

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for St. Marylebone, Metropolitan Borough].

Contributors

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Borough of St. Marylebone.



REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1938

CHARLES PORTER, M.D., B.Sc., M.R.C.P. (Ed.)

Of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-Law.

London :
Freame, Manning & Co., Ltd. (T.U.), 12a, Lee High Road, Lewisham



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,
ST. MARYLEBONE, W.1.

4th August, 1939.

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

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour as Medical Officer of Health to submit the following report on the Health of the Borough of St. Marylebone during the year 1938, which, in accordance with the instructions of the Minister of Health, like its predecessors of the last few years, is an "ordinary report" and does not enter deeply into detail of the year's happenings. At the same time, however, it contains sufficient to show that good and valuable work was done.

Health Centre No. 2 at No. 217, Lisson Grove, which was completed in 1937, was brought fully into use at the beginning of the year. Details of the accommodation provided, with plans and photographs of the building, were included in last year's report. Considerable progress was also made in connection with the planning of the new Public Health Department which, including Health Centre No. 1, will form part of the building to be erected on the site adjoining and to the west of the Town Hall.

As this is the last report covering a full year I shall be privileged to submit—the first referred to the year 1909 and, as may be gathered from the accompanying comparative statement, dealt with conditions and circumstances in some respects very unlike those existing in 1938—I may be permitted to take the opportunity of making acknowledgment of all the kindness and help I have received from the Borough Council and from those with whom I have been associated in work for and on behalf of St. Marylebone and its inhabitants.

Naturally, so far as the Council are concerned, it is to the Public Health Committee that my gratitude is deepest. Uniformly throughout the years of my service, individually and as a Committee they showed themselves seriously concerned to perform the functions and carry out the powers and duties delegated to them by the Council. To myself they always showed the greatest consideration and sympathy. The choice of Chairman made by the Committee was always sound and happy, and I have nothing but pleasant recollections of the many men of high distinction with whom it was my pride and privilege to work in this connection.

Since he is the last with whom I served, and he was Chairman for several years, Councillor Dr. Fuller is, of course, most prominently in my mind. To him in particular I would express gratitude for many kindnesses and much most valuable advice and assistance during his occupation of the chair.

Of colleagues it is to those in the Public Health Department itself my debt is greatest. The loyalty of all the members to me personally throughout all the years I worked with them never lessened; the keenness and devotion of all of them never varied. No matter what new duties were given to them—and every year saw addition to the number—they remained enthusiastic and never complained.

Into my retirement I take, indeed, very many happy memories, and those who have helped to make them for me—Members of Council, Chairmen and Members of Committee, colleagues and fellow workers—I ask to believe that I am truly grateful.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES PORTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

THE YEARS 1909 AND 1938—A COMPARISON.

	1909	1938
Vital Statistics—		
Population (estimated)	126,027	90,680
Births	2,532	802
Birth Rate	20.0	8.84
Deaths... ..	1,849	1,008
Death Rate	15.4	11.0
Infantile Mortality Rate	102	60
Deaths from :—		
Diarrhoeal Diseases	45	12
Rate ... ..	.35	.13
Zymotic Diseases (smallpox, measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough, diphtheria and membranous croup, typhus, enteric and continued fevers, diarrhoea and enteritis)... ..	113	18
Rate ... ..	.89	.2
Tuberculosis (all forms)	200	44
Rate	1.58	.49
Respiratory Diseases	324	102
Rate	2.57	1.12
Cancer	156	180
Rate	1.2	1.98
Infectious Diseases—		
Diphtheria—		
Cases notified	109	93
Deaths	9	2
Scarlet Fever—		
Cases notified	458	88
Deaths	8	2
Enteric Fever—		
Cases notified	22	8
Deaths	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever—		
Cases notified	6	4
Deaths	—	—
Erysipelas—		
Cases notified	134	35
Deaths	2	—
Puerperal Fever—		
Cases notified	3	3
Deaths	1	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis—		
Cases notified	334	105
Deaths	170	33
Maternity and Child Welfare—		
Welfare Centres—attendances	334	45,104
Day nurseries—attendances... ..	—	20,445
Food—		
Unsound food—seizures and prosecutions	11	—
Fines and costs imposed	£95	—
Cowhouses (licensed for 105 cows)	5	—
Milkshops	264	187
Offences against Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops		
Orders	6	—
Prosecutions	3	—
Milk samples examined	403	175
Milk samples adulterated... ..	23	—
Prosecutions	15	—
Fines and costs imposed	£30 2s. 6d.	—
Ice Cream Premises	80	145
Prosecutions	3	—
Bakehouses	78	40
Number below ground level	70	29
Food and Drug samples taken	756	1,067
Number adulterated	41	—
Prosecutions	31	—
Fines and costs imposed	£93 4s. 6d.	—
Butter samples examined	155	291
Number adulterated	11	—
Cream samples examined	9	24
Number adulterated	2	—
Common Lodging Houses...	17	2
Nuisances—Prosecutions	30	1

