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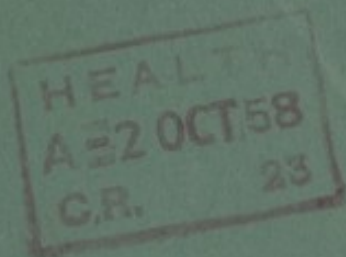
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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of
Health

for the Year

1957

by

J. TUDOR LEWIS, M.D., 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 1957

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors

of the Metropolitan Borough of Wandsworth

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1957.

Following precedent, the report is mainly statistical with comments on the figures as may be necessary and in this introduction, I draw your attention to some of the more interesting items which occurred during the year.

The population of the Borough has been increasing over the past two or three years due in the main to the new housing estates which have been going up and are still going up in parts of the Borough. In 1957, however, there was a levelling off of the population which, in fact, was 20 fewer than in the previous year, being 337,580. The crude birth rate for 1957 was 14·92 per 1,000 persons, a slight increase over the previous year. The adjusted birth rate, taking into account the area comparability figure, works out at 14·32. The crude death rate for the year was 14·72 compared with 15·57 for 1956 but after taking into account the area comparability figure, the adjusted rate works out at 10·15 compared with 10·89 the previous year.

I referred in my report last year to the importance of the infant mortality rate as a yardstick of the public health and social status of a community, pointing out that in 1956 we had the lowest figure ever recorded in Wandsworth, namely 17 per 1,000 live births. It is highly gratifying, therefore, to record that this figure was even further

reduced in 1957 to 15.6 per 1,000 live births. This is a low rate for a large urbanised area containing mixed conditions like Wandsworth. It is right, however, that I should point out that where we are dealing with comparatively small figures, small increases or decreases in these numbers can make quite a substantial difference to the rate. Over large areas and dealing with larger numbers, these comparatively small differences, of course, even out. Allowing for this, however, the fact that in Wandsworth in 1957 there were 5 fewer deaths (at 79) of infants under one year of age than in the previous year is very satisfactory. The problem of further reducing the infant death rate, particularly of deaths of children in the first month of life and even more particularly of children in the first week of life is a considerable one. It is closely associated with the causation of still-births. This problem of peri-natal mortality, that is to say, still-births and deaths of infants in the first week of life, is at the moment being actively investigated and we are participating in this enquiry in this area.

It is equally gratifying to report another milestone in the health of the Borough, closely associated with the health of infants. No death occurred in Wandsworth during 1957 from accidents and diseases of pregnancy or childbirth. This is the first year that it has been possible to report this. Many agencies, institutions and services as well as individuals are concerned with reducing the risk to mothers during pregnancy and labour. General practitioners, consultants, obstetric hospitals, domiciliary midwives, health visitors, home helps and the health services generally all have their part to play. It would be invidious to single out any one particular service as having made a particular contribution to this highly gratifying record but I have no doubt that all concerned in their various spheres have played their part. In 1956, four mothers died from causes associated with pregnancy and childbirth, in 1955 there were also four deaths. It would be too much to hope that in every future year I shall be able to report an equally satisfactory result but the fact that in a large area like Wandsworth, it is possible to achieve a reduction in maternal mortality to nil makes one hope that this achievement will not be an isolated one.

The total number of cases of infectious disease notified was almost

double that of the previous year, accounted for in the main by the very large number of cases of measles, namely 3,802; 1957 was a measles year. I referred in my report last year to the amount of Sonne dysentery which we had experienced. Although the disease was still prevalent, the number of cases was considerably fewer being 232 in 1957 compared with 750 in 1956. The routine measures as outlined last year continued to be taken and the disease, although difficult to control, was kept within reasonable limits. The year saw an increase in the number of cases of poliomyelitis, a total of 147 cases being reported and investigated but only 71 of these being ultimately confirmed as true cases of poliomyelitis. Advances in pathological methods have enabled the virus of the disease to be isolated and in appropriate cases this has helped in the investigation of some of the cases. We have again received considerable help from the Public Health Laboratory Service who have always been prepared to discuss our problems and to examine specimens where such examinations would be helpful.

In the autumn, Wandsworth, like most areas in the country, was swept by an epidemic of "Asian" influenza. It was not possible to ascertain exactly how many cases arose since influenza as such is not a notifiable disease. From information we received from schools and other institutions, it was clear that the disease was wide-spread although, fortunately, in general, it appeared to be comparatively mild. Towards the end of the year, the cases tailed off although there seemed to be a slight secondary but much smaller prevalence in the New Year.

Reference is made in the body of the report to work under the Food Hygiene Regulations. During the year, attention was further concentrated on this problem and to provide greater flexibility in dealing with food hygiene generally and particularly in view of our shortage of Public Health Inspectors, some of the Inspectors were given additional responsibility in relation to food hygiene. This has worked well and although a great deal still remains to be done before the Food Hygiene Regulations can be regarded as being fully complied with, considerable headway has been and is still being made.

The other important new part of our work to which much attention was paid during the year was the implementation of the Clean

Air Act, particularly the establishment of Smoke Control Areas. There were many difficulties to be overcome, particularly in view of our shortage of inspectorial staff in the Health Department, but I am happy to say that the greatest help and co-operation was received from other departments of the Council. So far as the establishment of Smoke Control Areas is concerned, it can be said that the work was a combined effort, particularly with the Town Clerk's Department. The end result has been that at the end of the year much headway had been made in the establishment of a smoke control area. At the time of writing, the Council has made its first Order, the Public Enquiry by the Minister has been held and we are now awaiting the result of that Enquiry. In the meantime the Committee has agreed in principle to two other areas being designated as Smoke Control Areas and preliminary work is now proceeding on these areas. In a large highly urbanised borough like Wandsworth, it will be some time before even a substantial part of the area will be free from smoke but in the meantime a good start has been made, valuable experience has been obtained and it is possible, at least, to look forward to the time when, without in any way minimising the difficulties which will certainly be met, Wandsworth, like other urbanised areas, will be free from smoke.

I venture to draw attention to the references to William Harvey in this report. It is usual when statements of a scientific or quasi-scientific nature are made, for the evidence on which they are based to be given at the same time. It is hoped that this will be done elsewhere. In the meantime, I feel that it is not inappropriate to record in my Annual Report for 1957, the 300th anniversary year of the great physician's death in Roehampton, something of his links with Wandsworth.

I mentioned last year that Dr. W. G. Harding, formerly Deputy Medical Officer of Health, left the Department on being promoted to take charge of one of the London County Council Health Divisions. In Dr. Harding's place, the Council appointed Dr. Anderson Garland who took up his duties in June 1957. It was with considerable pleasure that we welcomed Dr. Garland to the Department since he was already well-known to us having on many occasions helped us under the "tripartite" arrangement which exists in this area. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking Dr. Garland for the help he

has already given me during his term of office. I should like also to thank the other members of the staff of the Health Department, particularly Mr. E. V. Roots, the Chief Public Health Inspector, for their continued loyalty and the diligence in the way they carried out their duties, sometimes under circumstances which were quite difficult.

