminster Guardians also provide shelter for unmarried mothers, and when necessary, maintain the infants in various homes under their administration.

Ambulance Facilities.—(a) Infectious cases are removed by the ambulance service of the Metropolitan Asylums Board.

(b) Non-infectious and accident cases are also conveyed by the Metropolitan Asylums Board at a moderate charge. The ambulance services of the L.C.C., the Westminster Guardians, and of the British Red Cross Society are also available. Private firms such as the Daimler Motor Hire Company have a fleet of ambulances for hire.

Clinic and Treatment Centres.—Maternity and Child Welfare Centres :—

(1) Administered entirely by the Westminster City Council—

(a) 1, Pimlico Road—First floor of 5 rooms.

(b) 15, Bessborough Street—Self-contained house of 9 rooms.

(c) 9, Frith Street—Ground and first floor premises of 5 rooms.

(2) Subsidized by the City Council :—

The Westminster Health Society, 30, Page Street, a building constructed and designed as a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

The above are mainly consultation centres, treatment being given only in special circumstances, and on a most limited scale.

(3) Maternity and Child Welfare Centres at Hospitals :—

(a) *The Infants Hospital, Vincent Square.

(b) *Charing Cross Hospital.

(c) Westminster Hospital.

(d) St. George's Hospital.

*Subsidized by Ministry of Health.

Treatment is given at the above hospitals.

Day Nurseries :—

The British Red Cross Society's Day Nursery, Warwick Street.
Accommodation for 40 children.

School Clinics.—These are organized and administered by the Education Authority, the London County Council. Besides arrangements with hospitals in the City for the treatment of school children, clinics are conducted by officers of the L.C.C. at the following institutions :—

Western Dispensary, Rochester Row, S.W.

Westminster General Dispensary, Gerrard Street, W.

A clinic for minor ailments at 40, Marsham Street is maintained by the British Red Cross Society in co-operation with the London County Council.

Orthopædic clinics have already been mentioned in connection with the work of the general hospitals and Metropolitan Asylums Board.

Artificial Light Clinics.—The City Council does not provide artificial light treatment because there are already ample facilities provided on a voluntary basis in the various hospitals and dispensaries in the City.

The London Clinic in Ranelagh Road, S.W. 1, requires special mention. It is a large institution founded and maintained by the British Humane Association whose object is the alleviation and cure of certain ailments by means of artificial light, &c. The beneficent work of this body is very largely due to the inspiration, liberality and deep personal interest of the late Campbell Johnston, Esq., who was its first chairman and who died in 1928 while holding that office. From small beginnings in Tufton Street the work increased so quickly that larger premises were required. A large building formerly a furniture depository in Ranelagh Road was taken and converted for the purposes of out-patient treatment by light on a large scale. Besides artificial sunlight other treatments such as electrotherapy, inhalation, and foam baths are administered.

Patients attend daily and contribute according to their means for treatment. Cases of hardship are treated free.

Tuberculosis Dispensary.—The City Council organized a Tuberculosis Dispensary Scheme in 1916. The dispensary is part of an old building at 1, Pimlico Road, which during the next year or so will give place to a new tuberculosis dispensary designed for the purpose. The scheme is administered solely by the City Council and its officers ; details relating to the work will be found in the Tuberculosis section of the report.

Treatment Centres for Venereal Diseases.—These are not within the province of the City Council. They are conducted at the three general

hospitals, St. John's Hospital for Diseases of the Skin and at the London Lock Hospital, 91, Dean Street. These voluntary bodies receive substantial financial grants from the Ministry of Health through the London County Council which exercises a certain degree of administrative control over the clinics.

The following are the Public Health Officers of the City Council. Those whose services are part time are signified thus : * Those whose salaries are the subject of contribution under the Public Health Acts or Exchequer grants are indicated thus : †—

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health and Administrative Tuberculosis Officer :

†ANDREW J. SHINNIE M.D., D.P.H., &c.

Assistant Medical Officers :

†IAN S. THOMSON M.A., M.D., D.P.H.
(Tuberculosis Officer and Asst.
Medical Officer of Health.)

†*ETHEL M. VERNON M.D., B.S.
(Maternity and Child Welfare.)

†*DUNCAN LEYS M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P.
(Maternity and Child Welfare)

Obstetric Consultant :

*A. GOODWIN O.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.S.

Bacteriologist :

*J. A. BRAXTON HICKS M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Dental Clinic :

†*W. H. TURNER L.D.S., R.C.S., Eng.

†*T. GRAHAM SCOTT (Anæsthetist) ... M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Public Analysts :

*CECIL H. CRIBB B.Sc., F.I.C.

*P. A. ELLIS RICHARDS F.I.C.

Clerical Staff :

A. WISE

S. G. BENNETT.

A. J. MANHOOD.

†MISS M. MACFARLANE (Tuberculosis Dispensary).

F. W. LAKE.

W. JENKINS.

Sanitary Inspectors :

†J. SANDERSON (Senior Sanitary Inspector) R.S.I., San. Sc. Cert., Gold Medallist
Carpenters' Company.

†M. CANTON S.I.E.B., Meat Cert., R.S.I.

†W. J. DAVIES (Temporary 16th Jan., 1928) S.I.E.B., Meat & Food Cert.

†C. J. DEE S.I.E.B., R.S.I., and Meat and Food Cert.

†W. L. FRENCH S.I.E.B., R.S.I., Meat and Food Cert.

†F. J. HAIGH S.I.E.B.

†H. R. HARDY R.S.I., M.I. San. Eng.

†T. H. JACKSON S.I.E.B.

†C. RATCLIFF S.I.E.B., Meat and Food Cert.

Sanitary Inspectors—*continued*.

†F. E. SIDDLE	S.I.E.B., Meat Cert., R.S.I.
†W. G. J. SUTTON (Sampling Officer)	S.I.E.B., Meat and Food Cert.
†H. E. WHITE (Sampling Officer) ...	S.I.E.B., R.S.I., Meat and Food Cert., Dipl. Inst. of Hygiene.
†Miss C. HUGHESDON	S.I.E.B., R.S.I., H.V., Certified Midwife, Dipl. Nat. Health Soc.

Health Visitors :

†Miss A. SANDERS	H.V.
†Miss J. G. ALEXANDER	H.V., Certified Midwife, Hosp. Nursing.
†Miss D. H. M. WALDING	S.I.E.B., Dipl. Nat. Health Soc., Nursing, Dipl. Board of Education.
†Miss HOWELL EVANS	S.I.E.B., Dipl. Nat. Health Soc., Nursing.
†Miss M. M. SCOTT	S.I.E.B., H.V., Certified Midwife, Dipl. Board of Education.
†Miss H. BLICK	H.V., Certified Midwife, Dipl. Board of Education.
†Miss F. RIGG	H.V., Certified Midwife, Dipl. Board of Education.

Instructors in Mothercraft at Centres.

†*Mrs. COLEMAN	Red Cross Cert. 1st cl., and gold medal.
†*Mrs. STEFFENS	

Midwife :

†Miss A. J. IRVING	Certified Midwife, Hosp. Nursing.
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Other Staff :

A. WHEAL, Superintendent of Disinfection.

R. WATLING, Keeper of Mortuary and Coroner's Court.

A. W. NICHOLLS, Mortuary Assistant.

W. SLATTERY, Engineer.

J. ATKINS, Disinfectors.

S. C. WEST, Disinfectors.

P. W. ATTWATER, Disinfectors.

A. B. HOLLAND, Disinfectors.

J. R. DOYLE, Motor Driver.

A. T. STEWARD, Assistant to Inspectors.

W. H. SMITH, Messenger.

Mrs. WHEAL, Attendant, Verminous Children.

†Mrs. W. JENKINS, Caretaker, 15, Bessborough Street.

†Mrs. HAWTHORN, Miss MATES and Miss BARRY, †Cleaners.

In addition to the above, the following are the staff of the City of Westminster Health Society (subsidized by the City Council) :—

Medical Officers :

*N. OLIVIER RICHARDS	M.D., M.R.C.P., Maternity and Child Welfare.
-----------------------------	---

Health Visitors :

MISS CALLAGHAN (Supt., Centre) ...	H.V., San. Insp. Cert. Domestic Economy, &c.
MISS PINCHEN	H.V., Dipl. National Health.
MISS REED	H.V. and Midwife.
MISS CROSS	Midwife.

(With assistants, paid and voluntary, holding H.V. certificates, and nursing experience.)

Mrs. STEFFENS (Mothercraft Classes).

Nursing in the Home.—The following District Nursing Associations, undertake the nursing of the poor in their homes in three areas of the City:—

The Metropolitan Nursing Association,

The Westminster Nursing Association,

The Pimlico, Belgravia and Chelsea Nursing Association,

Their work is carried out in close co-operation with the health services of the Council, particularly in regard to the work of the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres and Tuberculosis Dispensary.

The Associations undertake on behalf of the City Council, by agreement, the nursing of children up to the age of 5 years of any ailment which can be nursed at home. This includes cases of measles, whooping cough, mumps, gastro enteritis, ophthalmia neonatorum, primary pneumonia, &c. In 1928 pneumonia and influenzal pneumonia in adults were included in the agreements and in 1929 women suffering from any condition arising from, or connected with, pregnancy or childbirth. Payment is made by the Council to the Association at the rate of 1s. 6d. for each nursing visit.

Midwives.—The City Council is not the supervising authority under the Midwives Acts. Under the powers conferred by the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918, the Council employ one midwife, who practises for necessitous cases in the Victoria, Knightsbridge St. George and Hamlet wards of the City.

From a return provided by the L.C.C. the number of midwives practising in the City is estimated at 31.

Maternity and Nursing Homes.—The Council is not the authority under the Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926, nor under the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927. There are believed to be 5 of such homes in the City.

Maternal Sickness and Mortality.—The City Council appointed Dr. Aubrey Goodwin, Assistant Obstetric Surgeon to Westminster Hospital, under the Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1926, and also made arrangements with the three District Nursing Associations for the home nursing of cases. Circular instructions were issued to all medical practitioners practising in the City, informing them that the services of Dr. Goodwin were available on notifying a case under these regulations, also acquainting them of the nursing services which the Council had provided. The special hospital accommodation of the M.A.B. for puerperal cases was also brought to their notice. When cases have occurred, it is found that medical practitioners have been anxious to assist in the investigations and have readily supplied information.

As regards maternal deaths, the method of inquiry suggested by the Ministry and the questionnaire issued by the Maternal Mortality Committee set up by the Ministry has been used. In this instance also medical practitioners have assisted in every possible way in making investigations as complete as possible. The information relating to maternal deaths is collected and compiled personally by the Medical Officer of Health as the matters under consideration are of a strictly confidential nature. In cases where the circumstances are such as to warrant expert investigation on clinical grounds the Council has retained the services of Dr. Aubrey Goodwin, the obstetrical specialist, to confer with the practitioner concerned and to report his investigations to the Medical Officer of Health.

Colleges, Schools, Technical Institutes and other Educational Establishments.—The number of elementary schools either wholly or partly under the control and management of the L.C.C. is 29. There are also 5 secondary schools under the same authority.

Adult education or training is undertaken at:—

National School of Cookery and Domestic Economy, 72, Buckingham Palace Road.

St. Martin's Art School, 107, Charing Cross Road.

Westminster Technical Institute, Vincent Square.

Polytechnic Annexe, 16, Balderton Street.

Westminster Training College, Horseferry Road.

King's College, Strand.

London College of Music, 47, Gt. Marlborough Street, W.

London School of Dental Surgery, 32, Leicester Square.

London School of Economics, Houghton Street, W.C.2.

Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, W.

Schools.

Burlington School, Boyle Street.

Francis Holland School for Girls, 39, Graham Street.

French Protestant School, Noel Street.

Grey Coat School for Girls, Greycoat Place, S.W.1.

Royal College of St. Peter, "Westminster School", Dean's Yard, S.W.

Westminster Abbey Choir School, Dean's Yard, S.W.

Westminster Cathedral Choir School, Ambrosden Avenue, S.W.

Westminster City School, 55, Palace Street, S.W.1.

*Elementary and Secondary Schools.**Provided.*

Millbank School.

Pulteney School.

St. George's Row, and

Ranelagh Road Schools.

Buckingham Gate Central School.

Westminster Day Continuation School, Horseferry Road, S.W.

*Non-Provided.**Abbey, Westminster—*Burdett-Coutts and Towns-
hend Foundation.

Christ Church.

St. Anne's C.E.

St. Clement Danes'.

St. James' and St. Peter's.

St. James-the-Less.

St. Margaret's.

St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.

St. Martin's-in-the-Fields Parochial.

St. Matthew's.

St. Mary's C.E.

St. Patrick's R.C.

St. Vincent's R.C.

Westminster Cathedral R.C.

Holy Trinity, C.E.

St. George's, Westminster—

Brompton.

St. Anselm's.

St. Barnabas'.

St. George's, Hanover Square.

St. Michael's.

St. Paul's P.

St. Peter's C.E.

St. Gabriel's.

Health Education.—A small book was published as last year during Health Week and circulated widely through the agency of the Churches, schools, public libraries and baths, and maternity and child welfare centres. The book contained an account of all the activities of the Health Department during the year, with a series of photographs showing various aspects of maternity and child welfare work, the inoculation against diphtheria being performed, the tuberculosis dispensary, sampling of food, &c. The new housing schemes of the Council were also briefly described and illustrated. Towards the end of the year the Council was considering a proposal to circulate the monthly periodical "Better Health." This magazine is the publication of the Central Council of

Health Education, a body set up under the auspices of the Ministry of Health. The members of this body consist of representatives of local authorities and insurance committees throughout the county, together with a number of Medical Officers of Health and officials of the Ministry of Health. The subject matter of this magazine consists of instructive articles on health matters written by experts, the purpose being, in these times when the press is flooded with all sorts of health articles, good, bad and indifferent, to supply those who desire instruction in health with sound and accurate information. It is proposed to enter into an agreement for the supply of 2,000 copies monthly of "Better Health." These will be distributed to the public through the usual channels. The publication will not involve any cost to the Council.

STATISTICAL, INCLUDING REMARKS ON THE NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

A summary of particulars required by the Ministry of Health is set forth on a preceding page and further reference to certain points mentioned will be found in other parts of the report.

POPULATION.

The estimated population of the City of Westminster for the year 1928 is given by the Registrar-General as 132,700 (the population as enumerated at the 1921 Census was 141,578). The civilian population, which excludes those belonging to the military forces in barracks and hospitals, numbered 129,700, and for the purpose of calculating the death-rate this number is taken. Both gross and net totals show a large decrease on the corresponding figures for 1927, which were 139,300 and 136,500 respectively.

The Guardians have again been good enough to supply figures dealing with outdoor relief, and from them it would appear that unemployment is, fortunately, still decreasing in the City. In 1926 the amount expended in outdoor relief was £8,222 3s. 8d., in 1927 £6,360 13s. 3d., and in 1928 £5,666 1s. 11d.

BIRTHS.

The births registered in Westminster during 1928 numbered 1,471, but of these the homes of 620 were in other districts and 23 were registered under the Legitimacy Act, and have therefore to be deducted from the total. There were, however, 542 children belonging to Westminster parents born in institutions outside the City, and these must be added. This gives a net total of 1,370, which is 29 less than the similar figure for 1927.

Although the Registrar General's estimate of the population of the City is 6,600 below the figure of last year, the decrease in the births is not, fortunately, proportionate. Women whose homes are outside the City continue, in increasing numbers, to avail themselves of the facilities for confinement which the large general hospitals in the City offer. The number in 1919—mostly women whose home address was in easy reach of the hospital, although in some neighbouring borough—was only 98. This figure has risen to 620 in 1928, and includes not only women from the various metropolitan boroughs but also from the counties around London.

It will be observed from Tables I and II that the registered births are 29 fewer than last year; the legitimate births were 35 less, and the illegitimate 6 more.

The comparative totals are :—				1926.	1927.	1928.
				Legitimate.	Legitimate.	Legitimate.
Males	..	..	..	723	638	642
Females	..	..	..	726	617	578
				Illegitimate.	Illegitimate.	Illegitimate.
Males	..	..	..	74	74	80
Females	..	..	..	83	70	70
				1,606	1,399	1,370

TABLE I.

	Births Registered.				Births Notified.		
	In West-minster.	Belong elsewhere.	Born out of West-minster.	Net.	Total.	Alive.	Still-born.
1910	2,365	49	276	2,592	1,674	1,621	53
1911	2,110	60	311	2,361	1,562	1,507	55
1912	2,134	49	264	2,349	1,501	1,469	34
1913	1,992	35	276	2,233	1,462	1,424	38
1914	1,860	15	312	2,157	1,386	1,347	39
1915	1,721	71	329	1,979	1,292	1,250	42
1916	1,643	175	342	1,810	1,330	1,288	42
1917	1,325	159	378	1,544	1,020	985	35
1918	1,138	146	458	1,459	911	888	23
1919	1,210	98	480	1,592	1,004	977	27
1920	1,731	89	618	2,260	1,327	1,289	38
1921	1,418	78	579	1,919	1,049	1,032	17
1922	1,347	81	629	1,895	1,046	1,020	26
1923	1,361	194	585	1,752	1,045	1,016	29
1924	1,447	344	521	1,624	1,250	1,214	36
1925	1,519	481	497	1,535	1,435	1,385	50
1926	1,535	500	571	1,606	1,402	1,355	47
1927	1,375	552 (20)	576	1,399	1,205	1,169	36
1928	1,471	643 (23)	542	1,370	1,404	1,362	42

The numbers in brackets are registrations under the Legitimacy Act, and cannot be classified as births.

The legitimate and illegitimate births are distributed as follows:—

TABLE II.

Legitimate.

Males	..	..	..	$714 - 304 + 232 = 642$
Females	..	..	..	$640 - 267 + 205 = 578$
				<hr/>
				$1,354 - 571 + 437 = 1,220$

Illegitimate.

Males	..	..	..	$62 - 41 + 59 = 80$
Females	..	..	..	$55 - 31 + 46 = 70$
				<hr/>
				$117 - 72 + 105 = 150$

The legitimate births show a decrease of 35 and the illegitimate an increase of 6 on the figures of 1927.

As shown in Table I, 1,404 notifications of births were received by the Department for 1928 as compared with 1,205 in 1927. Of the total of notifications, 680 were sent by midwives, of whom 31 were practising in the City during 1928.

The following Table shows the number of male and female children born since 1914, and those who did not survive the first year of life, with the number of the surviving children at the end of the first year of life:—

TABLE III.

	Number Born.		Number of Deaths under 1 year.		Number remaining at end of year.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
1914	1,120	1,037	103	68	1,017	969
1915	1,006	973	103	79	903	894
1916	889	921	84	67	805	854
1917	756	788	94	64	662	724
1918	789	670	84	64	705	606
1919	786	814	74	63	712	751
1920	1,117	1,149	104	63	1,013	1,086
1921	991	928	91	63	900	865
1922	945	957	68	36	877	921
1923	914	844	44	38	870	806
1924	847	780	58	38	789	742
1925	783	752	57	49	726	703
1926	797	809	48	48	749	761
1927	712	687	52	44	660	643
1928	722	648	47	33	675	615

For each 1,000 girls born, there were in—

1914	....	1,080 boys.	1922	....	987 boys.
1915	....	1,033 boys.	1923	....	1,082 boys.
1916	....	965 boys.	1924	....	1,086 boys.
1917	....	914 boys.	1925	....	1,041 boys.
1918	....	1,177 boys.	1926	....	985 boys.
1919	....	965 boys.	1927	....	1,036 boys.
1920	....	972 boys.	1928	....	1,114 boys.
1921	....	1,067 boys.			

Still-births.—42 still-born children were notified during the year, 20 of this number being born to non-residents of Westminster. The corresponding figure for 1927 was 36. Under the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1926 which came into force on 1st July, 1927, all still-births must be registered.

The Ministry of Health is desirous that certain figures supplied by the Registrar-General, and statistics based thereon, should, for the purpose of comparison, be included in this Report. In making these comparisons one thing must not be forgotten—the difference between notified cases of infectious disease as supplied by the Registrar-General, and upon which figures are based not only the case rates, etc., for Westminster, but for London and the County as a whole; and the return of cases of infectious diseases as compiled by the Medical Officer of Health. As statistics must, to a certain degree, portray the health of a community, every effort is made in Westminster to confine figures to cases in which the diagnosis has been confirmed. During 1928, 26 cases, or roughly 6·4 per cent. of the diphtheria and scarlet fever cases, were discharged from hospitals as not suffering from these diseases—these figures are not supplied to the Registrar-General. Another important factor is the number of infectious disease cases for which certificates are not submitted, and therefore cannot be forwarded to the Metropolitan Asylums Board, from which source the Registrar-General obtains his figures. Obviously the totals of cases and case rates must be seriously affected if the same conditions prevail among other Metropolitan Boroughs and the various Councils throughout the country.

Causes of Death at different Periods of Life in the City of Westminster.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	All Ages.	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—
ALL CAUSES	M. F.	799 716	48 33	10 3	7 5	17 14	23 27	88 79	284 191	188 175	134 189
1. Enteric fever	M. F.	2 3	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	1 1	1 —	— 1	— —
2. Smallpox	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
3. Measles	M. F.	4 1	— —	3 —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
4. Scarlet fever	M. F.	— 1	— —	— —	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
5. Whooping-cough	M. F.	1 2	1 2	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
6. Diphtheria	M. F.	10 3	2 —	— —	4 —	4 3	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
7. Influenza	M. F.	14 6	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	3 —	5 3	3 1	3 2
8. Encephalitis lethargica	M. F.	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— —
9. Meningococcal meningitis	M. F.	1 —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
10. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	M. F.	63 32	— —	— —	— —	1 1	6 3	27 8	25 13	3 7	1 —
11. Other tuberculous diseases	M. F.	6 10	2 1	— 1	— —	1 2	1 2	1 —	1 2	— 1	— 1
12. Cancer, malignant disease	M. F.	104 120	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 13	59 55	32 33	11 19
13. Rheumatic fever	M. F.	1 —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
14. Diabetes	M. F.	12 8	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 1	— 1	6 1	2 4	2 1
15. Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	M. F.	16 42	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 1	7 15	4 10	4 16
16. Heart disease	M. F.	151 141	— —	— —	— 1	— —	3 2	6 12	54 26	54 37	34 63
17. Arterio-sclerosis	M. F.	50 39	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	16 6	16 21	18 12
18. Bronchitis	M. F.	36 30	1 —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	2 1	8 3	13 3	11 23
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	M. F.	47 46	6 7	4 —	— —	— 1	— —	7 3	21 13	6 14	3 8
20. Other respiratory diseases	M. F.	12 8	1 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	3 —	6 3	2 3	— 1

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	All Ages.	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—
21. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	M. F.	11 5	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 1	7 3	1 1	1 —
22. Diarrhœa, etc.	M. F.	8 9	8 5	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— 1	— 1	— 1	— —
23. Appendicitis and typhlitis	M. F.	6 3	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	1 1	4 1	1 —	— —
24. Cirrhosis of liver....	M. F.	9 8	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	5 5	3 2	— 1
25. Acute and chronic nephritis	M. F.	35 23	— —	— —	— —	1 —	1 2	7 3	9 8	11 6	6 4
26. Puerperal sepsis	M. F.	— 9	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— 8	— —	— —	— —
27. Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	M. F.	— 9	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 3	— 6	— —	— —	— —
28. Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	M. F.	15 10	15 9	— —	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
29. Suicide	M. F.	14 7	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	5 2	6 3	2 1	1 —
30. Other deaths from violence	M. F.	38 36	1 —	1 —	1 1	5 3	7 5	4 5	9 9	3 6	7 7
31. Other defined diseases	M. F.	133 103	10 7	1 1	2 1	3 4	3 3	15 12	35 21	32 23	32 31
32. Causes ill-defined or unknown	M. F.	— 1	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —

A statement showing the number of cases of certain infectious diseases in the above-named area during the 52 weeks ended 29th December, 1928 :—

Westminster, City of, Met. B.	Number of Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified (Civilians).	Smallpox.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric fever.	Puerperal pyrexia.	Puerperal fever.	Erysipelas.
		2	213	205	27	21	6	48

(The case rates of these diseases for England and Wales per 1,000 living are respectively as follows :—Smallpox, 0·32 ; scarlet fever, 2·61 ; diphtheria, 1·55 ; enteric fever, 0·09, puerperal pyrexia, 0·14 ; puerperal fever, 0·06 ; and erysipelas, 0·42.)

MALES.