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE	6
STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT	7
SECTION A—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS	8
SECTION B—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES	21
SECTION C—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES	39
SECTION D—HOUSING	53
SECTION E—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD	57
SECTION F—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES	63
HEALTH PROPAGANDA	82
INDEX... ..	83

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

*(Who are also the Committee appointed for Maternity
and Child Welfare purposes.)*

1938.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR.

1937-38 : ALDERMAN R. STILES ALLEN, D.L., J.P.

1938-39 : COUNCILLOR A. DOUGLAS WAITE, J.P., F.A.I.

ALDERMEN.

R. STILES ALLEN, D.L.

J. FETTES, J.P.

COUNCILLORS.

REV. MICHAEL ADLER, D.S.O., B.A.

MRS. M. C. Q. HENRIQUES.

MISS M. T. BARRY.

DR. ELIZABETH JACOBS.

F. V. CULLEN, F.S.I.

ROBERT S. LAZARUS.

MRS. E. B. DAVIS.

CAPT. GERALD LOWRY.

DR. C. A. FULLER (Chairman).

MISS JOYCE C. MARSH.

CAPT. C. L. HARGREAVES.

G. B. RAMSAY.

MRS. M. G. HARRIS.

H. NORMAN TOOMEY, L.D.S., R.C.S.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health and Administrative Medical Officer—Tuberculosis, and Maternity and Child Welfare; Vaccination Officer; and Medical Referee for Cremation: *Charles Porter, M.D., B.Sc., M.R.C.P. (Edin.), of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-law.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health; Public Vaccinator; and Deputy Medical Referee for Cremation: H. Allen Bulman, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H.

Tuberculosis Officer and Assistant Medical Officer of Health: *B. W. Anderson, M.A., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare Purposes: W. H. S. Wallace, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

Public Analyst (Part time): J. F. F. Rowland, B.A., A.I.C.

Bacteriologist (Part time): L. E. H. Whitby, C.V.O., M.C., M.A., M.D., B.Ch., F.R.C.P. (Lond.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), D.P.H.

Dental Surgeon (Part time): J. Arthur Smith, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.).

Chiropodist (Part time): Miss Margaret Percy, M.L.I.Ch.

Clerks.

A. H. James (Chief)

H. G. E. Brown.

C. D. Turbayne.

D. H. Drewell.

H. J. Payne.

R. G. Turner.

S. P. Fleming.

M. Kelly.

Miss S. L. Pritchard (Shorthand-Typist).

Two temporary Shorthand-Typists for Air Raid Precautions work.

**Maternity and Child Welfare and Tuberculosis Clerk.*

Miss J. Jones.

Maternity and Child Welfare Clerk-Dispenser.

Miss G. M. Courtenay.

**Tuberculosis Clerk-Dispenser.*

Miss M. T. Challis.

**Food Inspector.*

G. Smith (Senior Sanitary Inspector) (a, b, d).

**District Sanitary Inspectors.*

V. A. Bignell (c, d, e).

T. A. Cartledge (a, b, d).

H. E. P. Corline (b, d).

T. W. Forbes (b, d).

H. E. Scoble (c, d).

E. E. Willis (a, b, d).

A. S. Wilson (a, b, d).

H. Ridler (c, d)—temporary.

**Drainage Inspectors.*

F. C. Cook (b, d).

W. H. Draper (a, b, d).

**Outdoor Superintendent.*

P. H. Hill (a, b, d).

**Woman Sanitary Inspector.*

Miss M. McA. Sharp (c, f, g, h, i).