As usual, the Chairman of the Health Committee, Mr. T. V. Rowlands, has given the Department his support and encouragement and I am very grateful to him for his help. I should also once again like to thank my fellow Chief Officers of the Council for their co-operation and assistance in the many matters concerning the work of the Health Department.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. TUDOR LEWIS

Medical Officer of Health

GUILIELMUS HARVEIUS ANGLUS

Medicus Regius et Professor Anatomiae in Collegio Medicorum Londinensi

William Harvey and Roehampton

William Harvey, as almost everyone knows, discovered and described the circulation of the blood. This is not merely of academic interest because his epoch making discovery inaugurated a new era and is the foundation of modern medical practice. Since in present-day urbanised countries it is given to few to escape the need of consulting a doctor at some time or other, Harvey's discovery directly or indirectly affects each one of us. Harvey, however, was more than one of the greatest, probably the greatest of all physicians. He has been described as "one of the three or four greatest intelligences of all time" and I have little doubt that this is a just appraisal.

Harvey died on 3rd June, 1657, at the age of 79, in Roehampton, which is situated in this Borough, although he was buried in Hempstead in Essex. To commemorate the tercentenary of his death last year, many functions were held in many parts of the world. Books were published, banquets held, lectures given and there was a pilgrimage to the place where he lies buried in Hempstead, Essex. The Russians issued a special stamp bearing Harvey's picture. My colleagues and I felt that we could best pay our tribute to Harvey's memory by visiting the place in our Borough where he died. Unfortunately, no-one could tell us where this was although a number of Harveian authorities were consulted. It was felt that this should, if possible, be remedied and over the past year, as time has permitted, I have been carrying out an investigation to find out where, in fact, it was that Harvey died. In this, I have been greatly helped by many people. My researches are now almost concluded and it is hoped that they will later be made available in full but in the meantime, in this Annual Report for 1957, 300 years after Harvey died, the following may be briefly stated as a modest contribution to mark the occasion.

William Harvey died in the house of his brother in Roehampton on 3rd June, 1657. The house was a substantial mansion situated in extensive grounds which are now owned and occupied by the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Roehampton Lane in Roehampton in this Borough. The house was burnt down about 1796 and its site is now partly covered by other buildings.

Harvey went to live there about 1650 and it is likely that he spent the remaining seven years of his life for the most part with his brother's family in this house although he may, on occasions, have stayed temporarily elsewhere. There is reason to think that during this time he was by no means lacking in the intellectual companionship which his great mind would have demanded and almost certainly Thomas Hobbes, the well-known philosopher, writer and freethinker of that period, was one of his companions.

No signs of the house are now to be seen but the grounds in which it was situated remain although probably changed since Harvey's day. However, one large lawn or small field flanked by trees can be seen today much as it was in Harvey's time although, of course, the trees (with the exception of some well-grown oaks) are not the trees which Harvey saw. It is, one feels, a matter for great satisfaction that with all the building which has been proceeding in Roehampton over the past four or five years, these grounds where the great physician and scientist spent the last years of his life in pleasant and congenial retirement, should still be seen, in part at least, much as they were in his day. They present almost a direct link with Harvey.

The population is a varied one, as the Borough contains residential neighbourhoods which are rapidly being added to by the development of new housing estates by the Borough Council and London County Council.

Appointments

Mr. J. R. Holloway, Public Health Inspector, Appointed in August.
Mr. D. Reed, Motor Driver, Appointed in August.

STAFF

The following changes occurred in 1957:-

Retirements

Mr. E. Catherine, Motor Driver, Service 16½ years. Retired in July.

Resignations

Mr. E. Wall, Public Health Inspector, Service 11½ years. Resigned in March.

Mr. G. A. Fraser, Public Health Inspector, Service 1 year. Resigned in September.

Mr. A. Norton, Clerical Assistant, Service 4½ years. Resigned in December.

Death

Mr. J. P. Smith, Clerical Assistant, Service 19 years. Died in July.

Appointments

Mr. J. R. Holloway, Public Health Inspector, Appointed in August.

Mr. D. Reed, Motor Driver, Appointed in August.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area 9,199 acres

Resident population in 1957 337,580

Wandsworth is the largest of the Metropolitan Boroughs. It has an area of 9,199 acres which includes a number of open spaces, with an approximate combined area of 1,200 acres.

The population is a varied one, as the Borough contains residential neighbourhoods which are rapidly being added to by the development of new housing estates by the Borough Council and London County Council.

The chief industries carried on are the manufacture of gas, electricity and motor accessories, laundries and general engineering.

The number of deaths in 1957 was 4,314. The number for 1956 was 4,812. The crude birth-rate was 14.92 per 1,000 compared with 14.25 for 1956 and 14.32 after taking into account the area comparability factor supplied by the Registrar-General. There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year. Three hundred and eighty eight illegitimate births took place in the Borough compared with 351 in 1956.

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Number of Live Births:

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	2,444	2,205	4,649
Illegitimate	..	..	..	199	189	388
Total live births				2,643	2,394	5,037

Number of Stillbirths	..	..	58	42	100
Number of deaths	..	..	2,314	2,657	4,971
Birth-rate—Crude	..	..	..	14·92	
Adjusted	..	..	..	14·32	
Death-rate—Crude	..	..	..	14·72	
Adjusted	..	..	..	10·15	

Rate per 1,000
(Live and Still) Births

Deaths from puerperal causes, Nil

Infantile mortality per 1,000 live births:

All infants	..	..	..	..	..	15·6
Legitimate infants	..	..	..	..	..	15·4
Illegitimate infants	..	..	..	..	..	18·0
Deaths from Cancer	..	..	..	..	..	1,161
„ „ Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	0
„ „ Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	0
„ „ Measles	..	..	..	..	..	1
„ „ Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	0
„ „ Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	36

Tuberculosis death-rate .. 0·10

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The civilian population at the middle of the year was estimated by the Registrar-General to be 337,580 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 1957
Putney	87,600
Central	96,240
Clapham	80,970
Streatham	72,770
Whole Borough	337,580

Births

The total number of births belonging to the Borough registered during 1957 was 5,037 consisting of 2,643 males and 2,394 females. The number for 1956 was 4,812.

The crude birth-rate was 14.92 per 1,000 persons living compared with 14.25 for 1956. The adjusted rate works out at 14.32 after taking into account the area comparability factor supplied by the Registrar-General.

Three hundred and eighty eight illegitimate births took place in the Borough compared with 351 in 1956.

Deaths

The number of registered deaths which took place in the Borough during the year was 3,529 but 415 of these did not belong to the Borough, while 1,857 Borough residents died outside the Borough.

The corrected number of deaths for the Borough, after allowing for these factors, was 4,971, of whom 2,314 were males and 2,657 females.