TABLE IV.—*Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the year 1928.*

CAUSES OF DEATH.	CORRECTED DEATHS IN THE CITY AT SUBJOINED AGES.								DEATHS IN WARDS (AT ALL AGES).															
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Conduit.	Grosvenor.	Hamlet of Knightsbridge.	Knightsbridge St. George.	Victoria.	St. Margaret.	St. John.	St. Anne.	Great Marlborough.	Pall Mall.	Regent.	Charing Cross.	Covent Garden.	Strand.	Homeless.
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	4	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza	13	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	6	—	2	—	2	4	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria, Memb. croup ..	10	2	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal meningitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric fever	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea, enteritis	11	9	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other septic diseases	8	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	3	—	2	—	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis, &c.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diabetes	11	—	—	—	—	2	—	5	4	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	1
Rheumatic fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of lungs	61	—	—	—	—	7	26	24	4	—	3	1	2	19	—	17	3	2	2	2	1	5	3	1
Other forms of tuberculosis ..	7	2	—	—	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant growths	99	—	—	—	—	1	1	54	43	—	8	2	10	27	4	23	1	5	5	4	—	2	5	3
Congenital debility, mal- formation, and premature birth	17	16	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	5	—	6	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—
Old age	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Meningitis and convulsions ..	4	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

MALES—TABLE IV (continued).

CAUSES OF DEATH.	CORRECTED DEATHS IN THE CITY AT SUBJOINED AGES.									DEATHS IN WARDS (AT ALL AGES).															
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Conduit.	Grosvenor.	Hamlet of Knightsbridge.	Knightsbridge St. George.	Victoria.	St. Margaret.	St. John.	St. Anne.	Great Marlborough.	Pall Mall.	Regent.	Charing Cross.	Covent Garden.	Strand.	Homeless.	
Loc. ataxia and general paralysis	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases of nervous system	8	—	—	—	1	—	4	1	2	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Valvular diseases of heart ..	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	9	—	4	—	1	2	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Other circulatory diseases ..	165	2	1	—	1	2	6	61	92	1	13	6	11	40	8	37	4	1	8	7	3	12	8	6	6
Bronchitis	83	1	—	—	—	—	3	27	52	—	4	1	1	23	4	21	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Broncho-pneumonia	21	6	3	—	—	—	1	5	6	—	2	—	2	7	—	3	—	1	—	1	1	2	1	1	1
Pneumonia, other forms	39	1	1	—	—	1	8	17	11	—	1	1	5	13	—	8	2	1	1	1	—	2	2	2	2
Other respiratory diseases ..	9	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	2	—	1	—	—	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Alcoholism	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cirrhosis of liver	6	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Appendicitis and typhlitis ..	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Other digestive diseases	30	3	—	—	—	—	3	12	12	1	2	—	2	10	1	7	—	—	1	2	2	2	—	—	—
Bright's disease, &c.	45	—	—	—	1	1	8	12	23	—	4	2	6	13	4	4	2	2	1	2	—	1	3	1	1
Cystitis, &c.	29	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	24	—	2	1	2	9	1	5	3	—	3	—	—	1	1	1	1
Deaths by accident or negligence	35	—	1	—	6	7	4	7	10	—	2	—	1	12	1	10	2	1	1	2	1	—	—	2	—
Deaths by suicide and murder	16	1	—	—	—	—	5	8	2	1	1	—	2	4	—	2	—	—	3	1	—	—	1	1	1
Other defined diseases	12	1	—	2	1	—	2	5	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	1
Diseases, ill defined or unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All causes	787	47	11	6	18	24	87	278	316	4	59	16	54	231	29	173	26	20	31	25	12	35	46	26	26

FEMALES.

TABLE IV. (continued)—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the year 1928.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	CORRECTED DEATHS IN THE CITY AT SUBJOINED AGES.								DEATHS IN WARDS. (AT ALL AGES).															
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Conduit.	Grosvenor.	Hamlet of Knightsbridge.	Knightsbridge St. George.	Victoria.	St. Margaret.	St. John.	St. Anne.	Great Marlborough.	Pall Mall.	Regent.	Charing Cross.	Covent Garden.	Strand.	Homeless.
Small-pox	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	1	1	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Whooping-cough	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria, Memb. croup	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric fever	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea, enteritis	7	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal fever	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Other septic diseases	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis, &c.....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Diabetes	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Rheumatic fever	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of lungs	29	—	—	—	1	2	8	11	7	—	3	—	—	9	1	9	1	—	—	2	—	2	1	1
Other forms of tuberculosis	11	1	1	—	2	2	—	3	2	—	—	1	—	6	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant growths	117	—	—	—	—	—	12	51	54	—	10	5	9	42	3	26	5	4	1	4	1	3	1	3
Congenital debility, mal-formation, and premature birth	12	11	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	4	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Old age	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	—	2	1	4	6	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	5
Meningitis and convulsions	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

FEMALES—TABLE IV (continued).

CAUSES OF DEATH.	CORRECTED DEATHS IN THE CITY AT SUBJOINED AGES.									DEATHS IN WARDS (AT ALL AGES).														
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Conduit.	Grosvenor.	Hamlet of Knightsbridge.	Knightsbridge St. George.	Victoria.	St. Margaret.	St. John.	St. Anne.	Great Marlborough.	Pall Mall.	Regent.	Charing Cross.	Covent Garden.	Strand.	Homeless.
Loc. ataxia and general paralysis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases of nervous system	12	—	—	1	1	1	1	4	4	—	2	—	—	4	1	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Valvular diseases of heart	14	—	—	—	—	2	2	4	6	—	1	—	—	7	4	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Other circulatory diseases	171	—	—	—	—	—	10	40	121	3	16	7	17	51	11	31	10	7	2	2	1	7	1	5
Bronchitis	70	2	—	—	—	—	2	12	54	—	3	—	5	22	4	28	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	1
Broncho-pneumonia	34	8	—	—	—	—	2	6	18	—	3	—	1	11	4	8	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	—
Pneumonia, other forms	26	1	—	—	—	1	1	8	15	—	6	1	1	9	—	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other respiratory diseases	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Alcoholism	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of liver	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis and typhlitis	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other digestive diseases	23	—	1	—	1	—	2	9	10	—	3	—	1	13	1	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bright's disease, &c.	31	—	—	—	—	2	3	10	16	—	2	2	2	1	1	8	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Cystitis, &c.	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	—	2	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accidents and diseases of parturition	14	—	—	—	—	4	10	—	—	1	1	1	—	4	—	4	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Deaths by accident or negligence	40	1	—	1	4	5	6	11	12	—	6	2	4	7	—	13	1	1	—	1	1	1	1	2
Deaths by suicide and murder	7	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	1	—	1	1	—	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other defined diseases	18	1	—	—	1	3	5	4	4	—	5	—	4	3	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1
Diseases, ill defined or unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All causes	710	33	3	4	13	27	77	188	365	4	78	22	57	226	32	163	23	17	7	12	8	29	10	22

DEATHS.

1,661 deaths were registered in the City in the 52 weeks of 1928. After deducting 992 deaths of non-citizens in public institutions, etc., in the City, and adding those of 828 citizens who died in other districts, the corrected total is 1,497, as compared with 1,682 in 1927, and is equivalent to an annual rate of 11·5 per 1,000 persons (civilian population), compared with 12·3 last year.

The London death-rate for 1928 was 11·6 (civilians only), for England and Wales 11·7. These rates are a little lower than in 1927 for the country as a whole. The number of deaths and the death-rates per 1,000 for the past fifteen years are shown below:—

TABLE V. (From 1913 to 1927.)

Year.	Number of Deaths.	Westminster Rate.	London Rate.
1913	2,030	12·7	14·2
1914	1,946	12·7	14·4
1915	2,138	15·7	16·1
1916	1,827	13·7	14·3
1917	1,896	15·5	15·0
1918	2,062	16·3	18·9
1919	1,819	14·2	13·4
1920	1,600	10·9	12·4
1921	1,623	11·5	12·4
1922	1,796	12·9	13·4
1923	1,493	10·6	11·2
1924	1,695	11·8	12·1
1925	1,728	12·3	11·7
1926	1,608	11·6	11·6
1927	1,682	12·3	11·9
1928	1,497	11·5	11·6

The deaths of males were 787, females 710.

TABLE VI.

This table shows the total deaths distributed among age periods:—

1927.	Under 1 year	1 to 2 years	2 to 5 years	5 to 15 years	15 to 25 years	25 to 45 years	45 to 65 years	65 and up. years	Total.
M.	47	11	6	18	24	87	278	316	787
F.	33	3	4	13	27	77	188	365	710
1920	167	18	21	27	53	222	517	575	1,600
1921	154	28	32	35	56	204	499	615	1,623
1922	104	26	32	41	62	211	584	736	1,796
1923	83	16	13	19	46	171	463	682	1,493
1924	96	32	39	41	46	184	557	700	1,695
1925	106	28	22	25	65	198	496	788	1,728
1926	96	28	20	24	50	185	509	696	1,608
1927	96	13	20	24	42	179	533	775	1,682
1928	80	14	10	31	51	164	466	681	1,497

The causes of death are set out in Table IV. There was an increase among the males of deaths from the following causes:—Diphtheria, enteric, diabetes, meningitis, pneumonia, respiratory, alcoholism and cystitis. Among the females the causes showing an increase were circulatory

diseases, enteric, non-pulm. tuberculosis, old age, br. pneumonia, alcoholism, accidents of parturition, digestive diseases and deaths by accidents and negligence.

The distribution of deaths in the various wards of the City are shown in the following table, and may be compared with the similar figures during the four preceding years:—

TABLE VII.

	1924.			1925.			1926.			1927.			1928.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Conduit	11	11	22	11	4	15	—	5	5	4	—	4	4	4	8
Grosvenor	50	52	102	80	49	129	60	64	124	58	67	125	59	78	137
Hamlet	30	28	58	23	20	43	11	23	34	25	30	55	16	22	38
K. St. George	43	60	103	58	61	119	58	69	127	74	74	148	54	57	111
Victoria	245	282	527	275	305	580	236	252	488	245	286	531	231	226	457
St. Margaret	50	33	83	37	42	79	51	37	88	42	42	84	29	32	61
St. John	245	196	441	221	189	410	204	162	366	217	138	355	173	163	336
St. Anne	41	26	67	37	29	66	38	32	70	44	33	77	26	23	49
Gt. Marlborough	22	12	34	7	20	27	20	14	34	18	15	33	20	17	37
Pall Mall....	33	8	41	19	7	26	22	8	30	21	9	30	31	7	38
Regent	35	22	57	27	21	48	25	18	43	35	20	55	25	12	37
Charing Cross	17	9	26	16	9	25	13	6	19	15	7	22	12	8	20
Covent Garden	26	25	51	31	28	59	39	39	78	29	35	64	35	29	64
Strand	40	7	47	60	3	63	56	6	62	52	5	57	46	10	56
Homeless ...	23	11	34	23	16	39	22	18	40	29	13	42	26	22	48

Infantile Mortality.—The corrected death-rate of infants for Westminster was 58·39 per 1,000 births. The mortality among legitimate infants was 53·2 per 1,000; that of illegitimate 100·0. The infant mortality rate for London was 67.

The number of infants dying under 1 year was 80, a decrease of 16 on the figure of last year and as the total number of births only shows a decrease of 29, the infantile mortality rate, especially the legitimate rate has appreciably declined. The chief contributory causes of death were pneumonia, prematurity and gastro-enteritis. Twelve of the 13 premature deaths occurred before the fourth week of life.

Gastro-enteritis accounted for 14 deaths, 13 of the infants being over four months old. Eleven of those occurred during July, August, and September, and might be attributed to what is commonly called "summer diarrhoea."

Table VIII shows the deaths as they occurred during the four quarters of the last four years:—

TABLE VIII.

	Total. 1928.	Total. 1927.	Total 1926.	Total 1925.
1st Quarter	21	29	30	35
2nd "	19	16	24	14
3rd "	21	26	25	24
4th "	19	25	17	33
	80	96	96	106

Table IX shows the births and deaths of infants, legitimate and illegitimate, since 1902 onwards, with the corresponding infantile mortality rates for Westminster and for London:—

TABLE IX.

Year.	Legitimate.			Illegitimate.			Total Rate, Westminster.	Total Rate, London.
	Births.	Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000 Births.	Births.	Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000 Births.		
1902	3,275	410	125	186	32	172	127	140
1903	3,035	345	113	150	25	166	116	130
1904	2,920	320	109	134	40	298	118	145
1905	2,971	305	102	149	24	161	105	130
1906	2,744	285	103	187	38	203	110	131
1907	2,764	269	97	163	34	208	103	116
1908	2,739	266	97	174	27	155	100	113
1909	2,548	232	91	203	26	128	93	108
1910	2,399	189	78	193	25	129	82	103
1911	2,195	210	95	166	33	198	103	129
1912	2,194	168	76	155	27	174	83	91
1913	2,057	184	89	176	29	164	95	105
1914	1,995	147	73	162	24	148	79	104
1915	1,798	141	78	181	41	225	92	112
1916	1,632	110	68	178	41	230	83.4	89
1917	1,348	112	83	196	48	239	103.6	104
1918	1,234	112	86.6	225	36	155	100	108
1919	1,383	99	71.5	217	41	188	87.5	85
1920	2,047	123	60	219	44	200	73.6	76
1921	1,729	117	67.7	190	37	194	80.2	80
1922	1,703	84	49.3	199	20	100	54.6	74
1923	1,582	68	42.9	176	15	85.7	47.2	60
1924	1,489	82	55.0	138	14	101.4	59.0	69
1925	1,418	88	62.0	117	18	153.8	69.0	67
1926	1,449	76	52.4	157	20	127.3	59.7	64
1927	1,255	81	64.5	144	15	104.1	68.6	59
1928	1,220	65	53.2	150	15	100.0	58.39	67

Table X shows the causes of death of children who died under one year of age. Figures under the same grouped causes are given from 1921 onwards, showing the proportion per 1,000 births applicable under each heading:—

TABLE X.

—	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Diphtheria	1.4	—	—	—	0.65	—	1.4	1.4
Influenza	—	3.6	—	0.6	0.65	0.62	0.71	—
Measles	—	1.0	—	5.5	—	2.49	—	—
Whooping Cough	1.5	1.0	1.1	1.9	4.5	0.62	1.4	2.1
Septic diseases	1.4	0.5	1.7	1.2	—	0.62	0.71	—
Bronchitis and pneumonia	11.8	7.3	4.0	10.4	16.2	9.9	6.4	13.8
Stomach and bowel complaints	13.4	3.1	1.1	1.9	5.2	8.0	12.1	10.9
Syphilis	2.6	2.1	2.8	1.2	1.3	—	2.8	0.72
Congenital malformations	9.3	4.2	5.1	4.9	3.2	4.34	7.8	5.1
Prematurity	15.5	16.2	13.1	14.1	16.9	19.3	20.0	9.4
Neglect and injury at birth	7.3	5.7	6.8	3.1	0.65	3.72	4.2	4.3
Debility from birth and atrophy, rickets, atelectasis	11.0	4.2	6.2	5.3	7.1	3.72	4.2	3.6
Tuberculosis	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.86	2.1	2.1
Other causes	3.6	3.6	2.8	6.7	10.4	4.34	4.2	2.1
	80.2	54.6	46.6	59.0	69.0	59.7	68.6	58.39

Table XI shows nett deaths from various causes at several age periods during the first year of life in the City of Westminster :—

TABLE XI.—INFANT MORTALITY, 1928.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	4 Weeks and under 3 Months.	3 Months and under 6 Months.	6 Months and under 9 Months.	9 Months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	3
Sepsis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	3
Meningitis	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Bronchitis	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	1	—	1	2	6	4	3	16
Gastro-enteritis	1	—	—	—	1	4	6	1	2	14
Injury at birth	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Neglect at birth	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Murder	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Atelectasis	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital malformations	4	—	2	—	6	—	1	—	—	7
Premature birth	8	3	1	—	12	1	—	—	—	13
Malnutrition, marasmus, debility from birth	1	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	—	5
Accidents	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other causes	2	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	3
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Totals	25	4	5	—	34	11	23	6	6	80

TABLE XII.

Nett Births in the year—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate ..	642	578	1,220
Illegitimate ..	80	70	150
	722	648	1,370

Nett Deaths in the year of—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate infants	37	28	65
Illegitimate infants	10	5	15
	47	33	80

The causes of death of the Illegitimate were:—Neglect at birth 4, prematurity 2, pneumonia 3, found drowned 1, syphilis 1, murder 1, marasmus 1, mastoiditis 1, and hæmorrhagic disease 1.

TABLE XIII.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1928.—*Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under One Year of Age in Pimlico Area (Victoria, Knightsbridge St. George and Hamlet Wards)*

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	4 Weeks and under 3 Months.	3 Months and under 6 Months.	6 Months and under 9 Months.	9 Months and under 12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
Diphtheria	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	3
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	1	—	1	1	3	1	1	7
Gastro-enteritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	—	1	9
Injury at birth ..	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Atelectasis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	3	—	1	—	4	—	1	—	—	5
Premature birth ..	5	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Want of attention at birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malnutrition, marasmus and debility from birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Accidents	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Meningitis	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sepsis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	11	—	3	—	14	5	16	1	2	38

TABLE XIV.

Nett Deaths in the year of—

	Males.	Females,	Total.
Legitimate infants	19	16	35
Illegitimate infants	3	—	3

TABLE XV.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1928.—*Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under One Year of Age in St. John and St. Margaret Wards.*

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	4 Weeks and under 3 Months.	3 Months and under 6 Months.	6 Months and under 9 Months.	9 Months and under 12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Whooping Cough ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	1	6
Gastro-enteritis ..	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	4
Congenital malformations	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Premature birth ..	2	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Atrophy, marasmus ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Want of attention ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Other causes	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	6	1	2	—	9	4	6	3	3	25

TABLE XVI.

Nett Deaths in the year of—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate infants	14	6	20
Illegitimate infants	4	1	5

TABLE XVII.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1928. *Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under One Year of Age in the North District (Grosvenor, Conduit, St. Anne, Pall Mall, Regent, Gt. Marlborough, Strand, Charing Cross and Covent Garden Wards).*

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	4 Weeks and under 3 Months.	3 Months and under 6 Months.	6 Months and under 9 Months.	9 Months and under 12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
Atelectasis	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
Gastro-enteritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Congenital malformations	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Premature birth ..	1	3	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	5
Malnutrition, inanition and debility from birth	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Murder	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Want of attention ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	5	3	—	—	8	2	1	2	1	14

TABLE XVIII.

Nett Deaths in the year—

	Males.		Females.		Total.
Legitimate infants	4	..	6	..	10
Illegitimate infants	4	..	—	..	4

TABLE XIX.

Deaths of infants with no known address, or found in streets, parks, &c.:—

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	4 Weeks and under 3 Months.	3 Months and under 6 Months.	6 Months and under 9 Months.	9 Months and under 12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
Want of attention	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other causes	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3

TABLE XX.

				Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	—	—	—
Illegitimate	—	3	3

TABLE XXA.

The following table shows the allocation of the nett births and infant deaths among the various Wards in the City, together with the infantile mortality rate for the Ward.

Wards.	Population, 1921 Census.	Total Births, 1928.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Total Infant Deaths, 1928.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	1928—Infant death rate per 1,000 births.		
								Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Total.
Conduit	3,456	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grosvenor	13,880	88	77	11	4	3	1	38.9	90.9	45.4
Pall Mall	3,572	10	8	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Regent	6,878	46	38	8	3	2	1	52.6	125.0	65.2
Gt. Marlborough	3,194	20	16	4	1	—	1	—	250.0	50.0
St. Anne	6,699	55	48	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Covent Garden	7,064	52	46	6	6	5	1	108.2	166.4	115.3
Charing Cross	4,650	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Strand	2,116	8	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Victoria	37,396	502	435	67	30	27	3	62.0	44.7	59.7
K. St. George	12,563	130	125	5	8	8	—	64.0	—	61.5
Hamlet	6,687	30	29	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Margaret	9,261	31	27	4	2	2	—	74.0	—	64.5
St. John	24,162	385	359	26	23	18	5	50.0	192.3	59.7
Homeless	—	3	—	3	3	—	3	—	1000.0	1000.0
Total	141,578	1,370	1,220	150	80	65	15	53.2	100.0	58.39

Common Lodging House Deaths.

Reference has been made in former reports to the shifting population which inhabits the six common lodging houses which are licensed in the City. Some of the residents are permanent, but a greater proportion are birds of passage. Deaths among the latter class of people tend to increase the death-rates of the wards in which those lodging houses are situated; 84 deaths of persons giving addresses in common lodging houses occurred in 1928. They were mostly in institutions:—

TABLE XXI.

	Deaths.
Bruce House (L.C.C.) (licensed for 715 men) ..	37
33, Great Peter Street	4
10, Great Peter Street (Salvation Army) (licensed for 565 men)	10
16, Strutton Ground (licensed for 201 men) ..	20
40, Great Peter Street (Church Army) (licensed for 57 women and 2 children).. ..	12
Church Army Home, Greencoat Place	1
	<hr/> 84 <hr/>

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious disease which came to the notice of the department during the period 1924-1928.

Details respecting the notifications of infectious disease received are set out on the adjoining page.

TABLE XXII.

	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
Small-pox	1	—	—	—	2
Diphtheria	237	286	223	185	233
Erysipelas	29	44	44	37	47
Scarlet fever	226	214	132	180	241
Enteric fever	15	17	11	24	28
Continued fever	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal fever	10	6	5	6	6
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	7	26	21
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	3	3	1	1	1
Encephalitis lethargica	15	7	5	1	1
Poliomyelitis	1	3	2	1	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	23	21	16	14	7
Measles	852	117	1,026	71	997
German measles	34	117	14	12	21
Pneumonia	92	58	69	64	26
Malaria	1	1	—	1	2
Dysentery	—	3	—	—	8
Anthrax	1	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox	89	149	198	206	210
Mumps	147	120	64	153	150
Whooping-cough	97	255	46	128	76

Small-pox.—Two cases of this disease were notified in Westminster during the year, both males, aged 37 and 15 respectively, residing in industrial dwellings which generally lend themselves to the rapid spread of infection. The latter case was only discovered when the disease was well advanced and the rash fully out. It was then found that he was still being employed as a messenger at a large factory in Westminster. Although there were many contacts, no further case was reported in Westminster, but this lad had infected three other people in the same factory before being moved to hospital. The other case had been treated for blood poisoning in a hospital where a previous case of small-pox was in the same ward. This patient had been discharged from that hospital undiagnosed. Information was received from the various Port Sanitary Authorities of 442 contacts. The names of all contacts are circulated by the Port Sanitary Authorities to the various districts to which they intend to proceed. This only applied, until recently, to persons remaining on the vessel until it reached a port in this country, the contacts who left the ship *en route* and proceeded overland were entirely lost sight of and could not be traced.

Vaccination.—The Vaccination Officer informs me that the following number of persons were vaccinated by the Public Vaccinators during the year :—

Primary	..	..	..	..	1,291
Secondary	..	..	..	..	182

These figures do not include vaccinations and re-vaccinations done by private practitioners. No vaccination was done by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small-pox Protection Regulations, 1917).

TABLE XXIII.
CITY OF WESTMINSTER.—Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1928.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	At all Ages.	CASES NOTIFIED.													Cases removed to Hospital.	Treated at Home.	At all Ages.	DEATHS.													
		At Ages—Years.																At Ages—Years.													
		Under 1.	1-2.	2-3.	3-4.	4-5.	5-10.	10-15.	15-20.	20-35.	35-45.	45-65.	65 and over.	Under 1.				1-2.	2-3.	3-4.	4-5.	5-10.	10-15.	15-20.	20-35.	35-45.	45-65.	65 and over.			
Small-pox	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cholera (C). Plague (R)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria	197	7	5	15	18	13	78	18	11	23	4	4	1	190	7	13	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas.....	47	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	8	6	17	10	36	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet fever	204	—	6	8	9	11	73	32	24	34	5	2	—	196	8	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Typhus fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Enteric fever	25	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	4	12	4	2	1	18	7	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	1	
Relapsing fever (R)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Continued fever (C)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal fever	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	—	—	5	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Encephalitis lethargica	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia neonatorum	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia	26	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	6	6	7	4	19	7	65	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	7	25	26
Malaria	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery.....	8	1	—	1	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	14	5	—	—	19	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	547	15	12	24	30	25	157	53	44	103	33	35	16	500	47	90	4	1	1	3	1	5	2	—	7	11	27	28	—	—	

Correction has been made for errors in notification or revision of diagnosis in 2 cases.

Cases not notified:—

Typhoid, 2, 21, 72.

