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Metropolitan Borough of Wandsworth.



Annual Report  
of the  
Medical Officer of  
Health  
for the Year  
1940,

by

F. G. CALEY, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.,

together with the

Report of the Public Analyst.

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# REPORT

## of the Medical Officer of Health

### for the Year 1940.

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*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Metropolitan Borough of Wandsworth.*

SIR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1940, including an account of the Health Services administered by the Council and incorporating the Report of the Public Analyst.

The health of the Borough during the year has been good and apart from the effects of enemy air activity there has been no undue increase in mortality calling for special comment. Actually in some respects the reverse is the case. There has been a marked reduction in the number of the common infectious diseases of childhood with a corresponding fall in the number of deaths. The bi-ennial epidemic of measles due in the winter of 1939-1940 never materialised. The infantile mortality was 45 per 1,000 births, the lowest ever recorded. It is reasonable to assume that this reduction in the incidence of disease in childhood is a direct result of the evacuation of many children into country areas during the early part of the war.

On the other hand, there were 816 more deaths of Borough residents than in the previous year. Much of this increase is accounted for by deaths from enemy action, 500 persons having died from this cause during the year, but there has also been an increased number of deaths from cancer, tuberculosis and diseases of the respiratory system.

According to the Registrar General's estimate, the population, on which the birth and death rates are calculated, shows a reduction of over 68,000 on the previous year, an effect produced by evacuation and enlistment in the Forces. Calculated on this reduced population, both the birth rate and the death rate are shown as materially higher than they have been in recent years, but it is as well not to place too much reliance on these statistics

for purposes of comparison, in view of the difficulties in arriving at a correct estimate of the population under present conditions.

All the health services provided by the Council have been in operation throughout the year, although in some respects there has not been the same demand for them as in peace time. There has, for instance, been a reduction in the number of complaints received from householders and most of the work under the Housing Acts has ceased. As a result of evacuation there are fewer mothers and children resident in the Borough and this has lessened the demand on the Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

For these reasons there has been some falling off in the peace time routine activities of the Sanitary Inspectors and Health Visitors, but additional duties have been thrown on these officers in connection with the war effort, and during the enemy activity in the autumn they were hard put to it to carry out these extra duties. At that time the Sanitary Inspectors were called upon to assist in finding houses for the homeless and in making rapid surveys of houses damaged by bombs. Their services were also required for the inspection of air raid shelters. The Health Visitors visited many homes in connection with the evacuation scheme and to find billets for refugees. They also visited rest centres and several of them were on duty with the Mobile Units when these were despatched to Air raid incidents.

As the Health Department is responsible for the organisation and control of certain sections of the Civil Defence Scheme it is inevitable that many members of the staff should have been called upon to shoulder additional duties and responsibilities, often involving considerable periods of overtime. The whole of the staff have given me their full co-operation throughout the year and have carried out the many additional duties which they have been asked to perform in a manner which has been a credit to all concerned.

I am, Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

F. G. CALEY,  
*Medical Officer of Health,*

### CIVIL DEFENCE SERVICES.

The Civil Defence Services for the administration and control of which the Department is responsible are as follows:—

1. The Casualty Service, comprising five Stretcher Party Stations, eight First Aid Posts and five Mobile Units, with a personnel of about 1,000 men and women and over 80 vehicles.

2. The Medical and Nursing Service in shelters, comprising 16 Medical Aid Posts situated in the large shelters or serving groups of shelters. Each post has one or more nurses on duty throughout the night and is visited nightly by a doctor. Arrangements have also been made for doctors to visit those shelters not served by the Medical Aid Posts should their services be required.

3. The Cleansing Service for the decontamination of persons who may become gas casualties and their clothing. There are cleansing centres for casualties at each of the eight First Aid Posts and further centres are being established for the cleansing of casualties and their clothing.

4. The Gas Identification Service.

5. The collection and transportation of Civilian War Dead from incidents to one of the three mortuaries which have been provided.

6. The Operational Control of the above Services organised on a rota basis. For this purpose a Medical Officer and two Clerical Officers of the Department are available for duty in the Control Room at any hour of the day or night.

7. The supervision of the Food Supplies under war conditions by the Food Inspectors.

8. The local arrangements, in co-operation with the Ministry of Health and the London County Council, for the evacuation of children, expectant mothers, aged and infirm persons.

9. The medical inspection of the Rest Centres and the supervision of children when accommodated at the Centres.

10. The arrangements for the medical and nursing inspection of war refugees.

### **The Training of Civil Defence Personnel.**

Another important service for which the Public Health Department has become responsible is the training of the personnel of all sections of the Civil Defence Services under the control of the Council. The Department has carried out these duties since organised training was instituted in the early months of 1938, and in June, 1940, the Council appointed me as Training Officer.

The training staff consists of a Chief Instructor, seven other Government-trained instructors and eleven who have been trained locally.

Mr. W. G. Pearce, the Chief Instructor, was seconded from his duties as Sanitary Inspector in 1939 and now devotes the whole of his time to Civil Defence duties. He is Chief Instructor and also acts as Quartermaster for the Services for which the Department is responsible.

The other Government-trained Instructors are officers of the Council. They are Messrs. A. E. Vickers, E. V. Roots, W. H. Jones, A. E. Handley and A. F. Saunders, Sanitary Inspectors, and Messrs. L. F. Morgan and W. H. Michael, of the Borough Engineer's Department. The locally-trained Instructors are Messrs. E. M. Brown, E. H. Goff, H. L. Marshall, R. W. Martin, A. V. Palmer, J. B. Privett, C. H. Rowe, C. T. Searle, E. R. Stead, B. L. Shurgold and J. F. Wray. All the instructors devote a large amount of their time to their training duties, much of it after office hours.

A large number of Civil Defence volunteers have undergone training in the last three years. During the year 180 courses of lectures in Anti-Gas and 148 courses in First Aid have been given.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area .. .. .	9,199	acres
Resident population in 1940 .. .. .	271,340	
No. of inhabited houses in 1940 .. .. .	approx. 76,000	
No. of families, or separate occupiers, at Census in 1931 .. .. .	95,383	
Rateable value in 1940 .. .. .	£3,479,668	
Estimated produce of a penny rate .. .. .	£13,252	

Wandsworth is the largest of the Metropolitan Boroughs. It has an area of 9,199 acres which includes a number of open spaces with a combined area of 1,202 acres.

The population is a varied one, as the Borough contains residential neighbourhoods in addition to several working-class districts.

The chief industries carried on are the manufacture of gas, electricity and motor accessories, laundries and general engineering. There is no trade which has any particular affect on the health of the workers or residents.

At December, 1940, the number of unemployed was 2,274, a decrease of 5,213 on December, 1939.



**Extracts from Vital Statistics.**

<i>No. of Live Births.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate .. .. .	1850	1662	3512
Illegitimate .. .. .	78	72	150
Total Live Births ..	<u>1928</u>	<u>1734</u>	<u>3662</u>

No. of stillbirths .. .. .	61	50	111
No. of Deaths .. .. .	2269	2321	4590
Birth-rate .. .. .	..	13·49	
Death-rate :— Crude .. .. .	..	16·91	
Standardised .. .. .	..	15·21	

*Rate per 1,000*  
*(Live and Still) Births.*

Deaths from puerperal and post-abortive sepsis .. .. .	5	1·32
Deaths from other puerperal causes	4	1·06
Total .. .. .	<u>9</u>	<u>2·38</u>

Infantile mortality, per 1,000 live births :—

All infants .. .. .	45
Legitimate infants .. .. .	44
Illegitimate infants .. .. .	66
Deaths from Cancer .. .. .	622
„ Measles .. .. .	2
„ Whooping Cough .. .. .	1
„ Diarrhœa, under 2 years of age .. .. .	4
„ Tuberculosis .. .. .	242
Tuberculosis death-rate .. .. .	·89

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year and no noteworthy outbreaks of illness have occurred.

## STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

### *Medical Officer of Health :—*

F. G. CALEY, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

### *Deputy M.O.H. and Tuberculosis Officer :—*

J. J. MACDONNELL, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

### *Assistant M.O.H. and Assistant Tuberculosis Officer :—*

L. A. S. TROTT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Dr. Trott has acted throughout the year as First Aid Commandant, having been seconded from his ordinary duties on the outbreak of war. Dr. W. Dodd, who was engaged on a sessional basis, in October, 1939, to perform Dr. Trott's duties, was appointed, temporarily, as Assistant M.O.H. and Assistant Tuberculosis Officer on 19th March, 1940. He resigned on 9th November and his place was taken by Dr. C. R. Stevenson, who took up his duties on 16th December.

### *Obstetric Consultants :—*

A. MORRIS JOHNS, M.D., Ch.B., M.C.O.G.

F. W. ROQUES, M.A., M.D., M.Ch., F.R.C.S., M.C.O.G.

W. R. WINTERTON, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S., M.C.O.G.

W. N. SEARLE, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., M.C.O.G.

### *Ophthalmic Consultant to The Maternity Home :—*

J. D. M. CARDELL, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.

### *Public Analyst :—*

A. H. M. MUTER, F.I.C., F.C.S.

### *Dental Surgeon :—*

G. TESTER THOMPSON, L.D.S.

*Public Vaccinators :—*

for Balham .. .. .	DR. T. STOKES.
for Clapham .. .. .	DR. J. KENNISH.
for Putney .. .. .	DR. M. D. COWAN.
for Streatham .. .. .	DR. A. B. PLANT.
Tooting No. 1 District .. .. .	DR. P. A. CARRIE.
Tooting No. 2 District .. .. .	DR. E. G. HOUSDEN.
Wandsworth No. 1 District .. .. .	DR. C. F. KIRWAN.
Wandsworth No. 2 District .. .. .	DR. J. W. M. LITTLE.
for Swaffield Road Institution .. .. .	DR. J. W. M. LITTLE.

*Vaccination Officers :—*

for Putney .. .. .	MR. C. L. TAYLOR.
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The Medical Officer of Health is Vaccination Officer for the rest of the Borough.

### The Staff of the Maternity Home.

This Home is now closed and is a First Aid Post. Four members of the staff are employed as trained nurses in units of the First Aid Services, viz., MISS A. CRUMP, *Matron*; MISS R. STRUDWICK, *Senior Sister*; MISS G. MABEN, *Sister*; and MISS H. E. ROBERTS, *Midwife*.

### Disinfecting Station.

*Engineer* : MR. R. E. GALE.

Two motor drivers. Seven Disinfecting Attendants.

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MR. P. P. LEACOCK, a Grade "A" Clerk, was appointed temporary Sanitary Inspector for the supervision of public air raid shelters on 17th December, 1940.

MR. A. K. GALE is acting temporarily as Assistant to the Food Inspectors in place of Mr. S. R. COOMBER who joined H.M. Forces in September, 1939.

