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Metropolitan Borough of Wandsworth



Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of
Health

for the Year
1950

by

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

together with the

Report of the Public Analyst.

Telephone : BATTERSEA 6464

Ackd. 22/7.0

Metropolitan Borough of Wandsworth

With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health

Public Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Wandsworth,
S.W.18.

Extracts from Vital Statistics

REPORT
of the Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1950

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

YOUR WORSHIP, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I present herewith my Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1950 together with the Report of the Public Analyst.

The birth-rate for the year was 13.79, compared to 15.08 for 1949. The death rate 12.02, a slight increase on 1949, when it was 11.92, but there has been no unusual mortality.

The infant mortality has fallen from 26 to 22 per thousand births.

Only one case of diphtheria occurred.

I am, your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

F. G. CALEY,
Medical Officer of Health

STAFF

Mr. F. A. Eustace, one of the Sanitary Inspectors, died suddenly in September, aged 59 years. He had completed 37 years' service with the Council.

The vacancy was filled by the appointment in December of Mr. J. T. Dallimore, aged 22 years, who, however, was not due to commence duty until 1st January, 1951. No other staff changes occurred during the year.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,199 acres
Resident population in 1950	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	333,800

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 effect on the health of the workers or residents.

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The civilian population at the middle of the year was estimated by the Registrar-General to be 333,800 and all the rates used in this Report are based on this figure.

Table I shows the approximate population of each Parliamentary Division, based on the above estimation.

TABLE I

	Population estimated to middle of 1950
Putney	88945
Central	97427
Clapham	75924
Streatham	71504
Whole Borough	333800

Births

The total number of births belonging to the Borough registered during 1950 was 4,605, consisting of 2,350 males and 2,255 females. The number for 1949 was 5,053.

The birth-rate was 13.97 per 1,000 persons living compared with 15.08 for 1949.

The rate for the whole of London during 1950 was 17.8 and for England and Wales 15.8.

255 illegitimate births took place in the Borough compared with 257 in 1949.

Deaths

The number of registered deaths which took place in the Borough during the year was 3,627, but 1,359 of these did not belong to the Borough, while 1,744 Borough residents died outside the Borough.

The corrected number of deaths for the Borough, after allowing for these factors, was 4,012, of whom 2,005 were males and 2,007 females.

The death-rate for the year was 12.02 per 1,000 persons living, compared with 11.92 in 1949.

The death-rate for the whole of London for 1950 was 11.8 and for England and Wales 11.6.

Table II shows the total number of registered deaths and the death-rates for each division and for the whole Borough.

TABLE II

	Corrected deaths			Death-rate
	Males	Females	Total	
Putney	535	569	1104	12.41
Central	578	512	1090	11.18
Clapham	468	465	933	12.28
Streatham	424	461	885	12.37
Whole Borough	2005	2007	4012	12.02

Table III is the general mortality Table for the whole Borough and shows the number of deaths from each cause divided into sexes, age groups and sub-districts.

TABLE III
CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH, DURING THE YEAR 1950

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths in or belonging to whole district at subjoined ages.							Deaths in or belonging to Localities (all ages).					
	All Ages.	Males.	Females.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Putney.	Central.	Clapham.	Streatham.
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	136	87	49	—	—	1	58	48	29	37	31	45	23
Tuberculosis, Other	10	5	5	—	1	1	4	2	2	2	1	4	3
Syphilitic Disease	15	10	5	—	—	—	—	4	11	7	1	6	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	3	3	—	2	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	1	—
Meningococcal Infections	4	4	—	2	2	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	7	7	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	2	2	—	3
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	10	6	4	—	—	2	4	3	1	2	4	2	2
Malignant Neoplasms	762	380	382	—	1	2	64	262	433	221	195	165	181
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	13	8	5	—	—	—	5	4	4	2	4	2	5
Diabetes	30	8	22	—	—	—	3	5	22	8	11	7	4
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	399	163	236	—	—	—	4	66	329	122	87	99	91
Diseases of Heart	1,296	610	686	—	—	—	39	255	1,002	347	380	288	281
Other Circulatory Disease	185	87	98	—	—	—	2	25	158	46	54	34	51
Influenza	35	13	22	—	1	—	1	6	27	14	10	11	—
Pneumonia	132	59	73	8	4	1	6	20	93	31	41	24	36
Bronchitis	259	162	97	4	—	—	3	51	201	69	79	79	32
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	30	20	10	—	—	—	—	11	19	7	7	7	9
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	53	44	9	—	—	—	2	17	34	12	19	12	10
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea	19	9	10	2	—	—	2	3	12	4	6	6	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	45	20	25	—	—	—	4	10	31	17	9	9	10
Hyperplasia of Prostate	37	37	—	—	—	—	—	4	33	12	10	8	7
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations	37	22	15	23	2	2	4	2	4	15	9	8	5
Other Defined and Ill-defined Disease	338	159	179	58	4	4	29	84	159	84	85	81	88
Motor Vehicle Accidents	29	17	12	—	3	4	8	6	8	11	6	5	7
All other Accidents	73	27	46	2	—	3	8	9	49	16	21	17	19
Suicide	52	38	14	—	—	1	15	17	19	11	17	11	13
Homicide and Operations of War	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All causes	4,012	2,005	2,007	101	21	21	274	914	2,681	1,104	1,090	933	885

Infantile Mortality

The number of deaths under one year was 101, the infantile mortality rate being 22 per 1,000 births. This compares with a rate of 26 for each of the two previous years and is the lowest rate ever recorded.

For the ten years ending 1940 the average infantile mortality rate was 54, while for the ten years ending 1950 the average rate was 35.

Maternal Mortality

Three deaths occurred from accidents and diseases of pregnancy but none from puerperal pyrexia, giving a total of three deaths after childbirth. This is equivalent to a rate of .64 for 1,000 live and still births, compared with .19 in 1949 and .35 in 1948.

TABLE 27

Year	Infantile Mortality	Maternal Mortality
1948	26	0.35
1949	26	0.19
1950	22	0.64

Disease	1948	1949	1950
Scarlet Fever	405	452	443
Whooping Cough	1,087	1,087	1,087
Diphtheria	1	0	0

INFECTIVE DISEASES

The number of deaths from notifiable infectious diseases, including all forms of tuberculosis, was 171.

From all infective diseases the death-rate was .51 per 1,000—.54 in Putney, .40 in Central, .72 in Clapham, and .40 in Streatham.