**Woman Sanitary Inspector and Health Visitor.*

Miss C. E. Durant (b, f, i).

Health Visitors.

Miss F. H. M. Chapman (f, g, h, i).

Miss D. T. Connell (f).

Miss M. I. Kendall (c, f, g, h, i).

Miss E. D. Mann (f, g, h, i).

Miss M. C. Stewart (f, g).

Part-time Health Visitors.

Miss L. J. Donnell (b, i).

Miss L. M. Hazell (i).

**Tuberculosis Visitors.*

Miss S. Kenion (c, f, g, h, i).

Miss P. K. Pepler (c, f, g, h, i).

Matron-Housekeeper, Health Centre No. 2.

Miss L. Kilgallin.

Mortuary Keeper.

Mrs. H. Spears.

**Tuberculosis Dispensary Caretaker.*

E. D. Marston.

Streets Nuisance Inspector (Temporary).

D. Telford.

Disinfectors.

J. Overton.

W. J. Jones.

Messenger.

E. W. Broughton.

* Officers to whose salary contribution is made under the Public Health Acts or by Exchequer grants.

a Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate.

b Certificate of the Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board (London).

c Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.

d Meat and other Foods Certificate.

e Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

f Health Visitors Diploma.

g Central Midwives Board Certificate.

h Certificate of State Registration for Nurses.

i Three or Four Years' Hospital General Training Certificate.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) 1,427.8 (exclusive of water) ; 1,473 (including water).

Resident population : 1921—104,173 ; 1931—97,620 ;
estimated mid-1938—90,680.

Number of inhabited houses : 1921—18,507 ; 1931—17,575.

Number of inhabited houses and flats (end of 1938) according to Rate Books,
20,352.

Number of families or separate occupiers (1931), 27,352.

Rateable value, £3,600,680.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £14,018.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND CHIEF INDUSTRIES.

During recent years St. Marylebone has become increasingly important as a commercial centre, particularly in the southern part of the Borough bounded by Oxford Street. It is still, however, mainly a residential area occupied to a great extent by the professional classes, as shown in Table 1, which indicates how various professions and callings are represented by those engaged in the classified industries.

TABLE 1.
OCCUPATIONS OF INHABITANTS—CENSUS 1931.

	Males.	Females.
Commerce and finance Learned professions Public administration	44%	30%
Domestic service, hotel and catering work	18%	54%
Transport	7%	—
Building trades	6%	—
Clothing manufacture	6%	11%

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The extent of unemployment in the Borough is shown in Table 2, supplied by the Ministry of Labour.

TABLE 2.

NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES ON THE DATES INDICATED.

		Males (aged 16—64).	Females (aged 16—64).	TOTAL (aged 16—64).
1938	17th January ...	2,327	429	2,756
	4th April... ..	2,116	433	2,549
	18th July	1,637	368	2,005
	17th October ...	1,840	500	2,340
1937	25th January ...	1,933	413	2,346
	19th April... ..	1,985	315	2,300
	26th July	1,480	351	1,831
	18th October ...	1,940	326	2,266

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births—				Total	M.	F.				
Legitimate	...	...	...	705	362	343	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... 8.84			
Illegitimate	...	...	...	97	48	49				
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	29	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 35			
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	1,008	Death Rate per 1,000 of the esti- mated resident population 11.0			
Deaths from Puerperal causes—							Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births		
Puerperal Sepsis				...	...	...	...	—	—
Other Puerperal causes				...	...	...	...	2	2.41	
Total				...	...	...	...	2	2.41	
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age—										
All infants per 1,000 live births				...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				...	...	...	...	...	...	155
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)				...	...	...	...	...	...	180
Deaths from Measles (all ages)				...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)				...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)				...	...	...	...	...	...	10

The various causes contributing to the mortality of the Borough are referred to later in this section of the report. There was no unusual or excessive mortality during the year which calls for comment.

NOTEWORTHY CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

The Ministry of Health require information as to any causes of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the area during the year; any conditions of occupation or environment which appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health; and any *evidence*, statistical or otherwise, that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of children or adults. There is nothing to report in respect of any of the questions raised by the Ministry.

POPULATION.

The population estimated to the middle of 1938 by the Registrar-General is shown in Table 3, and is that used in calculating the various rates given in this report. For information, the estimated population of each of the Sub-Districts is also set out and for comparison the Census and estimated figures for 1931.