## SANITARY INSPECTORS.

NAME. DISTRICT .. 12 HOUSING .. 4†	Commenced Duty.	Certificates held.		
		Sanitary Inspector.	Meat and Foods.	Others.
A. E. Vickers .. (Senior Inspector)	Dec. 1919	S.I. Exam. Bd.	Yes	—
J. A. Sands ..	July, 1920	„	No	One
E. V. Roots ..	Sept. 1926	„	Yes	Four
C. F. Standish ..	Jan. 1928	„	Yes	Two
F. A. Eustace ..	June, 1929	Joint Board Ex.	No	—
*W. G. Pearce ..	Sept. 1929	„	Yes	—
A. W. Fisher ..	May, 1930	„	No	—
R. E. Jones ..	Dec. 1930	„	Yes	One
A. W. E. Porter	June, 1931	S.I. Exam. Bd.	Yes	—
F. L. Langford ..	May, 1934	Joint Board Ex.	No	—
†H. M. Hough ..	April, 1935	„	Yes	Five
†A. J. Lansley ..	April, 1935	„	Yes	—
A. F. Saunders ..	Jan. 1938	„	Yes	One
†A. W. Lock ..	Jan. 1938	„	Yes	—
J. W. Marshall ..	Oct. 1938	„	No	—
†E. J. Newton ..	Aug. 1939	„	Yes	One
FOOD AND DRUGS (1)				
W. H. Jones ..	Sept. 1926	S.I. Exam. Bd.	Yes	Four
FOOD (3)				
H. T. Lambert ..	Dec. 1919	S.I. Exam. Bd.	Yes	Five
W. T. Willimott	Dec. 1927	Joint Board Ex.	Yes	Thirteen
A. E. Handley ..	Aug. 1929	„	Yes	Five
<i>Temporary Sanitary Inspector:</i>				
P. P. Leacock ..	Dec. 1940	„	No	—
ASSISTANT TO FOOD INSPECTORS				
*S. R. Coomber ..	April, 1935	Joint Board Ex.	—	—

\*Mr. Pearce is seconded for duty as Chief Instructor for Civil Defence Personnel, and Mr. Coomber has joined H.M. Forces.

## HEALTH VISITORS.

NAME.	Commenced Duty.	Certificates held.			
		Health Visitor.	Trained Nurse.	Certified Midwife.	Sanitary Inspector.
<b>MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE—14 :—</b>					
Miss E. K. Woods .. <i>Superintendent Health Visitor.</i>	Feb. 1916	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Miss M. Dean . . .	Jan. 1924	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
„ D. M. Staniland	June, 1927	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
„ J. E. D. Elder	May, 1928	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
„ H. McCarthy ..	Nov. 1928	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
„ J. Pottinger ..	Aug. 1930	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
„ G. Smith ..	Sept. 1930	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
„ K. Kenion ..	Sept. 1930	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
„ G. Neall ..	May, 1934	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
„ C. Hughes ..	April, 1936	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
„ N. Hancocks ..	July, 1936	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
„ R. Jones ..	June, 1937	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
„ M. Savage ..	Feb. 1938	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
„ S. M. Wilkinson	Aug. 1940	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>TUBERCULOSIS—3 :—</b>					
Miss P. G. Moores	April, 1915	Yes	Yes	No	No
„ R. M. Watling ..	May, 1922	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
„ A. Thompson ..	Feb. 1938	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

MISS D. S. COLLINS, Health Visitor, was superannuated on account of ill-health in October, 1940, after 27½ years' service with the Council.

MISS S. M. WILKINSON, who had been acting in a temporary capacity since August, was appointed Health Visitor to fill the vacancy.

**Office Staff.**

MR. F. BRAY, *Chief Clerk.*

MR. P. C. CLARK, *Grade " C " Clerk.*

MR. A. G. PATTERSON, *Grade " B " Clerk.*

*Grade " A " Clerks :—*

MESSRS. C. E. GESSNER, L. L. PARRINI, S. F. JENNINGS,  
\*A. E. HOLLIS, \*A. A. REES, \*J. B. PEACOCK, E. S.  
REGAN, \*L. V. WEBB.

*Grade " D " Clerks :—*

MISS C. WELLINGS, MISS H. G. WRIGHT, MISS M. J. RICHARDS,  
MISS B. L. NEWMAN.

*Secretary to the Tuberculosis Care Committee :—*

MISS M. L. BAPTIE.

*Dispenser for the Tuberculosis Dispensaries :—*

MR. C. KITCHEN.

*Temporary Clerks :—*

MESSRS. S. AUSTIN, A. D. BRIGGS, A. T. CHEESMAN,  
F. CHISLETT, W. J. COPPACK, A. N. CRAPNELL, D. J.  
FITZSIMONS, \*A. J. GREEN, F. A. HOPPINS, A. E. KEW,  
G. LOW, R. E. PARKER, W. C. PITMAN, F. E. PYNE,  
R. S. RICHARDS, J. P. SMITH, D. TRIMLETT, \*E. S. TUN-  
GATE, S. G. WALTERS, MISS E. GILES, MISS P. M. GREENE,  
MRS. D. M. GRIMWADE, MISS H. LAMBOLL, MISS J. W.  
MATTHEWS, MRS. B. PEEL, MISS J. SNELL, MRS. L.  
WOODROFFE.

*Assistant Store Keeper :—*

MR. T. LAMBKIN.

*\*Joined H.M. Forces.*

**Rat Catchers.**

*Rat Catcher : A. MOON.*

*Assistant Rat Catcher : H. F. PEARCE.*

Mr. Pearce joined H.M. Forces on 17th June, 1940. His post was not filled.

**Mortuaries.**

Mr. A. S. Seeley is whole-time Mortuary keeper for Wandsworth, and the Borough Engineer provides the part-time staff for the Mortuaries in Clapham and Streatham.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### Population.

The resident population at the middle of the year was estimated by the Registrar-General to be 271,340. This is a reduction of 68,760 on the population estimated for 1938, the fall being due to enlistment in H.M. Forces and evacuation as a result of the war.

Table I. shows the population of each sub-district, based on the above estimation, compared with the Census population.

TABLE I.

Sub-District.	Census Population 1931	Population estimated to middle of 1940
Clapham .. .. .	60,925	46,817
Putney .. .. .	34,718	26,678
Balham .. .. .	53,982	41,481
Streatham .. .. .	68,435	52,587
Tooting .. .. .	38,159	29,323
Wandsworth .. .. .	96,891	74,454
Whole Borough .. .. .	353,110	271,340

### **Births.**

The number of births which took place in the Borough was 1,831. This figure includes 290 non-residents who were born in Institutions. 2,121 births of Borough residents occurred outside the Borough. The corrected number of births was therefore 3,662. This is a reduction of 404 on the number for 1939 which was 4,066.

In spite of this fall in the number of births the birth-rate has to be recorded as having increased from 11·92 in 1938 and 11·99 in 1939 to 13·49. The reason for this is that the rate is calculated on a much smaller population.

The rate for the whole of London for 1940 was 13·7 and for England and Wales, 14·6.

The number of illegitimate births was 150, compared with 218 in 1939.

Of the 1,831 births which took place in the Borough, 1,691 or 92·35 per cent. were notified under the Public Health (London) Act, 1936. 1,499 of these notifications were transmitted by midwives, 114 by medical attendants, 67 by parents and 11 by other persons.

### **Deaths.**

The number of deaths which took place in the Borough during the year was 3,803, but 1,432 of these did not belong to the Borough, while 2,219 Borough residents died outside the Borough. The corrected number of deaths for the Borough, after allowing for these factors, was 4,590, of whom 2,269 were males and 2,321 females.

In 1939 there were 3,774 deaths, so that the number of deaths has increased by 816 over the previous year. The major portion of this increase is accounted for by deaths from enemy action, exactly 500 Borough residents having died from this cause during the year. The number of persons who died from diseases of the respiratory system has increased by 125, and there have been 47 more deaths from cancer and 21 more from tuberculosis.



The crude death-rate for the year was 16·91 compared with 11·75 in 1939, but after correction has been made by means of a comparability factor devised by the Registrar-General, the standardised rate becomes 15·21, as against 10·92 for 1939.

Two factors have contributed to the large increase in the general death-rate over that of the previous year, viz., the material increase in the number of deaths recorded and the large reduction in the estimated population on which the rate is calculated.

The death-rate for the whole of London for 1940 was 17·8 and for England and Wales, 14·3.

Table II. is the general mortality Table for the whole Borough, and shows the corrected number of deaths from each cause divided into sexes, age groups and sub-districts, together with those occurring in Institutions.

Of the 2,435 Borough residents who died in institutions, etc., 216 took place in institutions within the Borough and 2,219 in institutions outside.

#### **Infantile Mortality.**

The number of deaths under one year was 168, the infantile mortality rate being 45 per 1,000 births. This, the lowest rate ever recorded, compares with rates of 47 and 46 for the two previous years and an average of 55 for the last 10 years. For the 10 years ended 1918 the average rate was 87.

The rate for the whole of London was 50 per 1,000 births.

#### **Maternal Mortality.**

Nine deaths occurred from accidents and diseases of pregnancy and childbirth. This is equivalent to a rate of 2·38 per 1,000 births.

TABLE II.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH, DURING THE YEAR 1940.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths in or belonging to whole district at subjoined ages.										Deaths in or belonging to Localities (at all ages).							
	All Ages.	Males.	Females.	Under 1 year.	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.	Clapham.	Putney.	Balham.	Streatham.	Tooting.	Wandsworth.	Deaths in Public Institutions, Nursing Homes, etc.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Fever .. .. .	9	4	5	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	..	2	1	2	..	1	3	8
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough .. .. .	7	1	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Diphtheria .. .. .	219	124	95	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	3	6
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	23	12	11	..	1	..	3	39	94	66	18	49	15	31	38	27	59	157
Other forms of Tuberculosis ..	31	24	7	..	..	..	..	5	4	1	6	1	2	6	2	6	6	20
Syphilitic Disease .. .. .	62	34	28	..	..	..	..	..	2	16	13	6	1	5	5	9	5	20
Influenza .. .. .	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	25	30	9	10	12	16	3	12	18
Measles .. .. .	2	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis .. .. .	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1
Acute Infectious Encephalitis ..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cancer and other Malignant Tumours	622	304	318	..	..	..	..	..	49	253	320	95	76	102	134	58	157	378
Diabetes Mellitis .. .. .	43	17	26	..	..	..	..	1	4	13	25	11	2	3	12	7	8	29
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. ..	249	96	119	..	..	..	2	..	5	73	169	35	30	43	59	24	58	128
Diseases of Heart .. .. .	1167	539	628	..	..	1	1	5	35	211	914	202	83	219	226	140	297	585
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	215	96	119	..	..	..	..	..	2	39	174	44	29	30	40	11	57	117
Bronchitis .. .. .	237	130	107	5	2	1	..	..	7	63	159	50	18	33	42	28	66	79
Pneumonia (all forms) .. .. .	257	127	130	26	2	5	3	3	11	58	149	51	29	46	43	25	62	155
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	30	17	13	1	..	1	1	..	3	13	11	8	3	4	6	2	7	9
Ulceration of Stomach .. .. .	49	41	8	1	..	..	..	1	5	26	16	7	5	17	4	2	14	38
Diarrhœa .. .. .	5	2	3	3	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	2	5
Appendicitis .. .. .	14	6	8	..	..	1	..	3	4	3	3	3	2	2	4	1	2	12
Other Digestive Diseases .. .. .	84	36	48	7	..	..	..	2	12	21	42	14	6	20	19	7	18	62
Nephritis .. .. .	82	39	43	..	1	1	1	1	4	30	44	22	13	10	14	4	19	40
Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis	5	..	5	..	..	..	..	3	2	..	..	1	2	1	..	..	2	5
Other Maternal Causes .. .. .	4	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	5
Premature Birth .. .. .	52	30	22	52	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	4	6	11	6	12	40
Congenital Malformations .. .. .	58	38	20	55	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	11	3	12	11	7	14	44
Suicide .. .. .	54	32	22	..	..	..	..	6	11	26	11	7	7	5	11	5	19	22
Road Traffic Accidents .. .. .	36	23	13	..	..	1	3	6	2	5	19	5	5	11	6	2	7	31
Other Violent Causes .. .. .	584	308	276	7	3	14	19	68	168	182	123	186	50	94	90	23	141	215
All Other Causes .. .. .	385	183	202	6	..	6	8	38	83	244	65	39	56	93	32	100	203	203
All causes .. .. .	4590	2269	2321	168	12	33	45	153	478	1214	2487	905	456	769	900	428	1152	2435

## INFECTIVE DISEASES.

The number of deaths from notifiable infective diseases, including all forms of Tuberculosis, was 302, compared with 296 in 1939. There were also 62 deaths from Influenza, but there were only 10 deaths from Scarlet fever, Diphtheria, Measles and Whooping cough. The death-rate from all infectious diseases was 1·34 per 1,000.