Table IV shows the number of cases of the notifiable infective diseases reported, arranged in various age groups, and Table V shows the same figures arranged in the sub-districts in which they occurred.

Smallpox

No case occurred in the Borough during the year.

Diphtheria

Only one case of diphtheria occurred during the year. There were no deaths. There were seven cases in 1949 and 16 in 1948. Thirty-six other cases were reported, but after admission to hospital were found to be incorrectly diagnosed.

Scarlet Fever

584 cases of scarlet fever were notified or reported compared with 495 in 1949, 452 in 1948 and 343 in 1947. The diagnosis was not confirmed in 19 cases. One death occurred.

The increase in the number of cases has been associated with a general increase in the incidence of this disease throughout London.

Whooping Cough

1,087 cases were notified during the year. There were three deaths.

TABLE IV

OF INFECTIVE DISEASES GROUPED IN AGE PERIODS

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	No. of Cases									
	Total	Under 1	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and upwards
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	565	4	38	139	288	63	21	9	3	—
Measles	1720	48	368	482	780	21	12	8	1	—
Whooping Cough	1087	81	227	283	470	11	4	6	3	2
Enteric Fever and Paratyphoid Fever	5	—	1	—	—	1	2	1	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	81	2	15	5	14	3	8	13	11	10
Erysipelas	69	—	—	—	1	3	4	22	23	16
Scabies	47	—	6	6	2	4	4	14	10	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	17	—	—	—	—	—	3	14	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	10	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	11	2	4	3	1	—	1	—	—	—
Acute Polio-myelitis	40	—	3	3	13	6	7	7	1	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia:—										
Acute Primary	197	9	19	15	17	7	5	41	45	39
Acute Influenzal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—All forms	671	—	16	10	14	20	194	262	121	34
Food Poisoning	116	1	3	8	8	4	15	35	32	10
TOTAL	4637	157	700	954	1609	143	280	432	256	112

Infective Diseases

TABLE V

TOTAL CASES OF INFECTIVE DISEASES OCCURRING IN EACH WARD

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	PUTNEY			CENTRAL					CLAPHAM					STREATHAM					Whole Borough	Deaths			
	Putney	Thamesfield	Fairfield	West Hill	Southfield	Earlsfield	Springfield	Tooting	Graveney	Bedford	Larkhall	Clapham North	Clapham Park	Thornion	Balham	Streatham Hill	St. Leonard	Streatham Common			Streatham South	Furzedowr	
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	26	18	14	14	28	37	64	63	22	33	28	13	20	38	37	24	20	42	14	10	565	1	
Measles ...	148	200	54	98	87	103	85	87	43	58	87	132	100	95	55	64	35	40	33	116	1720	—	
Whooping Cough	22	64	68	31	94	93	25	60	84	40	64	58	48	30	28	51	29	66	41	91	1087	3	
Enteric Fever and Paratyphoid Fever	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	5	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	1	2	1	2	—	4	—	22	39	4	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	81	—
Erysipelas ...	1	3	2	4	10	2	6	4	8	3	8	4	1	1	1	1	1	4	2	3	—	69	—
Scabies ...	—	1	7	5	1	16	1	—	—	1	7	2	—	1	1	2	—	2	1	—	—	47	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	3	—	—	17	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	11	4
Acute Polio-myelitis	2	2	1	3	3	1	3	1	—	2	1	6	—	—	3	3	4	2	3	—	—	40	7
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anthrax ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia :— Acute Influenzal Acute Primary	8	6	13	4	6	12	17	29	30	8	17	4	2	5	3	10	2	5	6	10	—	197	10
Tuberculosis— All forms ...	32	33	35	24	23	43	22	39	41	39	30	55	38	39	39	35	24	19	27	34	—	671	146
Food Poisoning	1	—	12	1	—	22	11	4	31	8	—	—	4	7	1	—	1	3	6	4	—	116	—
TOTAL	241	334	208	189	252	333	234	310	302	200	245	278	218	221	167	192	116	186	136	275	4637	171	

Measles

The number of cases notified during the year was 1,720, compared with 2,969 in 1949, 2,668 in 1948, and 1,241 in 1947.

Puerperal Pyrexia

During the year 17 cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified.

The Public Health (Acute Poliomyelitis, Acute Encephalitis and Meningococcal Infection) Regulations, 1949

The general purport of these regulations, which came into operation on 1st January, 1950, was to replace, with slight modifications, certain earlier regulations covering Cerebro-spinal Fever, Acute Poliomyelitis and Acute Encephalitis Lethargica and to introduce nomenclature consistent with the international standard classification of diseases.

Acute Poliomyelitis

Seventy-one cases of this disease were notified or reported during the year, of which 40 were subsequently confirmed. This figure compares with 58 for 1949 and 43 for 1948. Seven of the cases died.

Acute Encephalitis

No case of this disease was reported.

Meningococcal Infection

Eleven confirmed cases were notified or reported. There were four deaths. Twenty-five other cases were investigated, but were subsequently not confirmed.

In the previous year there were 10 cases with two deaths.

Dysentery

Eighty-seven cases were notified or reported during the year, eight being from institutions. Six cases were subsequently held not to be dysentery.

Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever

Fourteen cases were reported during the year, two of which were subsequently confirmed as typhoid and three as para-typhoid. Diagnosis was not confirmed in the remaining cases. There were no deaths.

Influenza

The number of deaths from influenza was 35 compared with 45 in 1949, 10 in 1948, 44 in 1947, and 47 in 1946.

The death-rate was .11 per 1,000.

Influenzal Pneumonia and Acute Primary Pneumonia

These are the notifiable forms of pneumonia.

Sixty-seven cases of acute influenzal pneumonia and 130 cases of acute primary pneumonia were notified. Six of the former and four of the latter died.

The total number of deaths credited to all forms of pneumonia during the year was 132 compared with 163 in 1949.

Malaria

No cases were reported.

Erysipelas

Sixty-nine cases were notified. No deaths occurred.

Other Infective Diseases

Fifteen deaths occurred from syphilis.

Scabies

Forty-seven cases were notified.

Two hundred and eighty-two cases of scabies were treated at the Council's Cleansing Station under the supervision of the two bathing attendants. The majority of the cases were treated by the benzyl benzoate method, and received a course of two baths each. Sixty-three other persons received cleansing treatment for various conditions.

Food Poisoning

One hundred and twenty-seven cases were notified during the year, 11 being subsequently not confirmed.

All these cases were unrelated and in three only were organisms identified. Two samples of foodstuffs were submitted to the laboratory for bacteriological examination and the results were negative.