TABLE 3.

Basis	Year.	The Borough.	All Souls.	St. Mary.	Christ Church.	St. John.
Census ...	1931	97,620	22,380	25,667	29,636	19,937
Estimated to middle of	1931	93,460	21,422	24,575	28,375	19,088
"	1938	90,680	20,774	23,837	27,625	18,444

BIRTHS.

Registration.—The number of births registered during 1938 was 802,* being 57 less than in 1937. Of the children born, 410 were boys and 392 girls. The birth rate per 1,000 of the population was 8.84 as against 9.32 in 1937.

Table 4 contains a comparison of the rates in the several registration sub-districts and the Borough as a whole for 1938, with those of each of the five previous years.

TABLE 4.

Sub-District	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
All Souls ...	7.0	6.8	8.5	8.3	8.0	7.6
St. Mary ...	7.8	8.7	8.3	8.1	7.2	6.0
Christ Church	12.7	12.5	12.3	12.9	11.9	10.8
St. John ...	11.0	7.2	8.9	8.0	9.9	9.1
The Borough	9.7	9.0	9.7	9.8	9.3	8.8

District births for the year ended 31st December, 1938, are given in Table 5. Vital statistics of separate localities for 1938, and the ten preceding years, will be found in Table 14 on page 18.

TABLE 5.

Sub-District.	Population estimated to middle of 1938.	Births.		
		Males.	Females.	Total.
All Souls	20,774	79	79	158
St. Mary	23,837	74	68	142
Christ Church	27,625	146	153	299
St. John	18,444	111	92	203
The Borough	90,680	410	392	802

*This figure is exclusive of births occurring in the Borough to persons usually non-resident therein, but includes 332 births which occurred outside the district, and which have been transferred as belonging to St. Marylebone :—

Legitimate Males	...	...	...	...	...	121
" Females	...	...	...	...	...	139
Illegitimate Males	...	...	...	...	...	38
" Females	...	...	...	...	...	34
Total	...	...	...	...	...	332

Notification.—The total number of notifications received during the year under the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, Section 255, was 3,980; live births, 3,799; stillbirths, 181. The total notifications in 1937 was 3,877. The provisions of the Act relating to this requirement, it is interesting to note, were fully complied with. Speaking generally, it may be said that nowadays the necessity for notifying is not less well recognised than that for registration.

The main sources of the notifications are set out below. In some cases duplicate notifications, from different sources, were received with regard to the same birth.

From parents ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ doctors ...	...	...	...	...	...	66
„ midwives ...	...	...	...	...	...	175
„ hospitals, nursing homes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	3,733
						<hr/> 3,980 <hr/>

Of the total births notified, 181 referred to still-births (89 males and 92 females); 2,155 took place at Queen Charlotte's Hospital; 562 at Middlesex Hospital; 172 at St. Mary Abbots Hospital; and 311 were born at home. Of those notified as having occurred in St. Marylebone, 3,116 belonged to other Boroughs. Of the 181 still-births 29 (14 males and 15 females) were to St. Marylebone mothers.

DEATHS.

Registration.—The number of deaths registered in 1938 was 1,008. This figure is inclusive of persons who, though normally resident in the Borough, died in institutions outside, but exclusive of persons who, though they died in St. Marylebone, were ordinarily resident in other parts of England or Wales. Deaths of persons ordinarily resident outside the borders of England and Wales are included in the St. Marylebone figures if they occur in the Borough.

The corrected death-rate* per thousand for the year was 11.0.

In the previous year, the rate was 12.98 and the number of deaths 1,202.

Table 6 shows the death-rates in the several registration sub-districts in 1938, and compares them with those of the preceding five years.

TABLE 6.