The crude death-rate for the year was 14.72, compared with 15.57 for 1956, but after taking into account the area comparability factor supplied by the Registrar-General, the adjusted rate works out at 10.15.

Table II shows the total number of registered deaths and the death-rates for each division based on the approximate population in each division.

TABLE II

	Corrected Deaths			Death Rate
	Males	Females	Total	
Putney	534	595	1,129	12.89
Central	744	848	1,592	16.54
Clapham	617	726	1,343	16.58
Streatham	419	488	907	12.46
Whole Borough ..	2,314	2,657	4,971	14.72

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 1957

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	30	22	8	—	—	—	8	12	10	7	10	9	4
Tuberculosis, Other	6	1	5	—	—	—	1	3	2	3	1	1	1
Syphilitic Disease	16	9	7	—	—	—	—	5	11	4	5	5	2
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	4	3	1	—	—	3	—	1	—	2	1	1	—
Measles	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	11	6	5	—	1	—	—	7	3	2	4	5	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	152	71	81	—	—	—	5	34	113	28	29	71	24
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	240	196	44	—	—	—	4	118	118	44	48	101	47
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	138	—	138	—	—	—	9	51	78	15	17	93	17
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	54	—	54	—	—	—	2	28	24	7	7	33	7
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	577	250	327	1	1	1	24	186	364	111	113	273	80
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	29	15	14	—	—	4	6	6	13	5	11	7	6
Diabetes	27	10	17	—	—	4	1	6	20	8	7	8	4
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	499	181	318	—	—	—	12	81	406	139	135	114	111
Coronary Disease, Angina	598	359	239	—	—	—	17	152	429	154	163	141	140
Hypertension, with Heart Disease	86	38	48	—	—	—	—	10	76	27	27	17	15
Other Heart Disease	871	352	519	—	—	—	13	65	793	214	359	146	152
Other Circulatory Disease	247	100	147	—	—	—	7	34	206	66	64	56	61
Influenza	58	30	28	—	2	5	5	14	32	14	25	11	8
Pneumonia	252	104	148	6	11	6	11	33	185	42	106	56	48
Bronchitis	242	166	76	—	—	6	1	62	179	65	86	47	44
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	43	29	14	2	—	—	4	4	33	10	8	11	14
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	35	19	16	—	—	—	1	5	29	10	11	7	7
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea	22	8	14	1	—	—	—	3	18	6	5	6	5
Nephritis and Nephrosis	26	13	13	—	—	—	9	7	10	6	7	4	9
Hyperplasia of Prostate	21	21	—	—	—	—	—	1	20	4	6	5	5
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	36	18	18	20	5	4	3	2	2	12	5	11	8
Other Defined and Ill-defined Disease	503	219	284	45	4	2	18	70	364	87	289	69	58
Motor Vehicle Accidents	21	15	6	1	—	2	9	2	7	8	3	3	7
All other Accidents	78	34	44	2	4	1	8	10	53	21	27	18	12
Suicide	46	23	23	—	—	—	14	21	11	7	11	13	15
Homicide and Operations of War	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—
All Causes	4,971	2,314	2,657	79	29	28	190	1,032	3,613	1,129	1,592	1,343	907

TABLE III (a). DEATHS FROM HEART DISEASE, 1957

	Males in age groups						Females in age groups						M. & F. Total
	1-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65 up	Total	1-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65 up	Total	
Coronary Disease, Angina, etc.	—	—	15	119	225	359	—	—	2	33	204	239	598
Hypertension with Heart Disease ..	—	—	—	6	32	38	—	—	—	4	44	48	86
Other Heart Disease ..	—	—	6	31	315	352	—	—	7	34	478	519	871
	—	—	21	156	572	749	—	—	9	71	726	806	1,555

Infantile Mortality

There were 79 deaths of children under one year giving an infant mortality rate of 15·6 per 1,000 live births. This rate is the lowest ever recorded in the Borough, and compares with a rate of 17 for 1956 and 24 for 1955.

For the ten years ended 1947 the average infant mortality rate was 40, while for the ten year period ended 1957 the average rate was 22.

Maternal Mortality

No deaths occurred from accidents and diseases of pregnancy or child-birth.

This is the first year that no deaths from these causes have been recorded in the Borough. In 1956 there were four deaths, giving a rate of 0·81 per 1,000 live and still births.

INFECTIVE DISEASES

The number of deaths from all notifiable infectious diseases was 113. This included 36 from all forms of tuberculosis and 72 from the notifiable forms of pneumonia. There were four deaths from poliomyelitis and one death from measles.

From all notifiable infective diseases the death-rate was 0.34 per 1,000.

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

Smallpox

No case occurred in the Borough during the year.

Notification is received from Port and Local Authorities of persons coming into the Borough who may have been in contact with Smallpox. Observation for the necessary period is kept on these persons by members of the Public Health Department.

Diphtheria

A number of cases reported as suspected diphtheria were investigated, but in one case only, that of a boy aged 6 years, admitted to hospital, was the diagnosis confirmed. This diagnosis was based on clinical evidence only, as no subsequent bacteriological confirmation was obtained. Nose and throat swabs from all other members of the patient's family were bacteriologically examined and found negative.

Scarlet Fever

Two hundred and thirty-five cases were notified compared with 202 in 1956 and 289 in 1955. The diagnosis was not confirmed in two cases.

No deaths occurred.

Whooping Cough

Three hundred and forty-five cases were notified.

There were no deaths.

Measles

The number of cases notified during the year was 3,802 compared with 677 in 1956, 5,206 in 1955 and 303 in 1954.

TABLE IV

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	NO. OF CASES OF INFECTIVE DISEASES GROUPED IN AGE-PERIOD									
	Total	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and upwards
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	233	—	12	36	141	28	8	8	—	—
Measles	3,802	105	805	994	1,812	48	18	20	—	—
Whooping Cough	345	31	72	63	154	16	1	8	—	—
Enteric Fever and Paratyphoid Fever	4	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—
Malaria	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Dysentery	232	5	20	22	84	40	4	40	16	1
Erysipelas	43	—	—	1	—	2	3	8	16	13
Scabies	20	—	—	1	1	—	9	6	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	102	—	—	—	—	—	41	60	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	8	1	1	—	3	1	1	—	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	71	1	6	11	20	15	4	12	2	—
Acute Encephalitis	3	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia:										
Acute Influenzal	126	2	5	9	7	10	12	17	35	29
Acute Primary	202	2	4	16	15	19	23	25	51	47
Tuberculosis—All forms	549	1	3	3	15	14	117	271	96	29
Food Poisoning	579	4	53	75	102	125	74	61	66	19
Total	6,325	155	982	1,232	2,357	318	317	539	287	138