Scarlet fever, 1, 2½, 3, 3½, 4, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5½, 6, 6, 6, 7, 7, 7, 7, 9½, 10, 15, 17, 17, 18, 18, 18, 19, 20, 25, 31, 43, and 5 in-patients of Gen. Hospitals, 1, 3, 13, 23, 26.

Diphtheria, 1½, 1½, 1½, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4, 4½, 5, 5, 5, 5, 6, 6, 7, 7, 9, 9, 9½, 10, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 21, 21, 23, 30, 30, and 4 in-patients of Gen. Hospitals, 1½, 2½, 3, 3½.

TABLE XXIV.
CITY OF WESTMINSTER.—*Infectious Diseases, Distributed in each Ward.*

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	Conduit.	Grovenor.	Knightsbridge St. George.	Victoria.	St. Margaret.	St. John.	Hamlet of Knightsbridge.	Pall Mall.	Regent.	Great Marlborough.	Charling Cross.	Covent Garden.	Strand.	St. Anne.	Homeless.
Smallpox	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera (C). Plague (R)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	18	7	76	8	83	3	1	6	2	—	11	—	9	9
Erysipelas	3	—	3	10	—	20	1	4	2	—	—	—	3	2	2
Scarlet fever	—	19	14	66	19	71	2	2	7	6	1	9	1	12	9
Typhus fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric fever	—	7	9	3	—	3	1	3	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Relapsing fever (R)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued fever (C)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal fever	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—	1	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	2	4	9	—	4	1	—	2	1	—	—	1	2	—
Malaria..... ..	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	5*
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	1	14	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals	3	46	40	184	28	193	9	10	18	9	3	23	6	25	26

* Non residents

Scarlet Fever.—241 cases of this disease occurred in 1928—an increase of 61 on the figures of 1927. The wards showing a slight increase are those of St. John, Victoria, and St. Anne. The disease, which hitherto was contracted mostly by children between the ages of 3 and 15 has, during the past year claimed many cases among those of more advanced years. 146 cases occurred in those between the ages of 3 and 15, and 76 cases between 15 and 45. There was one death. The case rate of this disease per 1,000 of the population was 1·81, the rate for England and Wales being 2·61. The death-rate for Westminster was 0·007 per 1,000, and for England and Wales 0·01. Of the total cases in Westminster 96 per cent. were moved to hospital.

Diphtheria.—233 cases of this disease occurred, showing an increase of 45 on the figures of 1927. The wards showing a marked increase are St. John and Victoria—the former with 21 more cases and the latter with 11. At no time was there any semblance of an outbreak during the year, the closest co-operation having existed between the Council's staff and that of the London County Council in the following up and swabbing of contacts of cases already sent to hospital, or of children who were sent home from school with sore throats. Most of the cases and deaths occurred in children between the ages of 3 and 15, but there was an increase in the number of cases in those of higher ages. There were 13 deaths (10 males and 3 females), giving a rate of 55·7 per 1,000 cases, and of these deaths 7 occurred between the ages of 5 and 10 giving a death rate for that period of 79·5 per 1,000 cases. The case rate of this disease for Westminster was 1·75 per 1,000 living, and that of England and Wales 1·55. The death-rate for Westminster was 0·10, and for England and Wales 0·06.

All cases reported to have been excluded from school on account of suspicious bacilli having been found in swabbings from their nose and throat are visited by the Sanitary Inspectors, and the parents advised to consult their doctor. But in cases where the family is numerous and the income too slender to enable them to call in a medical practitioner, they are visited by the Assistant Medical Officer of Health at their homes, or advised to call at 1, Pimlico Road for swabbing.

Thus unsuspected carriers are discovered, often apparently robust in health, but nevertheless a dangerous source of infection to their fellows. Fifty-seven diphtheria contacts in school children were swabbed by Dr. Thomson during the year. It is important that virulence tests

should always be carried out on persistent carriers so that those carrying virulent bacilli may be retained for special treatment, while the non-virulent carriers may safely be discharged to their homes.

REPORT ON SCHICK TESTING AND IMMUNISATION TREATMENT AGAINST DIPHTHERIA IN WESTMINSTER, 1928.

This treatment has been continued during 1928 on the lines indicated in the report for 1927.

Two hundred and fifty-six cases were dealt with during the year, as compared with 250 in 1927. It is possible that the figure might have been slightly higher but for the fact that very little work was done in January and February as many of the staff were occupied with special duties arising out of the Thames Flood. In any case, the small but steady supply of patients has been easily maintained, and there seems no reason why it should not continue and even increase. There seems to be justification for the belief that the best ultimate results will be achieved by aiming at a gradual diffusion of knowledge and experience of the treatment among parents.

Cases were dealt with at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres as follows :—

Pimlico Road	..	..	..	..	97
Bessborough Street	..	..	..	..	46
Frith Street	..	..	..	..	42
Page Street	..	..	..	..	71
Total					256

The treatment involved 347 tests and retests, 573 doses of the prophylactic mixture and 138 attendances for the reading of results only—a total of 1,058 attendances. Twenty-four cases were in the course of treatment at the end of the year and in 13 other cases treatment was interrupted by intercurrent illness in the patient or because of infectious disease in other members of the family. These cases will probably complete the treatment in due course. Only 3 cases definitely abandoned treatment before completion and this may be taken as an indication of the interest taken by the parents. As last year, a number of cases who accepted the Schick Treatment voluntarily had avoided vaccination. At least 16 out of the 250 had never been vaccinated, none of them very young children.

The following table shows the results of testing and the age groups of the patients :—

Age.					Positive.	Negative.	Treated without Testing.
Under 5 years	....	....	....	....	139	10	7
Over 5 years	....	....	....	....	51	28	—
Over 10 years	....	....	....	....	11	10	—
					201	48	7

It is of interest that of the 10 cases under 5 who were negative, 7 had definitely been in contact with cases of diphtheria in the family, and may in this way have acquired immunity in resisting small doses of infection. This bears out what has been found elsewhere, that the test is hardly necessary under five years, if there has been no contact with diphtheria. It is proposed in future to increase the number treated without a preliminary test. It has been found, however, that many parents prefer to have susceptibility demonstrated by the test before treatment is started.

The table also shows the increase of immunity with age. Between 5 and 10, 64 per cent. only and over 10, about 50 per cent. are positive.

In a small percentage of cases only, reactions after treatment were reported, especially among the older children. Most of these cases complained of slight malaise or discomfort and in five or six cases, there were rather more severe general or local reactions. These were invariably transient reactions, being confined to the two or three days following a prophylactic injection. In one or two cases reactions followed each injection, in many others it occurred only after one, usually the first. It must also be recognised that in an occasional case the child or the mother is temperamentally unsuitable for the treatment and that it is probably wise to abandon the treatment in these rare cases.

The number of patients attending for retests has been higher than in the previous year and about 60 per cent. of those who have received prophylactic treatment since the scheme started and who were due for retesting, have received retests. Some of the others may still attend, and a number leave the district before the retest is due. Ninety-eight were retested during 1928, of whom 89 gave a negative result. Nine gave slight positive or doubtful results and eight of these, after the parents had been consulted, received two additional protecting doses. No retest gave a marked positive result.

One child was removed to hospital, six months after a negative retest, with definite clinical and bacteriological diphtheria. It appears probable

that his immunity was insufficient to withstand a massive infection and that his symptoms were aggravated by an unfortunate delay in his removal to hospital. Two others were removed to hospital diagnosed as diphtheria. One showed no symptoms and had a negative swab in hospital, the other had a positive swab and slight nasal discharge, which cleared up at once after a small dose of antitoxin. As these last two cases were definitely infected but suffered no ill effects, they should be regarded as satisfactory. The Schick treatment does nothing to prevent a patient from becoming a "carrier" and only aims at protecting him from the consequences of the disease.

Parents reported several cases where a protected child was in contact with the disease, but did not develop it. There is, of course, no definite proof that infection occurred.

Another child was sent to hospital as diphtheria a few weeks after Schick treatment. The treatment does not have its full effect for several months, so such cases are possible. In this particular case, however, the diagnosis was not confirmed in hospital.

IAN S. THOMSON.

Antitoxin, for use in cases of diphtheria, is provided free of charge for medical practitioners attending patients residing in the City. The supply is available on application at the City Hall, and at the Council's Mortuary in Horseferry Road. It is apparent from the small amount used (36 bulbs, each containing 8,000 units), that practitioners prefer to send their patients at once into the fever hospitals, where antitoxin is administered on admission to all cases of clinical diphtheria. In times of epidemic, however, when the capacity of the fever hospitals is greatly taxed, there tends to be delay in admitting cases, and it is then that practitioners make full use of the antitoxin supplied by the Council.

Bacteriological Diagnosis.—Swabs from suspected cases among those residing in the City may be examined by the Council's bacteriologist free of charge to the practitioners attending. The materials for swabbing are supplied by the Council, and reports are in the first instance telephoned or telegraphed to the doctor concerned, and written reports follow. The number of throat swabs examined by the Council's bacteriologist during each year since 1924, was:—

1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
556	674	679	595	646

Enteric Fever.—There were 28 cases of typhoid and paratyphoid which came to the knowledge of the department during 1928. Of these 19 were notified as paratyphoid and 9 as typhoid. There was a history of fish having being consumed in 3 cases, cream 3 cases, ice-cream in

1 case, 4 cases came from abroad, 2 had just taken up residence in the City, and in 15 cases there was no history ascertainable. There were 6 deaths. The death-rate of this disease for England and Wales was 0.01, and for Westminster .04. The case rate for England and Wales was 0.09 and for Westminster 0.21.

In July and August an outbreak of para-typhoid fever B occurred in Kensington (47 cases), Fulham (25), Wandsworth (25), Hammersmith (3). There were also 91 cases from outlying districts adjoining the County of London. During this period 11 cases of para-typhoid fever B were notified in the City of Westminster. The cause of the outbreak in the districts mentioned was believed to be due to imported cream but from investigation it appeared very doubtful whether there was any direct association between the causal factors in that outbreak and the sources of infection in the Westminster cases.

Measles.—The following table shows the number of cases notified by head teachers of schools, the Metropolitan Asylums Board, hospitals and private practitioners during the last five years:—

1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
852	117	1,026	71	997

The death-rate for England and Wales per 1,000 population was 0.11, for London 0.30, and for Westminster 0.03. 179 cases were removed to hospital (157 to the hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Board and 22 to private hospitals. 133 cases were under 5 years of age, and 5 deaths occurred, all between the ages of 1 and 2 years.

TABLE XXV.

Influenza.—The deaths certified from this cause during the last five years are as follows:—

	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Males	25	13	10	24	12
Females	31	24	9	37	6
	—	—	—	—	—
	56	37	19	61	18

The death-rate in 1928 for Westminster was 0.13 per 1,000; for London, 0.13, and for England and Wales 0.19. Last year the corresponding rates were higher, being 0.14 for Westminster and 0.39 for London.

Diarrhœa and Enteritis.—Deaths from this cause were slightly higher than in 1927. The total deaths were 18—11 males and 7 females—14 being under 1 year old. The infant death-rate from this cause in Westminster was 10·2.

TABLE XXVI.

DEATHS FROM DIARRHŒA AND ENTERITIS.

—					Under 1 year.	Other ages.	Total.
1924	....	....	....	....	3	3	6
1925	....	....	....	....	8	5	13
1926	....	....	....	....	13	7	20
1927	....	....	....	....	16	—	16
1928	....	....	....	....	14	4	18
					54	19	73

The 14 deaths under 1 year of age were distributed over the quarters of the year :—

1st quarter.	2nd quarter.	3rd quarter.	4th quarter.
1	1	9	3

Whooping Cough.—70 cases were notified during the year with 3 deaths—all being under 1 year. This is a decrease on the figures of 1927, when 128 cases, with 7 deaths, were recorded. 15 cases were moved to hospital.

The deaths from whooping cough during the last five years are thus set out :—

TABLE XXVII.

—					Under 1 year.	At other ages.	Total.
1924	....	....	....	....	3	1	4
1925	....	....	....	....	7	10	17
1926	....	....	....	....	1	1	2
1927	....	....	....	....	2	5	7
1928	....	....	....	....	3	—	3
					16	17	33

Cerebro-spinal Fever.—One case only of this disease occurred.

Poliomyelitis.—1 case occurred.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—1 case was notified, with 1 death during the year.

Chicken Pox.—210 cases were notified, 5 being moved to hospital.

Mumps.—150 cases were recorded.

Plague, etc.—Intimation was received of five persons coming into Westminster from places infected with plague.

Anthrax.—There were no cases in 1928.

Puerperal Fever.—6 cases occurred, with three deaths—5 cases were removed to hospital.

The following table shows the number of births for the last five years, together with the number of cases of puerperal fever and deaths :—

Year.					No. of births.	No. of cases.	Deaths.
1924	....	....	....	....	1,624	10	2
1925	....	....	....	....	1,535	6	1
1926	....	....	....	....	1,606	5	2
1927	....	....	....	....	1,399	6	1
1928	....	....	....	....	1,370	6	3

Puerperal Pyrexia.—21 cases occurred, all being notified by hospitals. To the women concerned in the above 21 cases (17 were married and 4 single), 16 children only were born; the remaining 5 cases arose from miscarriage.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM) REGULATIONS, 1926.

These regulations have been in force since October, 1926, and under them midwives are no longer obliged to notify, but they are obliged to call qualified medical assistance to all cases of inflammation of the eyes. If the medical practitioner considers the case one of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, he must notify to the Medical Officer of Health.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—Seven cases occurred in 1928—6 males and 1 female. Four were admitted to hospital and 3 treated either at home or as out-patients of hospitals. In addition to these notified cases, 10 cases of slight inflammation of the eyes came to the knowledge of the Department. Facilities are afforded for the treatment of this disease by the Metropolitan Asylums Board at St. Margaret's Hospital, Kentish Town, N.W. Mothers are also admitted, and, if necessary, receive treatment.

It will be noted that this year the cases of genuine Ophthalmia are 50% less.

The following details in tabular form are required by the Ministry of Health of the cases notified in 1928 :—

Cases.			Vision un-impaired.	Vision impaired.	Total blindness.	Deaths.
Total.	Treated.					
	At home.	In hospital.				
7	3	4	7	—	—	—

BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY.

The examination of specimens for bacteriological investigation is carried out by Dr. Braxton Hicks at the laboratory of Westminster Hospital. The facilities provided by the Council apply only to patients who are residents in the City. A charge, however, is made for work done on behalf of individuals whose place of occupation is in Westminster, but who may be attended by Westminster practitioners.

The following is the summary of bacteriological work performed :—

Swabbings from throats in suspected diphtheria	..	646
Blood in suspected typhoid	.. .. .	21
Sputa for investigation of T.B.	.. .. .	355

Expenditure on first two was £93 2s. 2d., and for the third £48 12s. 10d., including cost of outfits, postage and telegrams.

TUBERCULOSIS.

In 1928, 187 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis came to the knowledge of the Department, including 9 cases who had moved into the City, and 11 non-notified deaths.

Non-pulmonary forms of tuberculosis gave 49 cases—12 of these being non-notified deaths.

TABLE I.

Tuberculosis, 1928.

Age-Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	—	—	2	1	—	—	2	1
1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
5	2	—	5	4	—	—	1	2
10	1	2	3	1	—	1	1	—
15	8	6	2	5	1	2	—	1
20	11	14	4	3	6	1	1	1
25	30	18	1	5	11	4	—	—
35	31	6	3	2	15	3	1	—
45	21	13	—	3	14	6	—	3
55	16	2	1	—	10	5	1	—
65 and upwards	4	2	—	2	4	7	—	2
Totals	124	63	22	27	61	29	7	11

In this Table all *primary* notifications are included, and also other *new* cases of tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

The total cases for 1928 show a decrease of 38 on those of 1927. Out of the total cases notified in 1928, 32 died, and the following table shows the period between notification and death of these cases:—

Weeks.			Months.									
1—2	2—3	3—4	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—6	6—7	7—8	8—9	9—10	10—11
12	3	3	3	8	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1

TABLE II.

	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
New cases notified	347	282	288	245	213
Number included in above who died during the year	66 (19·0%)	46 (16·3%)	45 (15·6%)	31 (12·6%)	32 (15·0%)
Total Tuberculous Deaths	138	129	133	114	108
Death Rates per 100,000	96·5	92·4	96·0	83·5	83·2

TABLE III.

TUBERCULOSIS.—*Notifications received during the period from 1st January, 1928, to 29th December, 1928.*

1928		Number of notifications on Form A.												Total notifications, on Form A, including cases previously notified.
		Primary notifications.												
		0 to 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 25.	25 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 55.	55 to 65.	65 and up.	Total new cases.	
Age periods.														
Pulmonary—														
Males ...		—	—	2	1	8	10	27	29	17	13	4	111	118
Females ...		—	—	—	2	5	11	17	6	13	1	1	56	63
Non-pulmonary—														
Males ...		1	1	4	3	2	3	1	2	—	1	—	18	18
Females ...		—	—	2	1	5	3	5	1	1	—	1	19	20
Total		1	1	8	7	20	27	50	38	31	15	6	204	219

	Number of notifications on Form B. (School medical inspection.)					Number on Form C. Admissions to	
	Primary notifications.				Total notifications, including cases previously notified.	Poor Law institutions.	Sanatoria.
	Under 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	Total.			
Pulmonary—							
Males ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	70
Females ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	40
Non-pulmonary—							
Males ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Females ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Total ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	128

TABLE IV.

TUBERCULOSIS.—*New cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health otherwise than by Notification under the Regulations.*

1928. Age Periods.	0 to 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 25.	25 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 55.	55 to 65.	65 and up.	Total.
Pulmonary—												
Males	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	4	3	—	13
Females	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	—	1	1	7
Non-pulmonary—												
Males	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	4
Females	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	8
Total	2	1	3	—	1	5	4	4	6	4	2	32

	C.L.H.	General.	Non-pulmonary. C.L.H. General.	Total
Notified pulmonary	29	138	3 34	204
Not notified in Westminster	2	18	— 12	32
Total ...	31	156	49	236

TABLE V.
TUBERCULOSIS.—Table showing distribution in Wards of notified and unnotified cases,
and numbers of such persons who have been treated in Institutions.

1927.	All Ages.	Conduit.	Grosvenor.	Knight- bridge St. George.	Victoria.	St. Margaret.	St. John.	Hamlet of Knights- bridge.	Pall Mall.	Regent.	Great Marl- borough.	Charing Cross.	Covent Garden.	Strand.	St. Anne.	Homelcas.	Received Insti- tutional Treat- ment during 1927.
Pulmonary—																	
Males	124	—	4	6	29	6	30	2	6	3	4	—	2	11	9	12	97
Females	63	—	7	2	23	—	20	—	—	2	—	—	2	1	3	2	39
Non-pulmonary—																	
Males	22	—	1	1	10	1	6	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	20
Females	27	—	1	3	10	—	5	2	1	—	1	—	2	—	2	—	22
	236	—	13	12	72	7	61	4	7	6	6	—	6	13	14	15	178

TABLE VI.

The figures for a series of years are shown below:—

	Pulmonary.					Non-Pulmonary.			Total of all forms.	
	General Population.		C.L.H. and no Address.		Total.					
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.	Total.		
1912	233	154	115	10	512	—	—	59	571	
1913	203	174	89	8	474	91	86	177	651	
1914	186	105	94	4	390	34	38	72	462	
1915	155	95	59	8	317	46	26	72	389	
1916	183	135	64	9	391	42	39	81	472	
1917	209	164	51	7	431	42	34	76	507	
1918	293	225	40	4	562	50	55	105	667	
1919	197	122	30	4	353	35	23	58	411	
1920	143	133	29	4	309	29	29	58	367	
1921	118	114	37	2	271	19	22	41	312	
1922	119	110	42	2	273	24	30	54	327	
1923	111	114	42	1	268	24	32	56	324	
1924	140	122	33	1	296	27	24	51	347	
1925	108	92	27	1	228	23	31	54	282	
1926	117	90	29	4	240	18	30	48	288	
1927	103	67	24	1	195	21	29	50	245	
1928	97	61	27	2	187	22	27	49	236	

(Military cases which were excluded during the war were again made notifiable in 1920.)

A return required by the Ministry is appended, also a table showing the distribution of the cases in the various wards of the city.

Non-notified Deaths.—There were 23 deaths from Tuberculosis (12 males and 11 females) during 1928 of persons who had not been notified in Westminster. The majority of these had been notified elsewhere, some were sudden deaths of visitors to this country, and the cause of death in some cases was only discovered on post-mortem examination. These 23 non-notified deaths gave a percentage of 21·3 of the total deaths from Tuberculosis for the year.

The total number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the end of 1928 was 1,489 as compared with 1,457 at the end of the year 1927.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1924.

The number of unnotified deaths is slightly lower this year, being down from 29 to 23; the corresponding percentage proportions are 25·4 per cent. (1927) and 21·3 per cent. (1928). Enquiries were made, but in no instance did there appear to be neglect on the part of a medical practitioner to notify a case. In 14 instances the diagnosis was made as a result of post-mortem examination.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

The object of these regulations is to prevent anyone who is aware that he is suffering from an infectious form of tuberculosis from engaging in certain departments of the milk trade. There was no occasion for exercising the powers conferred by these regulations during 1928.

TABLE VII.

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Number of cases on Register at beginning of year 1928	701	407	154	195
Notified for the first time during year	116	60	18	19
	817	467	172	214
Removed from the Register on account of death or removal from Westminster....	94	56	9	22
	723	411	163	192

Of the 181 cases removed from the Register during the year 1928, 84 were on account of death, 94 persons suffering from Tuberculosis moved from the City, and the diagnosis was revised in 3 cases. Of the 84 deaths mentioned above, 2 died from causes other than Tuberculosis.

Deaths from Tuberculosis.—The total number of deaths from Tuberculosis for 1928 (all forms) was 108—Males 68, Females 40. This gives a death-rate for this disease of .83 per 1,000. The following table shows the number of deaths from Tuberculosis for the last 5 years, together with the death-rate.

Year.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.
1924	138	.96
1925	129	.92
1926	133	.96
1927	114	.83
1928	108	.83

The average five-yearly rate per 1,000 was .90

The following table shows Deaths per 100,000 of civilian population since 1917.

TABLE VIII.

Westminster—Deaths from Tuberculosis per 100,000 civilian population.

Years.	Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.		Total.	
	Deaths.	Rates.	Deaths.	Rates.	Deaths.	Rates.
1917 annual	194	147	29	22	223	169
1918 " 	186	148	31	24	217	173
1919 " 	134	105	21	16	155	121
1920 " 	139	97	18	12	157	109
1921 " 	120	84·9	15	10·6	135	95·5
1922 " 	144	103·3	21	15	165	118·3
1923 " 	103	73·3	16	11·3	119	84·7
1924 " 	124	86·7	14	9·9	138	96·5
1925 " 	115	82·3	14	10·0	129	92·4
1926 " 	119	85·9	14	10·1	133	96·0
1927 " 	100	73·2	14	10·2	114	83·5
1928 " 	90	69·3	18	13·8	108	83·2

WESTMINSTER TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1928.

The work of the Tuberculosis Dispensary has been carried out during the year without any radical change in the routine described in previous reports.

Four hundred and fifty-two new cases were examined during the year, of which 201 were considered to be definitely tuberculous, though not necessarily at an active stage of the disease.

The following table shows the sources from which new cases were referred to the Dispensary during 1928 and in the two previous years.

	1926.	1927.	1928.
Practitioners	142	153	149
Health Visitors (contacts, etc.) ..	161	158	159
St. Stephen's Hospital	54	52	61
Ministry of Pensions	15	9	10
School Medical Officer	33	27	42
Hospitals	12	9	11
Friends, Charitable Organizations, etc.	29	20	20
	—	—	—
	446	428	452
	—	—	—

This table indicates that the increase in the total compared with 1927 is due largely to an increase in cases referred by the School Medical Officer and in cases seen in connection with St. Stephen's Hospital. The slight decrease in the number of patients referred by practitioners is explained by the fact that the total number of notifications in Westminster in 1928 was slightly lower than in the previous year.

The cases referred by the Ministry of Pensions were for the most part old cases who had moved into Westminster from elsewhere. As pointed out last year, a gradual decrease in the number of pensioners attending is to be expected.