Table III. gives the number of cases of the notifiable infective diseases reported, arranged in age groups and showing for each disease how many were admitted to hospital.

There has been a marked reduction during the year in the incidence of the notifiable infective diseases. The number of cases of these diseases has fallen from 3,600 in 1939 to 1,649 in 1940, a reduction of more than half. This reduction has been chiefly evident in the infectious diseases of childhood and to a certain extent has been brought about by the evacuation of large numbers of children to reception areas in the country. The number of cases of diphtheria has fallen from 249 to 165, scarlet fever from 535 to 195, whooping cough from 1,599 to 48 and erysipelas from 102 to 58. On the other hand, cases of measles have increased from 149 to 230 and cerebro-spinal meningitis from 11 to 74.

**SMALL-POX.** No case of small-pox occurred during the year.

**VACCINATION.** 2,202 births were notified to the Vaccination Officers during 1939. 918 children were vaccinated successfully and 666 were exempted under declarations of conscientious objection. The percentage of children vaccinated to total births was 41·6.

**DIPHTHERIA.** 165 cases occurred, compared with 249 in 1939 and 479 in 1938. There were seven deaths compared with two in 1939, and 15 in 1938. The death-rate was ·03 and the case mortality was 4·2 per cent.

TABLE III.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	No. of CASES OF INFECTIVE DISEASES GROUPED IN AGE PERIODS.												Total Cases occurring.	Number admitted into Hospital.	
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and upwards			
Small-pox .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria .. .. .	3	11	9	19	11	33	15	24	30	8	1	1	165	151	
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	—	11	14	21	15	51	19	24	30	6	4	—	195	153	
Measles .. .. .	20	20	39	28	37	42	9	15	17	1	2	—	230	47	
Whooping Cough .. .. .	7	12	11	5	2	9	—	—	1	1	—	—	48	—	
Enteric Fever and Paratyphoid Fever .. .. .	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	3	5	1	1	—	13	9	
Malaria .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	
Dysentery .. .. .	2	2	2	—	—	3	3	—	3	1	10	5	31	11	
Erysipelas .. .. .	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	5	7	30	12	58	39	
Puerperal Fever .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	1	—	—	16	9	
Puerperal Pyrexia .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	1	—	—	10	19	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34	13	
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis .. .. .	11	2	5	3	3	3	7	14	13	4	8	1	74	74	
Polio-myelitis .. .. .	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Encephalitis Lethargica .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Anthrax .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia :—															
Acute Influenzal .. .. .	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	10	18	11	49	2	
Acute Primary .. .. .	15	10	3	1	4	9	1	6	22	28	57	44	200	35	
Tuberculosis—All forms .. .. .	4	4	3	5	4	7	11	63	241	74	82	24	522	—	
Food Poisoning .. .. .	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	
TOTAL .. .. .	98	73	87	84	78	159	65	154	397	143	213	98	1649	575	

During the year 50 tubes of anti-toxin were issued to medical practitioners for the treatment of cases of diphtheria.

**MEASLES.** There was no epidemic of measles in 1940. The number of cases reported was 230 and there were two deaths.

Table IV. gives the number of cases and deaths from the disease during the last 10 years.

**TABLE IV.**

	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Cases Reported	291	3598	615	4148	137	3987	589	3594	149	230
Deaths ..	2	37	2	37	2	24	2	13	—	2

**ENTERIC AND PARA-TYPHOID FEVERS.** 13 cases and no deaths of the above occurred, compared with nine cases and two deaths in the previous year. Four of the cases were true Enteric Fever and nine were Para-typhoid Fever.

**DYSENTERY.** 31 cases of Dysentery were notified but no deaths occurred.

**PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA.** During the year six cases of Puerperal Fever and 10 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified. There were nine deaths. The mortality rate was 2.38 per 1,000 (live and still) births.

**OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.** 34 cases were notified. 26 of these recovered without any impairment of vision. Seven of the infants removed from the Borough and the final condition of the eyes was not ascertained. One infant died.

**CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.** There were 74 cases of this disease notified and nine deaths occurred. Two other cases were notified, but proved not to be cerebro-spinal meningitis. 14 deaths were registered as being caused by Meningitis.

**INFLUENZA AND PNEUMONIA.** The number of deaths from Influenza was 62 compared with 61 in the previous year. 49 cases of acute Influenzal Pneumonia and 200 cases of acute Primary Pneumonia were notified. The total number of deaths credited to all forms of Pneumonia during the year was 257.

**SCABIES.** The names of 167 school children suffering from Scabies for which they were under treatment at the London County Council cleansing stations were forwarded to me by the County Medical Officer of Health. A further 471 cases were reported to me and were treated at the Council's disinfecting station. The clothing and bedding of all the cases were collected from the homes and disinfected.

#### **Cleansing of Persons Act.**

The homes of 15 children, found to be in a verminous condition at the London County Council schools, were visited by the Inspectors. In five cases the clothing and bedding which was also verminous was disinfected.

#### **Disinfection.**

The total number of rooms disinfected after the occurrence of cases of infective diseases was 1,005.

#### **Bacteriological Examinations.**

1,101 bacteriological examinations were made at the Lister Institute and 1,116 specimens of sputum were examined at the Tuberculosis Dispensaries. The results of these examinations were as follows:—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
For Diphtheria .. .. .	78	980	1058
For Enteric Fever .. .. .	—	3	3
Miscellaneous .. .. .	9	31	40
Sputum for Tuberculosis ..	188	928	1116

**Nursing Service.**

This service is carried out by the Nursing Associations in the Borough, whose nurses, when requested, attend patients suffering from Measles, Whooping Cough, Malaria, Dysentery, Pneumonia, Influenza, Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia, Ophthalmia Neonatorum and Infantile Diarrhoea. They also visit the homes of children suffering from minor ailments who are in need of nursing attention.

A fee of 1s. 3d. is paid for each visit by a District Nurse and the Council also makes grants to several Nursing Associations.

The number of cases visited, with the total number of visits made by the nurses, is given in Table V.

TABLE V.

	No. of cases occurring.	No. of cases visited.	No. of visits made.
Measles .. ..	230	13	132
Whooping Cough ..	48	—	—
Influenza .. ..	—	58	486
Pneumonia .. ..	249	61	944
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	34	10	128
Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia	26	8	90
Infantile Diarrhoea ..	—	3	39
Minor Ailments ..	—	369	4044
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>5863</b>

**Ambulance Service.**

This service is administered by the London County Council who provide free ambulances for accidents and for the removal of cases of infectious disease and parturient women to hospitals. Ambulances are also provided by the same Authority for the conveyance of other cases on payment.

## NON-INFECTIVE DISEASES.

The number of deaths from Cancer and malignant disease was 622—males 304, females 318. The death-rate was 2·29 per 1,000. There were 47 more deaths from this cause than in 1939.

1,631 deaths occurred from diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System, compared with 1,575 in 1939. 1,257 of these deaths were of persons over 65 years of age.

There were 524 deaths from Pneumonia, Bronchitis and other diseases of the Respiratory System, an increase of 125 over the number in 1939 which was 399. 32 infants under two years of age died from these diseases.

674 deaths were attributed to violence. 500 of these were caused by enemy action and 36 by road accidents. There were 54 suicides.

### Insulin Treatment.

There are now three persons receiving treatment for Diabetes at the Council's expense. The cost for the year 1940 was £8 8s.

### Pernicious Anæmia.

One person has been provided with Neo-hepatex by the Council at a cost of £2 14s.

### Inquests and Deaths Certified by the Coroner.

Inquests were held on 134 persons who died in the Borough and on 139 Borough Residents who died elsewhere. In 38 of these a verdict of death from Natural Causes was returned, in 138 death was accidental, in 14 due to "misadventure" and five were "found drowned." ; there were 70 suicides, three executions, two deaths from manslaughter and three from war wounds.

296 deaths which occurred in the Borough were certified by the Coroner without inquest and a similar procedure was adopted in respect of 79 Borough Residents who died elsewhere. 362 of these deaths were due to Natural Causes, nine were accidental and four were due to "misadventure."



## IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

The Council holds two clinics, opened in January, 1928, for the testing and immunisation of children and young persons against Diphtheria. A weekly session is held at each Clinic and the work is carried out by the Council's staff.

The addresses and times of the Clinics are as follows:—

THE CLINIC, MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,  
FAIRFIELD STREET, WANDSWORTH.

Every Wednesday from 2 to 3.30 p.m.

91, BEDFORD HILL, BALHAM.

Every Friday from 2 to 3.30 p.m.

PROCEDURE AT THE CLINICS. A Schick test is performed on all persons over five years of age presenting themselves at the Clinics to see if they are susceptible to Diphtheria and therefore in need of immunisation. Unless there is a special reason to the contrary it is assumed that children under five years of age are susceptible, the initial immunising injection being given at the first attendance.

THE IMMUNISING AGENT. The solution now used for routine immunisation is Alum Precipitated Toxoid (A.P.T.) and two injections of  $\frac{1}{2}$  c.c. each are given at weekly intervals. For persons over the age of 15, two injections each of 1 c.c. of Toxoid Anti-toxin Floccules (T.A.F.) are given.

On the opening of the Clinics in 1928 the agent used for immunisation was Toxoid Anti-toxin Mixture (T.A.M.), three doses of 1 c.c. each being administered at weekly intervals.

In 1932 T.A.F. was brought into use. It was found that by giving two injections of this substance better results were obtained than with three doses of T.A.M. The use of T.A.M. was accordingly discontinued.

A.P.T. was first used in 1935, a single dose of 1 c.c. being given, but in 1937 it was decided to revert to the use of T.A.F., giving two injections at weekly intervals. In 1939 A.P.T. was brought into use again for immunising children, two  $\frac{1}{2}$  c.c. doses being given instead of one dose of 1 c.c.

**ATTENDANCES.** Only 318 persons attended the Clinics during the year. This is the smallest number who have attended in any one year since the Clinics were opened 13 years ago. The total attendances since that date have been 11,834. The reduction in 1940 is probably accounted for by the smaller number of children resident in the Borough due to evacuation.