In addition to the above cases, an outbreak of diarrhoea involving 51 persons occurred in May at the Springfield Mental Hospital. Forty-nine of the patients recovered within 24 hours. The other two, male patients aged 41 years and 76 years, respectively, died. No organisms of typhoid, dysentery or salmonella infection were found on a post-mortem examination of the two fatal cases, and the cause of the outbreak was written off as unknown.

Diseases Reported from Schools

A total of 2,703 infective diseases was reported from schools in the Borough throughout the year. The numbers of each disease were:

Scarlet Fever	...	363	Chicken Pox	...	685
Diphtheria	...	1	Whooping Cough	...	477
Measles	...	620	Mumps	...	468
German Measles	...	18	Ringworm	...	11
Poliomyelitis	...	16	Scabies	...	5
Other Diseases		...	39		

Disinfection and Disinfestation

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year by the disinfection staff after the occurrence of infectious diseases or for the destruction of vermin.

No. of rooms disinfected after I.D.	...	1795
No. of rooms disinfested for vermin	...	638
No. of articles of clothing and bedding disinfected	...	11853
No. of articles of clothing and bedding destroyed	...	1011

Disinfection in bulk of clothing intended for export was also carried out at the Disinfecting Station. A charge is made for this service and by the end of the year a total amount of £105 4s. had been received by the Council.

Bacteriological Examinations

All these examinations are carried out by the Camberwell Research Laboratory which in October, 1948, became a Public Health Service Laboratory directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health.

The following is a summary of examinations made during the year:

Cultures for diphtheria	...	379
Fæces for the typhoid and dysentery groups	...	62
Miscellaneous specimens	...	99
Total	...	<u>540</u>

NON-INFECTIVE DISEASES

The total number of deaths from cancer and malignant disease was 762, the number of males being 380 and females 382. The death-rate was 2.28 per 1,000. The number of deaths in 1950 was 55 more than in 1949.

1,481 deaths occurred from disease of the heart and circulatory system compared with 1,482 in 1949. 1,160 of these deaths were of persons of 65 years of age and above.

There were 421 deaths from diseases of the respiratory system compared with 502 in 1949. The number from bronchitis was 259 compared with 294 in 1949, and from pneumonia (all forms), 132 compared with 163 in 1949. Further particulars relative to pneumonia are given on page 12.

154 deaths were due to violence, 29 of them being due to motor accidents, 52 to suicide and 73 to other forms of violence.

INQUESTS

Inquests were held on 109 persons who died in the Borough and on 105 Borough residents who died elsewhere.

Twenty-seven verdicts of death from natural causes were returned and 112 of accidental death; there were 52 suicides, six open verdicts, 17 of misadventure, one of spinal cord injuries subsequent to judicial hanging, and one of chronic alcoholism.

CERTIFICATES OF VACCINATION AND INOCULATION

A number of requests were received from residents in the Borough for a certificate of vaccination or inoculation to be authenticated for the purpose of travel abroad. The signature of the person issuing the certificate was verified in each case as that of a registered medical practitioner practising in Wandsworth and the certificate was endorsed accordingly.

TUBERCULOSIS

Notifications: The total number of new cases which came to the notice of the Department during 1950 was 671 compared with 694 in 1949.

The sources of information regarding the 671 new cases were as follows:

Primary notifications on Form A	481
Notifications from H.M. Forces	7
Unnotified at death	24
Transfers from other sanitary authorities	159
Total	671

Deaths: The number of deaths certified as due to diseases of a tuberculous nature was 146.

Particulars of the new cases and deaths during the year, classified by sexes and age groups are given in the following table:

TABLE VI

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pul- monary		Non- Pulmonary		Pul- monary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	8	5	—	3	—	—	—	—
3	4	2	—	4	—	—	—	1
5	5	2	3	4	—	1	—	—
10	5	12	2	1	—	—	—	1
15	76	106	6	6	4	7	1	—
25	138	106	4	14	26	21	2	1
45	97	24	—	—	35	13	1	1
65 and upwards	22	11	1	—	22	7	1	1
TOTALS	355	268	16	32	87	49	5	5

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE BOROUGH

Work of the Sanitary Inspectors

A Summary of the inspections carried out by the Inspectors is given in Table VII:

TABLE VII

	In- spections	Re- In- spections	Total
To investigate complaints	11527	35078	46605
Housing reports	1983	—	1983
Notifiable diseases	1386	74	1460
Verminous conditions	197	75	272
Piggeries	65	—	65
Factories, Workplaces, etc. (including Outworkers)	717	518	1235
Sanitary conveniences	58	—	58
Mews and stables	196	—	196
Other inspections	4424	1392	5816
TOTAL	20553	37137	57690
Smoke observations	—	—	59
Legal proceedings, Attendances at Court	—	—	46

Table VIII gives details of the sanitary operations carried out in the Borough during the year.

The number of drains which were tested was 673 and 1,354 were cleansed or repaired. The drains of 59 houses were reconstructed.

Damp conditions have been remedied in 1,671 premises, and in 71 of these damp courses were inserted.

TABLE VIII

	Putney	Central	Clapham	Streatham	Whole Borough
1 Premises cleansed and repaired	1089	773	1244	552	3658
2 Drains tested	180	142	179	172	673
3 Drains cleansed or repaired ...	366	378	318	292	1354
4 Water closets cleansed or repaired	270	218	281	167	936
5 Soil pipes repaired	34	36	52	14	136
6 Waste pipes altered or repaired	80	83	111	58	332
7 Rainwater pipes repaired ...	62	54	89	30	235
8 Roofs and gutters repaired ...	620	580	693	327	2220
9 Damp courses inserted	26	22	18	5	71
10 Damp conditions otherwise remedied	416	384	486	314	1600
11 Yards drained or paved	64	43	43	19	169
12 Dustbins provided or repaired ...	90	93	52	72	307
13 Water cisterns cleansed, covered or repaired	43	24	25	18	110
14 Water supply reinstated	29	17	27	4	77
15 Defective fireplaces remedied ...	309	191	286	172	958
16 Defective coppers remedied ...	10	6	12	6	34
17 Accumulations of rubbish, etc. removed	49	20	26	9	104
18 Urinals cleansed or repaired ...	1	—	3	1	5
19 Animals improperly kept	4	3	3	1	11
20 Smoke nuisances	2	3	—	1	6
21 Other nuisances	68	43	63	63	237
TOTAL	3812	3113	4011	2297	13233
No. of Preliminary Notices served	1414	1390	1497	743	5004
No. of Preliminary Notices complied with	1654	1483	1871	959	5967
No. of Nuisance Notices served ...	382	421	407	215	1425
No. of Nuisance Notices complied with	458	366	544	247	1615

Water Supply—Cutting-off Notices

During the year, 99 notices with respect to 149 premises were received from the Metropolitan Water Board stating that the supply had been withdrawn.