TABLE V

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	TOTAL CASES OF INFECTIVE DISEASES OCCURRING IN EACH WARD																				Whole Borough	Deaths
	PUTNEY					CENTRAL					CLAPHAM					STREATHAM						
	Putney	Thamesfield	Fairfield	West Hill	Southfield	Earlsfield	Springfield	Tooting	Graveney	Bedford	Larkhall	Clapham North	Clapham Park	Thornton	Balham	Streatham Hill	St. Leonards	Streatham Common	Streatham South	Furzedown		
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever	26	5	10	29	13	10	12	3	5	12	26	20	12	11	5	2	8	7	12	5	233	
Measles	485	217	235	191	56	128	112	250	210	154	208	191	167	168	145	156	195	234	163	137	3,802	
Whooping Cough	29	8	26	9	19	22	38	34	11	18	13	11	14	12	13	4	9	16	7	32	345	
Enteric Fever and Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	
Malaria	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
Dysentery	8	2	11	2	3	56	4	45	67	3	3	2	4	3	5	2	3	3	4	2	232	
Erysipelas	3	2	—	3	1	4	8	8	2	5	—	—	1	—	3	—	1	1	1	—	43	
Scabies	—	—	—	1	—	4	1	2	2	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	2	1	—	3	20	
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	2	—	—	5	6	4	1	6	2	5	11	22	23	5	1	3	1	5	102	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	8	
Acute Poliomyelitis	7	2	1	5	6	3	1	3	—	4	1	—	3	4	5	3	12	4	1	6	71	
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia:—																						
Acute Influenzal	6	3	3	6	6	4	5	4	9	16	9	5	4	5	17	5	4	6	4	5	126	
Acute Primary	7	5	18	21	13	30	16	10	3	11	17	9	5	3	7	4	5	3	3	12	202	
Tuberculosis—All forms	101	22	22	24	15	32	15	35	21	30	36	23	22	19	29	28	22	18	15	20	549	
Food Poisoning	22	4	41	8	7	111	11	319	13	2	3	1	4	1	13	2	4	3	7	3	579	
Total	694	271	370	300	140	410	230	721	346	262	320	268	250	249	267	214	266	299	218	230	6,325	

Poliomyelitis

147 cases of this disease were reported and investigated during the year, compared to 85 in the previous year.

In 76 cases the diagnosis was not confirmed. Of the remaining 71 confirmed cases, 43 were of the paralytic type and 28 non-paralytic. Four deaths occurred, in males aged respectively 6, 12 and 52 years, and a female aged 10 years.

Approximately half the number of cases were in age group 5 to 9 years.

Of the total cases for the year, slightly more than one third came from the S.E. corner of the borough and the bulk of these cases occurred during the first 6 months. From July onwards, the cases became more widely distributed with a slight concentration in the N.W. area.

The figures of poliomyelitis from 1947 to 1957, the period during which the incidence of the disease in this country has been high, is shown in the following table:-

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
No. of cases reported as suspected poliomyelitis and investigated	119	31	89	71	29	73	73	41	104	85	147
No. of cases confirmed											
(a) paralytic	78	15	58	40	4	23	19	5	22	24	43
(b) non-paralytic					7	16	8	2	27	15	28
Deaths	4	6	4	7	—	5	2	—	1	2	4

Meningococcal Infection

Eight confirmed cases were notified, none of which proved fatal.

Eighteen other cases were investigated but these were subsequently not confirmed.

In 1956 there were four confirmed cases with no deaths.

Acute Encephalitis

Of 16 cases reported one was confirmed as Acute Infective Encephalitis and two as Post Infectious Encephalitis. Total three cases for the year.

No deaths occurred.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever

Of six cases reported during the year, two were subsequently confirmed as typhoid and two as paratyphoid. One of the former had previously been on holiday in France.

Diagnosis was not confirmed in the two remaining cases.

Puerperal Pyrexia

During the year 102 cases were notified, of which 101 occurred in hospital and one at home. Thirty-six of the hospital notifications referred to patients whose home addresses were outside the borough.

Information was also received of 39 cases, referring to Wandsworth residents whose confinements took place in hospitals located in other Metropolitan boroughs.

Sonne Dysentery

In addition to the cases for which formal notifications were received, a number of other cases were discovered by investigation of an outbreak which occurred at a school in the borough.

Bacteriological examination of specimens taken from affected pupils, and where considered necessary, family contacts, resulted in 41 being confirmed as Sonne dysentery.

All cases were systematically followed up and a total of 338 faecal specimens from cases and contacts were examined over a period of several weeks.

The final overall total of cases for the year was 232, a considerably lower figure than that in the previous year, when a very heavy incidence at schools and day nurseries resulted in 436 cases being confirmed and making a total of 750 for the year.

The outbreak referred to above for 1957 was the only major outbreak during the year.

Influenza

The number of deaths from Influenza was 58 compared with 30 in 1956, 30 in 1955 and 23 in 1954.

Influenzal Pneumonia and Acute Primary Pneumonia

These are the notifiable forms of pneumonia.

One hundred and twenty-six cases of acute influenzal pneumonia and 202 cases of acute primary pneumonia were notified. Thirty-four of the former, and 38 of the latter died.

The total number of deaths credited to all forms of pneumonia during the year was 252, compared with 231 in 1956.

Malaria

Two cases were reported. Both were recurrent cases.

Erysipelas

Forty-three cases were notified.

Other Infective Diseases

Sixteen deaths occurred from syphilis.

Scabies

Twenty notifications were received.

The arrangement made in 1955 with the Battersea Borough Council whereby the cleansing of women residents (and children under school age) of Wandsworth was undertaken by the Battersea Cleansing Station, continued to operate during 1957. A fee of 5s. 0d. per treatment is paid by Wandsworth to Battersea for this service.

A total of 102 treatments was given during the year at the Battersea Cleansing Station.

At the Council's Disinfecting Station, 45 treatments were given.

Food Poisoning

Two hundred and sixty-four formal notifications were received during the year. One hundred and seventy-five were unrelated cases and 24 were minor outbreaks involving two or more persons.

The majority of the single cases were only slightly affected and where bacteriological investigation was carried out, organisms likely to have caused the illness were discovered in 22 cases. The organisms were *Salmonella typhimurium*, *heidelberg*, *newport*, *thompson* and *anatum*.

In 22 of the minor outbreaks it was not possible to identify the causative agent and in the remaining two, *Salmonella typhimurium* and *Salmonella newport* were respectively isolated.

In addition to the above cases, an outbreak involving 315 persons occurred at an institution in the borough. From bacteriological investigation of stools from a number of those affected it appeared that the outbreak was due to heat resistant *Clostridium welchii*. A full report on this outbreak was submitted to the Ministry of Health in accordance with Circular 46/49 and revised memorandum 188/Med.

Diseases Reported from Schools

A total of 3,337 infective diseases was reported from schools in the Borough throughout the year. The numbers of each disease were:

Scarlet Fever ..	174	Chicken Pox	644
Diphtheria	1	Whooping Cough ..	161
Measles	1,338	Mumps	565
German Measles ..	132	Dysentery	81
Poliomyelitis ..	15	Other Diseases ..	223

Disinfection

During the year 614 rooms were disinfected after infectious and other disease, 416 rooms disinfested for vermin, and 102 rooms for miscellaneous conditions.