**THE INITIAL SCHICK TEST.** 128 persons were given this test during the year, 75 of them showing a positive result, indicating that they were susceptible to Diphtheria.

The number of persons tested in this manner since the Clinics were opened in 1928 is 7,791 and of these 5,448, or 70 per cent., have reacted positive to the Test. 6,672 of the persons tested were under the age of 15 years.

### **Number of Persons Immunised.**

Immunity takes some little time to develop after the immunising injections have been given, the actual period varying in different people. It is only possible to say with certainty that immunisation has been successful by giving the person concerned a further test and obtaining a negative result. This test is known as the Re-Schick Test. It has been found that the best time to carry it out is some three or four months after the injections have been given. Parents are advised to bring their children to the Clinics at the appropriate time to have them re-

tested and most of them do so. Should the Re-Schick Test give a positive result, further immunising injections are given until a negative result is obtained.

Although it cannot be said with certainty that a person has been successfully immunised unless the Re-Schick Test is negative, it is reasonable to assume, in the absence of a Re-Schick Test, that when immunising injections have been given, the person receiving them has received benefit from them and is at least partially immunised. Many of these people have not been re-tested because they have failed to attend at the appropriate time for that purpose. If they had done so, it is probable that a large proportion would have reacted negative to the Re-Schick Test. In the absence of this information it is only possible to classify them as partially immunised.

During 1940 the number of persons who reacted negative to the Re-Schick Test and can therefore be classified as successfully immunised was 156. The number partially immunised, as defined above, was 96.

Since the Clinics were opened 13 years ago, the number of persons requiring immunisation was 9,491, made up as follows:—

	Under 15.	15 and over.	Total.
Reacted positive to the initial Schick Test .. .. .	4871	577	5448
Children mostly under 5 years of age, not tested, but assumed to be susceptible on account of their age .. .. .	4034	9	4043
TOTAL .. .. .	8905	586	9491

As shown by the following statement, 6,879 of these have been successfully immunised and 2,527 have been partially immunised. In a few of the latter the Re-Schick Test was positive, but the large majority of them have not attended to be re-tested:—

	Under 15.	15 and over.	Total.
Successfully IMMUNISED Re-Schick Test negative ..	6564	315	6879
Partially Immunised No Re-Test .. .. .	2195	221	2416
Re-Schick Test positive ..	78	33	111
Not Immunised .. .. .	68	17	85
Total number of susceptibles	8905	586	9491

Six of the children included above among those successfully immunised acquired protection without receiving any immunising injections; four of them through an attack of diphtheria contracted shortly after they had reacted positive to the initial test and two of them spontaneously. These two reacted positively to the initial test, did not report for immunisation, but attended two to three years later when they were tested and reacted negative.

DIPHTHERIA IN CHILDREN TESTED OR INJECTED. Since the Clinics have been in operation, 10 children who reacted negative to the primary Schick Test, and 22 in whom the Re-Schick Test was negative after they had been immunised, have been notified to me as cases of Diphtheria. 16 of these 32 cases showed clinical symptoms of the disease. Ten children who had been immunised but were not re-tested have also been notified. Three of these were clinical cases. One child who had been given two injections of T.A.F. contracted Diphtheria one month after the last injection and died.

**General Practitioners and Immunisation.**

Five years ago the Council decided to supply immunising material, free of charge, to general practitioners for immunising and testing Borough residents. 14 doctors have availed themselves of these facilities and a total of 53 children have been immunised by them, 16 having reacted negative to the Re-Schick Test.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

NOTIFICATION. The number of new cases of tuberculosis which came to the notice of the Department during 1940 was 522 as compared with 535 in 1939 and 621 in 1938. The sources of information regarding the new cases in 1940 were as follows:—

Primary notifications on Form A ..	347
Notifications from H.M. Forces ..	19
Unnotified at death .. .. .	23
Transfers from other Sanitary Authorities .. .. .	133
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>522</b>

DEATHS. The number of deaths certified as due to diseases of a Tuberculous nature was 242. This compares with 221 in 1939, 229 in 1938, 225 in 1937 and 236 in 1936.

Particulars of the new cases of Tuberculosis and of the deaths from the disease during the year classified by sexes and in age groups are given in Table VI.

TABLE VI.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under 1 year ..	—	1	2	1	—	—	2	—
1—5 .. .. .	3	1	4	8	—	—	1	2
5—10 .. .. .	1	2	4	—	—	1	1	—
10—15 .. .. .	—	2	4	5	—	1	—	2
15—20 .. .. .	31	26	3	3	11	14	—	—
20—25 .. .. .	37	45	5	8	7	20	1	3
25—35 .. .. .	57	71	6	12	29	24	2	3
35—45 .. .. .	49	22	1	2	22	13	1	—
45—55 .. .. .	25	12	1	2	21	12	2	—
55—65 .. .. .	27	10	3	2	23	5	1	1
65 upwards ..	13	5	4	2	11	5	1	—
<b>TOTALS ..</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>

Table VII. gives a classification of new cases and deaths from non-pulmonary Tuberculosis according to the part of the body affected.

TABLE VII.

Localisation of Disease.	New Cases.			Deaths.		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Brain .. ..	5	7	12	5	7	12
Glands, Mesenteric	—	5	5	1	2	3
Glands, Cervical ..	8	10	18	—	—	—
Bones and Joints ..	9	15	24	1	—	1
Other Parts ..	15	8	23	5	2	7
TOTALS ..	37	45	82	12	11	23

Of the 242 deaths from Tuberculosis, 136 were males and 106 females. 219 deaths were due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 23 to other forms of the disease.

In addition to the 242 deaths duly certified in the returns as due to the disease, 20 persons previously notified as suffering from Tuberculosis are known to have died during the year. These deaths are not classified as due to Tuberculosis for one of the following reasons:—

- (a) 10 were certified as dying from some other disease.
- (b) 10 had left the Borough and died in other districts.

23 of the deaths had not been previously notified. Ten of these were certified from Institutions, five by private doctors, while in eight cases Tuberculosis was discovered by post-mortem examinations. In no case was it found necessary to take proceedings for wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

522 cases were added to the Notification Register during the year and 531 cases who had removed, recovered or died, were taken off. The number remaining on the register at the end of the year was 2,186.

In Table VIII. a comparative statement is given showing the number of deaths and the death-rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, non-Pulmonary, and the total from All Forms of the disease, for the past 10 years.

TABLE VIII.

Year.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		All Forms of Tuberculosis.	
	No. of Deaths.	Death-Rate.	No. of Deaths.	Death-Rate.	No. of Deaths.	Death-Rate.
1931 .. ..	288	·81	19	·05	307	·86
1932 .. ..	245	·69	43	·12	288	·81
1933 .. ..	257	·73	48	·13	305	·86
1934 .. ..	235	·66	41	·11	276	·78
1935 .. ..	216	·62	33	·09	249	·72
1936 .. ..	205	·59	31	·09	236	·68
1937 .. ..	197	·57	28	·08	225	·65
1938 .. ..	199	·58	30	·08	229	·67
1939 .. ..	194	·60	27	·08	221	·68
1940 .. ..	219	·80	23	·08	242	·89

## TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARIES.

There are two Dispensaries in the Borough and sessions are held on the days and at the times shown below.

(a) AT THE MAIN DISPENSARY, Municipal Buildings, Fairfield Street, Wandsworth, which serves the areas Putney, Southfield, Fairfield, Springfield and North Clapham.

Monday : Morning and afternoon.

Tuesday : Evening (7 p.m.) for those at work.

Thursday : Morning.

Saturday : Morning (for school children).

(b) AT THE BRANCH DISPENSARY, 114, Gosberton Road, Balham, which serves the areas Streatham, Tooting, Balham and South Clapham.

Tuesday : Morning and afternoon.

Thursday : Evening (7 p.m.) for those at work.

Friday : Morning.

The evening sessions at both Dispensaries were discontinued during November and December owing to the sparse attendance due to air raids.

NEW CASES IN 1940. The following Table shows the number of new cases which attended during the year, classified into adults and children and according to the diagnosis arrived at.

TABLE IX.

		Tuberculosis			Sus-pected Tuberculosis.	Non-Tuber-culous.	Totals.
		Pul-monary.	Non-Pul-monary.	Total.			
Adults ..	Male	132	10	142	38	401	581
	Female	117	10	127	26	231	384
Children ..	Male	2	6	8	5	89	102
	Female	1	2	3	5	75	83
TOTALS ..		252	28	280	74	796	1150



Table X. classifies the 1,150 new cases under the districts of the Borough in which they live and shows on whose recommendation they attended for examination.

TABLE X.

Recommended to attend Dispensary by	Clepham.	Putney.	Balham.	Streatham.	Tooting.	Wandsworth.	Total.
The Council's Officers ..	46	27	21	37	48	72	251
Private Practitioners ..	20	32	32	41	43	102	270
Charitable Societies ..	3	4	2	2	15	31	57
Other Dispensaries ..	60	13	28	40	27	53	221
Existing Patients ..	5	2	6	4	8	14	39
Other Sources ..	36	20	25	46	39	146	312
<b>TOTALS ..</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>1150</b>

**CONTACTS.** Of the 1,150 new cases examined, 207 were contacts. 20 of these were found to be suffering from Tuberculosis.

**DISPENSARY REGISTER.** Table XI. shows the number of cases remaining on the Dispensary Register at the end of the year compared with the number at the end of the previous year.

TABLE XI.

Type of Case.	On Register end of 1939.	New Cases.	Removed from Register.	On Register Dec. 31st, 1940.
Pulmonary ..	1147	320	347	1120
Non-Pulmonary ..	248	38	31	255
Suspected Cases ..	96	183	205	74
<b>TOTALS ..</b>	<b>1491</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>1449</b>

INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT. The number of patients who received institutional treatment under the London County Council's Tuberculosis Scheme during 1940 was as follows:—

(a) In Hospitals for observation .. ..	17
(b) In Sanatoria .. ..	301
(c) In L.C.C. General Hospitals .. ..	173
	<hr/>
	491
	<hr/>

In addition to the above, a few patients were treated in private and voluntary hospitals.

Further details of the work carried out during the year are given below:—

1. Number of patients transferred from other areas, including "lost sight of" cases returned ..	133
2. Number transferred to other areas or "lost sight of" ..	226
3. Number who died .. ..	242
4. Number of cases recovered .. ..	52
5. Number under observation for more than two months ..	74
6. Total attendances at the Dispensaries .. ..	3865
7. Number of reports, etc., made on patients ..	3895
8. Attendances of patients at Institutions for:—	
(a) Light treatment .. ..	254
(b) Other special forms of treatment .. ..	2840
9. Number of patients given Dental Treatment ..	33
10. Number of Personal Consultations with Doctors:—	
(a) At Homes of Patients .. ..	407
(b) Otherwise .. ..	1531
11. Number of other home visits by Tuberculosis Officers ..	600
12. Number of home visits by Health Visitors ..	4668
13. Number of Specimens of Sputum, etc., examined ..	1116
14. Number of X-ray examinations made .. ..	376

CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS. Two wards are set aside in St. John's Hospital for the accommodation of Tuberculous patients and the Tuberculosis Officer visits the patients in these wards every week.