In 32 premises the water supply was cut off for non-payment of rates, 99 because of defects in the service, and in 18 the premises became vacant.

Rodent Control

Energetic measures for rodent control continued throughout the year, the system followed being that of prebaiting laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

2,170 rat and mice complaints were received during the year.

Following is a summary of the work of the rodent operatives:

No. of operatives' visits to premises	...	...	14135
No. of premises prebaited and treated with poison			1506
No. of premises prebaited and found not troubled			306
No. of premises investigated and found not troubled			302
No. of prebaits laid	...	...	43194
No. of poison baits laid	...	...	10673
No. of drains tested by Sanitary Inspector			410
No. of drains found defective	...	...	258
No. of rats estimated killed	...	...	13326

There were eight rodent operatives and one clerk engaged on rodent control duties during the year under the supervision of a Sanitary Inspector.

Swimming Baths and Bathing Pools

There are four public swimming bath establishments and one open air swimming pool belonging to the Council, one open air swimming bath owned by the London County Council, one public swimming pool privately owned, and a number of private bathing pools in the Borough. The Queensmere pond on Wimbledon Common has also for many years past been a recognised bathing pond.

In four of the Borough 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, each bath is emptied of water as often as necessary and refilled with fresh water, which is continuously circulated and chlorinated automatically the whole time the bath is in use.

Certificates Issued in Respect of Rag Washing and Sterilisation

At two factories in the Borough, rags are washed and disinfected under the supervision of the Council's Inspector, and certificates are issued for which a charge is made.

During 1950, 99 certificates were issued and the amount collected was £28 18s.

Removal of Diseased or Infirm Persons to Institutions

Under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, provision is made for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. During the year it was necessary to make application to a Court for the removal of one such case, that of a woman aged 78 years.

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, proprietary insecticides being used. Infested bedding is removed to the Disinfecting Station and treated by steam.

During the year 232 rooms in 197 houses were found to be infested by bed bugs and disinfestation was carried out in all cases.

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 disinfestation 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.

Dustbin Accommodation—Section 105, Public Health (London) Act, 1936

During the year action was taken under Section 5 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, in respect of 332 premises, and 307 dustbins were provided.

In one case an appeal was made by the owner to the London County Council. The appeal was allowed.

Mortuary and Crematorium

The Mortuary at Wandsworth was used throughout the year and 384 bodies were received there.

Under the Crematorium Regulations, 1930, 968 cremations were authorised during 1950 as compared with 809 in 1949, and 634 in 1948.

HOUSING

Statistics Relating to Housing

Public Health Act

No. of houses inspected on account of complaints or illness	12913
Re-inspections	35152
Number of sanitary notices served:	
Intimation notices	5004
Nuisance notices	1425
Number of houses repaired or nuisances remedied	5967

Housing Act, 1936

Number of houses inspected—house to house (Housing Consolidated Regs., 1925)	83
	(clearance area)
(a) Number of houses included by representations by the Borough Medical Officer under Section 25 of Housing Act, 1936	79
(b) Number of houses demolished following representations by Borough Medical Officer under Section 25 of Housing Act, 1936	Nil
Number of houses repaired under Sections 9 and 10 of Housing Act, 1936:	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
Number of houses demolished:	
(a) in pursuance of Orders under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936	2
(b) voluntarily	Nil
Number of houses (wholly or in part) the subject of Closing Orders' (excluding underground rooms)	Nil
Number of Closing Orders determined (i.e., houses made fit)	Nil

Overcrowding (Housing Act, 1936)

Number of families found to be living in overcrowded conditions	...	...	...	...	244
Number of overcrowded families who have obtained alternative accommodation	...	...	...	...	110
Number of houses erected by the Borough Council for working classes during year	...	...	...	...	281

Underground Rooms

Number occupied but unfit and action taken	...	12
Number closed or modified occupation approved	...	9

Houses Let in Lodgings

Number in Borough	...	...	...	...	3
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	10
Number of prosecutions	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of complaints remedied under the By-laws (not included under any other heading)	...	...	...	...	Nil

Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts, 1920—1939

During the year nine applications were received from occupiers that their houses were not in a reasonable state of repair. In four cases the applications were withdrawn. In the remaining five cases, the applications were acceded to and Statutory Certificates were granted. Much of the work to put them in a reasonable state of repair was carried out during the year.

CLEARANCE OF INSANITARY HOUSES

1950

St. Alphonsus Road Area: This area, which is divided into three sections, comprising 79 dwelling-houses, was represented on 22nd March, 1950.

Closing Orders were made during the year on the basement premises at 132c Cavendish Road, 861a Garratt Lane, 7 Crichton Street and 43a Mount Ephraim Road.

Notices were served on the owners of the basement premises at 26 Elmsleigh Road, but were withdrawn on receipt of an undertaking that the premises would not be used for human habitation. Similar notices were served in respect of basement premises at 19 Angles Road and 342 Streatham High Road.

The Demolition Orders made on 2 and 4 Westbury Street in 1947 have now been complied with and the houses have been taken down.

Three of the basement premises in Byrne Road, on which Closing Orders were made by the Council in 1947, were finally closed. Two other premises, however, continued in occupation.

The basement premises at 130 Merton Road, on which a Closing Order was made in 1949, were also closed.

**The Clearance of Insanitary Houses in the Borough of Wandsworth
(1919—1950)**

The first steps towards the clearance of houses in Wandsworth considered to be unsuitable for human habitation were taken at the end of the first World War when, in April, 1919, Closing Orders were made on the Old School House, Felsham Road, Putney, and various properties in Field's Alley, Southfields. The latter were demolished by the owners—Messrs. Hardwicks—in order to extend their business premises, whilst the former was afterwards included in one of the Council's later Clearance Schemes. During the succeeding years up to 1925, Closing Orders were made from time to time in respect of some 11 dwellings, five of which were occupied caravans; but it was not until December of that year that a considerable area, containing 13 houses, was scheduled for clearance by the Council. This was in the former Tooting Ward and comprised eight houses in Mitcham Lane and five in Shepherd's Close. The demolition was completed by 1928, and the site was afterwards developed by the owners.