Bacteriological Examinations

All bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory at County Hall under its Director, Dr. A. J. H. Tomlinson.

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

Nose and throat swabs	504
Faeces for the typhoid and dysentery groups	1,727
Miscellaneous specimens	15
Total	2,246

Contacts of Infectious Disease—Exclusion from work

It is sometimes considered necessary, in order to prevent the spread of infection, to exclude from work for a period certain contacts of infectious disease.

This applies particularly to persons engaged in food handling and the requisite authority for the Medical Officer of Health to exclude such persons from work is given under regulations made under the National Insurance Act, 1946, and the Public Health (Infectious Disease) Regulations, 1953.

During the year seven contacts of infectious disease were excluded from work and issued with certificates enabling them to draw National Health sickness benefit.

NON-INFECTIVE DISEASES

The total number of deaths from cancer and malignant disease was 1,161, the number of males being 517 and females 644. The death rate was 3.5 per 1,000. The number of deaths in 1957 was 12 more than in the previous year.

Deaths from diseases of the heart and circulatory system were 1,802 compared with 1,959 in 1956. Of these deaths 1,339 were of persons of 65 years of age and above.

There were 537 deaths from diseases of the respiratory system compared with 597 in 1956. The number of deaths from bronchitis was 242 compared with 335 in 1956, and from pneumonia (all forms) 252 compared with 231 in 1956. Further particulars relative to pneumonia are given on page 17.

One hundred and forty-seven deaths were due to violence, 21 of them being due to motor accidents, 46 to suicide and 80 to other forms of violence.

CERTIFICATES OF VACCINATION AND INOCULATION

Two thousand, two hundred and ninety 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.

STAFF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

At the request of the Committees and Chief Officers concerned, arrangements were made during the year for thirteen members of the Council's staff to undergo special medical examinations. In the majority of cases the purpose of the examination was to determine the employee's future fitness for his occupation, following serious illness, and in four cases it was found necessary to recommend superannuation.

Forty-one shorter reports on members of the staff who were sick were obtained from doctors and hospitals at the request of the departments concerned.

TUBERCULOSIS

Notifications

The total number of new cases which came to the notice of the Department during 1957 was 549 compared with 546 in 1956.

The sources of information regarding the 549 new cases were as follows:

Primary notifications on Form A	..	..	..	..	272
Notifications from H.M. Forces	..	..	..	..	6
Unnotified at death	..	..	..	..	2
Transfers from other sanitary authorities	..	..	..	..	269
Total	..	..	..	..	549

Five hundred and forty-seven cases were added to the notification register during the year and 178 cases who had removed, recovered or died, were taken off. The number remaining on the register at the end of the year was 5,423.

Deaths

The number of deaths certified as due to various forms of tuberculosis was 36.

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			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1-2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
2-5	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	8	7	1	1	—	—	—	—
15-25	44	51	5	2	—	—	—	1
25-45	130	137	5	12	3	5	—	—
45-65	77	28	1	2	11	1	1	2
65 and upwards ..	20	1	—	1	8	2	—	2
Totals ..	287	229	14	19	22	8	1	5

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE BOROUGH

Work of the Public Health Inspectors

A summary of the inspections carried out by the Inspectors is given in Table VII.

TABLE VII

	Inspections	Re- Inspections	Total
To investigate complaints ..	5,868	15,578	21,146
Housing Reports	947	—	947
Notifiable diseases	1,370	639	2,009
Factories, Workplaces, etc. (in- cluding Outworkers) ..	1,828	3	1,831
Sanitary conveniences	19	—	19
Other inspections	7,639	1,626	9,265
Totals	17,671	17,846	35,517

Smoke observations	278
Legal proceedings, attendances at court	24

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

The number of drains which were tested was 402 and 872 were cleansed or repaired. The drains of 9 houses were reconstructed, and 202 drains were partially reconstructed.

Damp conditions have been remedied in 894 premises, and in 16 of these damp courses were inserted.

TABLE VIII

	Putney	Central	Clapham	Streatham	Whole Borough
1. Premises cleansed and repaired ..	174	182	201	94	651
2. Drains tested	106	104	57	135	402
3. Drains cleansed or repaired ..	279	164	258	171	872
4. Water closets cleansed, repaired or renewed	74	125	122	98	419
5. Soil pipes altered or repaired ..	18	16	21	7	62
6. Wastepipes provided, altered or repaired	47	82	69	77	275
7. Rainwater pipes repaired	22	25	18	9	74
8. Roofs and gutters repaired	117	177	138	79	511
9. Damp courses inserted	10	2	2	2	16
10. Damp conditions otherwise remedied	119	117	159	84	479
11. Yards drained or paved	6	5	6	1	18
12. Dustbins provided	20	23	20	35	98
13. Water cisterns cleansed, covered or repaired	6	1	4	2	13
14. Water supply reinstated	57	51	26	55	189
15. Defective stoves and fireplaces remedied	20	17	36	8	81
16. Defective coppers remedied	—	—	—	1	1
17. Accumulations of rubbish, etc., removed	11	5	8	5	29
18. Urinals cleansed or repaired ..	—	—	2	—	2
19. Smoke nuisances	9	6	2	2	19
20. Other nuisances	35	21	24	11	91
Total	1,130	1,123	1,173	876	4,302
Number of Preliminary Notices served ..	416	428	473	231	1,548
Number of Preliminary Notices complied with	394	429	485	249	1,557
Number of Nuisance Notices served ..	77	118	103	62	360
Number of Nuisance Notices complied with	85	145	131	71	432

Water Supply—Cutting-off Notices

During the year notices with respect to 199 premises were received from the Metropolitan Water Board stating that the supply had been withdrawn.

In 18 premises the water supply was cut off for non-payment of rates, and in 181 premises because of defects in the service.

Dustbin Accommodation—Section 105, Public Health (London) Act, 1936, and Section 12, London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1954

Action was taken under the above-mentioned Acts in respect of 75 premises and during this period 63 dustbins were provided.

Dustbins were also provided at 35 premises without the necessity of action under the Acts.

Rodent Control

One thousand, eight hundred and fifty rat and mice complaints were received during the year. Following is a summary of the work of the rodent operatives:

Number of operatives' visits to premises	9,544
„ „ premises treated with "Warfarin"	892
„ „ premises "Warfarin" laid and found not troubled	83
„ „ premises investigated and found not troubled ..	201
„ „ "Warfarin" baits laid	4,446
„ „ drains tested by Public Health Inspector ..	274
„ „ drains found defective	218
„ „ rats estimated killed	3,082

At the close of the year, there were five rodent operatives and one clerk engaged on rodent control duties under the supervision of a Public Health 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 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 recognized 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.

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention— National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

In dealing with the problems of the many aged and infirm persons in the Borough, close liaison has been maintained between the Public Health Staff and those members of the London County Council divisional staff who are concerned with the care of the aged.