Cases requiring special investigation which can be carried out in an Out-Patients' Department and those needing treatment by artificial light or X-rays are referred to St. Thomas's Hospital.

Artificial pneumo-thorax treatment of Dispensary patients is carried out at several hospitals by arrangement. The number of cases receiving this form of treatment is increasing. 173 cases were treated during the year and 2,840 refills were administered. The cost to the Council was £1,456 16s. 6d.

**DENTAL TREATMENT.** This is provided by the British Dental Hospital and includes the provision of dentures. 33 patients received treatment which cost £17 7s. 6d. and 20 were supplied with dentures at a cost of £66 3s. 6d. The total cost for the year was £83 11s.

**EXTRA NOURISHMENT** is granted to patients suffering from Tuberculosis on medical grounds as part of the treatment of the patient under Section 219 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936. It is limited to the slighter cases where there is reasonable probability that the additional food will increase the chances of recovery or will enable the patient to remain at work or to return to work at an early date. During the year 138 patients have been granted extra nourishment under the Scheme at a cost of £217 12s. 1d. 38 cases who were ineligible under the above scheme were granted extra nourishment through the Public Assistance Committee.

**OPEN AIR SHELTERS.** The seven shelters owned by the Council have been in constant use during the year.

### **Tuberculosis Care Committee.**

This Committee, which meets on the first Friday in every month at 3 p.m., is constituted of members of the Borough Council, representatives of authorities and organisations interested in the welfare of persons suffering from Tuberculosis and ladies and gentlemen who have a special interest in the work.

**ACTIVITIES OF THE CARE COMMITTEE.** Details of the home conditions and financial circumstances of patients who are to receive institutional treatment are investigated. The Committee also decide how much patients should contribute towards the cost of dental treatment provided by the Borough Council.

All persons found to be suffering from Tuberculosis are interviewed by the Secretary who is able to give them advice and assistance in many directions. She also pays regular visits, which are much appreciated, to patients who are being nursed at their homes or in one of the London County Council's General Hospitals. 193 patients were visited during the year.

The Committee controls a Fund, maintained by voluntary contributions, from which grants are made to patients who are ineligible for assistance from other organisations. Assistance from the Fund is granted to relatives to enable them to visit patients undergoing treatment in institutions. Patients are also assisted with their removal expenses to better housing accommodation and with arrears of rent and insurance payments. Clothing is supplied when required and medical and nursing requisites are lent to those who need them. An amount of £93 4s. 4d. was spent in this manner during the year.

Until recently this Fund has been able to provide convalescence for cases who were in need of this special form of treatment, and maintained a small Convalescent Home at Lancing until June, 1940, when the Home had to be closed on account of the war. The cost of convalescent treatment during the year was £109 0s. 6d.

**HANDICRAFT CLASS.** The Committee maintains a Handicraft Class where patients suffering from Tuberculosis are taught to make articles which they can sell. The class meets at the Wandsworth Dispensary every Monday morning from 10.30 to 12.30. Prior to the outbreak of war a trained instructress conducted the class, but it has not been possible to obtain her services since, so it is now conducted under the supervision of the Secretary of the Committee with assistance from those patients who have become proficient in the work. The crafts taught include the making of articles in pewter, leather and parchment; embroidery, knitting, rug-making and painting on glass.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

### The Work of the Health Visitors.

The staff of Health Visitors consists of a Superintendent and 13 Health Visitors.

These officers perform all first visits to Infants and are also responsible for revisiting, except in the area of the Balham Infant Welfare Centre, where the revisiting of those infants who are in regular attendance at the Centre is carried out by the Trained Superintendent, an officer appointed by the Committee of the Centre.

The Health Visitors visit all cases of Puerperal Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Measles and Whooping Cough on notification, as well as known cases of Diarrhœa in children under five. They also visit the homes of women attending the ante-natal Centres in the Borough and of those who apply for admission to maternity hospitals and homes, or are applicants for Milk, Convalescent or Dental treatment. Visits are also made to see if homes are suitable for children to return to after minor operations at general hospitals. Day Nurseries and other Institutions for mothers and children are also visited, when they are operating.

One or more of the Health Visitors attends at each of the infant and ante-natal sessions held at the Centres throughout the Borough.

Each Health Visitor has been appointed Infant Life Protection Visitor for her district and performs the duties relating to Child Life Protection under Part XIII. of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936.

They also make the necessary enquiries required to secure compliance with the Vaccination Acts for the whole Borough, except in Putney where Mr. Taylor is the Vaccination Officer.

At the present time one or more of the Health Visitors is on duty each night to relieve the trained nurses of the three Mobile Units stationed at the Municipal Buildings under the Council's Civil Defence Scheme. They are also called upon to visit the Rest Centres when these are occupied by children rendered homeless by enemy action. The Superintendent makes regular visits to the First Aid Posts.

Table XIII. gives details of the home visiting carried out by the Health Visitors during the year in the six divisions of the Borough. The number of attendances at Clinics, &c., are shown in Table XII.

TABLE XII.

	Wandsworth.	Putney.	Clapham.	Balham.	Streatham.	Tooting.	Whole Borough.
Attendances at Clinics :—							
Infant Welfare.. ..	451	168	168	79	312	272	1450
Ante-natal .. ..	116	45	63	20	84	36	364
Dental .. ..	82	—	—	—	—	—	82
Diphtheria Prevention	44	—	—	45	—	—	89
Committee Meetings ..	4	3	2	—	—	6	15
Visits to Rest Centres ..	81	5	18	65	28	45	242
Visits to First Aid Posts	20	13	14	21	10	23	101

**Infant Visiting.**

Of the 3,662 births which occurred during the year 3,094 or 84.49 per cent. were visited.

It was found that in 107 of the births, doctors had been in attendance, while in 1,463 the services of midwives had been utilised. 1,524 infants were born in hospitals and other institutions.

TABLE XIII.—HEALTH VISITING.

	Wandsworth.	Putney.	Clapham.	Balham.	Streatham.	Tooting.	Whole Borough.
Children under 1 year :—							
First visits .. ..	875	301	571	404	484	459	3094
Revisits .. ..	1308	445	883	821	795	306	4558
Children 1-5 years :—							
All visits .. ..	3976	1065	2382	1433	1822	876	11554
Total .. ..	6159	1811	3836	2658	3101	1641	19206
Other visits :—							
Expectant mothers ..	890	379	573	490	674	317	3323
Foster mothers ..	62	36	48	44	96	45	331
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	11	1	2	—	2	10	26
Measles .. ..	51	16	39	46	24	35	211
Whooping Cough ..	21	3	7	12	4	7	54
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia .. ..	3	1	1	2	1	3	11
Finding billets for foreign refugees ..	100	170	314	67	209	160	1020
For evacuation of children .. ..	979	695	1363	210	167	1781	5195
Miscellaneous .. ..	106	36	331	140	314	158	1085
Ineffectual .. ..	2393	954	1524	785	1723	742	8121
<b>TOTAL HOME VISITS ..</b>	<b>10775</b>	<b>4102</b>	<b>8038</b>	<b>4454</b>	<b>6315</b>	<b>4899</b>	<b>38583</b>

Included in the above Table are 1,375 visits made by the Superintendent of the Balham Centre, who is not an officer of the Council. 498 of these were revisits to children under 1 year, 679 to children between 1 and 5 years and 198 to expectant mothers.

TABLE XIV.—PARTICULARS OF CLINICS.

ADDRESS OF CLINIC.	DAYS AND TIMES OF SESSIONS.	
	Infant Welfare Clinics.	Ante-Natal Clinics.
CENTRAL WANDSWORTH : Municipal Buildings, Fairfield Street.	Wednesdays at 10 a.m.	1st, 3rd and 5th Mondays at 1.30 p.m.
SOUTHFIELD : St. Michael's Memorial Hall, Merton Road.	Fridays at 2 p.m.	1st Friday in every month at 10 a.m.
SPRINGFIELD : Congregational Church Hall, Earlsfield Road, S.W. 18.	Tuesdays at 2 p.m.	4th Tuesday in every month at 11 a.m.
PUTNEY : St. Mary's Church Schools, Felsham Road.	Wednesdays at 2 p.m.	Alternate Wednesdays in every month at 10 a.m.
CLAPHAM : Clapham Dispensary, 42, Clapham Manor Street.	Wednesdays at 2 p.m.	1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Mondays in every month at 2 p.m.
BALHAM : 91, Bedford Hill.	Tuesdays and Wednes- days at 1.30 p.m.	1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays in every month at 9.45 a.m.
STREATHAM : 37, Riggindale Road.	Tuesdays at 1.30 p.m.	1st and 3rd Wednes- days in every month at 10 a.m.
STREATHAM HILL : Baptist Church Hall, New Park Road.	Tuesdays at 10 a.m.	2nd and 4th Mondays in each month at 2 p.m.
TOOTING : St. Peter's Church Hall, Beechcroft Road. Baptist Church Hall, Longley Road.	Tuesdays at 2 p.m.  Thursdays at 2 p.m.	2nd and 4th Wed- nesdays in every month at 10.30 a.m. —
<b>DENTAL CLINIC.</b>		
Municipal Buildings, Fairfield St., S.W. 18.	Every Monday and 1st and 3rd Fridays each month at 1.30 p.m.	



**Child Life Protection.**

The number of foster-mothers on the register at the end of 1940 was 143, but only 26 of these were at that time receiving children for reward, many of the others having evacuated. The number of foster-children was 42.

**Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.**

There are now 10 of these Centres operating in the Borough. The addresses of the Infant and Ante-natal Clinics held at the centres, with the days and times when they meet, are given in Table XIV. Particulars of the Dental Clinic are also included in this table.

The Centre at the Municipal Buildings and the two Centres in Tooting are under the direct control of the Council. The other seven are voluntary institutions, administered by their own Committees who appoint the Medical Officers. At the Centre in Balham the Superintendent is also appointed by the Centre Committee. The duties of Superintendent at the other nine Centres are carried out by the Council's staff of Health Visitors.

**Infant Welfare Clinics.**

Infant Clinics are held at all the 10 Welfare Centres. The Clinic at the Municipal Buildings, which is under the direct control of the Council, is conducted by Dr. Trott, Assistant M.O.H. and those held at the two centres in Tooting, which are also directly under the Council, by Dr. Ellen Pickard.

The Medical Officers of the voluntary Clinics are:—

Southfield	..	..	DR. IVY HASLAM.
Springfield	..	..	DR. W. M. PAUL.
Putney	..	..	DR. HILDA PAGE.
Clapham	..	..	DR. MARGUERITE STEWART.
Balham	..	..	DR. JANET MCGILL.
Streatham	..	..	DR. KATHLEEN M. COGAN.
Streatham Hill	..	..	DR. JANET GILLISON.

At both the voluntary and the Municipal Centres there are a number of ladies acting as voluntary workers who assist with the keeping of records and arrange for the purchase

and distribution of food, drugs and clothing. The assistance which these ladies give is much appreciated and there is the closest co-operation between them and those members of the Council's staff who work at the Clinics.

Table XV. gives details of the work carried out at the Infant Welfare Centres during the year.

TABLE XV.