Sub-District	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
All Souls ...	10.5	10.9	11.2	11.9	11.4	9.6
St. Mary ...	12.7	12.1	10.9	12.2	12.6	12.6
Christ Church ...	14.2	13.8	12.9	13.5	14.4	10.1
St. John ...	12.1	13.3	11.8	12.2	12.8	12.1
The Borough...	12.2	12.6	11.7	12.5	12.98	11.0

*By a "corrected death-rate" is meant one which has been treated in such a way, raised or lowered in a certain ratio, as to be comparable with the death-rates similarly treated of other districts. That "correction" is necessary is due to the fact that differences in death-rates in various areas are not entirely dependent upon the sanitary conditions existing in these areas, but also on the constitution (age and sex) of the population. A population consisting of aged persons would show more deaths than one consisting entirely of young and vigorous adults; a population made up of a large number of males and a small number of females has more deaths and a higher death-rate than one in which the females outnumber the males. The death-rates of such populations are not comparable the one with the other nor with those of populations differently constituted. To overcome this difficulty the Registrar-General issues a "factor for correction" for each district which represents the number of times which the actual death-rate of each must be raised in order to permit of its examination side by side with the rates of other districts. The "factor for correction" in the case of St. Marylebone in 1938 is 0.99, and the corrected death-rate is obtained by multiplying with this figure the number of deaths per 1,000, calculated from the total deaths and the population estimated to the middle of the year.

District deaths for the year ended 31st December, 1938, are given in Table 7. Vital statistics of separate localities for 1938, and the ten preceding years, will be found in Table 14 on page 18.

TABLE 7.

Sub-District.	Population estimated to middle of 1938.	Deaths.		
		Males.	Females.	Total.
All Souls... ..	20,774	80	119	199
St. Mary	23,837	156	145	301
Christ Church	27,625	157	128	285
St. John... ..	18,444	95	128	223
The Borough	90,680	488	520	1,008

Table 8 shows the number of deaths that took place amongst infants under 1 year and adults 65 years and upwards in each of the four quarters of 1938. For purposes of comparison the table (No. 9) for 1937 is reproduced.

TABLE 8.

1938.

	January-March.	April-June.	July-September.	October-December.	Total.
Infants under 1 year ...	18	10	9	11	48
Persons of 65 years and upwards	158	158	107	130	553

TABLE 9.

1937.

	January-March.	April-June.	July-September.	October-December.	Total.
Infants under 1 year ...	17	16	14	16	63
Persons of 65 years and upwards	216	132	111	158	617

Causes of and ages at Death.—General information with regard to the deaths which occurred in the Borough during the year, mainly as to causes and the ages at which death took place, is given in Table 15, on page 19.

This same table gives the number of deaths from various specified causes which occurred in institutions, in hospitals, nursing homes, etc. In each of the groups all deaths, whether of residents or non-residents, are included, which accounts for the fact that the total comes up to 1,030.

Fuller information than is possible in the table is given in the following pages, in which also the figures relating both to causes of death and the ages at which these causes were operative are analysed.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The infantile mortality rate of any district is the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 of the births which occurred in the same year. The number of babies under one year who died in St. Marylebone in 1938 was 48 and the number of births in that year 802. The infantile mortality rate is therefore 60.

The number of legitimate births was 705 and the deaths amongst legitimate infants numbered 33, giving a rate of 47. There were 97 illegitimate births and 15 deaths, the rate being 155.

In 1937 the death-rate for all infants per 1,000 live births was 73.

The means adopted in the Borough with a view to reducing this rate and generally improving the life and health chances of infants and children are described in a separate section of the report—Maternity and Child Welfare. This part being merely statistical, it is not proposed at this point to do more than give some sort of analysis of the figures relating to deaths amongst infants.

Causes.—So far as age and causation are concerned, conditions vary little year by year. In 1938, as in other years, the greatest number of deaths occurred in the early weeks of life. Of the babies, 19 were less than one month old when they died and 26 less than three months. The corresponding figures for 1937 were 31 and 40 respectively.

The outstanding causes of death were those usually noted. Prematurity, etc. (numbers 12, 13 and 14 in the Table), headed the list with 19 deaths in 1938, as against 24 in 1937, whilst respiratory diseases (numbers 24 and 25) accounted for 15 in 1938 and 14 in 1937. The number of deaths due to diarrhoea and enteritis (numbers 7 and 8) was 8 in 1938, 10 being recorded in 1937.

Christ Church, which always contributes most largely to the infantile as to most of the other mortality rates, being the most thickly populated area and that in which there is most poverty, most overcrowding and probably most neglect of ordinary hygienic precautions, is again at the head of the list with 16 deaths amongst infants.

Table 10 on the following page shows, in addition to the causes of death, the distribution of the deaths according to age and locality.

TABLE 10.

INFANTILE MORTALITY. Nett Deaths from Stated Causes at various ages under One Year, and in Sub-Districts.