Reference has been made in previous reports to the importance of the connection between the Dispensary and St. Stephen's Hospital. These cases are almost all definite cases of tuberculosis, so about a quarter of the new cases of tuberculosis, as distinct from suspects, are obtained through the hospital. Many of these new cases are from Common Lodging Houses and have often been resident in Westminster only a short time. Others, however, are genuine Westminster residents of the type who, from choice or necessity, do not seek treatment until they are too ill to carry on. These are sent straight to St. Stephen's Hospital by medical practitioners, and many of them would never come in touch with the Tuberculosis Officer except through the hospital. It is possible to arrange for suitable cases to be transferred to the London County Council institutions and to get others to attend the Dispensary after discharge from St. Stephen's Hospital. Considerable use is made of the Hospital for Dispensary cases who are awaiting a Sanatorium vacancy, and who cannot be treated at home, and for other more advanced cases where it is desired to see if sufficient improvement is made under hospital conditions before recommendations are made to the County Council.

Even more important is the touch which can be maintained with old Dispensary cases. Many advanced cases which would not be considered eligible for treatment under the London County Council's Tuberculosis Scheme, are recommended from the Dispensary to St. Stephen's Hospital. Some of these are patients who have attended the Dispensary for many years and who are more willing to enter the hospital when they know that they will still be seen by the Tuberculosis Officer. In other cases, the Tuberculosis Officer finds cases in the hospital whose Dispensary attendance has lapsed.

It would therefore seem that the connection between the Dispensary and the hospital does much to aid continuity of treatment, which is of prime importance in the treatment of Tuberculosis. It is highly desirable

that, in the forthcoming rearrangement of the Tuberculosis Scheme in London, this connection should be maintained and if possible strengthened.

	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1921.
New Patients	529	613	395	446	428	452
Old Patients attending	800	652	474	519	513	551
Contacts examined	245	271	150	162	131	98
Individuals who attended	1,329	1,255	869	965	941	1,003
Total Attendances	3,133	3,292	2,637	2,697	2,627	2,370
Written Medical Reports to London County Council and Medical Practitioners	1,651	1,884	1,280	1,378	1,270	1,300
Consultations with Medical Practitioners	209	243	90	92	105	98
Other visits paid by Medical Officer	227	178	87	46	149	112
Visits by Health Visitors to Dispensary Cases	4,717	4,907	5,636	4,144	4,875	3,444
Sputum Examinations	360	232	443	223	172	159
X-ray Examinations	5	2	2	5	12	16

The above table gives certain details of the work of the Dispensary in 1928 and in the preceding five years.

The following table shows the number of cases recommended for Hospital and Sanatorium treatment in 1928 :—

	Hospital.	Sanatorium.
Insured Males	35	38
Insured Females	12	11
Uninsured Males	5	7
Uninsured Females	7	11
Boys	3	4
Girls	2	0
	—	—
	64	71
	—	—

In addition many children have been recommended for Convalescent treatment through the Invalid Children's Aid Association, the Guardians, the School Authorities, St. Henry's Fund, etc.

It is unfortunately less easy to obtain convalescent treatment for tuberculous adults. It seems probable that spells of convalescent treatment at appropriate times might prevent many quiescent cases from losing ground and possibly save them from reactivation of their disease, and from the need for further spells of Sanatorium treatment.

The association with the Westminster Hospital has been continued and a number of cases have been referred there during the year for surgical opinions, for orthopaedic treatment, or for treatment such as the removal of tonsils and adenoids.

Sixteen patients have had X-ray examinations and 159 specimens of sputa have been examined at Westminster Hospital in connection with the work of the Dispensary. Seven cases have had Artificial Pneumothorax treatment at Brompton Hospital and elsewhere. In all, 118 refills have been given at a cost to the Council of 10s. 6d. each. The results in all these cases have been thoroughly satisfactory, and in suitable cases the value of this form of treatment cannot be over estimated. One case of Lupus has attended ten times for Light treatment at the London Hospital. Seven cases have been referred to the Council's Dental Clinic for treatment. The total number of attendances was 54, 66 extractions and 13 fillings were performed. Dentures were supplied to 5 patients, the Council contributing £2 towards the cost in one instance. School children are recommended to the school authorities for dental treatment and also for treatment of conditions of the eye and the nose and throat.

The Tuberculosis Care Committee has approved grants for extra diet to 10 persons for varying periods at a total cost to the Council of £60. Cases are recommended by the Tuberculosis Officer purely on medical grounds as an adjuvant to the other treatment provided under the Council's Tuberculosis Scheme. Most of the cases are patients who are awaiting or have recently returned from institutional treatment.

Care and After-Care.

During 1928 the Tuberculosis Care Committee issued a report, giving details of the various branches of its work, and citing illustrative cases in which the Committee was able to help patients to accept institutional treatment by obtaining relief from some of their responsibilities, or to aid them on their return from Sanatorium. Detailed reference was also made to the aid given by the British Red Cross Society and the United Services Fund to ex-service tuberculous men and their dependents, and to the Open Air Class in St. James's Park which is attended by many children who are Dispensary patients.

Handicrafts Class.

This class, referred to in last year's report, has been continued very successfully by the voluntary committee. Excellent work is turned out by the patients and they appear to derive considerable physical and mental benefit from the interest and occupation which their work gives them. In many cases they are also able appreciably to augment their incomes.

TUBERCULOSIS SCHEME OF THE WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL.

RETURN SHOWING THE WORK OF THE DISPENSARY DURING THE YEAR 1928.

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY.				TOTAL.			
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
A.—NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts):—												
(a) Definitely tuberculous	105	54	3	2	5	8	12	7	110	62	15	9
(b) Doubtfully tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	—	—
(c) Non-tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31	36	31	27
B.—CONTACTS examined during the year:—												
(a) Definitely tuberculous	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	1	3
(b) Doubtfully tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
(c) Non-tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	14	35	41
C.—CASES written off the Dispensary Register as—												
(a) Cured	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Diagnosis not confirmed or non-tuberculous (including cancellation of cases notified in error)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	43	60	78	81
D.—NUMBER OF PERSONS on Dispensary Register on December 31st:—												
(a) Diagnosis completed	253	190	12	18	20	16	87	78	273	206	99	96
(b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

1. Number of persons on Dispensary Register on January 1st	679	10. Number of consultations with medical practitioners—	
*2. Number of patients transferred from other areas and of "lost sight of" cases returned	24	(a) At homes of Applicants	54
3. Number of patients transferred to other areas and cases "lost sight of"	142	(b) Otherwise.....	318
4. Died during the year	52	11. Number of other visits by Tuberculosis Officers to homes	112
5. Number of observation cases under A (b) and B (b) above in which period of observation exceeded 2 months	2	12. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes	3,444
6. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts)....	2,370	13. Number of—	
†7. Number of attendances of non-pulmonary cases at Orthopaedic Out-stations for treatment or supervision	—	(a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined	159
8. Number of attendances at General Hospitals or other Institutions approved for the purpose, of patients for—		(b) X-ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work	16
(a) "Light" treatment	10	14. Number of Insured Persons on Dispensary Register on the 31st December	315
(b) Other special forms of treatment	118	15. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December	182
9. Number of patients to whom Dental Treatment was given, at or in connection with the Dispensary	7	16. Number of reports received during the year in respect of Insured Persons :—	
		(a) Form G.P. 17	—
		(b) Form G.P. 36	1

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* No cases discharged as "cured" have returned to the Dispensary.

† A number of Orthopaedic and surgical cases have been referred to general hospitals.

(Signed) IAN S. THOMSON, M.D.,
Tuberculosis Officer.

23rd February, 1929.

HOUSING.

The Millbank Improvement Scheme.

The overflowing of the Thames on the night of 6th-7th January and the damage which followed focussed attention on the housing conditions in the riverside area, a result always likely to happen where the destructive forces of Nature, be they fire, wind or water, play havoc with the defences which man has devised to protect himself against them. A general outline of the circumstances of the flood and of the measures taken to provide shelter and to make good the losses suffered by those whose homes were flooded was given in the preface to the report of last year. It was mentioned there that an Improvement Scheme was in contemplation, which it was hoped to promote in a private Bill. It was felt that owing to the peculiar circumstances which had arisen, largely owing to the flood, a more expeditious method of dealing with the area would be by the promotion of a late Bill in the parliamentary session of 1928 rather than by proceeding under Part II of the Housing Act, which deals with insanitary areas. In this instance the Council was dealing with an owner who not only had no desire to oppose an improvement scheme but who was most anxious by every means in his power to hasten the work of restoration of the devastated area and, further, to help replace the affected working-class dwellings by new and more roomy dwellings fitted with every convenience likely to increase comfort in the home and to raise the standard of living. The hope that there would be time to promote a late Bill was unfortunately not fulfilled owing to the nature of the negotiations which had to take place between the owner (the Duke of Westminster) and the Council. The scheme, however, was completed in the autumn, and the Bill embodying the scheme was deposited in November, 1928. It was passed through Parliament in the spring and received the Royal Assent this month (May, 1929). Stated briefly, the scheme is as follows: The whole of the Millbank estate is to be rebuilt, while existing working-class dwellings, together with other buildings, will gradually be demolished. The Duke has given to the Council an area of land sufficient to contain 604 working-class dwellings (this figure corresponds to the number of families residing in the area on the night of the flood). In addition to this gift the Duke will contribute a capital sum of £113,650 towards the cost of the new dwellings and, further, will contribute a considerable sum towards the making of certain new streets. The total money value of the Duke's gift, including the estimated value of the land is not far short of £310,000, and the cost of the scheme to the Council will be about £350,000. The capital value of this improvement scheme may therefore be reckoned about £700,000. The enormous cost of building working-class dwellings in Westminster is of sufficient moment to call for remark. If

the Council had not received a free gift of the land (a 999 years lease at one shilling per year), and also a gift of a capital sum, the expenditure to be borne by the ratepayers would have amounted to £606,600 for 604 dwellings, or more than an average £1,000 per dwelling.

The work of remedying the insanitary conditions resulting from the flood, providing information for the proper distribution of the Mayor's Relief Fund and the surveys necessary for the submission of evidence in the Improvement Bill were a dominant issue in the department throughout the year. The administration of relief for loss or damage to household effects and for damage to houses was closely bound up with the work of surveying insanitary conditions, and the staff of the department, although all were working overtime and sacrificing week-end leisure, had to be temporarily increased to deal with the emergency. Three additional sanitary inspectors and a clerk were engaged for some months. As this work concerned the department so closely a brief account is included as an appendix to this report.

The preparation of evidence for the Millbank Improvement Bill also occupied the greater part of the year and extended into 1929. The evidence consists of a Proof of Evidence, being an account of the historical and general characteristics of the Millbank Estate, the condition of premises previous to the flood and the effects of the flood on premises, particularly dwelling-houses, a discussion as to the best methods of dealing with the area and an outline of the proposals contained in the Bill. Four appendices were submitted: (1) a complete statement of the occupation of all the premises in the area, supplying names of tenants, subtenants, &c., number of rooms occupied, rents, number of families (adults and children), trade or calling of each head of household and a sanitary report on such premises; (2) a plan on ordnance scale showing types of premises differently coloured, *e.g.*, working-class dwellings, shops, &c.; (3) statistical tables relating to persons and premises; and (4) a book of photographs indicating the existing state of premises in various parts of the area.

These five documents have been submitted to the Ministry as a special report.

The main plea of the Bill was for power to acquire land for new working-class dwellings to replace those which in the course of time had become worn out and had suffered such damage from the flood that they had become either wholly or in part unfit for habitation.

A perspective view of the proposed new housing scheme as designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens is shown on page v of the appendix to this report.

Ebury Bridge Scheme.

The financial provisions, lay-out and general design of another new housing scheme have been approved by the Council and the work is now proceeding. This is the Ebury Bridge Housing Scheme, on land shortly to be designated surplus owing to the policy of the Council pursued in recent years of centralizing the work of certain departments. In brief, as it affects this area the policy will include the filling in of part of the Grosvenor canal, the demolition of certain old workshops and stores, making a clearance of approximately two acres. The dangerous corner of Ebury Bridge Road, where the Tuberculosis Dispensary and Maternity and Child Welfare Centre now stand will be cut off, thus bringing this road into direct line with Buckingham Palace Road. These two institutions will be rebuilt in more up-to-date and commodious buildings, and will be more or less homogeneous with the new housing scheme. A perspective view of the proposed scheme and plans of the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre and Tuberculosis Dispensary are shown on pages X, XI and XII of the appendix to this report. It will be noted that in addition to eight blocks of flats there will be two floors of flats over the Dispensary and Welfare Centre. It is the intention to house in them certain officers of the Council who are required to live near their work.

When these two schemes are completed the Council will have provided a total of approximately 1,000 dwellings since the war. The working class accommodation owned by the Council previous to the war was 396. In addition there are throughout the City no fewer than 72 blocks of industrial dwellings containing 6,209 separate flats. It has already been pointed out that there is a larger number of industrial dwellings in Westminster than in any other district of London. In other words suitable working-class accommodation exists in higher proportion than in the other Metropolitan Boroughs. If the comparative figures of resident and day population are borne in mind the difficulty of providing housing for all who work in Westminster will become apparent:—138,000 residents and almost 400,000 who come to Westminster daily to work. In order to make room for houses for the majority of Westminster workers it would be necessary probably to demolish some of the shops and offices in which they work, which is a *reductio ad absurdum*., The proposal might likewise be put forward that those who work in the City of London should be housed there. It would again be a question of housing half a million persons where only 13,000 are now dwelling. This could only be accomplished by erecting industrial dwellings of enormous height on the cleared sites of say banks, insurance offices and warehouses.

Two Completed Schemes.

The two housing schemes, which were nearing completion at the end of 1927, were opened for occupation in May and June, 1928. Details of each, Admiral House, Willow Street, and Schomberg House, Esher Street, were described last year. In considering applications for the 118 flats in both houses the Housing Committee gave preference to cases which had come under the notice of the Medical Officer of Health and were recommended by him. In this way 79 families found relief from overcrowding and other insanitary conditions.

With regard to a proportion of the flats in Schomberg House the Housing Committee had to alter the allocations for the following reasons. In the Millbank Scheme it was agreed by the contracting parties to proceed at once with the houses on the South side of Vincent Street. That is to say, whether the Bill passed or not the Duke had agreed to give this section of land for the purpose of new working-class dwellings. Consequently, in order to expedite demolition and re-construction, the tenants of this side of Vincent Street were housed in Schomberg House, soon after it was opened. These old houses were soon razed to the ground and the site cleared for rebuilding. The Housing Committee has in consequence a considerable list of urgent cases which would have been housed in Schomberg House had it not been necessary to house the Vincent Street tenants and thus accomplish the clearance of the south side of this street.

Wormholt Estate, Hammersmith.—In the report for last year details were given of an agreement entered into with the London County Council under the provisions of Section 14 of the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1924, under which the London County Council allocated to the City Council 50 houses on the Wormholt Estate at Hammersmith, for the housing of Westminster families to be nominated by the City Council.

By January, 1928, 42 of these 50 houses had been let to the City Council's nominees and in that month the agreement was extended to cover a further 50 houses, making a total of 100 in all. As a result of the conditions arising out of the flood, the letting of these houses proceeded rapidly and was completed in the early part of the year.

Other London County Council Estates.—Under the arrangement made by the London County Council by which a certain percentage of new accommodation on that Council's outlying estates is allotted to the various Borough Councils for families living in overcrowded or other insanitary conditions, 52 Westminster families were re-housed, principally on the Downham and Watling Estates.

The existing estates of the County Council, other than that at Becontree in Essex, have now been practically completed and occupied. Nomination of tenants by the Borough Councils has therefore ceased, except in the case of the latter estate, which, however, has no attraction for Westminster workers owing to its distance from the City and its inaccessibility.

Housing Applications.—It is the practice of the Public Health Department to examine all applications received by the Council for housing accommodation and in cases where overcrowding or other insanitary conditions appear to exist, to inspect and report to the Town Clerk for the information of the Housing Committee. During the year, 344 such inspections were made and of the urgent cases discovered 137 were re-housed in dwellings of the City Council or of the London County Council.

The City of Westminster year by year is developing as the City of London developed in the past—becoming a centre for merchandise, banking, and other spheres of commerce. In addition its traditional characteristic as the home of the Arts and Sciences is continually extending. If these features are to be preserved and this natural scheme of evolution is to proceed there cannot also be a very large development as a working-class district. So far as the Council is concerned in providing dwellings, certain guiding principles will have to be set up. Who actually requires to live in Westminster to be near his or her place of work? It should be a condition that a tenant holds his tenancy only so long as his work remains of such a nature that it demands his living near at hand. There is no other way of settling a problem which is likely to become more and more difficult as years go on. It is well known that tenants from other districts are most eager to live in Westminster irrespective of where their work may be. Having obtained a room or rooms these families increase and grow older. Soon, as “old Westminster” residents they lodge applications for the Council’s dwellings on the grounds of overcrowding, &c. If they succeed in obtaining larger accommodation it is more than likely that their old rooms will be taken by a family from an outside district. So it goes on. From a close study of the housing problem extending almost over five years one is becoming convinced that there is generally in Westminster sufficient working-class accommodation for all to whom it is vitally important to live near their work. It will be remembered that a large proportion of it is occupied by those who work in other districts—18,900 in 1921 census. The cost of travelling or occupations entailing abnormal hours are of course very pressing questions for Westminster workers. The Council’s activities should therefore clearly

be restricted to replacing the working-class dwellings in the City where these are worn out and lacking in conveniences and also to making such provision for certain classified workers as will put an end to overcrowding and others forms of illegal occupation.

Basement dwellings.—The question of living in basements is one which came into great prominence in connection with the flooding of riverside districts of London. It will be remembered that there are two governing principles here involved. The Public Health London Act, 1891, Section 96, requires that no basements shall be occupied as separate dwellings unless they comply with certain structural standards. If, however, the occupier has a room on an upper floor the force of this section ceases to have effect. The Housing Act, 1909, and Regulations re-enacted in the Act of 1925 lay down more far-reaching requirements if basements are to be used as sleeping rooms. It is under the latter that it is possible to take the most satisfactory action. A room which does not comply may be closed for sleeping purposes by order of the Sanitary Authority.

The danger to which occupants of basement sleeping rooms are exposed in districts liable to river flooding need not be emphasised. The risk is increased where those rooms do not comply either in respect of greater depth below the footway or deficiency of access of windows or doors. So far as Westminster is concerned only one fatality occurred in an underground room illegally occupied; the others who were drowned were living in underground rooms where the conditions were in accordance with statutes and regulations.

With regard to the question of basements generally the whole matter cannot be decided so simply as many imagine. In several instances basements have been found which according to measurements were illegally occupied and yet were brighter and more airy than many others which complied with the regulations or for that matter some ground floor rooms in certain districts. Other factors play an important part—width of street, height and elevation of neighbouring buildings, aspect in relation to sunlight. There are, however, many basement rooms which are undoubtedly depressing to health when the occupants have to live, sleep and eat in the same rooms. Ventilation in these is often inadequate, dampness in varying degrees owing to defects in the original construction may be present and is sometimes incurable. The atmosphere of the interiors is dim and murky. If housing accommodation increased to such an extent would it ever be expedient to ask for powers to close all underground rooms for living purposes? In those cases where underground rooms have become disused whether by reason of action by the sanitary authority or otherwise they become dumps for rubbish. Dirt and dust

accumulate to an extraordinary degree, rats find an attractive home, and dampness becomes aggravated. Such a state of deterioration goes on that the structure of the whole house is threatened and an atmosphere of nuisance is created. If disused basement rooms are not sealed by having doorways and windows bricked up then they had far better be occupied. Used for purposes other than sleeping, say as kitchens or for having meals in, and submitted regularly to broom and bucket these underground rooms help to ventilate the whole house. During the year 32 cases of illegal occupation of underground rooms were discovered; in 18 of these the tenants obtained alternative accommodation, all except two being rehoused in dwellings of the City Council or of the London County Council. The cases which remain to be dealt with have been recommended for preferential consideration when suitable accommodation becomes available.

Reoccupation of overcrowded or insanitary dwellings.

It has been the practice in this department for some years to communicate with the owner of houses or rooms from which tenants previously living in overcrowded or other insanitary conditions have moved to other dwellings. It is pointed out to the owner that it is his duty to see that in re-letting, such conditions do not recur. Re-inspections of such houses have been made at regular intervals and only in two instances was it found necessary to issue fresh notices. In one case accommodation was found for a family illegally occupying two underground rooms. In spite of warnings the owner re-let those rooms under the same conditions. He was proceeded against and was convicted.

Cottage Place and Willow Place.—In October a request was made to the Medical Officer of Health by the Westminster Housing Association and four local government electors, that an inspection be made of the houses in these two streets, in accordance with Sections 35 and 36 of the Housing Act, 1925. It was suggested that the Medical Officer of Health might make an official representation to the Council with a view to a small Improvement Scheme being undertaken in connection with these properties. A detailed inspection was accordingly made of the houses in question and certain defects requiring remedy under the nuisance sections of the Public Health Act were found to exist, but the general condition of the premises was not such that they could be described as “unfit for habitation” or “dangerous or injurious to the health of the inhabitants” as specified in Section 35 (a) and (b) of the Housing Act. A report in these terms was subsequently made to the Council as required by Section 36 (2) of the Act.

Cottage Place, a cul-de-sac on the North side of Romney Street, consists of 11 houses of the cottage type, varying in size from two to four rooms.

Each of them was occupied by one family only, except one of the four-roomed cottages, which contained two families. The houses are old and nearing the end of their useful life, but they are fairly well situated so far as access to light and air is concerned. They have been the subject of house-to-house inspections under the Housing Consolidated Regulations from time to time and appropriate action has been taken where necessary to secure that they shall be kept in a reasonable state of repair.

Willow Place is a small court opening out of Willow Street, and consists of two cottages, one of which contains eight rooms and the other four. There were three families in the former and one in the latter. The site was formerly occupied by six small cottages, which were reconstructed and converted into two some thirty years ago. Prior to 1926 there were three unoccupied and dilapidated cottages on the opposite side of the court which obstructed light and air from the other two. As stated in the report for that year, the Council took steps to obtain the demolition of those three cottages, with considerable benefit to the remaining two, the structural condition of which is fairly good.

The following table, required by the Ministry of Health, is set forth in detail :—

TABLE I.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

	Tenements.
(a) Total	118
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—	
(i) By the Local Authority	77
(ii) By other bodies or persons	0

1. *Unfit dwelling-houses.*

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	5,458*
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	382
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	40†
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	1,209**

* Includes 722 houses affected by the Thames flood of January 6-7th.

** Includes 711 houses " " " " " "

† Houses rendered wholly or in part unfit by reason of the Flood.

2. *Remedy of defects without Service of formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	95
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3. *Action under Statutory Powers.*

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.. ..	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1,489
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	1,485
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	0

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Closet Accommodation.—The water-carriage system is in existence throughout the City.

Scavenging.—This is in charge of the Highways Department, whose chief officer is the City Cleansing Surveyor, and the following particulars are supplied by his courtesy. There is a daily collection of house refuse throughout the City, the removal of trade refuse being subject to special arrangements; 104,866 tons of the former were collected during the year and 741 tons of the latter. Refuse, after collection, is disposed of in two ways; in one it is sent down the river in barges to be finally deposited on waste land in Essex; in the other it is sorted in a salvage plant at one of the Council's depots. During 1928, 84,766 tons were sent away in barges and 11,728 tons were treated at the salvage plant. The remainder was carted away by various contractors.

The subject of the ultimate disposal of refuse from the Metropolitan area is one which has received considerable attention during the past year.

A considerable proportion of Metropolitan refuse is dumped in Essex and other outlying districts. Residents and others in the vicinity of the dumps have complained of the nuisance caused by rats, and by the smoke from fires which are the result of spontaneous combustion. Various methods of treating the refuse with a view to preventing the heaps from taking fire have been tried, but apparently without success. Some of these dumps have assumed gigantic proportions and there is no doubt ample justification for the complaints which have been made.

The Ministry of Health is conducting an investigation into the whole question of the methods of disposal of refuse from the London area and it is hoped that as a result some more satisfactory means will be found of dealing with the problem.

The City Council's refuse disposal depot at Ebury Bridge has been undergoing reconstruction and the work is expected to be completed in July, 1929. The canal and lock have been widened and modernised and this will enable the barging of refuse to be carried on with the minimum of delay.

Local By-laws and Regulations.—The following by-laws and regulations made by the City Council are in force in the City and became operative on the dates mentioned :—

By-laws under the Public Health (London) Act, 1891—

Paving of yards and open spaces in connection with dwelling-houses.—

24th August, 1908.

Cleansing of Cisterns.—24th August, 1908.

Water-closets—water supply to.—24th August, 1908.