This co-operation with the County Council has meant that in dealing with the large number of aged persons whose capacity to look after themselves adequately was in question, it was again possible to make satisfactory arrangements for their care and attention without the necessity of having to take action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

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 application of a blow lamp to the room surfaces. 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 167 houses were found to be infested with 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 or 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.

Mortuary

Mention was made in last year's report to the current policy of concentrating, at fewer public mortuaries in the London area than was previously the case, bodies upon which post-mortem examination for forensic purposes is required. In view of this policy, the whole question of accommodation for bodies in relation to the

Wandsworth and Battersea mortuaries was reviewed early in the year, and for the purposes of this report it may be well to state briefly the conditions that existed to that date and the conclusions arrived at from that review. In 1946 a contribution of £250 was made by the Council to the Battersea Borough Council towards the running costs of that Council's mortuary at Sheepcote Lane, S.W.11., owing to the number of bodies taken there from the Borough of Wandsworth and this contribution was renewed annually. The Battersea mortuary is nearer to considerable areas of Wandsworth than is the Council's mortuary in York Road, and large areas of the Borough are approximately equidistant from the two mortuaries. There is also a Coroner's Court adjoining the Battersea mortuary, while Wandsworth has no such Court. Bodies have also been admitted to the Wandsworth mortuary during the above mentioned period.

In April, 1956, arrangements were made with the Battersea Borough Council to place its mortuary at the disposal of this Council pending consideration as to the future use of the York Road mortuary. During this time, H.M. Coroner for this district (which includes the Boroughs of Wandsworth and Battersea) decided that bodies upon which postmortem examinations were required from the two Boroughs should be taken to the Battersea mortuary.

The whole question was most carefully considered and it was decided that the Council's mortuary at York Road should be retained for use as it might be required, particularly following a serious catastrophe or during epidemic periods. Moreover, the Council have a statutory obligation to provide mortuary accommodation. In view of the Coroner's decision, however, the question of a further contribution in respect of the additional bodies taken to the Battersea mortuary was raised and after careful consideration of the recommendations arising out of a discussion of the questions involved, by the Chairman of the Council's Public Health Committee and the appropriate member of the Battersea Borough Council, it was decided:-

- (a) that the existing annual payment of £250 be increased to £475 in respect of the financial years 1956/1957 and 1957/1958 and that these arrangements be reviewed at the expiration of the financial year 1957/1958 by which time further experience would have been gained in the matter; and
- (b) that in the event of the facilities at the Battersea mortuary being fully extended during peak periods of the year or during an epidemic, bodies from the area of the Battersea Borough Council should be accommodated at Wandsworth mortuary without any expense to the Battersea Borough Council.

The experience of the past year has shown that (ignoring major emergencies or serious epidemics) the Battersea mortuary was able to cope with the bodies from the whole area of Battersea and Wandsworth. During this year, in addition to the reception of bodies of

persons dying in Battersea, the mortuary received 603 bodies of persons who died in Wandsworth.

As regards the Wandsworth mortuary, it is now, of course, little used, 28 bodies only being received there during 1957. The mortuary attendant has been seconded to work at the Disinfecting Station where he spends approximately two thirds of his time, the remaining one-third being given to maintaining the mortuary in a good condition (cleaning, etc) and dealing with the occasional body brought there.

Crematorium

Under the Crematorium Regulations, 1930, 1,403 cremations were authorised during 1957 compared with 1,391 in 1956.

Burial of the Dead

Under Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, it is the responsibility of the Council to arrange for the burial of persons who die or are found dead in the Borough, and for whom no suitable burial arrangements are made or are being made.

The number of persons buried under the provisions of the Act during 1957 was 16.

HOUSING

STATISTICS RELATING TO HOUSING

Public Health (London) Act, 1936

Number of houses inspected on account of complaints or illness	7,238
Re-inspections	16,217
Number of statutory notices served:	
Intimation notices	1,548
Nuisance notices	360
Number of houses in which nuisances were abated ..	1,563
The number of cases referred to the Solicitor for legal action during 1957 was	86
The following is a summary of Police Court proceedings:	
Number of summonses served	26
" " " withdrawn	9
" " " adjourned	8
" " Orders made for abatement of nuisances ..	9
Costs awarded in respect of four cases ..	£4. 4s. 0d.

Housing Acts, 1936 and 1957

Repairs

Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices:-	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by local authority in default of owners.. ..	Nil

Demolition and Closing Orders

Housing Act, 1936 and Housing Act, 1957

(a) Demolition Orders made under Section 17 (1) of Housing Act 1957.	2
(b) Houses demolished as the result of formal or informal procedure	Nil
(c) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owner and still in force	Nil
(d) Parts of buildings closed by Closing Orders:-	
(1) Underground rooms	15
(2) Other rooms	Nil
(3) Closing Orders determined	3

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953,
and Housing Act, 1957

(a) Closing Orders made	3
(b) Closing Orders determined	Nil
(c) Closing Orders revoked and Demolition Orders made	Nil

Slum Clearance

Number of houses included in representations under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936	20
Number of houses demolished following action under Sections 25 and 27 of the Housing Act, 1936	57

Overcrowding

Number of families found to be living in overcrowded conditions	22
Number of overcrowded families who have obtained alternative accommodation	12

New Accommodation

Number of dwellings erected:-	
(a) by the borough council	187
(b) by the L.C.C.	951
(c) by other persons	103

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. The Rent Act, 1957

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

Three Applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair and were dealt with as follows:-

- (a) Two Certificates of Disrepair were granted.
- (b) In one case the Certificate was not granted as the premises were found to be in good repair and reasonably suitable for occupation.

Twenty-seven Applications were received for revocation of Certificates of Disrepair and these were granted.

The Rent Act, 1957

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair.

Five hundred and thirteen applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair and were dealt with as follows:-

- (a) In two cases it was decided not to issue Certificates of Disrepair as the premises were not in disrepair by reason of defects.

- (b) In five hundred and eleven cases it was decided to serve notices on landlords proposing to issue Certificates of Disrepair unless undertakings to do repairs were given.
- (c) Two hundred and ninety-two undertakings were received from landlords to remedy defects proposed to be included in Certificates of Disrepair.
- (d) In one case it was decided not to accept the undertaking given by the landlord as it did not include all the defects specified in the notice served by the Council.
- (e) One hundred and four Certificates of Disrepair were issued.

Applications for Cancellation of Certificates.

- (a) Thirty-two applications were received from landlords for the cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair.
- (b) Eight objections were received from tenants for cancellation of Certificates.
- (c) In two cases it was considered that the tenants' objections were not justified and the Certificates cancelled.
- (d) Twenty Certificates of Disrepair were cancelled.

Housing Accommodation—Medical Priority

During the year 662 of the applications made to the Council for rehousing were referred to me for consideration of additional points on health grounds in accordance with the Council's Points Scheme.