No.	CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1 and under 2 Weeks.	2 and under 3 Weeks.	3 and under 4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1 and under 3 Months.	3 and under 6 Months.	6 and under 9 Months.	9 and under 12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.	All Souls.	St. Mary.	Christ Church.	St. John.	TOTAL
1	Small-Pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	Chicken-Pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1
8	Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	1	7	1	3	2	1	7
9	Tuberculous Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11	Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12	Congenital Malforma- tion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1
13	Premature Birth ...	9	3	2	—	14	2	—	—	—	16	3	3	5	5	16
14	Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	2
15	Atelectasis ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1
16	Injury at Birth ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
17	Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18	Syphilis ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
19	Rickets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
21	Convulsions ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22	Gastritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1
23	Laryngitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
24	Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	4	1	1	2	—	4
25	Pneumonia (all forms) ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	3	1	11	3	3	5	—	11
26	Suffocation, Overlaying ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1
27	Other Causes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...		11	6	2	—	19	7	12	8	2	48	9	13	16	10	48

Nett Births in the Year	Legitimate,	M. 362	F. 343	Nett Deaths in the Year	Legitimate Infants,	M. 18	F. 15	Nett Stillbirths in the Year	Legitimate Infants,	M. 12	F. 10
	Illegitimate,	48	49		Illegitimate Infants,	7	8		Illegitimate Infants,	2	5
	Total ...	410	392		Total ...	25	23		Total ...	14	15
802				48				29			

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

In 1938 the number of deaths due to conditions connected with or consequent upon child-birth was 2, the maternal mortality rate being 2.41 per 1,000 births. In 1937 there were 4 deaths, the death-rate being 4.46 per 1,000 births.

With regard to the 1938 deaths it may be noted that one occurred in hospital and one in a nursing home, the ages of the women being respectively 30 and 39.

DEATHS IN RELATION TO DISEASE.

A list of the causes of deaths, with the ages at which they occurred, will be found in Table 15 on page 19. This Table also shows the distribution of deaths according to causes in the various registration sub-districts.

The following notes with regard to certain of the causes which contributed most largely to the death rate, may be of interest.

Diarrhœal Diseases.—The total number of deaths registered as due to diarrhœa and enteritis (inflammation of the bowels), was 12, giving a rate of 0.13 per 1,000 of the population.

As a general rule, the majority of deaths from this cause occur amongst infants, and in 1938 this was the case also, no fewer than 8 of the 12 being children under one year of age.

In 1937, the number of deaths from diarrhœal diseases was 12. Of these, 9 were babies.

Infectious (Communicable) Diseases.—The number of deaths due to each of the diseases included in this group is referred to when dealing specifically with the disease under the heading "Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases." It is interesting to note here, however, that excluding influenza, which caused 10 deaths, and including diarrhœa, etc. (12 deaths) the total number registered as due to them was 18. Of these deaths, 2 were caused by diphtheria and 2 by scarlet fever. One death was attributed to measles and one to whooping cough. In 1937, 23 deaths were due to infectious diseases, excluding influenza which caused 44 deaths.

Phthisis and other Tuberculous Diseases.—The total deaths due to the diseases dealt with under this heading, viz., phthisis (pulmonary tuberculosis or consumption of the lungs), tuberculous meningitis, general tuberculosis, tabes mesenterica, and all conditions due to the germ of consumption, numbered 44, 54 being recorded in 1937.

The great bulk of the 44 deaths, viz., 34, was due to phthisis. The number in 1937 was 51.

Of the total number of deaths registered (1,008), the percentage due to phthisis was 3.4 as against 4.5 in 1937. The age periods at which the deaths occurred were: 1—5, nil; 5—15, nil; 15—25, 3 (9%); 25—45, 13 (38%); 45—65, 14 (41%); 65 and over, 4 (12%).

The subject of phthisis is further discussed in connection with the notification and prevention of tuberculosis.

Respiratory Diseases.—The number of deaths due to bronchitis, pneumonia, and other diseases of the organs of respiration was 102. This is lower by 37 than the figure (139) for 1937.

The death-rate was 1.12 per thousand. In 1937 the rate was 1.52.

The number of deaths certified to be due to bronchitis was 26. Of this number 14 were amongst persons aged 65 and upwards, and 7 amongst those of the group 45—65. Four were infants of under one year of age.