For the prevention of nuisances arising from—

(1) Snow, ice, salt, dust, ashes, rubbish, offal, carrion, fish or filth or other matter or thing in any street ;

(2) Any offensive matter running out of any manufactory, brewery, slaughterhouse, knacker's yard, butcher's or fishmonger's shop or any dunghill, into any uncovered space, whether or not surrounded by a wall or fence ;

(3) Keeping of animals in such place or manner as to be injurious or dangerous to health.—24th August, 1908.

Regulations as to underground sleeping places under Section 17 (7), Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.—11th January, 1916.

By-law relating to fouling of footways by dogs :—March, 1928.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-laws and Regulations—

- (1) Houses let in tenements.
- (2) Underground rooms.
- (3) Butchers shops and stalls.
- (4) Dairies and milk shops.
- (5) Ice-cream premises.
- (6) Bakehouses.
- (7) Workshops and workplaces.
- (8) Rag and bone dealers.
- (9) Fried fish shops and fish curers.
- (10) Street traders dealing in foodstuffs (storage).

Fouling of Footways by Dogs.—The temporary by-law made by the Council to which reference was made in the previous report came into force in March, 1928. Up to June, 1929, five offences against the by-law had been reported to the Council by the Police. Prosecutions were ordered in four cases, in three of which the defendants were fined 10s., 5s., and 5s. respectively; in the remaining case the payment of 2s. costs was ordered.

Complaints have been made from time to time that the streets in certain parts of the City were particularly subject to this nuisance and it has been suggested that the Council has not been sufficiently energetic in administering the by-law. It should, however, be pointed out that fouling of the footway is an offence *only if the dog is on a lead*, and that doubtless nuisances are caused mostly by dogs which are allowed to run loose. The by-law has been brought to the notice of all ratepayers, a copy being enclosed with rate demands, and copies have been posted on lamp posts, sand bins and elsewhere in prominent positions, so that no doubt the majority of residents are aware of its existence. There has been a marked improvement in the condition of the streets in the City since the by-law came into force, and steps should be taken to secure its continuance from the date of expiry of the temporary period of two years during which it has effect.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.—There are no premises in the City which come within the provisions of these Acts.

Nuisance from Pigeons.—The London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1927, gave powers to metropolitan sanitary authorities to adopt measures for dealing with this nuisance. The appropriate section No. 52 (1), is as follows :—

“ For the purpose of abating or mitigating any nuisance annoyance or damage caused by the congregation at any place in the county of house doves or pigeons having or believed by the local authority to have no owner or of preventing or minimising any such nuisance annoyance or damage which might in the opinion of the local authority be so caused the local authority may notwithstanding anything in the Larceny Act 1861 or in any other Act seize and destroy or sell or otherwise dispose of or cause to be seized and destroyed or sold or otherwise disposed of any such house doves or pigeons in excess of such number as the local authority may consider reasonable and take such other steps as they may deem necessary for any such purpose. Provided that a local authority shall not in the exercise of the powers conferred by this section—

- (a) enter upon any building or land (other than a public highway) without the consent of the occupier or the authority body or person having the exclusive control and management of such building or land; or

- (b) execute or do any work or thing affecting the structure of such building or the use of such land without the consent of the authority body or person in whom such building or land is vested ; or
- (c) knowingly destroy sell or otherwise dispose of or cause to be destroyed sold or otherwise disposed of any house dove or pigeon belonging to any person."

For many years past complaints have been received concerning nuisance and damage to property caused by pigeons. As soon as statutory power to deal with the nuisance had been conferred complaints became more frequent and insistent. The City Council therefore appointed Mr. Anthony of Wood Green to deal with the nuisance by trapping pigeons in the regions where they were most complained of. This plan of working is in accordance with the scheme described in last years report.

The actual work of trapping the pigeons commenced on the 25th June and is still in operation.

At first difficulties were experienced ; some people attempted to frighten the birds or to lure them away from the traps by placing abundance of food not far away. This sometimes happens now but much less frequently.

The total number of birds caught up to the end of the year amounted to 2,072, and the eggs taken 287. The cost of carrying out this work during the period mentioned was £88 9s. 3d.

The object of the Act is to abate or mitigate any nuisance, annoyance or damage caused by pigeons, and certainly not to exterminate them as many lovers of the birds appear to think. On the other hand many persons, not so sympathetically inclined, are desirous that they should be ruthlessly wiped out.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following table shows in considerable detail matters relating to the general sanitary condition of the City. The work of the district sanitary inspectors is performed under several main headings ; inspection of nuisances and other insanitary conditions, whether on complaint or otherwise ; supervision of all new sanitary fittings and drainage in old and new buildings, which includes reporting on plans of proposed sanitary construction in respect of requirements laid down in the by-laws under the Metropolis Management Acts and the Public Health (London) Act, 1891 ; and other specialised duties.

TABLE II.

Inspection of premises :—	Sanitary work supervised :—
<p><i>Dwelling-houses—</i></p> <p>Primary Inspections—</p> <p>(a) On complaint 1,760</p> <p>(b) Infectious disease 697</p> <p>(c) Housing Regulations, 1925 382</p> <p>(d) Other reasons 2,619</p> <p>Re-inspections 9,165</p> <p><i>Other Premises—</i></p> <p>Primary Inspections—</p> <p>(a) On complaint 384</p> <p>(b) Other reasons 1,637</p> <p>Re-inspections 3,279</p> <p><i>Sanitary Works—</i></p> <p>Total Inspections—</p> <p>(a) Under notice 2,201</p> <p>(b) Voluntary works 11,482</p>	<p><i>Drains—</i></p> <p>Constructed 1,425</p> <p>Repaired and amended 423</p> <p>Ventilated 871</p> <p>Interceptor traps fixed 338</p> <p>Scaled off from sewer 63</p> <p>Gully traps fixed 1,459</p> <p>Defective traps abolished 198</p> <p>Manholes built 1,126</p> <p> " repaired 254</p> <p> " covers fixed or repaired 491</p> <p>Fresh air inlets fixed or repaired 353</p> <p>Petrol interceptors provided 15</p> <p>Tested by smoke 227</p> <p> " chemical 412</p> <p> " water 1,647</p> <p> " air 37</p>
<p>Nuisances and other matters dealt with :—</p> <p><i>Public Health Acts—</i></p> <p>Dirty conditions 1,742</p> <p>Damp conditions 1,459</p> <p>Verminous conditions 368</p> <p>Defective drainage, water-closets, &c. 849</p> <p> " roofs 573</p> <p> " walls and ceilings 1,409</p> <p> " floors, staircases, &c. 487</p> <p> " paving of yards, &c. 977</p> <p><i>Water-closets—</i></p> <p>Insufficiently lighted or ventilated 134</p> <p>Directly approached from rooms 43</p> <p>Insufficient 21</p> <p>Keeping of animals 12</p> <p>Other nuisances 1,013</p> <p>Overcrowding (families) 56</p> <p> " abated 41</p> <p><i>Underground rooms—</i></p> <p>Illegal occupation 14</p> <p>Occupation discontinued 7</p> <p><i>Housing Act, 1925—</i></p> <p>Underground bedrooms—</p> <p>Contrary to Regulations 18</p> <p>Use discontinued 11</p> <p><i>L.C.C. (General Powers) Act, 1907—</i></p> <p>Absence of water supply to upper floors of tenement houses 6</p>	<p><i>Soil Pipes—</i></p> <p>Fixed 717</p> <p>Ventilated 342</p> <p>Repaired 272</p> <p>Tested by smoke 253</p> <p> " chemical 424</p> <p> " air 719</p> <p> " water 72</p> <p><i>Water-closets—</i></p> <p>Constructed 2,384</p> <p>Repaired 425</p> <p>Traps ventilated 223</p> <p>Flushing cisterns fixed 2,473</p> <p> " repaired 221</p> <p><i>Waste Pipes—</i></p> <p>Constructed 1,849</p> <p>Repaired 352</p> <p>Trapped 279</p> <p>Ventilated 316</p> <p>Disconnected from drain 372</p> <p><i>Rainwater Pipes—</i></p> <p>Fixed or repaired 1,024</p> <p>Disconnected from drain 283</p> <p><i>Urinals—</i></p> <p>Constructed 279</p> <p>Repaired or improved 56</p> <p><i>Water Supply—</i></p> <p>Provided 163</p> <p>Taps off main provided 417</p> <p>Cisterns fixed 172</p> <p>Pipes repaired 241</p>

Houses Let in Lodgings.—The number of houses on the register at the end of the year was 255. The Sanitary Inspectors paid 713 visits of inspection to these houses and infringements of the by-laws were reported in a number of instances. Those infringements were principally failure to keep rooms in a cleanly condition and free from vermin; there were also several cases of overcrowding and lack of proper separation of sexes in sleeping apartments. Appropriate action was taken in each to obtain compliance with the requirements of the by-laws.

The further registration of houses of this class was postponed for a considerable period pending the result of an appeal from a decision of the magistrate at Marlborough Street Police Court. In this case the Council issued a summons against an owner or "tenant" for failing to make the return of particulars required for the purpose of registration, and a conviction was obtained. The owner appealed to the High Court on the ground that the house in question, being let to several different families each of whom occupied a separate floor, was not a "house let in lodgings" as defined in the by-laws. At the hearing of the appeal, however, no decision was come to on this point, the case being sent back to the magistrate who, in his statement of case had omitted to say whether he had as a fact found that the house was occupied by members of the working classes. The magistrate heard the case a second time, and after hearing further evidence decided that the house was not so occupied and dismissed the case. It should, however, be noted that the conditions had changed since the original hearing.

It is unfortunate that no decision was obtained in the High Court on the question raised in the appeal, as the point at issue was one of considerable importance to local authorities generally.

Restriction of Rent Acts.—Two applications were received for certificates under these Acts, and both were granted.

Nuisances.—Intimation notices were served in 1,778 instances, the number of premises concerned being 1,756. Statutory notices authorised by the sanitary authority numbered 45 and related to 43 premises. Police court proceedings were taken in 4 instances in order to enforce compliance with the requirements of statutory notices. A conviction was obtained in one instance, the defendant being fined £1. In this case two rooms which were "underground rooms" within the meaning of section 96 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, had been vacated by a family who had been rehoused by the City Council, and the defendant, in spite of a warning from the Council, had relet them. The other three cases, which were in respect of dirty and defective conditions, were withdrawn on

payment of costs, £2 2s., £1 1s. and £1 respectively, the notices having been complied with. The following are the comparative figures since 1924 :—

—	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Intimation Notices	1,098	980	1,074	1,450	1,778
Statutory Notices	41	27	43	49	45
Legal Proceedings	2	5	10	5	4

Rat Repression.—Forty-four complaints of rats were received and in each case an inspector investigated as to the cause of the complaint. In a number of instances it was found that they had entered through faulty or defective drains and sewers. Thirty-four connections were examined by the City Engineer's staff at the request of the Public Health Department. During "Rat Week," beginning in November, a special circular dealing with the causes of rat invasion and the means of getting rid of rats was distributed to householders and to business firms. During that week baits were laid in the Council's sewers, as in former years.

Water Supply.—The Metropolitan Water Board sent nine notices of withdrawal of water supply to premises. In eight cases the reason for the action of the Board was failure to pay water rate, and in the remaining one defects in the water fittings, causing waste of water.

Water Supply in Tenement Houses.—Power to effect this provision is given under Section 48 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, and under Section 78 of the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1907. The number of cases in which this action was taken since 1924 is as follows :—

1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
27	55	44	22	6

By-laws as to Removal of Offensive Refuse.—Two cases were reported of removal in unsuitable vehicles and in inadequate receptacles. A summons was ordered in each case, one defendant being fined £1 and £1 costs; the other case was dismissed owing to lack of sufficient evidence.

New Sanitary Construction.—Plans relating to work of this description numbered 752, of which 81 represented sanitary provisions in entirely new buildings. The corresponding figures since 1924 are as follows:—

—	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Plans	602	658	724	750	752
Plans of work in new buildings included in above	80	102	110	93	81

Combined drainage orders were made in 32 cases.

Infringements of the by-laws were reported by the Sanitary Inspectors in 21 instances in respect of failure to give notice of intention to construct or to deposit plans. Twelve builders were cautioned and three were summoned in respect of these offences and were convicted, fines and costs amounting £5.

Smoke Abatement.—The following table shows the extent to which smoke has been a cause of complaint to the sanitary authority during the past five years, and also a summary of the measures taken in mitigation:—

TABLE III.

—	1924	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Complaints received	40	80	62	79	36
Observations taken	2,309	1,999	2,490	2,057	640*
Notices issued—					
Preliminary	42	23	26	29	21
Statutory	—	—	—	1	1
Summons	—	—	—	—	—

* Fewer observations because of other work on Millbank Improvement Scheme.

Your medical officer has continued to attend the meetings of the Smoke Abatement Committee for Greater London as a representative of the Metropolitan Standing Joint Committee. The meetings have been held at the Ministry of Health and much useful work has been accomplished. It is hoped to issue a report in the autumn of 1929 dealing with suggested By-laws, Standards of smoke emission, and general methods for carrying out the requirements of the Smoke Abatement Act 1926.

The two smoke inspectors attended the special course organized by the Royal Sanitary Institute as resolved by the Council. The practical knowledge gained has been of great advantage to them when called upon to advise engineers and stokers as to difficulties experienced in smoke prevention.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Occupations and Workshops.—In the following tables are shown in detail the number and variety of work premises on the register at the end of 1928, the number of inspections made, and the results of such inspections:—

TABLE IV.

Work Premises.	Total Number.
Tailors, outfitters, shirt makers, hat, cap and helmet makers ..	1,273
Dressmakers, milliners, embroiderers, lace makers, blouse makers, costumiers, lingerie makers, children's outfit makers, feather dyeing, corset makers, furriers, etc.	1,152
Leather workers, boot and shoe makers, harness makers, etc. ..	56
Carpentry, upholstery, carvers, gilders, etc.	43
Surgical and dental instrument makers	9
Tobacco manufacturers	13
Wig makers and hair workers	36
Printing, bookbinding, lithographers, envelope making, stationers, relief stamping, etc.	50
Jewellers, silversmiths and burnishers, diamond cutters and polishers, engravers, etc.	50
Metal workers	19
Miscellaneous—Basket making, fancy work, shoe ornaments, hat pins, stamp sorters, postcard tinters, fan makers, artificial flower makers, etc.	37
Florists	15
Laundries	24
Bakehouses	72
Photographers	37
Jewel case makers	7
Cinema film workplaces	33
Total ..	2,926

The use of 221 workshops was discontinued, and 206 additions were made to the register during the year.

TABLE V.—*Inspection.*

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Factories (including factory laundries) ...	229	10	—
Workshops (including workshop laundries)	2,534	220	1
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	2,491	108	—
Total	5,254	338	1

TABLE VI.—*Defects found.*

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	313	313	—	—
Want of ventilation	36	36	—	—
Overcrowding	50	50	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	11	11	—	—
Other nuisances	141	141	—	—
Sanitary accommodation—				
Insufficient	40	40	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	191	191	—	1
Not separate for sexes	25	25	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921.)				
Total	807	807	—	1

TABLE VII.—*Other Matters.*

Class.	Number.
Visits to Outworkers' premises other than workshops	176
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories:—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act	231
Absence of means of warming	—
Matters referred by H.M. Inspectors	108
Workrooms measured	340
Visits of Enquiry <i>re</i>	
Employment of Women	141
" " Outworkers	107
Underground bakehouses in use at the end of the year	47

A copy of a table relating to outworkers required by the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, and giving information under the headings of Sections 107, 108, 109 and 110 is appended.

TABLE VIII.

Outworkers' Lists, Section 107.										Outwork in un-wholesome premises, Section 108.		Outwork in infected premises, Sections 109 & 110.					
Trade.	Lists received from employers.						Addresses of Outworkers.		Notices served on occupiers as to keeping or sending of lists.	Prosecutions.		Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.	Instances.	Orders made (Section 110).	Prosecutions (Sections 109, 110).
	Sending twice in the year.			Sending once in the year.						Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists.	Failing to send lists.						
	Outworkers.			Outworkers.													
	Lists.	Contractors.	Workmen.	Lists.	Contractors.	Workmen.	Received from other Councils.	Sent to other Councils.									
Wearing apparel	1,102	1,786	8,823	27	39	92	414	6,146	98	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—
Linens, etc.	4	24	53	—	—	—	6	67	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cutlery, electroplate, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furriers	12	26	37	—	—	—	13	32	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Umbrellas, toys, artificial flowers, etc.	4	88	109	—	—	—	—	114	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Engraving, metal work, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hairwork	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1,122	1,924	9,022	27	39	92	439	6,359	102	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—

Outworkers.—The total number of lists received during the year amounted to 1,149.

Notices in respect of failure to send lists were sent to 102 firms. No legal proceedings were necessary in respect of this offence.

The lists contained 11,077 names and addresses of which 6,359 were in other districts, 5,547 being within the Metropolitan area and 622 in the London Suburban Districts.

The number of individual outworkers in the City at the close of the year was 1,698, of whom 1,415 were registered as occupying workshops. The number of houses in which outwork was being carried on was 812.

DISINFECTION.

Compulsory Cleansing: The difficulties which have been experienced from time to time in the past as regards the cleansing of verminous persons who refused to be cleansed by the Sanitary Authority have largely been removed by the compulsory powers conferred in Sec. 26 of the London County Council (General Powers Act, 1928). There is now authority to compel any such person to be cleansed and also his clothing. Application must be made to a petty sessional court, and the Court, if satisfied, will make an order for the person's removal to a cleansing station for the cleansing of himself and his clothing, and for detention therein for such period and subject to such conditions as may be specified in the order.

No charge shall be made for the work carried out or for maintenance in the cleansing station, and such cleansing, removal, and maintenance shall not be considered to be parochial relief or charitable allowance to the person involved or to the parent of such person, nor shall the person or parent by reason thereof be deprived of any right or privilege or be subject to any disqualification or disability.

Disinfection of rooms from which patients suffering from notifiable infectious disease have been removed is carried out by means of the formaldehyde spray. For other non-notifiable infectious conditions disinfection is carried out on request, and a charge is made according to the circumstances of the case.

Bedding and wearing apparel are removed to the Disinfecting Station, and are there submitted to steam disinfection. Books are treated with formalin.

The cleansing of persons and of premises in a verminous state has been carried out by the Disinfecting Staff. Visits were paid to 88 houses, and 5,957 articles of clothing, bedding, etc., were removed for disinfection. Individuals, numbering 354 men and 16 women, and 1 child

under school age, were given medicated baths at the Disinfecting Station, which necessitated their making 397 attendances.

Notices from the London County Council in regard to school children affected with vermin numbered 297, and the Disinfecting Superintendent and the Sanitary Inspectors paid 512 visits of investigation to their homes. By agreement with the London County Council, arrangements are in force for the treatment at the Westminster Disinfecting Station of school children from the boroughs of Battersea, Chelsea, Holborn, Kensington, Lambeth, Paddington, St. Pancras, St. Marylebone, Fulham, and the City of London.

There were among Westminster children, 641 cases of head lice treated, 35 of scabies, but no cases of body lice. In all these cases the clothing was disinfected together with the bedding from their homes, amounting in all to 937 articles. Children from the above-mentioned boroughs treated for similar conditions were as follows: 364 for head lice, 4 for body lice and 17 for scabies. The number of attendances of these children for baths at the station was 1,237.

The following table shows the total number of individuals treated at the station for verminous conditions:—

TABLE IX.

1928.	Head lice.	Body lice.	Scabies.	Total.
Children	1,005	4	52*	1,061
Adults	7	343	20	370
	1,012	347	72	1,431

* One was under school age.

All the lice and scabies cases were dealt with at the station.

TABLE X.

General disinfection of premises, articles, &c. :—

	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Rooms	984	1,081	932	890	891
Articles disinfected	23,382	22,833	21,775	12,201	20,628
Articles washed	4,862	5,142	5,550	4,841	5,062
Articles destroyed	198	265	372	152	1,169
Books disinfected *	425	454	166	48	59
Vehicles ..	3	8	4	7	6
Offices and business premises	—	21	25	9	10

* School books, 10; library books, 36; private books, 13.

The motor van during 1928 ran 3,901 miles and carried 2,275 cwt. of goods, the highest amount in any one day being 35 cwt. The petrol consumption was 457 gallons, equal to 8.5 miles per gallon.

MORTUARIES.

The number of bodies removed to the Council's mortuaries under order of the Coroner, or to await burial, was 348—in four instances on account of infectious disease.

Inquests were held at the Coroner's Court, Horseferry Road, in 341 cases, and there were 34 adjourned inquests. Post-mortem examinations were made in 195 instances. Seven bodies were received in the mortuary chapel to await burial.

The number of dead bodies taken to the mortuaries for purposes of inquest, and to await burial, during the last 26 years is set out as follows:—

TABLE XI.

	Total.	For Inquest.	To await Burial.		Total.	For Inquest.	To await Burial.
1903	396	341	55	1916	281	252	29
1904	381	322	59	1917	278	265	13
1905	368	307	61	1918	285	242	43
1906	344	283	61	1919	308	269	39
1907	358	281	77	1920	289	269	20
1908	364	298	66	1921	273	238	35
1909	291	258	33	1922	269	247	22
1910	333	281	52	1923	336	318	17
1911	383	334	49	1924	340	328	12
1912	324	284	40	1925	334	317	17
1913	328	286	42	1926	343	323	20
1914	323	295	28	1927	357	341	16
1915	376	349	27	1928	348	341	7

There is a resting place for the dead at Drury Lane.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The problem of maternal mortality was discussed in the report for 1927, and it was then mentioned that the Ministry of Health was taking steps to deal with the matter. The first step is naturally to measure the extent of the problem and to make a comprehensive inquiry into causation, prevalence and contributory factors.

With this object in view the Minister set up on the 4th June, 1928, a committee designated the Maternal Mortality Committee. He appointed Sir George Newman the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry to be Chairman. The members include Medical Officers of Health, Obstetric Surgeons, representatives of the Central Midwives Board and others. One of the

first acts of the Committee was to send out a form of inquiry relating to maternal deaths to all local authorities. The Medical Officer of Health of the local authority was requested to undertake the prescribed inquiry into each maternal death occurring in his district. Deaths of this description occurring in the practice of a medical practitioner are of deep concern to him as well as to the bereaved relatives. It is therefore important to obtain the cordial co-operation of the practitioner concerned. The British Medical Association was consulted by the Minister as to the procedure to be adopted. The Association expressed approval of the objects and mode of the inquiry and circularised all divisions and branches in the country recommending the fullest co-operation with the Medical Officers of Health in making investigations. Where midwives only were concerned it was recommended that the Local Supervising Authorities should inquire into the question as regards the work of the midwives and should consult and exchange reports with the Medical Officers of Health of the local sanitary authority. It was further recommended that in certain cases it might be desirable to obtain the services of an obstetric specialist where the features of the case required particular experience.

The City Council in approving the principles and objects of these inquiries appointed the Medical Officer of Health to carry out investigations and to consult with medical practitioners concerned. The Council further appointed Dr. Aubrey Goodwin the Council's Obstetric Consultant under the Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations to make special inquiries at the request of the Medical Officer of Health where necessary. The form of inquiry embraces environmental as well as personal or medical aspects, and factors such as home conditions, previous medical history are generally already known to the Medical Officer of Health through the health visitors. The remaining points as to the clinical circumstances of the case are to be obtained from the practitioner in attendance. Where the patient has died in hospital it may be possible to obtain the results of bacteriological and other investigations. Since these forms of inquiry were issued in October, one death occurred and was inquired into. The report was made personally by the Medical Officer of Health and sent to Dame Janet Campbell at the Ministry. It is hoped that by examining reports sent in from all over the country to draw conclusions and to establish certain principles which may lead to constructive action in endeavouring to diminish a serious and apparently preventable cause of death.

Puerperal Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia and Mortality in Childbirth.—The year 1928 furnishes a melancholy record of deaths in childbed. The number 17 is the highest recorded in the City.