I also made 234 recommendations for transfer on health grounds in respect of applications received from tenants of Council's permanent and requisitioned properties for the provision of more suitable alternative accommodation.

UNFIT HOUSES

SLUM CLEARANCE

On the 20th June, 1957 I submitted official representations under Part III of the Housing Act, 1936 upon the condition of the properties, Nos. 7/9, 23/35, 65/67 (odd) and 22/38 (even) Balham New Road and these representations are now being considered by the Council.

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES

Closing Orders were made on premises at 177a Bedford Hill, 26 Boundaries Road, 130a Cavendish Road, 31 Fernlea Road, 69 Lydden Grove, 35a Ramsden Road, 43 Rectory Grove, 144 Tooting High Street, 29 Werter Road.

In each case the owners had been invited to submit proposals to render the premises fit for human habitation, but none were received.

In addition Demolition Orders were made in respect of 51 and 53 Wandsworth High Street.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

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 all other premises in which a food business of any description is carried on.

The total number of food premises on the register in the Borough is 2,747 and during 1957 they were visited on 10,066 occasions. Table IX has been drawn up to show the number of visits to various food premises in different parts of the Borough.

Arising out of the re-organisation of the work of the inspectorial staff, supervision of the food supply is now carried out by four senior Inspectors who each procure samples of food and drugs for analysis by the Public Analyst and the Public Health Laboratory. They also supervise premises where food is sold, stored, manufactured or prepared for sale and carry out the duties required under the Pharmacy and Poisons Act 1933 and Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941.

District Inspectors holding the additional certificate of Inspector for Food and Drugs carry out the day-to-day supervision of the catering establishments in their respective areas.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

The work in connection with food hygiene was continued throughout the year to premises in the Borough where food is handled. The initial inspections under the new Regulations took up much more time than previous inspections as additional information was required and much time was taken up in discussing with occupiers the question of necessary improvements.

The following list shows the number and type of premises in the Borough where food is sold, stored or prepared:-

Dairies	2
Food Factories	13
Restaurants, Cafes and Canteens	498
Confectioners	472
Butchers	212
Greengrocers	327
Fishmongers	86
Fish fryers	61
Bakers and Bakehouses	114
Grocers	670
Off Licences	87
Public Houses	58
Stalls	147
	<hr/>
	2,747

TABLE IX
SUMMARY OF VISITS TO FOOD PREMISES

	Putney	Thamesfield	Fairfield	West Hill	Southfield	Earlsfield	Springfield	Tooting	Graveney	Bedford	Larkhall	Clapham North	Clapham Park	Thornton	Balham	Streatham Hill	St. Leonards	Streatham Common	Streatham South	Furzedown	Whole Borough
Dairies and Shops distributing Milk ..	22	63	54	15	39	33	24	40	39	18	34	55	51	17	34	23	15	44	12	21	653
Restaurant Kitchens ..	138	207	84	69	74	80	45	95	40	64	59	98	59	97	77	57	154	67	27	47	1,638
Ice Cream Premises ..	21	10	17	—	3	10	4	15	7	3	—	4	1	7	5	7	7	7	4	16	148
Butchers' Shops ..	43	58	98	40	65	32	16	27	66	26	14	27	21	37	34	21	46	4	6	15	696
Greengrocers' Shops ..	31	34	50	23	26	21	11	12	27	10	10	19	6	19	9	48	46	14	9	9	434
Fishmongers' Shops ..	11	41	22	3	16	5	3	—	7	—	1	19	4	7	4	8	5	4	1	1	162
Fried Fish Shops ..	13	13	15	4	20	9	4	6	2	1	2	26	2	1	3	5	1	—	1	1	129
Market Stalls ..	4	99	26	2	15	7	32	139	891	1	9	336	—	794	87	5	106	—	—	—	2,553
Other Premises ..	172	212	204	102	189	208	87	168	215	88	240	320	95	183	197	255	277	78	92	127	3,509
Bakehouses ..	9	11	15	1	12	10	18	4	8	5	12	17	3	3	4	3	—	1	7	1	144
Total Visits ..	464	748	585	259	459	415	244	506	1,302	216	381	921	242	1,165	454	432	657	219	159	238	10,066

The amount of work completed during 1957 to comply with the requirements of the Regulations is indicated in the following details:-

Washhand basins provided	73
Sinks provided	13
Provision of hot water over sink and washhand basin	101
Accommodation for clothing provided	5
Refrigeration provided	1
First Aid Materials provided	4
Premises repaired or redecorated	47
Food preparation tables covered with non-absorbent materials	10
Adequate protection for open food	13

Milk Supply

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949—1954

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 32 applications were received from persons to be registered as distributors of milk. In each case the certificate of registration was granted. Twenty nine notices of cancellation of registration were received. At the end of the year there were 233 persons on the register, including 21 persons with premises outside the Borough. There were two dairies on the register at the end of the year.

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, 1955

Ninety-three samples of milk were submitted for analysis. Of these 10 were samples of Channel Island and South Devon milks with an average fat content of 4.46 per cent. The remaining 83 samples had an average fat content of 3.76 per cent.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-1954, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurized and Sterilized Milk) Regulations, 1949-1953.

These regulations, which came into force on 1st October, 1949, provide for the issue of licences to persons who sell milk under any of the following designations:

“Pasteurized”

“Sterilized”

“Tuberculin Tested”

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

					Dealers'	Dealers'	Total
					Dealers'	Supple- mentary	
Pasteurized	..	..	..	..	274	35	309
Sterilized	..	..	..	..	324	38	362
Tuberculin Tested	..	..	..	..	196	33	229
Total	..	..	..	..	794	106	900

Two distributors' (pasteurizers') licences were granted during the year and are included in the above figures.

A person who holds a “Tuberculin Tested” licence and a “Pasteurized” or “Sterilized” licence may use the designations “Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurized)” or “Tuberculin Tested (Sterilized)” as the case may be.

Meat

There are 212 butchers' shops in the Borough. The majority are registered under Section 16(1)(b) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, preserved, pickled or pressed foods. There were 696 visits made to these shops during the year.

Slaughter of Animals

There are no private slaughterhouses in the Borough.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933-1954

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 no applications from persons desirous of acting as slaughtermen were received by the Council.

Unsound Food

Seventy-nine varieties of foodstuff 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 1957 was 382, and 456 visits were made to the premises of the listed persons by the Food Inspectors.

The principal business 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	Number of Premises	Number of Visits
Confectioners	3	4
Domestic stores, ironmongers, etc.	85	97
Drug stores	16	21
Grocers	254	307
Hairdressers	15	18
Nurserymen and florists	9	9
Total	382	456

Bakehouses

There are 63 bakehouses in the Borough, of which 12 are in basements and subject to the provisions of Section 54 of the Factories Act, 1937. One hundred and forty-four 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.

Registration of Premises**The Food and Drugs Act, 1955**

Section 16 (1) of the above Act provides that no premises shall be used for:

- (a) the sale, or 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 intended for sale, unless they are registered under this section for that purpose with a local authority.