The deaths traceable to pneumonia numbered 70 and, as in the case of bronchitis, the later age-groups contributed the greatest numbers.

Cancer or Malignant Disease.—The number of deaths due to cancer was 180 and the death-rate 1.98 per 1,000 of the population. The figures for 1937 were 179 and 1.95 per 1,000 respectively.

Information with regard to the age at which death occurred and the situation of the disease is given in Tables 11 and 12.

TABLE 11.

CANCER : AGES AT DEATH.

Ages.	Under 1.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 55.	55 and under 65.	65 and under 75.	75 and upwards.	Total
Males ...	—	—	—	—	1	4	11	17	30	14	77
Females...	—	—	—	—	3	4	14	25	42	15	103
Totals...	—	—	—	—	4	8	25	42	72	29	180

TABLE 12.

CANCER : SITUATION OF THE DISEASE.

Parts of the body affected.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Face, Tongue, Jaw	7	2	9
Throat, Neck, Gullet... ..	13	3	16
Stomach	14	13	27
Intestines	13	16	29
Liver	3	10	13
Breast	—	25	25
Uterus and Generative Organs ...	4	18	22
Various	23	16	39
Totals	77	103	180

It is a commonly accepted fact that the number of deaths due to cancer is, over a long period, showing a definite tendency to increase. No reason, generally acceptable, to explain this has as yet been put forward, nor has any theory to account for the occurrence of the disease, to which the medical profession as a whole can subscribe, been submitted. One point upon which there is general agreement, however, is with regard to the importance, advisability and advantage of early treatment. Of the accuracy of the advice, now so widely given that there should never be any delay in seeking an authoritative opinion in any case of doubt and in securing treatment, there can be no question.

Accident, Suicide and Manslaughter.—Accidental or violent deaths during 1938 numbered 58. Of these 21 were due to suicide.

TABLE 13.
VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1938 AND TEN PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR	Population estimated to middle of each Year	BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT			
		Uncor- rected	Nett		No.	Rate	of Non- residents registered in the District	of Resi- dents not registered in the District	Under 1 year of Age		At all Ages	
			No.	Rate					No.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	No.	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1928	104,000	3,662	1,317	12.6	1,335	12.8	787	690	105	79.0	1,238	11.1
1929	102,400	3,526	1,233	11.9	1,465	14.3	821	804	93	77.0	1,455	13.2
1930	102,400	3,162	1,247	12.1	1,373	13.3	831	618	77	62.0	1,171	10.6
1931	93,460	3,134	1,067	11.4	1,411	14.3	826	640	70	65.0	1,225	12.3
1932	96,430	2,952	1,055	10.9	1,444	14.3	859	680	92	87.2	1,265	12.4
1933	94,080	2,881	916	9.7	1,411	14.1	840	653	51	56.0	1,224	12.2
1934	92,320	3,007	833	9.0	1,462	15.6	885	594	51	61.0	1,171	12.6
1935	92,200	3,397	896	9.7	1,401	15.0	927	620	50	56.0	1,094	11.7
1936	92,400	3,624	906	9.8	1,544	16.5	1,045	670	68	75.1	1,169	12.5
1937	92,110	3,339	859	9.3	1,461	15.8	948	689	63	73.3	1,202	13.0
1938	90,680	3,520	802	8.8	1,312	14.3	917	613	48	60.0	1,008	11.0

Total population at all ages at Census of 1921, 104,173.

" " 1931, 97,620.

Area of district in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 1,427.8 acres.

" " (including area covered by water), 1,473 acres.

TABLE 14.