During the next two or three years a systematic survey of the Borough was undertaken, as a result of which 632 houses grouped in 33 areas were scheduled as insanitary. Conditions varied to some extent in the different areas, but all the houses were well below

standard and beyond reconditioning. In 1930 and the years following the Medical Officer of Health made representations under Section 1 of the Housing Act (1930) in respect of several of these areas. In its five-year programme, also drafted in 1930, the Housing Committee, under Alderman Henry Prince, made provision for 524 flats to rehouse the persons displaced from the unhealthy areas. The economic crisis of 1931 caused some modification of these plans, one of the largest of which concerned the Saxby Street Area.

The Saxby Street Area: This large area of 105 houses in Clapham South (old ward) was originally represented on 5th March, 1930, under the Housing Act, 1925. Four hundred and seventy-six persons in 123 families were involved, but it was not possible for the Council to develop the area at that time. A further representation was made on 1st December, 1937, under the Housing Act, 1936, and the area was declared a Clearance Area on 22nd March, 1938. Progress was halted by the outbreak of the Second World War and by 1950 64 of the 93 "red" houses were still occupied.

The North Street (Clapham) Area, comprising 27 houses, was represented in October, 1930, and declared a Clearance Area in January, 1931. The site was cleared by 1932 and developed by the Council. Besides the scheduled areas, 13 unhealthy houses in Salvador Street, Tooting, were also cleared in 1930 and the Granada cinema arose on their site.

Eight areas of varying sizes were represented in January and February, 1931, and declared Clearance Areas in the following May. They ranged from Great Acre Court Area, in Clapham South, with 20 houses, to the Carter's Yard Area, of Southfields, with three houses. Seventy-seven houses were included in all, mostly on small sites which were developed by the owners after clearance.

In 1933 action was initiated in respect of three main areas. The Greyhound Square and Barrow Road Areas, together comprising 41 houses in Streatham, were represented on 2nd and 31st October. They were declared Clearance Areas on 23rd January, 1934, and the Public Enquiry was held on 23rd March, 1934. The sites were cleared in 1937 and the Council afterwards developed them. The Felsham Road area of Putney, comprising 61 houses, was also represented on 31st October, 1933, and declared a Clearance Area on 23rd January, 1934. The Council afterwards developed the site which was cleared by 1937.

The Wandsworth Plain Area: The largest group yet represented was the Wandsworth Plain Area, of Southfields (1st November, 1933). It included 98 dwellings and was declared a Clearance Area at the same time as the Felsham Road Area. The site was clear by 1938 and blocks of Council flats have succeeded the original properties. Other sites in 1932 and 1933 were cleared by the owners, new houses and maisonettes replacing the former dwellings, 14 in all.

Areas in Clapham South: Five areas in Clapham South were represented on 16th November, 1934. They were declared Clearance Areas on 22nd January, 1935, and cleared between 1936 and 1939. One hundred and sixty-six houses were involved and the site was developed by the Council. Two smaller Areas, comprising 24 houses, were cleared in 1934 and subsequently developed by the Council. Sixteen other houses during the same year were also cleared by private owners who developed the sites in various ways.

Three more areas in Tooting were represented together in January, 1935, and declared Clearance Areas the following May. They were cleared in 1936 and the Council developed the site. Seventeen other properties in all parts of the Borough were also cleared and developed by private owners in 1935.

The largest area represented in 1937 consisted of 28 houses in Salvador Road, Tooting (16th February, 1937, declared a Clearance Area 21st April, 1937), which were cleared during the latter half of the year and in 1938. The owner subsequently developed the site. A group of 16 houses in Putney, the Sadlers Buildings Area, was also declared a Clearance Area in October, 1937, and cleared two years later. The site was due for development by the Council. Several other houses in all parts of the Borough were represented in 1937 and the sites were afterwards developed by the owners.

Lack of space precludes a detailed description of all insanitary properties cleared up to the outbreak of the Second World War. Mention should be made, however, of the Point Pleasant Areas, which included a combined total of 60 houses. They were represented in October, 1937, and most of them had been demolished by 1940. The owners, the Aluminium Plant and Vessel Company, made use of the sites to extend their factory.

Twenty-three houses in the Cubitts Cottages Area, in the Springfield Ward, were represented in October, 1937, but owing to the war the site was not finally cleared until 1946, when the Council undertook to develop it. Work was also delayed on the Weimar Street, Putney, area (represented 1st October, 1937) and the Oldridge Road Area (represented 29th March, 1938). These

sites, comprising 42 houses, were eventually taken over by the London County Council for development. The North Passage Area, Putney, with 26 houses, which was represented on 2nd February, 1939, was also held up. By the end of 1950, however, only two of the houses were still occupied. Six had been destroyed by enemy action.

Post-war Clearance Scheme: During the six years of war the Council's clearance schemes were suspended. Between 1940 and 1945 only 38 houses in all were demolished, some by enemy action. Among the owners, the Wandsworth Gas Company demolished 11 houses in Warple Way and incorporated the site into their factory. Since the war, seven houses in Garratt Lane, Fairfield Ward, have been represented (13th March, 1947) and declared a Clearance Area (27th July, 1948). Eight houses in Balham New Road were similarly represented on 30th July, 1947. Several smaller pre-1939 areas, where clearance was delayed by the war, are now once more under review, and several new areas have been scheduled as unfit for human habitation. Of these, the St. Alphonsus Road Area, consisting of 79 houses, was represented on 22nd March, 1950.

The total number of houses dealt with over the period under review by 31st December, 1950, was 1,027. Of these, 814 had been demolished, 15 closed and 198 were still outstanding.

Insanitary and Underground Rooms: During the same period, Closing Orders were made on 308 rooms, considered to be unfit for human habitation, in 114 houses. Two hundred and thirty-one of these were underground rooms.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

There are four Inspectors engaged in the supervision of the food supply. One of them is the Food and Drugs Inspector of the Borough and is occupied in procuring samples of food and drugs for analysis by the Public Analyst, and the supervision of dairy premises.

The other three Inspectors are designated Food Inspectors, and supervise all other premises where food is sold, stored, manufactured or prepared for sale. One third of the Borough is allocated to each Inspector. The three Inspectors also carry out the duties required under the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933, and the Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941.

With the object of ensuring that all food businesses are supervised systematically, a register of all premises where a food business is carried on has been compiled and is kept up to date. This Register includes not only those premises which are subject to some form of legal control, but also other premises in which a food business of any description is carried on.