	No. of Sessions held.	No. of new cases.	Total attendances.	No. of Doctors' Consultations.
<b>INFANT CLINICS :—</b>				
Central Wandsworth ..	83	330	4368	832
Southfield .. ..	83	228	3643	1091
Springfield .. ..	48	170	1751	703
Putney .. .. .	84	286	3513	1442
Clapham .. .. .	80	434	1716	1617
Balham .. .. .	101	385	5798	1909
Streatham .. ..	86	421	4553	1817
Streatham Hill ..	84	338	4184	1764
Beechcroft Road ..	79	352	2636	1190
Longley Road .. ..	48	175	1814	520
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>776</b>	<b>3119</b>	<b>33976</b>	<b>12885</b>

#### Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.

Ante-natal Clinics are now held at nine of the Welfare Centres in the Borough, *i.e.*, at all the Centres except the one in Longley Road, Tooting.

No special Post-natal Clinics are held, but post-natal women are encouraged to attend the Ante-natal Clinics for consultation and examination.

The details of the work carried out at the Clinics are given in Table XVI.

The Ante-Natal Clinics at the Municipal Buildings and at Beechcroft Road are conducted by a rota of four Medical Practitioners, who are Dr. V. Harcourt Ellis, Dr. Helen Gray, Dr. E. G. Housden and Dr. A. C. Nicol. The Medical Officer of the Streatham Clinic is Dr. Eileen Saxton. The other Ante-natal Clinics are conducted by the same doctors who take the corresponding Infant Clinics.

TABLE XVI.

	Ante-natal Clinics.			Post-natal Cases.	
	No. of Sessions held.	No. of new cases.	Total attendances.	No. of new cases.	Total attendances.
Central Wandsworth .. .. .	28	153	288	15	15
Southfield .. .. .	23	83	158	6	6
Springfield .. .. .	13	67	109	1	1
Putney .. .. .	25	128	326	16	16
Clapham .. .. .	30	151	368	3	3
Balham .. .. .	28	177	421	11	11
Streatham .. .. .	27	140	354	19	19
Streatham Hill .. .. .	23	97	299	14	18
Beechcroft Road .. .. .	24	189	338	—	—
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>1185</b>	<b>2661</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>89</b>

### Obstetric Consultant Service.

The Council has made provision for an Obstetric Consultant to meet medical practitioners in consultation as required, at any stage during pregnancy, at confinement or in the lying-in period. The fee paid for each consultation is three guineas. The consultant has been called on two occasions this year.

### Hospital Treatment for Ante-Natal Women.

Arrangements have been made with the Board of Management of the South London Hospital for Women, Clapham Common, for ante-natal or post-natal cases who require hospital treatment for the prevention and treatment of any complication of pregnancy, to be admitted to the hospital, at a charge of £1 10s. per week. There were no cases requiring this form of treatment during the year.

### Assisted Midwives Scheme.

The supervision of midwives is under the control of the London County Council, but there is full co-operation between the Borough Council's staff and the midwives, 26 of whom practice in the Borough. Eight of them conduct private maternity homes.

The Council grant financial assistance to women who have engaged trained midwives, other than the Municipal midwives of the London County Council, to attend them at their confinements in their own homes, when they are unable to pay the whole of the midwife's fee. The maximum grant payable is £1 15s. Grants up to a maximum of £1 are also made to assist a woman to pay the fee of a trained maternity nurse when a doctor has been engaged to conduct the confinement. Sterile maternity outfits are supplied when required.

The amount of assistance to be granted is determined by a Sub-Committee of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, after the details of the family income have been investigated. Assistance is only granted when the home conditions are suitable for a confinement to take place there. The midwife must give her patient adequate ante-natal supervision and must arrange for her to attend an ante-natal Clinic as required. No unsuitable handwoman is allowed to be in attendance on the patient.

During the year assistance was granted to 15 women under this scheme and 10 maternity outfits were supplied.

In suitable cases the Council pays compensation to a midwife who loses the case because her patient has to enter hospital for the confinement. The usual sum paid in compensation is 10s. No applications for compensation were received in 1940.

### **Home Helps.**

Up to this year the voluntary Committees of three of the Infant Welfare Centres have each employed Home Helps, the Council paying the whole of the cost in two instances and a grant of 75 per cent. of the expenditure in the third case. It has been found unnecessary to keep this scheme in being throughout 1940, owing to lack of demand. The Council also contributes towards the charges made by other suitable women who assist in the home during confinements. The amount of grant to be paid is fixed by the Sub-Committee. Assistance was granted in 53 cases in 1940 at a cost to the Council of £143 14s.

### **Day Nurseries.**

The three Day Nurseries belonging to the Borough have been evacuated since the outbreak of war.

### **Institutions for Mothers and Young Children.**

The Council's Maternity Home and the Streatham Babies' Hospital were closed on the outbreak of war.

Formerly there were five institutions where unmarried expectant mothers were received for their confinements, remaining as a rule for some months after the birth of their infants. Two of these were closed or removed on the outbreak of war and a third was closed in September, 1940. The remaining two institutions are still open.

The Council pays grants to the Southwark Diocesan Association for Preventive and Rescue Work towards the maintenance in their institutions of unmarried mothers usually resident in the Borough. During 1940 assistance was granted in respect of five cases at a cost of £59 7s. 8d.

Similar grants are made to the Mission of Hope, one case being assisted at a cost of £6 10s.

The Wandsworth and Tooting Children's Clinic, which provided artificial sunlight, massage and electrical treatment for children of all ages, has been closed since the outbreak of war.

### **Convalescent Treatment.**

During the year 14 children were sent to Convalescent Homes at a cost to the Council of £53 5s. 3d.

### **Minor Ailments.**

107 children under school age who were suffering from impetigo, enlarged tonsils, adenoids, etc., were referred for treatment to the London County Council. The cost of this service to the Borough Council was £20 8s.

### **Dental Treatment.**

The Dental Clinic which was opened with a weekly session at the Municipal Buildings on 6th March, 1939, has proved a great success. There has been a progressive increase in the numbers of expectant and nursing mothers and children attending for treatment and in September it was decided to hold two additional sessions each month, on Friday afternoons, for cases requiring an anæsthetic. Dr. A. C. Nicol was appointed as anæsthetist for these sessions.

Patients attending the Clinic are required to pay one shilling each time they attend. This charge covers all treatment found to be necessary, except the cost of dentures, for which an assessment is made based on the family income in accordance with a scale approved by the Council.

During the year 458 patients have received treatment at the Clinic. This is twice the number treated in the previous year, when 193 patients attended in the ten months for which the Clinic was operating.

### **Supply of Milk.**

During the year 867 families were supplied with milk or special foods under the Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1918. The cost to the Council was £1,561 11s. 8d.

The National Milk Scheme under the control of the Ministry of Food came into operation in July, 1940, and as a consequence there has been a reduction in the number of applicants for milk under the Council's scheme.

Women and children in receipt of milk under the Council's scheme are expected to attend the Welfare Centres during the time that the milk is being granted, unless there is some good reason for their non-attendance. It is quite evident from the records kept at the Centres that the granting of additional nourishment under the scheme has brought about improvement in the health of many of the infants and has enabled many nursing mothers to prolong the period of lactation.

TABLE XVII.

		In- spections.	Re- In- spections.	Total.
No. of houses inspected :—				
(a) To investigate complaints ..		3737	7423	11160
(b) For voluntary work .. ..		969	383	1352
(c) House-to-House inspections ..		99	1169	1268
(d) Houses let in Lodgings .. ..		11	91	102
(e) Miscellaneous complaints ..		205	840	1045
Shop inspections .. .. .		219	—	219
Infective Diseases .. .. .		699	157	856
Verminous conditions .. .. .		102	38	140
	No. of premises			
Factories, workshops, etc. . .	2017	538	67	605
Rag and bone stores ..	6	34	—	34
Sanitary conveniences ..	168	237	3	240
Mews and stables .. ..	139	172	2	174
Piggeries .. .. .	9	10	8	18
Public Air Raid Shelters .. .. .		2793	111	2904
Premises damaged by enemy action ..		6219	4	6223
Billeting of Refugees, etc. .. ..		5065	148	5213
Miscellaneous .. .. .		3773	514	4287
TOTAL .. .. .		24882	10958	35840
Smoke observations .. .. .		56	—	56
Legal proceedings, Attendances at Court .. .. .		11	—	11

## SANITARY SUPERVISION OF THE BOROUGH.

### Work of the Sanitary Inspectors.

On the outbreak of war there was a material reduction in the number of complaints received from householders and the number received during 1940 was considerably lower than it was in 1938. Much of the work in connection with housing has ceased. On the other hand the inspectors have been called upon to perform important new duties which have more than counter-balanced this reduction in the ordinary work and has involved considerable periods of overtime. During the period of intense enemy activity over London in the autumn, half the Sanitary Inspectors acted as billeting officers, finding homes for the homeless. All of them have assisted in the routine inspection of public air raid shelters and in rapid surveys, after air raids, of houses damaged by enemy action.

During most of the year 19 inspectors have been available, in place of the normal number of 20, but in December Mr. P. P. Leacock was appointed in a temporary capacity for the inspection of air raid shelters.

A summary of the inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors is given in Table XVII. and details of the sanitary operations carried out by them are given in Table XVIII.

### Water Supply—Cutting-off Notices.

Notices were received from the Metropolitan Water Board that the water supply had been withdrawn from 171 premises. In four cases the supply was cut off for non-payment of rates, in 46 for defects in the service, in 119 because the premises had become vacant and in two at the owners' request.



TABLE XVIII.—SANITARY OPERATIONS

	Clapham.	Putney.	Balham.	Streatham.	Tooting.	Wandsworth.	Whole Borough.
1. Premises cleansed and repaired .. ..	135	137	171	107	184	336	1070
2. Drains tested .. ..	29	64	44	28	42	43	250
3. Drains cleansed, repaired or reconstructed .. ..	59	42	43	45	43	132	364
4. New water closets provided .. ..	4	37	2	22	16	16	97
5. Water closets cleansed or repaired .. ..	110	59	59	45	74	238	585
6. Soil pipes altered or repaired .. ..	16	34	11	9	3	24	97
7. Waste pipes provided, altered or repaired .. ..	35	48	33	16	23	100	255
8. Rainwater pipes repaired .. ..	7	26	25	6	15	39	118
9. Roofs and gutters repaired .. ..	83	73	76	45	105	204	586
10. Damp courses inserted .. ..	1	24	4	8	1	—	38
11. Damp conditions otherwise remedied .. ..	67	52	79	67	66	205	536
12. Yards drained or paved .. ..	20	7	13	4	11	48	103
13. Dust bins provided .. ..	23	26	43	12	21	35	160
14. Water cisterns cleansed, covered or repaired .. ..	7	8	1	12	8	9	45
15. Water supply reinstated .. ..	38	10	14	7	23	57	149
16. Defective stoves and fireplaces remedied .. ..	28	25	27	29	30	65	204
17. Defective coppers remedied .. ..	10	10	8	3	6	13	50
18. Stables and stable yards drained or paved .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	2	4
19. Accumulations of manure, etc., removed .. ..	1	4	—	7	1	6	19
20. Urinals cleansed or repaired .. ..	2	2	—	3	2	—	9
21. Animals improperly kept .. ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
22. Smoke nuisances .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23. Other nuisances .. ..	19	123	17	34	23	101	317
TOTAL .. ..	694	814	671	509	697	1673	5058

### **Sanitary Conveniences.**

The number of Sanitary Conveniences is 168. 240 inspections were made during the year and one notice, for cleansing, was served and complied with.