The following is a summary of the results of inquiries :—

- Aged 36. "Widow." Died in Infirmary. Puerperal fever—presumed abortion.
- Aged 47. Died in Infirmary. Long and difficult confinement—puerperal fever.
- Aged 36. Died in hospital. Puerperal fever.
- Aged 33. Died in nursing home. Toxaemia of pregnancy.
- Aged 21. Died in hospital. Chorea gravidarum.
- Aged 31. Died at home. First child. Haemorrhage following labour and disease of pituitary gland.
- Aged 31. Died in infirmary. Eclampsia. Had stillborn child in 1926 with Eclampsia, was warned against future pregnancies. Again pregnant 1928 and delayed seeking advice.
- Aged 26. Died in infirmary. Post partem haemorrhage ; normal pregnancy, placenta could not be expressed, baby post mature and desquamating.
- Aged 42. Died at home. Post partum haemorrhage, normal delivery. Placenta wholly expressed, fibroid of uterus present.
- Aged 40. Died at home. Embolism of pulmonary artery at 13th day of puerperium.
- Aged 32. Single. Died in infirmary. Miscarriage.
- Aged 43. Incomplete abortion. Doctors stated that woman was not pregnant. Died in infirmary after curetting and transfusion.
- Aged 29. Single. Died in infirmary, parturition—previously notified as puerperal pyrexia.
- Aged 35. Single. Died in infirmary. Parturition, previously notified as puerperal pyrexia.
- Aged 23. Single. Died in hospital. Eclampsia.
- Aged 23. Single. Died in infirmary. Septic infection of uterus after miscarriage.
- Aged 42. Died in nursing home. Abortion.

It will be noted that 5 of these cases were the results of miscarriage or abortion.

Puerperal Fever.—There were 3 non-fatal cases, the chief points relating to these are set out below.

- Aged 26. Delivered by midwife, fever soon subsided. Treated at home.
- Aged 29. Doctor delivered. Fever started at 8th day of confinement, piece of retained placenta expelled at 3rd day.
- Aged 32. Confined in hospital. Fever started 2nd day after birth of stillborn child.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—21 cases were notified, 19 recovered from this milder condition uneventfully whilst 2 developed the more serious condition of puerperal fever.

Maternity Hospital Accommodation.—Reference was made last year to the difficulty sometimes experienced by Westminster women who desired to have their confinements in hospital. So great is the demand for beds in Westminster by women from other districts that the accommodation left for those who live permanently in the city has become extremely limited. The Public Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committee considered the various aspects of this question together with particular instances and decided that it was desirable to make further provision. Negotiations were begun with the Westminster Guardians in regard to setting apart a portion of their maternity ward to receive cases recommended by the Council. Whilst the financial proposals were not unacceptable to either party it was not found practicable to split up the maternity ward and to make the necessary structural alterations as required by the Ministry of Health. The committee then discussed proposals with the Governors of Westminster Hospital who had recently increased their maternity beds from 4 to 15. It was finally decided to enter into an agreement with the hospital whereby accommodation will be provided for a number of women not exceeding 100 per annum. The cases to be admitted are limited to those recommended from the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres of the Council and the Westminster Health Society. While those patients who could afford would contribute to the cost of their treatment and maintenance in the hospital, the Council will provide a fixed contribution at the rate of £150 for cases up to 100 in number for a yearly period. The Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee of the Council is to consider each case and will assess the contribution which each patient may be expected to pay to the hospital. The almoners would collect such sums direct from patients. The scheme does not provide for any beds to be specially reserved, but it goes a long way to securing accommodation if the patients attend the hospital and book for in-patient treatment at a reasonably early date. These are the main points of the Council agreement which received the formal sanction of the Ministry of Health and will operate as from 1st January, 1929. The scheme will be provisional for a preliminary period of six months.

The Widows' and Orphans' Contributory Pensions Act, 1925.—The Local Authority may, in cases of desertion of a child or in the case of an orphan, administer the payment on behalf of the child. No cases have so far been reported to the Council.

Ante-natal Work.—The supervision of expectant mothers is recognised to be of increasing importance, and for this purpose it is extremely desirable that they should avail themselves of the expert advice obtainable at the centres and at the hospitals. The following table shows the number of cases which were dealt with through the various centres and

how they became known to the health visitors. The co-operation of the hospitals with the welfare centres continues to develop, and there is interchange of much useful information between those bodies which should result in greatly improved conditions for confinements.

TABLE I.—Ante-natal Cases.

Name of Hospital.	City Council's Centres.			Westminster Health Society.	Totals.
	No. 1, Pimlico Road.	No. 15, Bessborough Street.	No. 9, Frith Street.	No. 30, Page Street.	
General Lying-in	16	26	2	34	78
St. George's	24	17	4	2	47
Westminster	13	16	—	38	67
St. Thomas'	2	4	1	7	14
Charing Cross	3	4	—	1	8
Middlesex	1	3	27	—	31
Woolwich	—	—	—	6	6
St. Stephen's	—	—	—	17	17
Queen Charlotte's	—	2	—	—	2
St. Mary's	—	—	1	—	1
Clapham Maternity	—	—	—	2	2
Royal Free	—	—	—	—	—
Royal Northern	1	—	—	—	1
King's College	1	1	—	—	2
Found by Health Visitors	73	94	56	65	288
By Private Doctors and Midwives	—	—	—	45	45
Reported to Centre voluntarily	108	77	21	43	249
Totals	242	244	112	260	858

Ante-natal Visiting.—To the 858 expectant mothers who became known to the Centre, 744 primary visits were paid by health visitors. Subsequent visits were also paid to these cases to the number of 1,350.

The attendances by those mothers at the clinics held by Dr. Vernon are detailed below :—

TABLE II.—Ante-natal Clinics.

Centre.	Sessions.	First Attendance.	Subsequent Attendances.	Total.	No. of Individuals.
Pimlico Road	51	75	66	141	103
Bessborough Street	51	118	166	284	167

Ante-natal clinics are also held at Charing Cross, St. George's, Westminster and Middlesex Hospitals for mothers who have made arrangements for their confinements with these hospitals.

Mothercraft.—Classes in mothercraft are held at the various centres, and health talks have been given each week throughout the year in connection with those classes.

TABLE III.—Mothercraft Classes.

1928.	Pimlico Road.	Bessboro' Street.	Frith Street.	Page Street.	Total.
Number of classes	47	58	46	89	240
Total attendances	368	1,186	732	3,366	5,652
Average attendances	7·8	20·4	15·9	37·8	23·5
Number of expectant mothers	6	91	28	59	184
Number of attendances by expectant mothers	30	352	114	581	1,077
Number of other mothers	50	178	107	125	460
Number of attendances by other mothers	338	834	618	2,785	4,575
Attendances of children in nurseries during classes	152	1,047	522	2,741	4,462

Materials are purchased in quantity, and sold to the mothers at cost price. The number of garments made at Pimlico Road were 173; at Bessborough Street, 566; at Frith Street, 635; and at Page Street, 2,037. In addition to those, many renovations were carried out.

The class at Frith Street, under the charge of Mrs. Steffens, is held every Tuesday afternoon at 2.30; at Bessborough Street, on Wednesdays at 2.30, and at Pimlico Road on Mondays at 2.30, under the charge of Mrs. Colman.

Midwifery Services.—The work performed by the Council's midwife is summarised below, and comparative figures since 1923 are given. Her area, which was formerly contained in Victoria Ward, now takes in that part of St. John's Ward bounded on the east by Vauxhall Bridge Road.

TABLE IV.

	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Number of cases attended—						
As midwife	108	75	73	80	65	77
As emergency	2	—	—	—	—	—
With hospital students	5	—	—	—	—	—
With private doctor	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total	116	75	73	80	65	77
Number of—						
Pre-natal visits	610	570	779	860	678	599
Lying-in visits	1,402	920	939	1,005	812	1,149
Subsequent visits	172	315	335	351	415	442
Visits to infants under 1 year, other than lying-in visits	172	266	234	262	376	433
Total number of visits	2,356	2,071	2,287	2,478	2,281	2,623

TABLE V.

Attendances by midwife at ante-natal and other clinics :—

	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
1, Pimlico Road	72	40	54	43	39	40
15, Bessborough Street	62	83	75	87	82	86
Total	134	123	129	130	121	126

The Westminster Health Society provide midwifery services in St. Margaret and St. John Wards, the western boundary being Vauxhall Bridge Road. The following table gives figures relating to the work performed in this area during the year :—

TABLE VI.

Number of cases attended—

		St. Margaret and St. John Wards.
As midwife ....	....	44
With hospital students ....	....	7
With private doctors ....	....	3
		<hr/> 54
Midwifery visits ....	....	849
Nursing visits ....	....	46
		<hr/> 886

There is a tendency for women from other districts to come into Westminster institutions for their confinements. The hospital beds available are as follows :—Charing Cross, 15 ; St. George's, 11 ; Westminster, 15 ; St. Stephen's, 28.

620 women from other districts were confined in Westminster and 364 women belonging to the City were delivered in the hospitals mentioned—the number in St. Stephen's alone being 202.

The number of children born to Westminster parents in institutions outside the City numbered 542.

The following table shows the number of confinements in the hospitals mentioned :—

TABLE VII.

Charing Cross Hospital : 278, of which 45 were Westminster cases.

St. George's Hospital : 252, of which 60 were Westminster cases.

Westminster Hospital : 149, of which 57 were Westminster cases.

St. Stephen's Hospital : 202. Sheffield St. Hospital : 51.

Infancy and Early Childhood.—At the centres in the City weekly clinics are held for the purpose of giving medical advice.

The following figures give an approximate number of the births in the four areas divided for the purposes of maternity and child welfare:—

1, <i>Pimlico Road.</i>	15, <i>Bessborough St.</i>	30, <i>Page St.</i>	9, <i>Frith St.</i>
377	381	314	296

The health visitors attached to those centres visit the homes for the purpose of supplementing the instructions of the medical officers, and of advising as to how those instructions should be carried out. Home visiting is of prime importance in maternity and child welfare, and its place cannot be taken by teaching groups of mothers at the centre. In the home the visitor, by seeing the actual conditions, can appreciate any difficulties with which the mother may be contending, and much can be cleared up in the course of a quiet talk. Visits of inquiry are necessary in cases of ophthalmia, measles, and other infectious diseases. The following table shows the number of visits paid in connection with the four centres:—

TABLE VIII.

—	Pimlico Road.	Bessborough Street.	Frith Street.	Page Street.	Total.
Pre-natal—					
First visits	242	210	128	164	744
Other visits	537	272	201	340	1,350
Children under 1 year of age—					
First visits	401	385	316	265	1,367
Other visits	1,806	1,367	1,373	1,143	5,689
Children over 1 and under 5 years—					
Visits	2,859	1,846	2,921	2,439	10,065
Death enquiries, still-births, &c.	40	44	33	20	137
Infectious diseases	594	348	206	224	1,372

The Council's midwife paid 599 visits before, and 433 after, confinements which are not included in the above Table.

Infant Clinics.—These are held at the following centres at the times mentioned:—

Council's Centres—

1, Pimlico Road—2 p.m. Wednesday. 2 p.m. Friday.

15, Bessborough Street—2 p.m. Thursday and 2 p.m. Tuesday (combined with ante-natal clinic).

9, Frith Street—2 p.m. Wednesday.

Westminster Health Society—

30, Page Street—2 p.m. Tuesday. 2 p.m. Friday.

It will be noted from the following table of attendances that the work at the centres continues satisfactorily, as shown by the average attendance per session. The comparative totals since 1923 are also shown:—

TABLE IX.
ATTENDANCES AT INFANT CONSULTATIONS, 1928.

Centre.	Number of Sessions.	First Attendances.		Subsequent Attendances.		Total.		Total.
		Under 1 year.	Over 1 year.	Under 1 year.	Over 1 year.	Under 1 year.	Over 1 year.	
1, Pimlico Road	100	212	52	2,211	1,519	2,423	1,571	3,994
15, Bessborough Street	101	219	57	2,614	1,645	2,833	1,702	4,535
9, Frith Street	50	82	30	736	511	818	541	1,359
30, Page Street	99	204	71	1,849	1,538	2,053	1,609	3,662
1928....	350	717	210	7,410	5,213	8,127	5,423	13,550
1927....	353	736	280	7,477	5,269	8,213	5,549	13,762
1926....	354	863	272	6,847	4,871	7,710	5,143	12,853
1925....	347	754	210	5,711	3,952	6,465	4,162	10,627
1924....	374	719	196	5,249	3,646	5,968	3,842	9,810
1923....	357	819	161	5,282	3,194	6,022	3,434	9,456

The average attendances per session were—

	1928.	1927.	1926.	1925.	1924.	1923.
Pimlico Road	39.9	37.1	42.4	32.2	29.7	26.0
Bessborough Street	44.9	44.7	38.5	33.6	31.0	29.1
Frith Street	27.1	29.2	23.1	—	—	—
Page Street	36.9	40.1	36.3	—	—	—

The number of individual children medically inspected were—

1, Pimlico Road	557	9, Frith Street	235
15, Bessborough Street	557	30, Page Street	620

Infant clinics in connection with the maternity departments of Charing Cross, Westminster, St. George's, Middlesex, and the General Lying-in Hospitals are held weekly in those institutions, but they do not come within the maternity and child welfare scheme of the Council, nor do the clinics at the Infants' Hospital, Vincent Square.

The Council's arrangement with St. George's Hospital for the admission of cases recommended by the Council's officers remains in force. It is in operation over the area served by the centres at Pimlico Road and Bessborough Street.

Nursing.—Under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme of the Council arrangements are in force with the three District Nursing Associations, the Pimlico, Belgravia and Chelsea: the Westminster; and the Metropolitan Associations, for the nursing of children under five years of age suffering from various ailments, and for certain conditions in adults. A flat rate of 1s. 6d. is paid for each visit made by the Association concerned. The following table shows the nature of certain conditions for which nursing visits were paid:—

TABLE X.

						Patients.	Visits.
Ophthalmia neonatorum and conjunctivitis	...					2	72
Puerperal pyrexia	...	...	...	...		1	17
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	1	10
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	19	198
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	10	105
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	32	388
Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
Other complaints	...	...	...	...	...	108	1,025
Total	...	...	...	...	...	174	1,819

Ophthalmia neonatorum has been notifiable since 1911. The percentage of mild (non-purulent) and notified (purulent) cases in relation to births from the year 1921 is as follows:—

TABLE XI.

					Cases (notified).	Rate per 100 births for both classes of cases.
1921	...	...	...	...	21	1.8
1922	...	...	...	...	24	2.4
1923	...	...	...	...	30	3.4
1924	...	...	...	...	23	2.4
1925	...	...	...	...	21	2.0
1926	...	...	...	...	16	1.6
1927	...	...	...	...	14	1.9
1928	...	...	...	...	7	1.2

With regard to the incidence of venereal disease the following table shows the death-rates of infants per 1,000 births, certified to have died from syphilis :—

1901-5 ...	...	...	2.8	1921-25 ...	...	...	1.7
1906-10...	...	...	3.2	1926 ...	...	...	0.62
1911-15...	...	...	2.4	1927 ...	...	...	2.8
1916-20...	...	...	4.95	1928 ...	...	...	0.72

There are a number of cases in which inflammation develops in the eyes of recently born infants, and if the discharge remains watery in nature and pus does not form the condition need not be classified as ophthalmia. The infection, nevertheless, may be gonococcal in origin. Those are necessarily mild cases, but it is important that they should be recognised and treated at an early stage, because if neglected genuine purulent ophthalmia might ensue.

Seven cases were notified during the year, 4 of those being treated in hospital. There were also 10 instances of watery discharge from the eyes which were brought to the notice of the health visitors. All cases of ophthalmia neonatorum are visited as soon as possible after notification in order to see that adequate treatment is being provided. Treatment by the district nurses was carried out in 2 cases, 72 visits being paid.

Dental Treatment.—The Council's scheme provides for the treatment of cases both under the Maternity and Child Welfare and Tuberculosis Schemes. Figures relating to the latter will be found in the Tuberculosis Section of the Report. Expectant and nursing mothers, and children under five years of age, are eligible for treatment.

Mr. W. H. Turner, the Dental Surgeon, submits the following report :—

I beg to forward my-report on the treatment carried out at the Dental Clinic during the past year, 1928.

Whilst there has been a slight diminution in the number of new patients, the treatment they required has necessitated a greater number of subsequent attendances than in any previous year. This appears to be due to the higher percentage of patients presenting themselves sufficiently early to have more detailed conservative work done, and a smaller number of the cases requiring drastic extensive extractions.

This constantly increasing recognition of the importance of early treatment for dental defects is a very good sign.

During the year the dental department at the Western Dispensary has been extended by the addition of a well equipped " Gas Recovery Room " adjacent to the surgery, and this has

proved a great boon, both with regard to the patients' comfort and for the more convenient arranging of the gas sessions.

I append a detailed summary of the cases :—

						Maternity and Child Welfare.
New patients—						
First attendances	...	...	...	...	...	172
Subsequent attendances	...	...	...	...	...	807
Teeth extractions	...	...	...	...	...	930
Teeth filled	...	...	...	...	...	208
Other dental operations	...	...	...	...	...	638
Anaesthetics administered—						
Local	...	...	...	...	...	28
General	...	...	...	...	...	182
Dentures supplied	...	...	...	...	...	14

(Signed) W. H. TURNER,
L.D.S., R.C.S.Eng.

TABLE XII.

	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Number of Sessions	70	79	92	92	90	88
New patients—						
First attendance	123	179	205	209	204	172
Subsequent attendances	479	522	613	629	802	807
Teeth extractions	1,056	1,349	1,278	1,668	1,198	930
Teeth filled	91	154	167	189	248	208
Other dental operations	433	478	616	699	777	638
Anaesthetics administered—						
Local	20	25	38	31	17	28
General	202	240	255	295	263	182
Dentures supplied	3	4	6	2	6	14

Patients contributed £14 0s. 6d. in small sums according to their means.

Convalescent Homes.—There are many charitable agencies throughout the City which are always ready to answer the call for convalescent treatment for mothers and children. Among them may be mentioned the Friends of the Poor and the St. Henry Fund. The Medical Officer of Health is *ex officio* a trustee of the latter, the benefits of which are available only to residents of the parish of St. Anne's, Soho.

Homes for Unmarried Mothers, etc.—The Council makes an annual grant of £100 to the Home of St. John the Baptist at Tulse Hill. This home was formerly in the City, and cases from Westminster are eligible for admission. The two other homes in the City which exist for a similar purpose were mentioned previously in this report.

Day Nursery.—There are two nurseries in which mothers who work away from home may place their young children during working hours. The homes are situated in the districts where the need for them is

greatest. The Council make an annual grant of £50 towards the expenses of the nursery organised by the British Red Cross Society.

Supply of Milk.—Fresh and dried milk is supplied to certain cases recommended by the medical officer of the maternity and child welfare centre. Before the grants are made a standard of income laid down by the Ministry must be proved. In some instances the weekly income does not justify an award of free milk, but those cases may come within the scale for milk at half price. The applications are considered by a meeting of the ladies of the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee, which takes place once a month at each centre. Grants are made for a period of one month and are reconsidered for continuation at each meeting. Preparations of dried milk are sold at cost price in connection with the centres, 3,837 pounds being disposed of during the year. The amount expended by the Council for fresh milk as extra nourishment for mothers and infants amounted to £78 13s. 6d.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The provision of food for an island population which depends more and more on supplies from overseas, has become a highly organised and very complicated undertaking. The varieties of foodstuffs increase in number as also do the methods of compounding them. The task of supervising food in its original state and the preparations and compounds which are devised in various forms requires increasing vigilance so that the public may be safeguarded from articles which may be unsound, adulterated or otherwise injurious to health.

To render the administrative control of food less complicated, Parliament has passed a consolidating statute, The Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928. This Act includes the essential and most useful provisions of statutes dealing with food and drugs from the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, onwards. The following are the repeals set out in the schedule to this Act which came into force on 1st January, 1929.

Act.	Portions Repealed.
The Sale of Foods and Drugs Act, 1875	The whole Act, except secs. 30, 31 and 36.
The Sale of Food and Drugs Act Amendment Act, 1879	The whole Act.
The Margarine Act of 1887	The whole Act.
The Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892	In sec. 432 the words " under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, and also
The Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899	The whole Act.
The Butter and Margarine Act, 1907....	The whole Act.
The Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914	Sec. 27.
The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915	Sec. 9 and 3rd Schedule.
The Finance Act, 1921	Sec. 23.
The Licensing Act, 1921	Sec. 10.
The Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1927	The whole Act.

The legal powers of the Local Authorities as regards the control of food supplies may be summarized thus :—

Law relating to Food and Drugs :—

- (1) Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.
- (2) Sec. (4) Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922.
- (3) Food and Drugs Act, 1875—secs. 30, 31 and 36 (dealing with tea).

Orders and Regulations made under repealed Acts and continued in force by the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act :—

- (1) Order as to Registration of Margarine Factories, &c., 1900.
- (2) Order as to Registration of Butter Factories, &c., 1907.
- (3) Regulation as to competency of Analysts, 1900.
- (4) Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901 and 1912.
- (5) Sale of Butter Regulations, 1902.

Regulations made under the Public Health (Regulations as to Food) Act, 1907, and effective for certain purposes of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act :—

- (1) Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927.
- (2) Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927.
- (3) Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1927.

LIST OF LEGAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO FOOD AND FOOD SUPPLY.

Public Health (London) Act, 1891.

Sale of Horseflesh, &c., Regulations Act, 1889.

London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1902. (Ice Cream Manufacture and Sale.)

London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1907. (Milk Supply Tuberculosis.)

London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1908. (Storage of Food in Shops.)

Power to make Bye-laws relating to :—

Fried Fish Shops.

Fish Curers.

Rag and Bone Shops.

London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1909. (Storage of Food in tenement houses.)

London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1927. (Street Trading.)

London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1928. (Registration of Ice Cream Premises.)

Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915.

Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Acts, 1922.

Milk and Dairies (Special Designations) Order, 1923.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

Sale of Food (Marking of Imported Meat) Order, 1921.

Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations, 1915.

Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1925.

Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

Merchandise Marks Act, 1926.

Merchandise Marks Act, No. 3 Order.

Merchandise Marks Act, No. 5 Order.

Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1928.

Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) (Eggs) Regulations, 1928.

As foreshadowed in last year's report there is now in the L.C.C. General Powers Act, 1928, Section 29, provision requiring the registration of ice cream premises. The main points are :—

- (1) Premises used for the sale or manufacture or storage of ice cream must be registered with the local authority.
- (2) Factories and premises used as a hotel restaurant or club are exempt from registration.
- (3) This section came into force in August, 1928, and public notice was given in the press.
- (4) Penalty 40s. and a daily penalty of not exceeding 20s.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926, AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE
(GRADING AND MARKING) ACT, 1928.

The object of these statutes is to encourage the marketing of Home and Empire farm produce by requiring that certain articles shall be clearly marked to indicate their place of origin. In certain instances, notably eggs, a standard of quality has been set up by Regulation, the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) (Eggs) Regulation, 1928. Up to the end of 1928 the following Orders in Council, made under the Merchandise Marks Act, had been issued :—Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods), No. 3 Order, 1928, dealing with honey and apples, and the Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods) No. 5 Order, 1928, dealing with currants, sultanas and raisins, eggs in shell, dried eggs and oat products.

The provisions of these statutes and orders have very little, if anything to do with the Public Health, but the duty of administering them has nevertheless been imposed on sanitary authorities. The Council has therefore by resolution designated the Medical Officer of Health and the Food Inspectors as the officers responsible for the administration. It should be noted that the Government Department concerned is not the Ministry of Health but that of Agriculture and Fisheries. The latter has sponsored these Acts through Parliament, and it is from this Government department that orders dealing with various articles of produce continue to be issued. So far the following have been made the subject of special orders :—

Imported Goods.—Honey, apples, currants, sultanas, raisins, eggs in shell, dried eggs and oat products. (1928.)

Home Produce.—Broccoli, tomatoes, cucumbers, apples and pears. (1929.)

It was at first thought that the duties to be carried out by the Food Inspectors would not be considerable. With the steadily increasing number of articles, however, which have been brought under order it is found that the inspectors have to spend more and more time examining

produce in shops and on stalls to see whether "marking" is being properly carried out. Should those duties continue to increase, detailed supervision cannot be undertaken to the same extent as the work of the inspectors which is more directly concerned with the Public Health must be their principal consideration.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Registration of Dairymen and Dairy Premises.—At the end of the year there were 330 names of persons and premises on the register. They included dairy shops, milk stores and those itinerant vendors who sell milk from street barrows. Some of the latter sell milk in Westminster but store their milk vessels, &c., in premises in other districts. They require to be registered in both districts.

Eleven new applications from milk sellers were received and registered. Eight of these concerned new premises, the remaining three were transfers of business from one proprietor to another as were also their premises.

In 86 instances registration of premises was cancelled as sale of milk was discontinued. One person was prosecuted for selling milk without being registered and was fined 10s.

Other provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order.—Contraventions of the Order numbered 7, including :—

- (1) Lack of cleanliness of dairy.
- (2) Keeping of animals in a dairy.
- (3) Insufficient lighting and ventilation.
- (4) Damp condition of dairy premises.
- (5) Defective milk vessels.