Table IX has been drawn up to show the number of food premises in the Borough and the nature of the business carried on at these premises. It is a common occurrence for more than one food business to be conducted on the same premises and the Table is arranged to bring out this fact.

In column 1 of the Table the number of separate food premises in the Borough is given, classified according to the nature of the principal business carried on. In columns 3 to 18 the number of different businesses actually conducted from these premises is shown, those which are subject to some form of legal control being specified. The number of shops distributing milk in the Borough is also shown in column 2 of the Table.

The total number of food premises on the register in the Borough is 2,616, and during 1950 they were visited on 39,744 occasions.

TABLE IX.

NATURE OF PRINCIPAL BUSINESS A.	ACTUAL FOOD BUSINESSES CONDUCTED ON THE PREMISES SHOWN IN COLUMN A.																		No. of Visits in 1950.
	SUBJECT TO SOME FORM OF LEGAL CONTROL.										OTHER FOOD BUSINESSES.								
	No. of Separate Premises.	No. of Shops Distributing Milk	As Dairies.	As Milk Distributing Depots	As Slaughter houses.	As Wholesale Margarine Premises.	For Ice Cream	For Cooked or Preserved Foods.	As Fish Fryers	As Fish Curers.	Fishmongers.	Grocers.	Confectioners.	Butchers	Greengrocers.	Food Factories.	Restaurant Kitchens.	Others.	
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	
Dairies & Milk Distributing Depots ...	63	63	30	33	—	—	12	2	—	—	—	55	9	—	—	—	—	1	1,508
Ice-cream Manufacturers ...	12	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	156
Grocers & Provisions ...	556	158	—	—	—	21	149	172	—	—	—	556	120	24	27	—	10	185	3,992
Confectioners ...	489	7	—	—	—	—	331	—	—	—	—	28	489	—	—	—	17	31	3,091
Butchers ...	179	—	—	—	—	—	4	177	—	—	—	5	—	179	1	—	—	—	2,942
Slaughter-houses ...	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38
Fishmongers ...	70	—	—	—	—	—	3	37	11	37	70	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1,186
Fish Fryers ...	67	—	—	—	—	—	—	67	67	6	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	547
Restaurants ...	422	—	—	—	—	—	76	12	—	—	—	4	27	—	—	—	422	—	1,452
Greengrocers ...	368	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	1	4	—	368	—	—	—	—	1,487
Market Stalls ...	197	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	1	16	15	7	97	—	—	12	14	22,076
Food Factories ...	32	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	—	—	—	8	13	4	32	—	—	8	163
Others ...	158	—	—	—	—	—	22	—	—	—	—	25	13	4	4	—	5	158	1,106
TOTALS ...	2,618	228	30	33	3	21	623	476	78	44	108	700	678	214	497	35	494	397	39,744

MILK SUPPLY

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

These Regulations came into force on 1st October, 1949, and require local authorities to keep a register of all persons carrying on the trade of distributor in their district and of all premises within their district which are used as dairies, not being dairy farms.

During the year 49 applications have been received from persons to be registered as distributors of milk. In each case the certificate of registration was granted. Fourteen notices of cancellation of registration have been received. At the end of the year there were 190 persons on the register, including 16 persons with premises outside the Borough. The number of dairies on the register at the end of the year was 30.

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.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Six hundred and eighty-five samples of milk were submitted for analysis. All of these were reported as genuine, with an average fat content of 3.6 per cent.

**The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-50,
and The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised
Milk) Regulations, 1949-50**

The regulations came into force on 1st October, 1949, and replace The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936 to 1948.

They provide for the issue of licences to persons who sell milk under any of the following designations:

“Accredited,”

“Pasteurised,”

“Sterilised,”

“Tuberculin Tested.”

The following licences for the sale of milk under these designations were granted during the year:

Accredited	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	184
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	...	248
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	144
						Total	576

A person who holds a "Tuberculin Tested" licence and a "Pasteurised" or "Sterilised" licence may use the designations "Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)" or "Tuberculin Tested (Sterilised)" as the case may be.

Five hundred samples of milk were procured from distributors, schools, hospitals and institutions and were submitted to the phosphatase test, the methylene blue test and the turbidity test. Thirteen of these failed to comply with the prescribed tests.

In addition 15 samples of milk were examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli. In each case negative results were obtained.

MEAT

There are 214 butchers' shops in the Borough. The majority are registered under Section 14 (1) (b) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, preserved, pickled or pressed foods. 2,942 visits were made to these shops during the year.

Slaughter of Animals

There are three private slaughter-houses in the Borough and they were visited on 38 occasions during the year.

Eleven carcasses of pigs were inspected before and after slaughter.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

Section 3 of this Act provides that no animal shall be slaughtered or stunned in a slaughterhouse or knacker's yard by any person who is not the holder of a licence granted by a local authority and in force under this section.

During the year one application from a person desirous of acting as a slaughterman was submitted to the Council and granted.

War Time Piggeries

There are now 12 war time piggeries in this Borough and they were inspected on 65 occasions.

UNSOUND FOOD

107 varieties of foodstuffs suspected to be unsound were examined at the request of the owners and afterwards either destroyed or released for animal feeding. The owners were granted a certificate to this effect.

**PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933, AND PHARMACY AND
MEDICINES ACT, 1941**

These Acts provide for the listing with the Local Authority of all persons dealing in poisons included in Part II of the Poisons List.

The number of persons on the Council's list at the end of 1950 was 389, and 772 visits were made to the premises of the listed persons by the Food Inspectors.

The principal businesses conducted on the premises of these applicants is shown in Table X. The majority of the listed sellers are also purveyors of food.

TABLE X—PART II OF POISONS LIST

Principal Business	No. of Premises	No. of Inspections
Grocers	220	421
Hairdressers	19	43
Drug Stores	25	53
Domestic Stores, Ironmongers, etc.	118	243
Nurserymen	4	9
Confectioners	3	3
TOTAL	389	772

Bakehouses

There are 84 bakehouses in the Borough, of which 22 are in basements and subject to the provisions of Section 54 of the Factories Act, 1937. 158 visits were made to these premises by Food Inspectors during the year.

WATER SUPPLY

The bulk of the water supply in the Borough is provided by the Metropolitan Water Board and this has been satisfactory, both in quality and quantity.

There are 14 artesian wells in the Borough, seven of which are in operation for food manufacture and drinking. There are also six shallow wells, all of which are out of use, and one spring supply used for drinking purposes.

THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938
Registration of Premises

Section 14 (1) of this Act requires that any premises used or proposed to be used for:

- (a) the sale, or the manufacture for the purpose of sale, of ice-cream, or the storage of ice-cream intended for sale; or
- (b) the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food;

shall be registered by the owner or the occupier thereof with the local authority.

During the year 150 applications for registration under the provisions of Section 14 (1) (a) and 154 applications for registration under the provisions of Section 14 (1) (b) were submitted to the Council. In all cases premises were found to be satisfactory and the registration granted.

Section 57 (1) (a) of this Act requires that it shall not be lawful:

for the occupier of any premises to use them as a slaughter-house or knacker's yard or permit them to be so used, unless he holds a licence granted under this section by the local authority authorising him to keep those premises as a slaughter-house or, as the case may be, as a knacker's yard.

During the year three applications for the renewal of licences to use premises as slaughter-houses were submitted to the Council and granted.

Analysis of Ice-cream

During the year 160 samples of ice-cream were tested in accordance with the technique suggested by the Ministry of Health and Public Health Laboratory Service in their Bulletin of March, 1947.

The following table gives a summary of the results:

TABLE XI

Methylene Blue Test		Coliform Test	
Provisional Grade	No. of Samples	Coliform in 1/10th ml. (non-faecal)	No. of Samples
1	33	absent	72
2	20	present	8
3	14		
4	11		
TOTAL	78	TOTAL	80

In addition two samples were submitted to the Methylene Blue Test, which was nullified due to interference of colouring matter.

In addition 60 samples were examined for their fat content. A summary of the results is given in the following table:

Under 2½ per cent. fat	3
2½ per cent. to 10 per cent. fat	33
Over 10 per cent. fat	24

Additional supplies of fat and sugar were allowed to manufacturers who signed an undertaking that their ice-cream would contain at least 2½ per cent. of fat.

Analysis of Food and Drugs

1,877 samples of foods and drugs were procured for analysis during the year. 685 samples of milk, 1,038 other foodstuffs and 154 drugs. Of these 547 were submitted as formal samples while 1,330 were purchased informally. One or .18 per cent. of the formal samples and 11 or .82 per cent. of the informal samples were found to be adulterated or not up to standard. The total adulterations reported were 12 or .64 per cent. of the samples submitted.

The 12 samples found to be adulterated were: four samples of ammoniated tincture of quinine, two of non-brewed condiment, one each of cooking fat, malted milk, rice, sherbet powder, solution of iodine and white pepper.

Police Court Proceedings

It was not necessary to take Police Court Proceedings in any of the above cases of adulterated samples, but proceedings under Section 9 (1) of the above Act were taken in respect of one case of selling food (a meat pie) intended for, but unfit for, human consumption. The Court treated the defendant as a first offender and ordered him to pay £7 7s. costs.

Special Analysis

One sample of candies, one sample of chocolates and two samples of bubbly-gum were examined for faecal coli. Negative results were obtained in each case.

Two samples of luncheon meat and one sample of unsweetened condensed milk were submitted to a bacteriological examination following a question as to their fitness for sale. In each case they were found to be fit for sale.

Five samples of mussels were examined for the presence of typhoid organisms. The bacteriological examination did not reveal the presence of these organisms.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Prescribed particulars required by Section 128

PART I—(1) INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Act are to be enforced by Local Authorities	737	235	7	—
(2) Factories not included above in which Section 7 of the Act is enforced by the Local Authority ...	1161	527	11	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	6	—	—	—
TOTAL	1904	762	18	—

(2) DEFECTS

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	—	1	—	5	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	2	—
Unreasonable temperature	1	2	—	1	—
Inadequate ventilation	3	1	—	1	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) insufficient ...	1	1	—	4	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	37	57	—	11	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	1	—	2	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	10	15	—	—	—
TOTAL	52	78	—	26	—

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST FOR 1950

By virtue of the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, we have to report that 1,877 samples were examined by us under the Act during the year ended 31st December, 1950, 1,723 articles of food and 154 drugs. All were submitted by your Council's Food Inspector, 547 having been taken with the formalities required by the Act and 1,330 informally.

Samples of the following substances were analysed: bacon 18 samples; biscuits 11; butter 43; cakes 30; cake and pudding mixtures 21; cereals 39; cheese 31; fish, canned, 39; ice-cream 61; jam and marmalade 17; lard and cooking fat 41; margarine 41; meat products 34; milk 685; pickles and sauces 33; potato crisps 8; spices and condiments 41; sugar 41; tea 41; vegetables, canned, 22.

Adulterated Samples

Particulars of the samples reported as adulterated are given in the following table:

Case No.	Nature of Sample	Nature of Report
Formal 327	Condiment Vinegar	23% deficient in acetic acid
Informal 28	Tincture of Iodine	40% deficient in potassium iodide. This sample was correctly prepared according to the British Pharmacopœia 1932, which was revised in 1948.
54	White Pepper	Contained elements of black pepper.
618	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine	25% deficient in ammonia.
687	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine	14% deficient in ammonia.
783	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine	30% deficient in ammonia.
787	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine	20% deficient in ammonia.
812	Rice	0.36% of foreign matter was found to be present.
893	Condiment Vinegar	40% deficient in acetic acid.
903	Cooking Fat	2.1% water was present.
957	Malted Milk	It was unable to reconstitute the product, which was old stock.
1145	Sherbet	Contained magnesium carbonate and made an alkaline, instead of an acid, beverage.

Adulteration

The amount of adulteration detected during the year was:

For formal samples	...	...	...	0.18 per cent.
For informal samples	...	...	...	0.82 per cent.
For all samples	...	...	...	0.64 per cent.

Complaint Samples

- Case No. 22 Chocolate Fudge:** This sample was suspected to have caused sickness. It was found that it contained no ingredient likely to cause harm, although it was rather poorly mixed. The complaint was considered not justified.
- Case No. 52 Butter:** This sample, which it was suggested contained margarine, was found to be 100 per cent. butter.
- Case No. 53 Christmas Pudding:** This sample showed no evidence of deterioration and is quite suitable for sale. There is no evidence of mould-growth, the fat has no taste of acidity or rancidity and though there is a large proportion of dried fruit there was no sand nor grit present. The complaint that it contained sand was considered not justified.
- Case No. 55 Crumpets:** Examination of these crumpets has yielded nothing to which one can take exception. The fat obtained from them had a low acid value and showed no trace of rancidity. The complaint was not justified.
- Cases Nos. 111 and 112 Coffee and Chicory Extract:** These samples showed no signs of fermentation, as the complainant alleged. There are no yeast cells present nor any development of acidity. The screw caps on the bottles both show traces of mould. It is possible that contents of some bottles have become contaminated from dirty caps.