10 privies and earth closets are known to be in existence in the Borough, and all of these are in connection with sports grounds.

### **Removal and Collection of House Refuse.**

The method of removal and collection of house refuse in the Borough is a combined system of mechanical and horse traction carried out by contract. The collecting wagons are hauled from house to house by horses, and when full are drawn up mechanically on to a motor carrier which takes the refuse to the wharves. An empty wagon is left to replace the full one. All the refuse is taken down the River Thames by barge from two riverside wharves in the Borough and disposed of below Barking.

### **Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

The methods employed for freeing infested houses include the stripping of all paper from the walls, the removal of wooden mouldings and skirtings and the application of a blow lamp to the room surfaces. Sulphur and "Cimex" candles are often used by house owners, and the spraying of rooms by the disinfecting staff of the Council is carried out, "D" solution being used. Infested bedding is removed to the Disinfecting Station and treated by steam.

During the year 46 houses were found to be infested with bed bugs, and notices were served in each case on the persons responsible for the infestation. All the premises were disinfested.

Special steps are taken to ensure that the furniture and clothing of families about to be accommodated in the Council's houses and flats are freed from vermin. Hydrogen Cyanide gas

is used for the disinfection of the furniture, which is placed in special vans constructed for the purpose, the process being carried out by a Contractor. Bedding is not subjected to Hydrogen Cyanide but is disinfested by steam at the Council's Disinfecting Station.

During 1940 the furniture of 36 families was disinfested by Hydrogen Cyanide gas, and the cost of this service was £95.

### **Swimming Baths and Bathing Pools.**

The Borough Council owns four swimming baths and one open air bathing pool. The Clapham and Streatham Baths were closed on the outbreak of war and taken over as First Aid Posts. The London County Council owns an open air swimming pool in the Borough, another is privately owned and there are 11 private bathing pools. The Queensmere Pond on Wimbledon Common has also for many years past been a recognised bathing pond.

In four of the Council's swimming baths, the water is purified by a process of continuous circulation through a filtration plant whereby the whole of the water is dealt with every three to four hours and chlorinated automatically during its circulation from the filtration plant to the bath. In the other Bath belonging to the Council the water is emptied as often as necessary and replaced with fresh water, which circulates continuously and is chlorinated automatically the whole time the bath is in use.

Most of the other swimming pools have a chlorination plant installed, but in one of them cleansing is effected by changing the water.

### **Rags and Rag Flock.**

No rag flock is now manufactured in the Borough, but there is a rag washing factory, where rags are washed and disinfected. The process is supervised by the Council's Inspectors and certificates are issued for which a charge is made. This company are now working day and night washing rags for the Army, Navy and Air Force.

During 1940, 48 certificates were issued, and the amount collected was £12 17s.

**Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.**

854 rat complaints were received during the year. The Rat Catcher made 1,642 visits and a number of rats were destroyed. Rat baits are laid in the sewers periodically throughout the year. A total of 11,475 baits were laid and 6,287 were noted as taken by rats.

**Shops Act, 1934.**

219 inspections of shops have been made to ascertain if the provisions of the above Act respecting ventilation, temperature and sanitary conveniences were complied with. In one case it was necessary for a notice to be served for an infringement, and this has been complied with.

**Removal of Diseased or Infirm Persons to Institutions.**

In no case has it been necessary during the year for application to be made to a Court for the removal of a diseased or infirm person under the provisions of Section 224 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936.

**Mortuaries.**

During the year 248 bodies have been removed to the Wandsworth Mortuary. No bodies were taken to the Mortuaries in Clapham and Streatham.

**Crematorium, Putney Vale Cemetery.**

As Medical Referees under the Crematorium Regulations, 1930, Dr. MacDonnell and I have authorised 201 cremations during the year at this Crematorium, which was completed in 1938.

## HOUSING.

There have been large reductions in the work associated with Housing during the year on account of the war.

The number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects, under both the Public Health and Housing Acts, was .. .. .	4,816
The number of inspections made of them was	13,882
The number of houses found not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation was ..	2,485
The number of houses rendered fit without the the service of any notice was .. ..	514

### Action under the Public Health (London) Act, 1936.

The number of houses which were remedied by service of intimation notice only was ..	1,467
The number of houses where the service of a nuisance notice was necessary was .. ..	504
The number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of nuisance notices (including any where the notice was served in a previous year) :—	
(a) by the Owners .. .. .	652
(b) by the Council .. .. .	1

### Action under the Housing Act, 1936.

99 of the houses inspected for defects were house to house inspections made and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, and the total number of inspections made under these Regulations was 1,268.

No houses were found unfit for habitation and no notices to execute repairs were served under Section 9 of the Act.

### Demolition and Closing Orders.

No Orders were made during the year. No houses were demolished and no separate tenements or underground rooms were closed following Orders made in previous years.

The Demolition Orders in respect of the following houses are still outstanding and the houses have not been demolished :—

78 to 84, Point Pleasant .. 4 houses — Demolition Order made 19th October, 1937.

90 to 110, Point Pleasant .. 11 houses — Demolition Orders made 19th October, 1937.

1 to 5, Cowpers Row .. 5 houses — Demolition Orders made 18th January, 1938.

The Closing Order on the flat known as 4, Weir Road Mews, made on 14th December, 1937, has not been complied with, the flat still being occupied.

### The Clearance of Insanitary Areas.

The Clearance of the following insanitary areas has been completed during the year by the demolition of all the houses, the sites being left with the owners to develop :—

Point Pleasant No. 1 Area .. 7 houses—Clearance Order made on 18th January, 1938.

Point Pleasant No. 2 Area .. 5 houses—Clearance Order made on 18th January, 1938.

Point Pleasant No. 3 Area .. 19 houses — Clearance Order made on 18th January, 1938.

Bridgefield Grove Area .. 22 houses — Representation on 18th November, 1938 ; not declared a Clearance Area, but the houses have now been demolished by the owners.

The development of the following Areas has not yet been completed, mainly on account of the war :—

Carpenter's Place Area .. 10 houses ; Clearance Order made on 19th January, 1937.

Weimar Street Area .. 21 houses ; represented by me on 1st October, 1937 ; declared a Clearance Area by the London County Council on 20th December, 1938 ; two of the houses demolished during 1940.

Cubitts Cottages Area .. 21 houses ; Compulsory Purchase Order made on 18th January, 1938, confirmed by the Minister of Health.

Saxby Street Area . . . . . 93 "Red" and 12 "Grey" houses, Compulsory Purchase Order made on 22nd March, 1938, confirmed by the Minister of Health.

Chesil Place Area . . . . . 7 houses; Clearance Order made on 28th May, 1938; confirmed.

Greyhound Lane Area . . . . . 4 houses; Clearance Order made on 15th November, 1938; confirmed.

North Passage Area . . . . . 26 houses; Clearance Order made on 27th June, 1939; not confirmed by the Minister.

Putney Bridge Road, Frogmore Area . . . . . 6 houses; Clearance Order made on 27th June, 1939; not confirmed.

Putney Bridge Road Area . . . . . 14 houses; represented on 14th June, 1939; no further action taken.

Oldridge Road Area . . . . . 21 houses; represented by me on 29th March, 1938; declared a Clearance Area by the London County Council on 21st August, 1939.

#### **Overcrowding.**

233 dwellings were recorded as overcrowded at the end of the year. This cannot be taken as an accurate indication of the extent of overcrowding in the Borough, as no comprehensive survey has been made in recent years. These dwellings were occupied by 233 families, consisting of 1,541 persons. In 55 of the families some of the children have been evacuated, so that the overcrowding has been relieved though not abated.

166 cases of overcrowding representing 1,086 persons have been abated during the year and 25 new cases have come to light.

No cases of dwellings again becoming overcrowded after the Council had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding have been discovered.

#### **Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts, 1919-1923.**

14 applications were received from occupiers alleging that their houses were not in a reasonable state of repair and Statutory Certificates were granted in each case.

## THE SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

There are four Inspectors engaged in the supervision of the Food Supply. The Food and Drugs Inspector procures samples of food and drugs for analysis by the Public Analyst. The three Food Inspectors supervise premises where food is sold, stored, manufactured or prepared for sale and inspect the slaughter-houses. They also carry out the duties required under Part II. of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933.

On the outbreak of war, Messrs. W. H. Jones, Food and Drugs Inspector, and A. E. Handley, Food Inspector, were seconded for duty under the Food Controller. On 6th October, 1940, officers of the Ministry of Food took over these Food Control duties and Messrs. Jones and Handley returned to the Department.

The inspection of food premises is not confined to those businesses which are subject to some form of legal control, but in order to ensure adequate supervision of foodstuffs sold in the Borough and because it is a common occurrence for more than one food business to be conducted on the same premises, all premises where food is sold or prepared for sale are inspected. A register is kept giving the essential particulars about each of the premises and indicating the nature of the food businesses conducted from them.

The number of separate food premises, particulars of which are entered on the register, is 2,779, and the number of inspections made during 1940 was 19,114.

### Milk and Milk Supply.

There are 164 registered dairies in the Borough and 464 registered dairymen. About two-thirds of the latter are registered for the sale of milk in bottles or cartons, registration of



the premises as dairies not being required when the milk is sold in sealed receptacles. There are no cowsheds in the Borough.

The bulk of the milk sold by retail within the Borough is sent out in bottles filled in properly constructed dairies, and its quality is good. Of 743 samples submitted for analysis, 731 were genuine and showed an average fat content of 3.55. The 12 samples reported against were formal samples. Nine contained extraneous water, varying from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. and three were found to be 8, 28 and 34 per cent. deficient in fat respectively. Police Court proceedings were taken in the last two cases. These were dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act on payment of £2 2s. costs in each case. In the other 10 cases the Public Health Committee decided to warn the vendors.

75 samples were taken from milk vendors in the street during the early morning hours, 91 on delivery to hospitals in the Borough and four on delivery to Wandsworth Prison. All these samples were reported as genuine.

Milk utensils and barrows used in the delivery of milk are inspected regularly in the streets.

#### **The Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.**

67 licences for the sale of designated milks were granted during the year—39 for Tuberculin Tested Milk and 28 for Pasteurised Milk.

#### **Meat.**

There are still four private slaughterhouses licensed in the Borough, but three of them were closed early in 1940, as the slaughtering of animals has been centralised by the Government. The remaining slaughterhouse only operates for killing pigs.

The inspectors continued to visit the slaughterhouses as long as animals were killed there. 85 animals were inspected before slaughter and 440 carcasses after slaughter; 67 of these were oxen, 77 calves, 274 sheep and 22 pigs. The number of animals and carcasses examined shows a large reduction on the

previous year, when 2,703 animals were inspected prior to slaughter and 7,069 carcasses after slaughter.

The only organs found to be diseased in the carcasses inspected were a pair of lungs, affected with tuberculosis, and 12 cirrhotic livers, all in oxen. The diseased organs were surrendered and destroyed.