In three instances there was an offence under Section 8 of the L.C.C. General Powers Act, 1908, as regards the sanitary requirements of premises used for the storage of food.

In none of the above cases was it found necessary to take legal proceedings. The conditions were remedied at once after verbal or written notice.

Bottling Milk in the Street.—The Order has now been in force two years, and although dairymen in the City have been made fully aware of its provisions, offences under Article 31 are still being perpetrated. The object of this article is to ensure that milk shall be bottled and sealed in registered premises and shall be delivered to the consumer in that state. Either through ignorance or wilful carelessness there is still a tendency to tamper with those sealed bottles by removing the discs and when empty, by refilling dirty and unwashed bottles and putting the discs on in the street. Two dairymen and 15 roundsmen were prosecuted for this offence—last year there were 10 cases. Fines varying

from 10s. to £3 were inflicted. Unless penalties are made more severe it is likely that these offences will continue and may increase. The practice of using sealed bottles was introduced by the large milk distributors at considerable cost with the sole object of improving the cleanliness of milk as supplied to households. Householders should therefore co-operate by seeing that they are not being deprived of the advantages which have been provided.

Churns and other Milk Vessels.—The Order provides that churns and other vessels shall be provided with a lid without openings so as effectively to prevent the access to the milk of dirt, dust or rain water or the return to the interior of the receptacle of any milk which may have been splashed above the lid.

This article came into force in October, 1928, and it was found necessary to notify two of the larger wholesale dairymen of contraventions of this section of the Order.

The use of cartons instead of glass bottles has aroused interest among British dairy companies and there is a possibility of several London firms delivering milk in cartons in the near future should experiments, which are being made, prove satisfactory. In New York 50,000 families are having their milk delivered in cartons.

WORLD'S DAIRY CONGRESS, 1928.

This Congress to which your Medical Officer was appointed a delegate, was held in July. It was of an international character and included representatives from all who are interested in dairy produce. Members of sanitary authorities and their officers, farmers, distributors and those interested in the administrative, bacteriological, chemical and veterinary aspects of the industry. Your delegate was unfortunately owing to official duties able to attend only on one day, but the discussions which he attended on the chemical and bacteriological standards for milk and the visit to Shinfield farm, near Reading, proved highly instructive. It was amply demonstrated that it is possible to produce a milk bacteriologically pure according to the standards set for certified milk and of excellent quality as regards chemical analysis with plant of an inexpensive and perhaps primitive nature so long as the methods of production are maintained with scrupulous cleanliness and attention to detail.

MILK AND DAIRIES AMENDMENT ACT, 1922.

Under the Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1923, made under this Act the Council issued licences for the sale of :—

Certified milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Grade A (Tuberculin tested) milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Grade A milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pasteurized milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	14

13 samples were taken for bacteriological analysis.

These samples for bacteriological examination are taken by the Council's inspectors by arrangement with the Ministry, and the reports are sent to the Council as well as to the Ministry. All the samples except one were found to comply with the bacteriological standards of the order. It was found to contain *B. coli* in 1 c.c. but not in 1/10th c.c.

Pasteurization of milk is not undertaken at any premises in the City.

During the year 60 milk sellers took advantage of the provision contained in 3rd Schedule of the Milk and Dairies Act, 1915, to request the Local Authority to take samples from the consignors at the place of delivery. The form of written request is prescribed in the Schedule, and although 32 of the requests were in proper legal form, 28 were quite inadmissible in that they specified neither time nor place where the samples could be taken nor did they express a request for such samples to be taken. It is important to note that there is no obligation on the Local Authority to take the extra samples from the consignor unless the request is submitted in due legal form and lodged with the authority within 60 hours of the taking of the original sample. Unless the precise requirements of the schedule are observed a warranty cannot be pleaded.

It proved necessary to take samples from consignors only in 1 case, in response to the requests from 60 vendors, as 59 of the original samples from the vendors proved genuine.

The analysis of the sample from the vendor which was not genuine is summarised below, together with the result of the corresponding sample taken subsequently from the consignors :—

Vendor's Sample.	Action taken and Result.	Con-signor's Sample, number taken.	Result of Analysis.	Action taken and Result.
Contained 3 per cent. added water.	Vendor cautioned	1	Genuine	No action.

Analysis of Milk Samples.—Percentage of adulterated samples since 1910 is given on page 94.

The legal minimum standards for milk fat and non-fatty solids as laid down in the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901, are 3 per cent. and 8·5 per cent. respectively. Samples which do not show higher percentages than these are regarded by the analysts as of poor quality. Therefore it may be taken that the legal standards do not indicate any degree of

excellence but rather milk which has barely escaped the stigma of adulteration. The grades of quality as set up by the analysts are as follows :—

Good quality : Over 3·8 per cent. of fat.

Fair quality : Between 3·3 per cent. and under 3·8 per cent.

Poor quality : Between 3 per cent. and 3·3 per cent.

Adulterated : Below 3 per cent. fat and 8·5 per cent. non-fatty solids.

The results of the samples taken in each of the two districts of the City during 1928 are given in the following table :—

TABLE I.

District.	Total.	Good Quality.		Fair Quality.		Poor Quality.		Adulterated.	
		No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.
North ...	464	212	45·6	186	40·0	60	12·9	6	1·2
South ...	440	198	45·0	187	42·5	41	9·3	14	3·2
	904	410	45·3	373	41·2	101	11·1	20	2·2
1927 ...	914	511	54·1	345	36·5	71	7·5	17	1·8
1926 ...	910	502	55·1	298	32·7	100	10·9	10	1·0
1925 ...	970	489	50·4	368	37·9	98	10·1	15	1·5
1924 ...	994	507	51·0	363	36·5	105	10·5	19	1·90
1923 ...	997	458	45·9	368	36·9	149	14·9	22	2·2
1922 ...	998	493	49·4	338	33·8	138	13·8	29	2·9
1921 ...	977	449	45·9	362	37·0	131	13·4	35	3·5
1920 ...	987	321	32·5	400	40·5	236	23·9	30	3·0
1919 ...	1,073	375	34·9	428	39·8	201	18·7	69	6·4
1918 ...	919	320	34·8	302	32·8	194	21·2	103	11·2
1917 ...	920	329	35·7	304	33·0	162	17·6	125	13·6
1916 ...	919	235	25·5	360	39·1	221	22·8	103	11·2
1915 ...	937	303	32·3	327	34·8	225	24·0	82	8·70
1914 ...	894	250	27·9	364	40·7	217	24·2	63	7·04
1913 ...	910	255	28·0	343	37·6	233	25·6	79	8·60
1912 ...	873	251	28·7	297	34·0	252	28·8	73	8·30
1911 ...	911	305	33·3	311	34·1	218	23·9	77	8·40
1910 ...	947	332	35·0	328	34·6	179	18·9	108	11·40

The quality of the milk supplied to the City still maintains a high standard.

Legal Proceedings for Adulteration.—Of the 20 cases, 5 were considered sufficiently serious to warrant prosecution. Details of the offences and results of proceedings are set out below.

<i>Milk—</i>	<i>Fine.</i>	<i>Costs.</i>
3 per cent. added water	Summons dismissed.	—
5 per cent. fat abstracted	Summons dismissed (Probation of Offenders Act)	£2 2s.
14 per cent. fat abstracted	£2.	—
10 per cent. fat abstracted	£2.	—
29 per cent. fat abstracted	10s.	£2 2s.

Of the total 904 samples of milk taken during the year, 42 were obtained on Sundays. All of the latter proved to be genuine.

Samples taken in course of delivery.—Seven samples were taken as the milk was being delivered by consignors to hospitals, etc. On analysis all were found to be genuine and of “good” quality.

CONDENSED MILK REGULATIONS, 1923–1927.

Thirty-three samples were taken and all proved to be genuine. On one of the tins the label was not worded in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations.

The Vendor who was approached on the matter gave a satisfactory explanation and also an undertaking to prevent any infringement of the Regulations in future.

DRIED MILK REGULATIONS, 1923–1927.

Three samples were taken and all proved to be genuine and properly labelled.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1925, AND PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD) AMENDMENT REGULATIONS, 1926 AND 1927.

These Regulations have now been printed in a consolidated form in accordance with the promise of the Ministry of Health in 1926 and 1927.

As already pointed out in my previous Report there has been a gradual enforcement of the prohibition of the use of certain preservatives and the date for the final prohibition took effect on 1st July 1928.

Only the following articles may contain preservative which must be either sulphur dioxide or benzoic acid as specified in the regulations. Sausage and sausage meat, fruit and fruit pulp not dried, dried fruit, unfermented grape juice and non-alcoholic wines, cordials and fruit juices, jam, candied peel, sugar, corn syrup, gelatine, beer, cider, alcoholic wines, sweetened mineral waters, brewed ginger beer, coffee extract, pickles and sauces made from fruit or vegetables. Eight infringements of these regulations were found as the result of analyses of samples.

When purchasing sausages which contain preservatives the sampling officer is invariably given the portion of his purchase without a label owing to the fact that the pound only is labelled but not the half a pound asked for. The Regulations provide for the article purchased being labelled as containing preservative, and I am getting into communication with the Sausage Manufacturers Society with a view to seeing that provision is made for every sample of sausages being properly labelled similar to margarine—the smallest purchase of which must be marked.

A detailed list of samples is set out below with notes as to analysis and action taken.

TABLE II.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Samples purchased under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, showing results of Analysis and subsequent Proceedings for year 1928.

Number.	Article of Food.	Number of samples purchased.	Genuine. (Inferior in brackets.)	Adulterated.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Withdrawn or dismissed.	Fines.	Costs.
								£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1	Milk	904	884	20	5	3	2	4 10 0	4 4 0
2	Do. Separated	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	Do. Dried	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	Do. Condensed	33	33	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	Cream	75	75	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	Do. Tinned	12	12	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	Do. Ice	9	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	Butter	152	151	1	—	—	—	—	—
9	Margarine	65	65	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	Cocoa	13	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
11	Coffee	11	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
12	Coffee and Chicory	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
13	Mincemeat	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
14	Jams and Preserve	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	Cake	11	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
16	Pearl Barley	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
17	Honey	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
18	Baking Powder	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
19	Custard do.	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	Semolina	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
21	Sauce (Various)	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
22	Soup (tinned and bottled)	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
23	Pickles	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
24	Mayonaise	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	Vinegar	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
26	Cheese	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
27	Meat and Fish Paste	74	74	—	—	—	—	—	—
28	Fish (tinned and potted)	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
29	Olive Oil	18	18	—	—	—	—	—	—
30	Pepper	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
31	Mustard	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
32	Suet (shredded)	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
33	Meat Pies (various)	24	22	2	1	—	1	—	2 2 0
34	Sausages (various)	95	90	5	—	—	—	—	—
35	Brawn	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
36	(Meat (pressed)	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
37	Bacon	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
38	Ham	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
39	Tongue	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
40	Vegetables (tinned)	14	14	—	—	—	—	—	—
41	Fruit (tinned)	34	34	—	—	—	—	—	—
42	Cordials (fruit)	18	18	—	—	—	—	—	—
43	Lemonade Powder	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
44	Sweets	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	Jelly	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
46	Colouring (culinary)	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
47	Whiskey	48	44 (3)	1	—	—	—	—	—
48	Gin	21	21	—	—	—	—	—	—
49	Rum	23	22	1	1	—	1	—	5 5 0
50	Brandy	22	22	—	—	—	—	—	—
51	Wine	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
52	Sulphur, Flowers of	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
53	Do., Milk of	14	14	—	—	—	—	—	—
54	Camphorated Oil	27	27	—	—	—	—	—	—
		1,800	1,765 (3)	32	7	3	4	4 10 0	11 11 0

The following list shows in detail the results of analysis of individual samples other than milk and spirits, which were adulterated and the decision taken in each, with the result of any legal proceedings ordered by the Council:—

Butter.—152 samples were taken and one was found to contain 2 grains of boric acid per lb. The vendor was cautioned by letter.

Soup.—4 samples of tinned and bottled soup were taken, and one was found to contain 4·5 grains of tin per pound. This being an informal sample an official sample was obtained and was found to contain 0·7 grains of tin per lb.; the amount being so small no action was taken.

Suet, shredded.—1 sample was taken and found to contain 18 per cent. of rice starch. As the packet was labelled to this effect there was no infringement of the Act.

Meat Pies.—24 samples were taken and 2 were found to contain boric acid. The sample with 8·4 grains per lb. of boric acid was unofficial and the subsequent official sample contained 7 grains per lb. of boric acid, the vendor of which was prosecuted and ordered to pay two guineas costs.

Sausages.—95 samples of various kinds were taken, 21 contained preservatives, 16 of these were sold in accordance with the provisions of the P.H. (Preservatives in Food) Regulations, the remaining 5 contained sulphur dioxide in amounts varying from 60 to 150 parts per million, but were not labelled in accordance with the Regulations. In each case the vendor was cautioned by letter. The amount of sulphur dioxide permitted is 450 parts per million, provided the article is labelled preserved.

REGULATION OF STREET TRADING.

The London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1927, provides for the regulation of street trading by the issue of licences which must be renewed annually. Special observation is kept by the Food Inspectors of all stalls where food is exposed for sale and the premises where the food is stored. Where stall-holders have their food stores in other districts the addresses are forwarded for the attention of the sanitary authority concerned.

In two cases communications from a neighbouring borough were received requesting to be informed if the conditions for the storage of food were satisfactory. The necessary enquiries and inspections were made and found quite satisfactory in one case but in the remaining case food was being stored in the sleeping apartment. Steps were immediately taken to stop the practice and after a time the street trader obtained a store elsewhere thus ending the infringement of the above Act.

MEAT REGULATIONS, 1924.

There are no slaughterhouses in the City and the duties imposed are confined to the supervision of meat shops, stalls and stores. In addition to routine and special inspection, visits are paid to all meat premises in the City at certain periods in the year for the purpose of a general inspection of the requirements in the Regulations. A register is kept of all meat vendors and the number at the end of 1928 was 142. The inspectors paid 273 visits to these premises.

The conditions on the whole are satisfactory, the traders carrying out the requirements of the Regulations remarkably well. Only three cases of infringement were reported, these were cases where the storage conditions did not come up to the standard laid down. Verbal and written notice was given to the persons responsible and the necessary alterations were carried out without delay.

Other Food Premises.

The total number of inspections to food premises was 4,376, and these include visits to milk shops and butchers' shops which have already been detailed. Other premises where food is prepared for sale, deposited for sale or sold, include bakers' shops, greengrocery and fruit shops, ice-cream shops, fish shops, fried fish shops, eating places, tea shops and restaurants. As a result of these inspections 101 notices requiring sanitary defects to be remedied were issued.

Restaurants.—The keeping of restaurants is one of the most important trades in Westminster. A permanent day population almost four times as large as the resident population, together with the enormous daily influx of people who come for shopping, theatres or other social reasons, require to be catered for. A register of all restaurants is being compiled but the survey is not yet completed. 760 restaurants have already been indexed, and during the year 862 visits were paid. Kitchens, pantries, messroom arrangements for staff, systems for washing up, and general sanitary arrangements were specially observed. Defects requiring notices were found in 78 instances, and in each case the work was satisfactorily carried out.

Fish Shops and Fried Fish Shops were periodically examined. There are 29 of these shops in the City to which the Food Inspectors paid 56 visits.

Ice-Cream Premises.—The inspectors paid 58 visits for the purpose of supervision to premises where ice-cream is prepared or sold. It is particularly necessary that there should be a high standard of cleanliness in the preparation of this article and in the premises where it is made. Ice-cream has been known to convey germs of Typhoid Fever and is stated also to have contained the bacillus of Tuberculosis. (*Vide ante* note on London County Council General Powers Act 1928, sec. 29.)

Bakehouses.—At the end of 1928 there were 72 bakehouses in the City, of which 52 were underground. During the year 280 visits of inspection were made, and in all instances the cleansing which is required to be done twice a year was carried out.

Inspection of Food.—Food exposed for sale has received regular inspection by the food inspectors, who have carried out this work daily including Sundays. The following table shows the nature and amount of food voluntarily surrendered or submitted for destruction.

TABLE III.
Articles of Food submitted.

	Tons.	cwts.	lbs.		Tons.	cwts.	lbs.
Apples	8	7	110	Onions.....	1	—	—
Apricots	—	1	—	Ox Tongues	—	—	33
Bananas	12	9	—	Oranges	2	6	—
Beans	—	8	39	Passion Fruit	—	10	—
Black Currants	—	11	88	Peaches	—	10	36
Butter Beans	—	—	28	Pearl Barley	—	1	—
Carrots	—	18	56	Pears	40	4	24
Cauliflowers	—	14	56	Pineapples	—	3	28
Confectionery	2	6	56	Potatoes	1	2	—
Garlic	2	8	—	Rice	—	4	—
Grapes	2	—	—	Salmon (Tinned)	—	5	86
Greengages	—	6	48	Sugar	—	3	—
Kippers	—	—	48	Tea	—	1	0
Lemons	1	15	—	Tomatoes	5	13	40
Mandarins	—	7	96	Tomato Consume			
Melons	3	6	28	(Tinned)	—	1	—
Mefflers	1	5	—	Turnips	1	—	—
				Walnuts	1	—	—

Certification of Food for Export.—Certificates enabling the export of certain articles of food were granted in seventeen instances—thirteen to Canada and four to Australia.

TABLE IV.
SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.
Spirit Samples, 1928.

114 Samples of whiskey, brandy, rum and gin were taken during the year. In 4 cases it was found that the spirits were diluted below the standard strength of 35 degrees U.P., and in one a trace of iron was discovered.

The following table shows details concerning the samples of spirits which proved to be adulterated, and the results where legal action was taken :—

No.	Article.	Result of Analysis. — Degrees U.P.	Action taken and Result.
41N.	Whiskey	Contained Minimum of proof spirit	No action.
153N.	"	"	No action.
715N.	"	Contained a trace of iron.	No action.
499S.	"	36·0	Vendor cautioned.
779S.	Rum	37·5	Proceedings—£5 5s. costs.

The improvement in the number of defective samples this year is very marked, a drop of from 44 (20·1 per cent.) in 1925 to 5 (4·3 per cent.) in 1928.

APPENDIX.

Concerning certain details relating to the flooding of the Millbank Area on January 6-7, 1928 and the formation of the Millbank Improvement Scheme.

The conditions connected with the occurrence of the flood and its after effects were generally referred to in the preface to the report of last year. It now remains to amplify this reference with certain details which have been reported to the Council from time to time. Certain of the principal considerations embodied in the Improvement Scheme are also mentioned here and copies of that part of the scheme which was prepared by the Medical Officer of Health and his staff have been submitted to the Ministry of Health and the London County Council.

The area adjoins the Thames and its boundaries are set out in the rough sketch-plan on page iv. The buildings on it consist firstly of working-class dwellings of three main types (1) large, old houses, formerly family mansions on the river front, (2) houses of three or four storeys and (3) cottages. At least four streets consist entirely of the cottage type. There are also 76 premises of commercial nature including some 20 garages, 13 shops and 5 public-houses. All the buildings were built about a century ago with the exception of the London Ice Club and the Centre of the Westminster Health Society.

As regards the levels of the buildings which were subjected to the flood it was estimated that 131 buildings were dangerously below flood-level and 319 were below flood-level. These figures relate not only to the Millbank area but to adjoining districts. All basements whether of dwelling houses or other premises were completely inundated. It was ascertained that in dwelling houses some 12 were illegally occupied as separate dwellings. It is worthy of note to remark again that of the ten fatalities only one occurred in an illegally occupied basement.

On the night of the flood the population of the Millbank area is estimated to have been 1,955, consisting of 637 families. Of these 604 were deemed to be working-class families comprising 1,892 persons.

As to the measures adopted for the relief of the victims of the flood it was mentioned last year that damaged furniture and household effects were removed from 619 houses. These articles were carefully checked by the Sanitary Inspectors as taken from each house and recorded in order to meet claims likely to be submitted to the Mayor's Fund. An intensive sanitary survey of the entire flooded area was meantime being carried out, and owners were required to make good the damage to structure wrought by the flood. In those cases where the owners required financial assistance, builders' estimates and specifications were carefully examined before recommendations were passed to the sub-committee specially set up by the Mayor to deal with this aspect of relief. The following figures indicate the extent of the operation of the Mayor's Fund:—

Number of flooded houses, 722; number of premises outside the Millbank area where owners were assisted in making good structural damage, 137; amount so expended from Mayor's Fund, £3,331; number of cases relieved for damage to furniture, household and other effects, 1,160; amount so expended from Mayor's Fund, £19,463.

The damage caused by the flood fell most heavily on the Millbank Estate proper. Here in almost every instance the houses were owned by a large firm in terms of a lease from the Grosvenor Estate. It had been the intention in due course to develop the whole estate when the working-class dwellings were no longer fulfilling this purpose. The Rent Restrictions Acts and the scarcity of working-class accommodation were governing factors in delaying this project. These working-class

dwellings had been the subject of repeated surveys by the officers of the Public Health Department and were kept in a reasonably fit state of habitation only by frequent repairs. The rents were low and in no case were there the conveniences and amenities usually accepted as necessary adjuncts in modern working-class dwellings. Age and decay had set their seal on the structures and nothing short of closing orders and reconstruction would have given a satisfactory answer to a growing problem. Even this answer would have caused intense hardship by depriving the sitting tenants of their homes without replacing them. The flood had further aggravated the progress of dilapidation and had made some 40 dwellings entirely unfit for habitation although in a number of instances the occupiers remained because there was nowhere else for them to go, while others obtained temporary refuge with relatives or friends in the locality or elsewhere.

It was within a few days of the flood that the Mayor, Mr. Jacques Abady, who had seen with his own eyes the pitiful plight of many of the tenants in the Millbank area was inspired with the possibilities of an improvement scheme. He saw the area replanned and reconstructed with as many working-class dwellings as existed on the night of the flood. But they would be modern dwellings, each with its own cooking, washing and sanitary arrangements and let at rents consistent with those of the old dwellings, except in cases where additional rooms were required to relieve overcrowding.

The Mayor lost no time in broaching his scheme to the Trustees of the Grosvenor Estate and found them as gravely concerned with the living conditions in the Millbank Estate as he was himself. They had already given a very handsome contribution to the relief fund and they fell in whole-heartedly with the Mayor's proposals. The extent to which the Grosvenor Estate has assisted in transforming these ideals into a concrete improvement Scheme has already been mentioned in this report. The spirit which prompted such munificence in gifts of land and money for the welfare and happiness of his tenants belongs to the Duke of Westminster himself.

The Scheme, in addition to the provision of new working-class dwellings to replace the old, has for its objective the improvement and development of the whole area by sweeping away old and derelict commercial premises and other buildings. New streets will be formed while some of those existing will disappear. Large buildings such as offices and workshops will be erected which besides furnishing opportunities for the employment of the local population will greatly increase the rate income of the City. Possibly also there may be numbers of residential flats so that the scheme when completed will offer an example of town planning as applied to one of the most important districts of central London.

The illustrations attached show (1) Sketch-plan of the Millbank Estate, (2) Perspective view of proposed new working-class dwellings designed by Sir Edward Lutyens, (3) Certain photographs indicating the types of old dwellings which it is intended to demolish and replace.

EBURY BRIDGE HOUSING SCHEME.

Three illustrations are included on pages x, xi and xii. The first gives a perspective view of the Housing Scheme which was initiated at the suggestion of Capt. J. C. Dalton, the chairman of a special committee of the Council whose reference is a survey of all freehold and leasehold properties belonging to the Council. The Housing Scheme designed by the firm of Ashley and Newman, F.F.R.I.B.A., who have completed so successfully other housing schemes of the Council will provide 210 working-class flats and 16 shops. The rents of the flats will be on a similar scale to those obtaining

at other Council Dwellings, but it should be remarked that the rooms in this scheme will be considerably larger than those at Regency Street Dwellings. A great advantage in this instance is that there are practically no tenants to be displaced. The dwellings will be built over the site of old workshops no longer in use and vacant yards.