- Case No. 138** **Coco-cola:** The complaint in this case was that the product contravened the standards of the Food and Drugs Act. Careful examination of this sample has been made, in particular it was tested for preservatives. Nothing was found to which exception can be taken. The article contains a small amount of phosphoric acid, the use of which, in beverages of this kind, is prohibited in some countries and it is because of this that exception to its sale has been raised in some quarters. The complaint was considered not justified.
- Case No. 782** **Sweets:** The complainant bought these sweets "off points" to relieve a sore throat and stated that they had caused sickness and vomiting. No substance which could cause these symptoms was detected, although they were scarcely suitable for a demulcent.
- Case No. 894** **Highly coloured sweets:** No dyestuffs classed as harmful were detected and the complaint was considered not justified.
- Case No. 973** **Red Currant Syrup:** This sample was sent for examination as a possible cause of sickness. No harmful constituent was detected and the sample was passed as genuine.

Butter and Margarine

The average water content of the 43 samples of butter proved to be 15.3 per cent., that of the 41 samples of margarine 15.2 per cent. The average content of boron preservative in the samples of margarine calculated to boric acid was 0.20 per cent.

Mineral Oil

Thirty samples of cakes of various kinds were examined for excessive acidity of the fat used, in addition to the routine test for paraffin. In no case was a positive result obtained.

Milk

The average composition of the samples of milk submitted during each month of the year and returned as genuine was as under:

Month	Number	Total Solids	Milk Fat	Non-fatty Solids
January	63	12.41%	3.60%	8.81%
February	79	12.30%	3.49%	8.81%
March	56	12.14%	3.41%	8.73%
April	41	12.23%	3.42%	8.81%
May	50	12.27%	3.42%	8.85%
June	75	12.17%	3.39%	8.78%
July	44	12.27%	3.56%	8.71%
August	24	12.25%	3.52%	8.73%
September	61	12.54%	3.67%	8.87%
October	40	12.63%	3.77%	8.86%
November	83	12.79%	3.92%	8.87%
December	69	12.68%	3.85%	8.83%

The average composition of the whole of the 685 samples of milk received during the year and returned as genuine was as under:

Total milk solids	12.41 per cent.
Milk fat	3.60 per cent.
	8.81 per cent.

We have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servants,

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

Public Analyst.

J. E. WOODHEAD, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., Ph.C.,

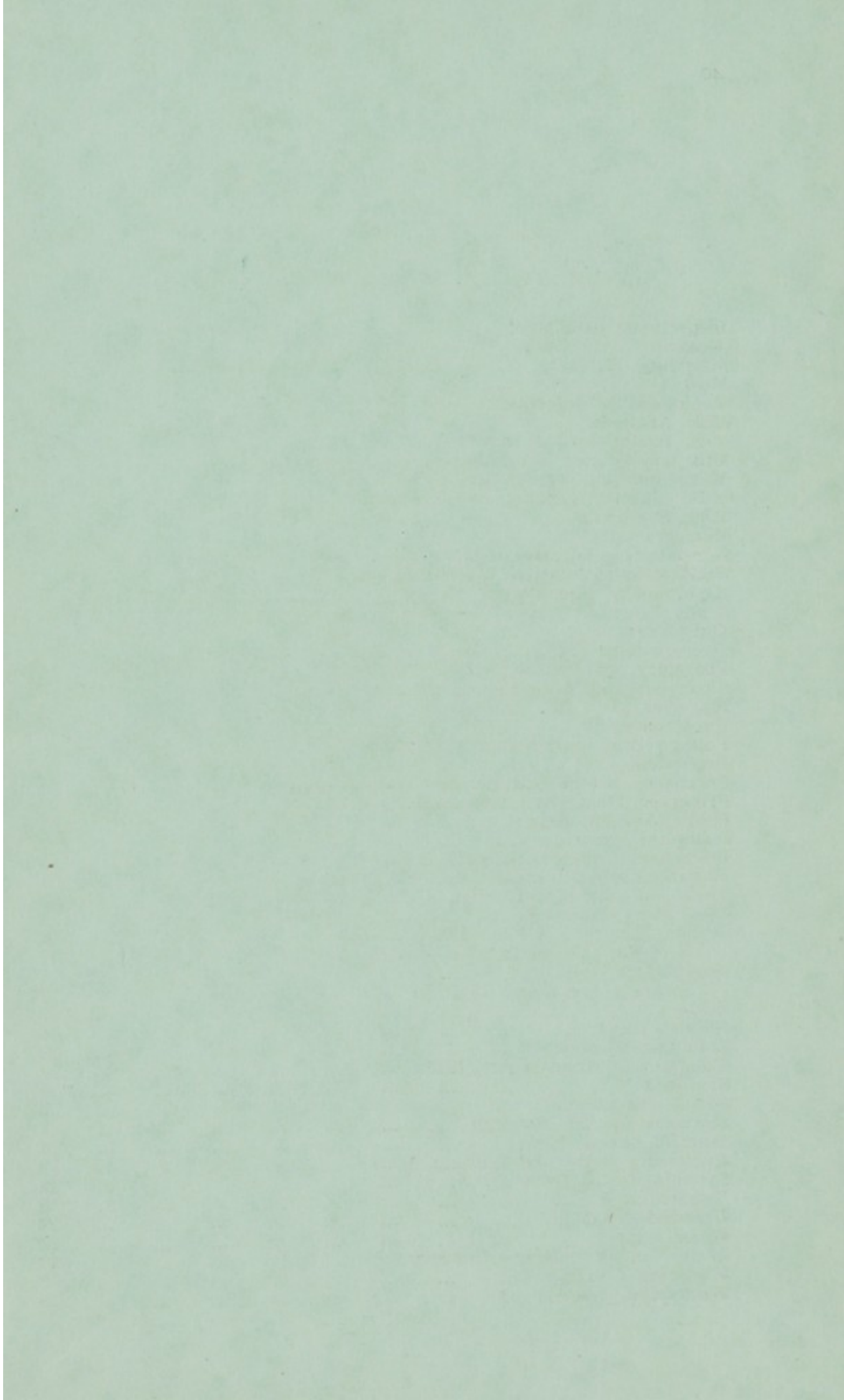
Deputy Public Analyst.

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