During the year 55 applications for registration under the provisions of Section 16 (1)(a) and 28 applications for registration under the provisions of Section 16(1)(b) were submitted to the Council. In all cases the premises were found to be satisfactory and the registration granted.

Public Health (London) Act, Sec. 144

During the year no applications were received for licences under the provisions of Sec. 144, to use premises as slaughterhouses.

Bacteriological Examination of Food and Waters

Two hundred and eighty-five samples were examined bacteriologically at the Public Health Laboratory during the year. They were as follows:

Milk	Ice-cream	Egg Albumen	Artesian Well Waters	Swimming Pool Waters	Others	Total
236	22	18	2	18	3	285

Milk

Of the 236 samples of milk, 106 were submitted to the phosphatase test, 106 to the methylene-blue test, and 24 to the turbidity test. These samples were reported satisfactory.

Ice-cream

The 22 samples of ice-cream were tested in accordance with the technique suggested by the Ministry of Health and Public Health Laboratory Service. These samples were examined at the Public Health Laboratory.

The following table gives a summary of the results:

Methylene-Blue Reduction Test	
Provisional Grade	Number of Samples
1	7
2	7
3	4
4	4
Total	22

Egg Albumen

Four samples were examined for the presence of pathogenic organisms. The organism *Solmonella typhimurium* was isolated in three of the four samples.

Artesian Well Water

Two samples were submitted for examination, and were reported satisfactory.

Swimming Pool Water

Eighteen samples were submitted for examination, and all were reported satisfactory.

Others

The three miscellaneous samples proved to be free of pathogenic organisms.

Analysis of Food and Drugs

During the year 1,000 samples of food and drugs were procured for analysis; 67 samples of milk, 879 other foodstuffs and 54 drugs. Of these 69 were submitted as formal samples while 931 were purchased informally. None of the formal but nine or 0·96 per cent. of the informal samples were found to be adulterated or not up to standard. The total adulterations reported were 9 or 0·9 per cent. of the samples submitted.

The 9 samples found to be adulterated were:

One sample each of the following:- milk, bread, butter, margarine with 10% butter, sponge role, cake, coffee beans, two samples of ice-cream.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948 **Prescribed particulars required by Section 128 (3)**

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	447	231	1	—
(2) Factories not included above in which Section 7 of the Act is enforced by the Local Authority ..	1,099	1,034	8	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ..	93	14	—	—
Total	1,639	1,279	9	—

(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	6	6	—	6	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) insufficient	3	1	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	42	34	—	6	—
(c) not separate for sexes ..	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork).. ..	1	1	—	1	—
Total	53	43	—	13	—

PART VIII

SECTION 110. OUTWORK

Nature of work	Number of outworkers in August list	Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists
Wearing apparel—making, etc. ..	562	—	—
" " cleaning and washing	2	—	—
Household linen	1	—	—
Furniture and upholstery ..	2	—	—
Artificial flowers	4	—	—
Paper bags	13	—	—
Boxes or other receptacles made wholly or partially of paper ..	21	—	—
Stuffed toys	15	—	—
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc. ..	22	—	—
Lampshades	116	—	—
Total	758	—	—

London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1954

Hairdressers and Barbers

Section 18 of the above Act requires, inter alia, that, no person shall carry on a business as a hairdresser or barber on any premises in a borough unless he or those premises are registered by the Borough Council. During the year 25 new registrations were made, and 12 cancellations received. The total number on the register at the end of the year was 233.

REPORT OF THE WORK OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST FOR 1957

The Public Analyst, J. E. Woodhead, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., Ph.C. reports as follows: By virtue of the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, 1,000 samples were examined during the year ended 31st December, 1957, 946 were articles of food and the remaining 54, drugs. All were submitted by the Council's Food Inspector, 69 having been taken with the formalities required by the Act and 931 informally.

Samples of the following substances were analysed: fats (butter, margarine, etc.), 48; beverages (cocoa, coffee, tea, etc.), 42; cereal preparations, 18; cream, 37; fish (canned etc.), 41; fruit (canned and dried), 72; meat products (including sausages), 38; milk, 67; pickles and condiments (including spices), 42; preserves, 29; soup, 21; vegetables 47; bicarbonate of soda, 7; iodine solutions, 4; ointments, 13; seidlitz powders, 5.

Adulterated Samples

Particulars of the samples reported as adulterated or not up to standard are given in the following table:

Case No.	Nature of Sample	Nature of Report
Informal 720	Coffee beans	Spoiled by overroasting
770	Cake	Contained rodent excrement
1132	Ice cream	12% deficient in fat
1134	Ice cream	9% deficient in fat
1135	Sponge roll	Stale and soapy flavour
1166	Margarine with 10% butter	0·28% excess water
1191	Bread	Contained mineral grease
1277	Butter	0·55% excess water
3	Milk	Contained a mould

Adulteration

The amount of adulteration detected during the year was:

For formal samples	..	..	..	0·0 per cent.
For informal samples	..	..	..	0·96 per cent.
For all samples	..	..	..	0·9 per cent.

Complaint Samples

Case No. 648. Bread. Submitted on the complaint of light brown streaks in loaf. The complaint was considered not justified.

Case No. 971. Tea. Submitted on the complaint of the unusual colour when brewed. The complaint was considered not justified.

Case No. 972. Lemonade. Submitted on the complaint that it had caused sickness. The complaint was considered not justified.

Case No. 991. Sterilised Milk. Submitted on the complaint of smell and taste. The complaint was considered not justified.

Case No. 1096. Anchovy Paste. Submitted on the complaint of the taste. The complaint was considered not justified.

Case No. 1148. Orange Squash. Submitted on the complaint of the flavour. The complaint was considered not justified.

Case No. 1190. Sweets. Submitted on the complaint that they had caused sickness. The complaint was considered not justified.

Case No. 1292. Tinned Pineapple. Submitted on the complaint that it had caused sickness. The complaint was considered not justified.

Case No. 1429. Bread. Submitted on the complaint that it contained foreign matter. The complaint was considered not justified.

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	4	12·65	3·88	8·77
February	5	12·63	3·80	8·83
March	9	12·25	3·58	8·67
April	—	—	—	—
May.. ..	—	—	—	—
June.. ..	8	12·23	3·52	8·71
July	20	12·27	3·59	8·68
August	—	—	—	—
September	9	12·67	3·72	8·95
October	—	—	—	—
November	9	12·76	3·89	8·87
December	19	13·13	3·91	9·22

The average composition of the 83 samples of milk analysed during the year and returned as genuine was as under:

Total milk solids	12·64 per cent.
Milk fat	3·76 per cent.
Non-fatty solids	8·88 per cent.

The average composition of the 10 samples of Channel Island and South Devon milks was as under:

Total milk solids	13·56 per cent.
Milk fat	4·46 per cent.
Non-fatty solids	9·10 per cent.

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