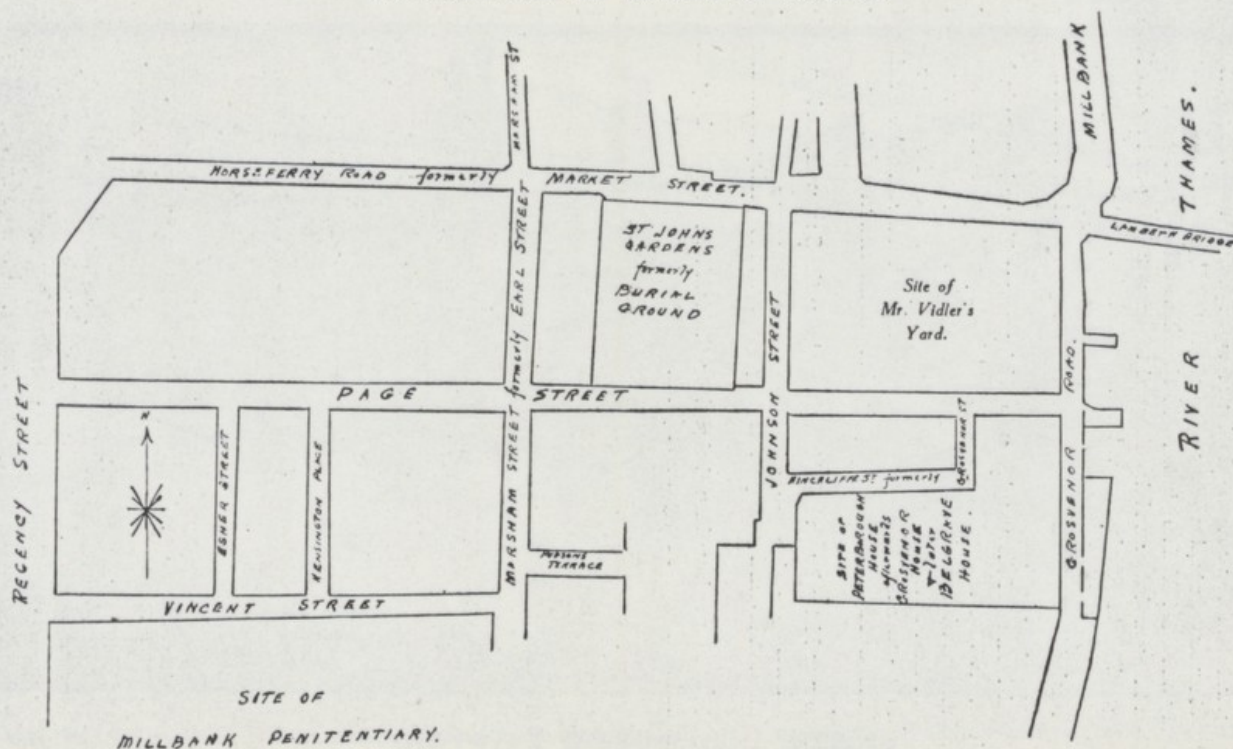
The other two illustrations show plans of the new Tuberculosis Dispensary and Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. It should be noted that these institutions will form the ground floor and first floors of the same building as they do in the present premises at 1, Pimlico Road. The accommodation, however, will be considerably greater and will allow for the proper development of the work which hitherto has been seriously hampered owing to the cramped space and inconvenient arrangement of the old building.

A special feature of the new Tuberculosis Dispensary will be a large room for the handicraft class for tuberculosis patients. This class which is conducted entirely on a voluntary basis has existed for over two and a half years. By its means patients who return from sanatorium unfit for their old employment or for other reasons unable to re-enter it are trained in some branch of handicraft. Their enforced leisure is thus usefully occupied and their minds are diverted from dwelling on their ailments.

In the new Maternity and Child Welfare Centre the Sun rooms and open air balconies deserve notice ; also the large waiting room which can be used for lectures. There is also an additional waiting room for expectant mothers opening off the doctor's room.

The two schemes have been designed by the architects of the Ebury Bridge Scheme and form part of the general lay-out.

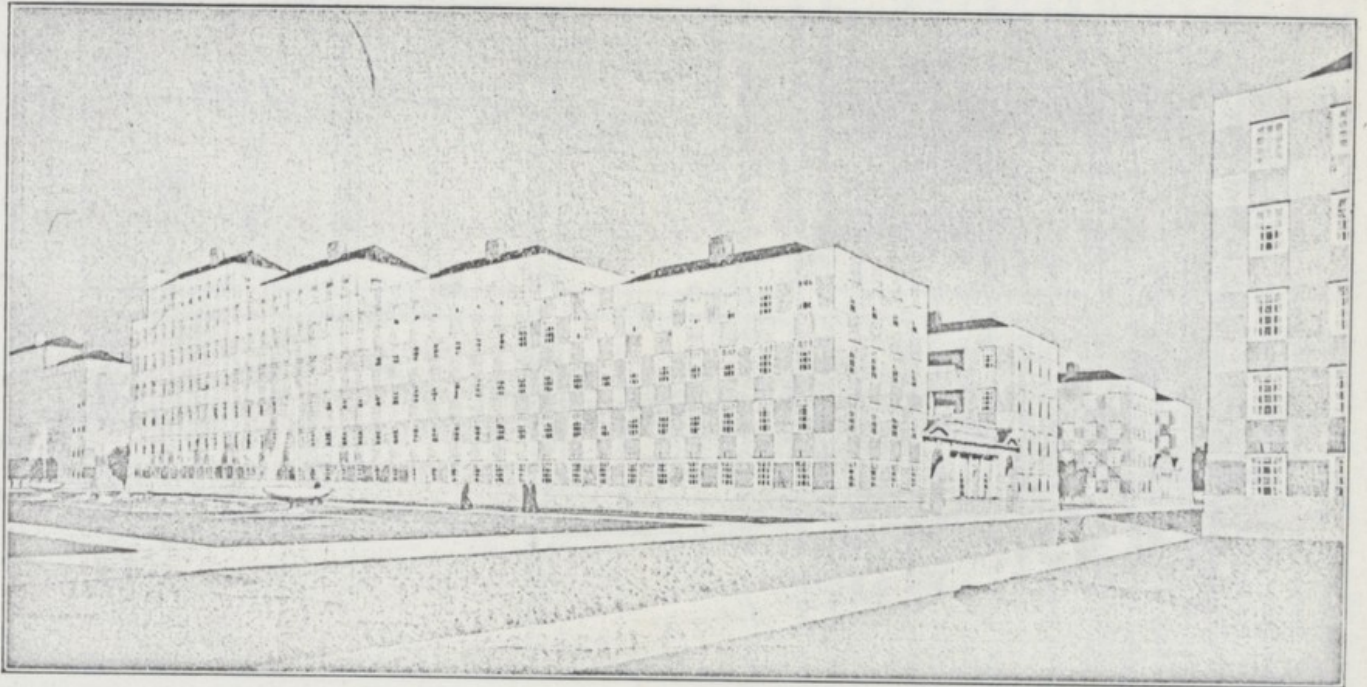
SKETCH PLAN OF MILLBANK ESTATE.



SITE OF
MILLBANK PENITENTIARY.

AREA OF MILLBANK IMPROVEMENT SCHEME (AS EXISTING).

MILLBANK IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.



PERSPECTIVE VIEW OF PROPOSED NEW WORKING CLASS DWELLINGS.

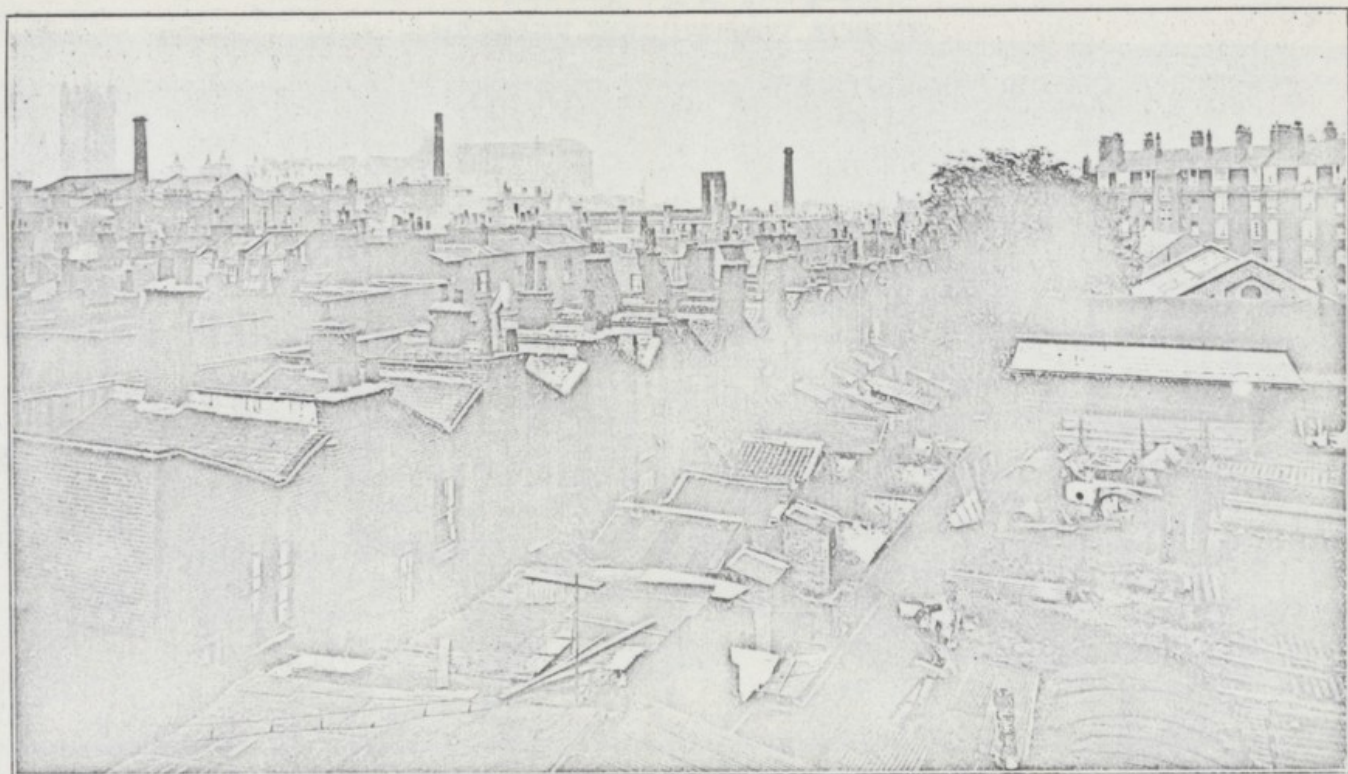
MILLBANK IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.



REAR OF NOS. 32-38, PAGE STREET.

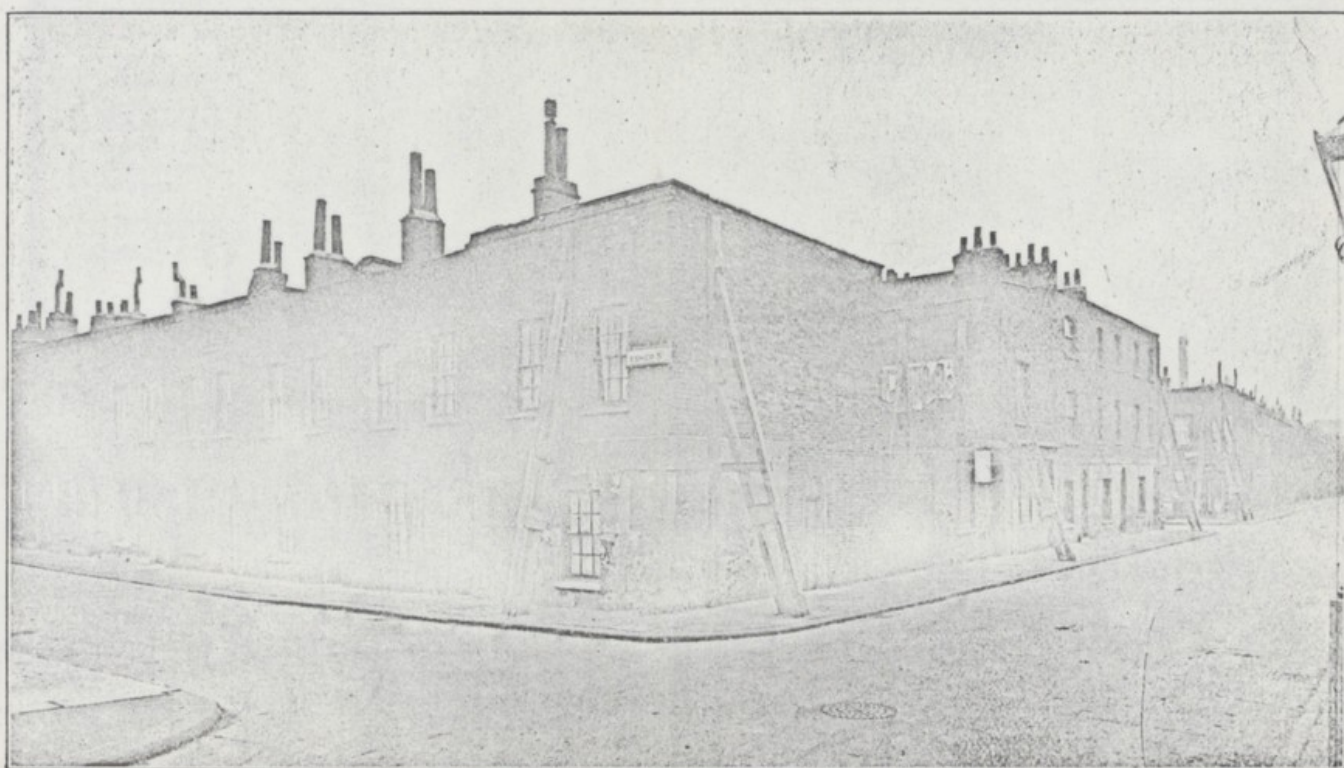
(Note part of new City of Westminster Dwellings, Schomberg House, in background.)

MILLBANK IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.



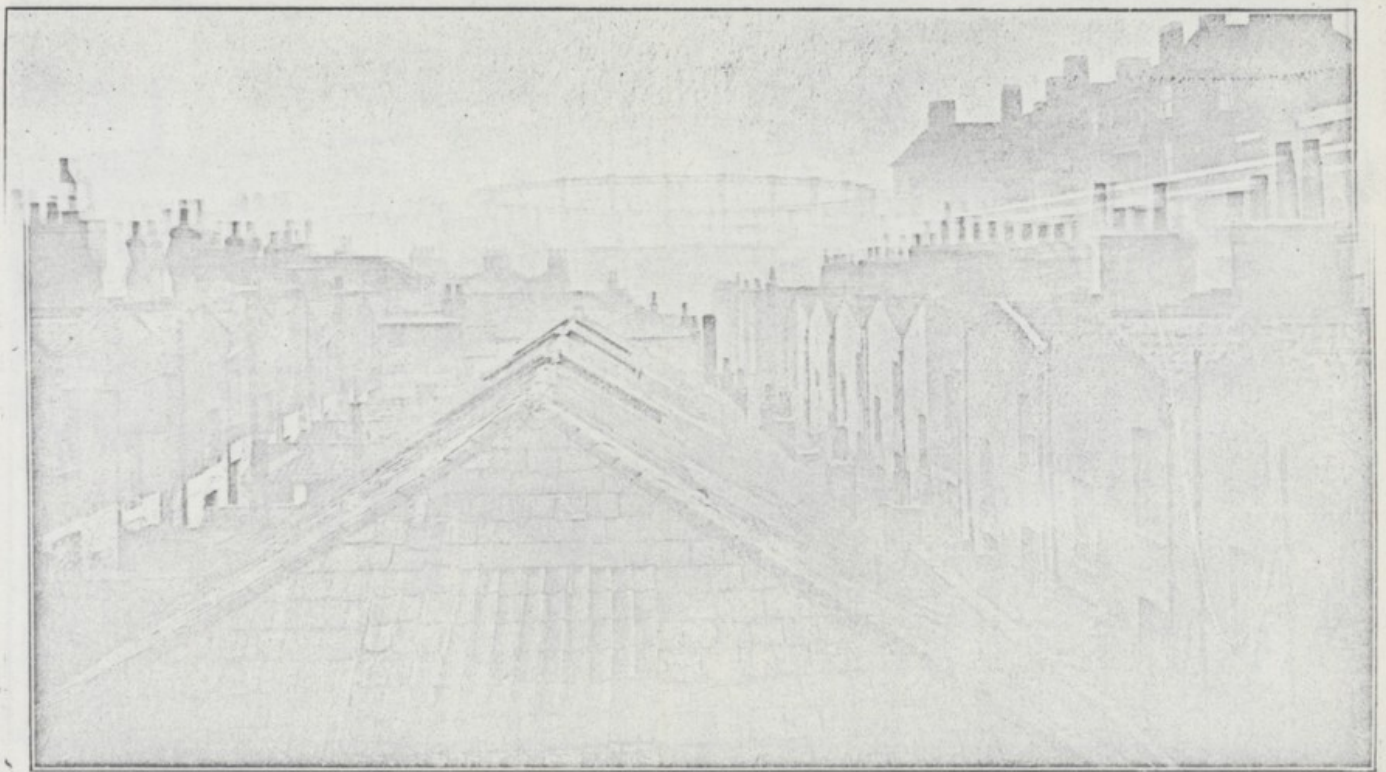
REAR OF VINCENT STREET, SOUTH SIDE (NOW DEMOLISHED).

MILLBANK IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.



ESHER STREET AND VINCENT STREET, NORTH SIDE.

MILLBANK IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

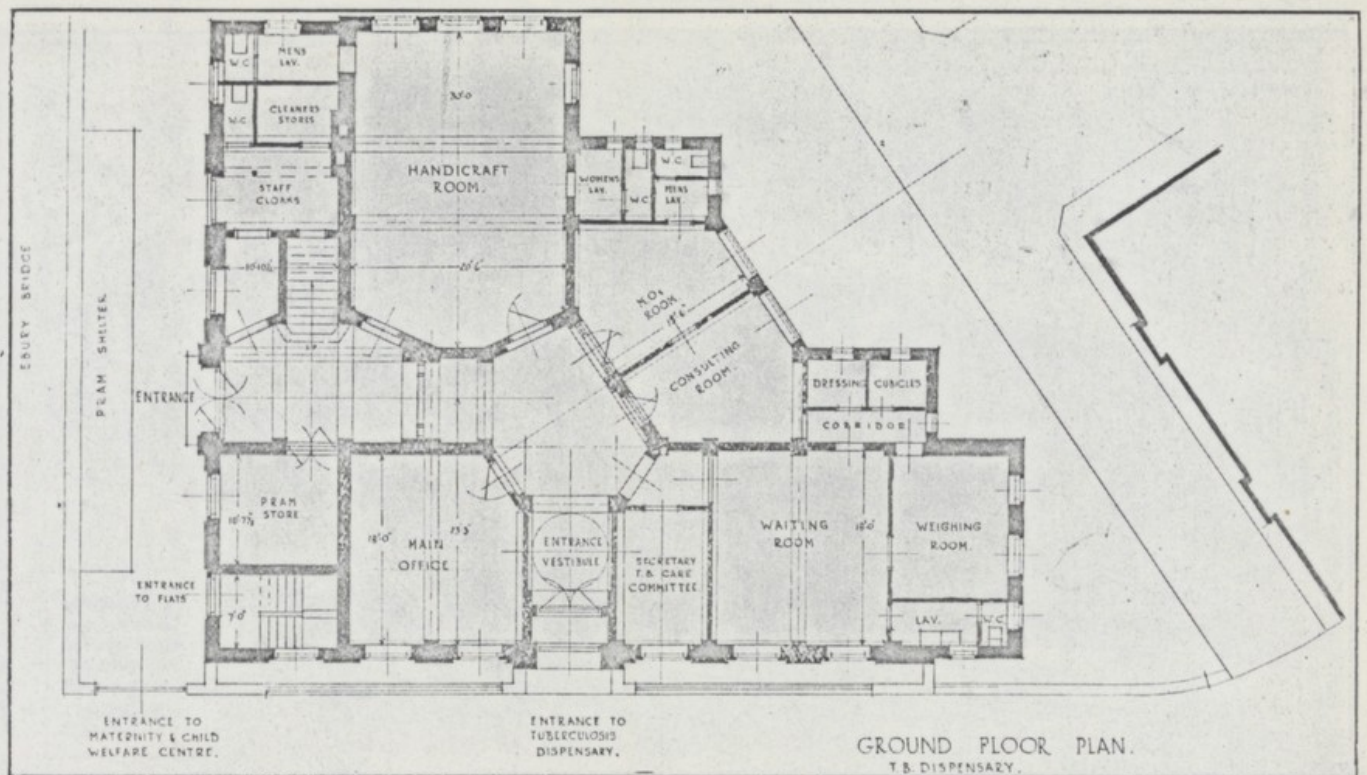


REAR OF ESHER STREET AND KENSINGTON PLACE.

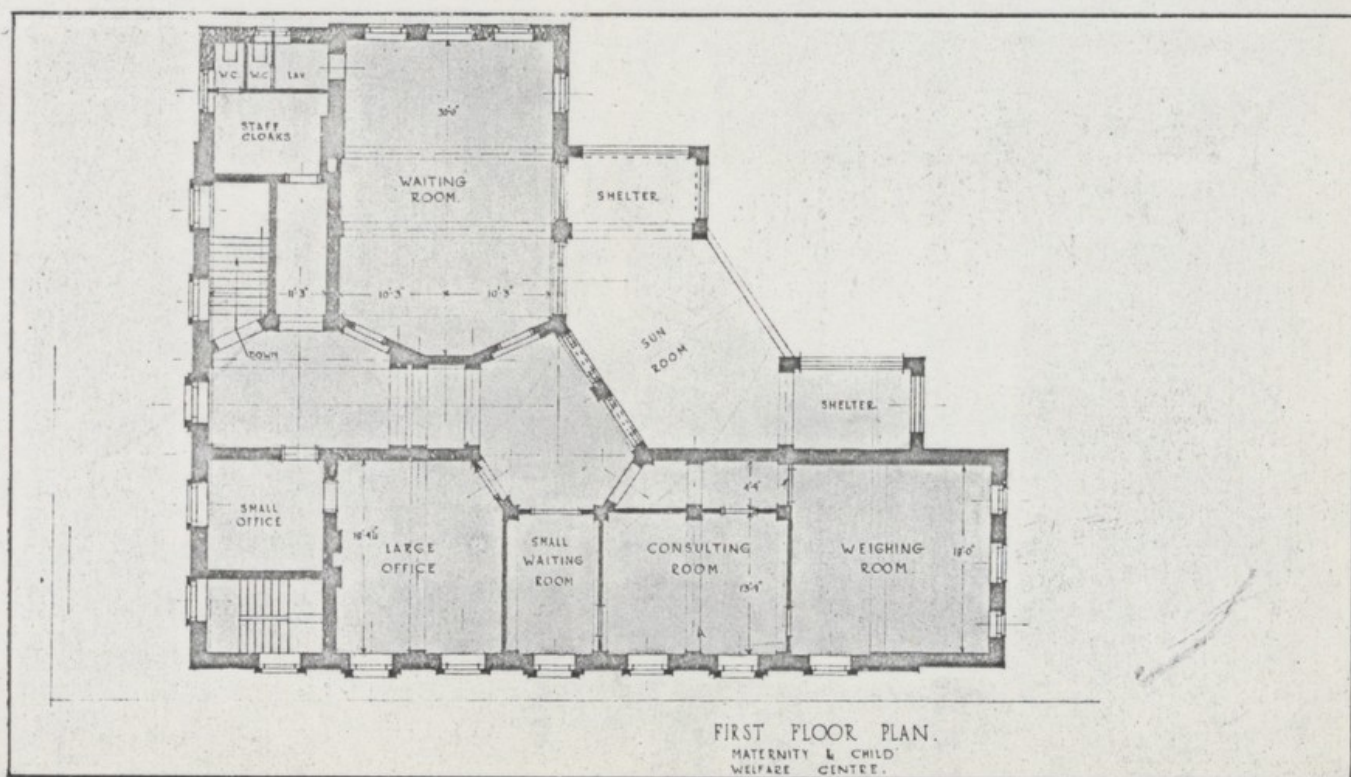
EBURY BRIDGE SCHEME.



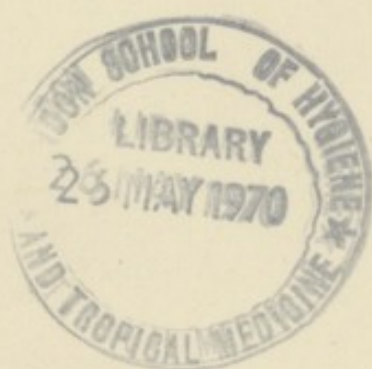
(Building containing proposed Maternity and Child Welfare Centre and Tuberculosis Dispensary indicated by +.)



PROPOSED TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY, EBURY BRIDGE.



PROPOSED MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE, EBURY BRIDGE.



R2/70