### No. 23 Wholesale Meat Depot.

Since the outbreak of hostilities the London Wholesale Meat Trade Association in conjunction with the Ministry of Food have established a Wholesale Meat Depôt at 666, Garratt Lane for the reception and distribution of meat slaughtered outside the Borough. This Depôt is visited daily by the Food Inspectors and as a result of these visits considerable quantities of meat were found to be unfit for human consumption. Most of it was in this condition as a result of decomposition caused by delays in transportation from the places where the animals were slaughtered. All the meat found to be unfit for food was surrendered and released for industrial purposes. The quantities surrendered were as follows :—

OXEN.	SHEEP.
4,005 lbs. beef.	325 lbs. mutton.
19 livers.	460 heads.
2 heads.	649 pairs lungs.
42 pairs brains.	960 livers.
48 pairs lungs.	
302 lbs. sweetbreads.	LAMBS.
272 spleens.	984 lbs. lamb.
22 tails.	574 livers.
	137 sweetbreads.
CALVES.	19 kidneys.
36 lbs. veal.	
50 lbs. sweetbreads.	PIGS.
37 heads.	22 carcasses.
35 plucks.	8 heads and collars.
56 livers.	276 lbs. pork.
	159 plucks.
CORNEB BEEF.	193 livers.
4 tins.	162 mesenteries.

### **Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.**

During the year 18 applications were received from persons desirous of acting as slaughtermen and the necessary licences were granted. There were no infringements against the provisions of this Act.

### **Other Food Premises.**

There are in the Borough 34 wholesale margarine dealers, 76 fishfryers and 24 fish curers. 608 premises are registered for the sale, manufacture or storage of ice-cream and 534 premises for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food stuffs.

There are 32 food factories, 428 restaurant kitchens and 149 markets and stalls. The markets are subjected to special supervision and they are inspected frequently at all hours when they are open, both during the week and on Saturdays and Sundays.

### **Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.**

1,776 samples were procured for analysis during the year. 743 of these were samples of milk, 850 were other foodstuffs and 183 were drugs.

Only 15 of the samples were found to be adulterated, viz., 12 formal samples of milk, already referred to, one informal sample of sugar, which contained 14 per cent. of ground rice, and two samples of syrup of senna, which were deficient in sugar.

### **Merchandise Marks Act, 1926, Agricultural Grading and Marking Act, 1928, and Orders Made Thereunder.**

The amount of foodstuffs sold under these Orders is less than in the years before the war. The provisions of the Orders are duly observed by the traders in the Borough.

**Unsound Food.**

111 consignments of foodstuffs of all kinds were examined at the request of the owners and found to be unsound. After the articles had been destroyed or rendered unsaleable, the owners were granted certificates to this effect.

**Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933.**

The number of applications received for entry in the Council's Register of listed sellers of those poisons which are included in Part II. of the Poisons List was 285. The principal businesses conducted on the premises of these applicants is given in Table XIX.

TABLE XIX.—Part II of Poisons List.

Principal Business	No. of Premises	No. of Inspections
Grocers .. .. .	137	279
Hairdressers .. .. .	32	66
Drug Stores .. .. .	25	57
Ironmongers, Paint and Colourmen	88	178
Nurserymen .. .. .	2	5
Garages .. .. .	1	2
Total ..	285	587

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The number of factories, workshops, workplaces and home workers' premises is shown in Table XX., together with the number of inspections made.

TABLE XX.

Class of Works.	Number of Places on Register at end of 1940.	Number of Inspections, 1940.	Number of Notices, 1940.	Number of Prosecutions, 1940.
<b>Factories :—</b>				
Bakehouses .. .. .	118	101	—	—
Metalworkers, Carpenters, etc. .. .. .	112	37	2	—
Engineering .. .. .	88	27	—	—
Bootmakers .. .. .	78	19	—	—
Car and Cycle Repairers ..	76	17	—	—
Laundries .. .. .	50	15	1	—
Printers and Paper Manufacturers .. .. .	37	15	—	—
Clothing .. .. .	33	6	—	—
Food .. .. .	32	77	1	—
Builders and Contractors	25	9	—	—
Others .. .. .	62	18	—	—
<b>TOTAL FACTORIES ..</b>	<b>711</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Workshops .. .. .</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Workplaces .. .. .</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>TOTAL : Factories, Workshops and Workplaces</b>	<b>1,467</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Home-workers' premises ..</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL ..</b>	<b>2,017</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>

A classification of workshops in the Borough is given in Table XXI., and details about homeworkers' premises in Table XXII. The number and nature of the defects found in the factories, workshops and workplaces are enumerated in Table XXIII.

TABLE XXI.  
DETAILS OF REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the year. (1)	Number. (2)
Clothing .. .. .	175
Smiths and Motor Engineers .. .. .	90
Bootmakers .. .. .	86
Builders and Contractors .. .. .	49
Hairdressers .. .. .	42
Laundries .. .. .	29
Upholsterers and Furniture Makers .. .. .	29
Carpenters .. .. .	19
Metal Workers .. .. .	18
Other .. .. .	139
Total number of Workshops on register .. .. .	676

TABLE XXII.  
HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK.	Outworkers lists received from Employers.			Notices served on occupiers as to keeping or sending lists.	Premises unwholesome		Premises infected.
	Lists.	Outworkers.			In- stances.	No- tices served.	
		Con- trac- tors.	Work- men.				In- stances.
Wearing Apparel :—							
(1.) Making, etc. ..	33	24	197	38	1	—	4
(2.) Cleaning and washing ..	3	16	3	4	—	—	—
Paper bags and boxes ..	2	—	13	4	—	—	—
TOTALS .. .. .	38	42	213	46	1	—	4

The number of outworkers' addresses received from other Councils was 288, and 164 addresses were forwarded to other Authorities.

One case of Pneumonia, two of Scarlet Fever and one of Whooping Cough were notified as having occurred in the homes of outworkers. In no case was it necessary to make any order under Section 110 of the Factories Act, 1937.

TABLE XXIII.  
DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND  
WORKPLACES.

PARTICULARS. (1)	Number of Defects.			No. of Prosecutions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—				
Want of cleanliness ..	11	10	—	—
Want of ventilation ..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding .. ..	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances .. ..	11	9	—	—
Sanitary accommodation:				
Insufficient .. ..	2	2	—	—
Unsuitable or defective Not separate for sexes	15	14	—	—
Offences under the Factories Act .. .. .	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

## POLICE COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Proceedings at the Police Court were instituted, under Section 282 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, for nuisances at the premises specified below:—

87 and 91, Selkirk Road . . . Order made for abatement of nuisances within 21 days.

53, Laitwood Road . . . Order made for abatement of nuisances within 14 days. Costs to the amount of £1 1s. were imposed.

2, Dingwall Road . . . Summons withdrawn as nuisances had been abated. Costs to the amount of 10s. 6d. were imposed.

<p>198A and 198B, Beechcroft Road. 3 and 4, Acre Square. 124, Lyham Road. 67, Fieldend Road. 16B and 16c, Treport Street. 11, Criffel Avenue. 15, Khartoum Road. 14, Melrose Road. 777, Garratt Lane.</p>	}	<p>Summonses withdrawn as the nuisances had been abated when the cases were heard.</p>
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## REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST FOR 1940.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith I have pleasure in handing you my thirtieth report on work performed in the laboratory for your Council under the various Acts and Regulations relating to the sale and adulteration of Food and Drugs during the year ended 31st December, 1940. In doing so, I deeply regret that the signature of Mr. C. A. Hackman, F.I.C., my partner and your additional Public Analyst, will not be found against mine at its conclusion, as he died just before the year under review ended.

Your Council has appointed Mr. J. E. Woodhead, B.Sc., F.I.C., Ph.C., to act as my deputy and I feel confident that should I, at any time, be prevented from carrying out my duties, his long experience in the laboratory will enable him to perform these duties in a manner which will give complete satisfaction.

Owing to war conditions and to the fact that your Food and Drugs Inspector has been engaged upon other important national duties, the usual number of samples (2,000) has not been submitted, the total in the year being 1,776.

736 of these were procured formally as official samples and 1,040 as informal samples. 735 of the formal samples were milk and one was a sample of sugar.

The total of 1,776 samples analysed during the year is made up of :—samples of milk, 743 ; other foodstuffs, 850 ; drugs, 183.

**Milk.**

743 samples were examined, 735 being formal and eight informal. 731 were genuine; 12, all formal samples, were found to be adulterated, the details of the adulteration being as under:—

Case No.	Nature of Report.
119	1½ % extraneous water.
120	1½ % extraneous water.
194	2½ % extraneous water.
195	2½ % extraneous water.
229	28 % deficient in fat.
279	3½ % extraneous water.
280	3½ % extraneous water.
331	1½ % extraneous water.
361	34 % deficient in fat.
362	8 % deficient in fat.
634	2 % extraneous water.
635	2 % extraneous water.

The average composition of the milk analysed during the year was:—

Total milk solids	.. ..	12·27
Milk fat	.. ..	3·55
Non-fatty solids	.. ..	8·82

**Other Foodstuffs.**

850 samples were analysed, one sample of sugar being taken formally; 849 were informal samples. The only adulteration found was in one informal sample of sugar, which contained 14 per cent. of ground rice.

Samples of the following substances were analysed:— arrowroot, 4 samples; barley, 4; bread, 9; butter, 4; cake, 12; cereals, 41; cheese, 26; cocoa, 24; coffee, 24; cornflour, 15; cream, 11; dripping and lard, 12; essences, 13; fat, 13; fish, canned, 36; fish paste, 27; flour, 29; food powders, 78; fruit, canned and bottled, 15; fruit, dried, 71; ginger, 4; herbs, 5; honey, 10; jam and marmalade, 17; jelly, 18; lemon and orange curd, 3; lentils, 11; margarine, 25; meat products, 39; milk, condensed, 10; mustard, 8; oatmeal, 10; olive oil, 5; pepper, 7;

pickles and sauces, 33 ; rice, 30 ; sage, 5 ; salad oil, 7 ; salt, 10 ; spice, 8 ; sponge mixture, 2 ; soup, canned, 7 ; suet, 14 ; sugar, 3 ; tapioca, 13 ; tea, 11 ; treacle, 1 ; vegetables, canned and dried, 48 ; vinegar, 8 ; yeast, 10.

The average water content of the four samples of butter proved to be 13·5 per cent. ; that of the 25 samples of margarine, 14·8 per cent.

Six of the samples were submitted for analysis on the complaint of ratepayers, viz., three samples of butter, one of canned fish, one of sugar and one of black treacle. The sample of sugar was the one found to be adulterated with 14 per cent. of ground rice. The other five samples were genuine.

### Drugs.

183 samples of drugs were analysed. Two only were adulterated, viz. :—

No. 584, Syrup of Senna : Devoid of sugar.

No. 691, Syrup of Senna : 52 per cent. deficient in sugar.

In conclusion I have to report that the adulteration detected during 1940 amounted to 1·63 per cent. of the formal samples, to 0·29 per cent. of the informal samples and to 0·84 per cent. of all samples submitted.

The cost of the above analyses was covered by the Analyst's salary of £900 per annum.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. H. MUTER, F.I.C., F.C.S.,

*Public Analyst.*

325, KENNINGTON ROAD,  
LONDON, S.E. 11,