VITAL STATISTICS OF SEPARATE LOCALITIES FOR 1938 AND TEN PREVIOUS YEARS.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	THE WHOLE BOROUGH.				ALL SOULS.				ST. MARY.				CHRIST CHURCH.				ST. JOHN.			
YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.
1928 ...	104,000	1,317	1,238	105	24,915	232	248	21	26,638	285	299	17	32,371	533	434	46	20,076	267	257	21
1929 ...	102,400	1,233	1,455	95	24,532	233	327	21	26,228	254	362	19	31,873	503	504	43	19,767	243	262	12
1930 ...	102,400	1,247	1,171	77	24,532	249	250	16	26,228	273	302	20	31,873	452	379	27	19,767	273	240	14
1931 ...	93,460	1,067	1,225	70	21,422	190	244	15	24,575	235	331	13	28,375	409	394	26	19,088	233	256	16
1932 ...	96,430	1,055	1,265	92	22,103	186	251	18	25,349	283	306	19	29,278	407	440	36	19,700	179	268	19
1933 ...	94,080	916	1,224	51	21,564	151	241	5	24,734	192	334	12	28,570	362	408	20	19,212	211	241	14
1934 ...	92,320	833	1,171	51	21,188	145	233	10	24,309	201	297	11	27,999	351	388	24	18,824	136	253	6
1935 ...	92,200	896	1,094	50	21,159	181	240	10	24,275	203	268	10	27,969	345	363	20	18,797	167	223	10
1936 ...	92,400	906	1,169	68	21,165	175	254	15	24,285	220	300	12	28,150	362	383	32	18,800	149	232	9
1937 ...	92,110	859	1,202	63	21,100	168	243	7	24,210	173	307	14	28,060	333	410	32	18,740	185	242	10
Averages of Years 1928 to 1937.	96,180	1,033	1,221	72	22,368	191	253	14	25,083	232	311	15	29,452	406	410	30	19,277	204	247	13
1938 ...	90,680	802	1,008	48	20,774	158	199	9	23,837	142	301	13	27,625	299	285	16	18,444	203	223	10

TABLE 15.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1938.

No.	CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the district.									Total Deaths. whether of Residents or Non-Residents in Institutions in the District.	All Souls.	St. Mary.	Christ Church.	St. John.	Total.
		All Ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.						
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
2	Measles	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
3	Scarlet Fever	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	—	—	1	1	2
4	Whooping Cough	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
5	Diphtheria	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	2
6	Influenza	10	—	—	1	—	—	3	16	—	3	1	3	4	2	10
7	Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
8	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
9	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	34	—	—	—	—	3	13	14	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	Other Tuberculous Diseases	10	—	—	2	2	—	3	1	2	15	6	5	10	13	34
11	Syphilis	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	14	—	3	7	—	10
12	General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	4	1	—	2	—	3
13	Cancer, Malignant Disease	180	—	—	—	—	—	12	67	101	3	1	2	2	—	5
14	Diabetes	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	9	324	44	52	41	43	180
15	Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	48	—	—	—	—	—	1	17	30	17	4	4	6	2	16
16	Heart Disease	264	—	—	—	—	1	4	59	200	43	10	16	13	9	48
17	Aneurysm	7	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	2	97	46	78	74	66	264
18	Other Circulatory Diseases	57	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	4	2	3	1	1	7
19	Bronchitis	26	4	—	—	—	—	1	7	14	33	10	21	18	8	57
20	Pneumonia (all forms)	70	11	2	—	1	1	6	17	32	8	4	6	8	8	26
21	Other Respiratory Diseases	6	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	3	40	14	25	20	11	70
22	Peptic Ulcer	13	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	4	25	—	1	3	2	6
23	Diarrhoea, etc.	12	8	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	24	1	9	2	1	13
24	Appendicitis	10	—	—	1	1	—	2	4	1	2	2	3	4	3	12
25	Cirrhosis of Liver	8	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	4	10	4	1	3	2	10
26	Other Diseases of the Liver, etc.	7	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	1	7	3	2	2	1	8
27	Other Digestive Diseases	25	1	—	—	2	1	5	5	11	12	5	—	2	—	7
28	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	22	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	13	23	3	12	6	4	25
29	Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	40	6	5	7	4	22
30	Other Puerperal Causes	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
31	Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformation, etc.	20	19	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	12	1	—	—	1	2
32	Senility	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	71	2	6	9	3	20
33	Suicide	21	—	—	—	—	1	5	12	3	10	2	3	3	2	10
34	Other Violence	37	1	—	—	1	1	11	5	18	10	5	4	6	6	21
35	Other defined Diseases	78	3	—	—	1	5	11	24	34	40	9	11	9	8	37
36	Causes ill-defined or unknown	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	129	13	22	21	22	78
	Totals	1,008	48	6	6	11	14	88	282	553	1,030	199	301	285	223	1,008

MORTUARY.

The number of bodies deposited from 1st January to 31st December, 1938, was as follows :—

TABLE 16.

Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	No. of post-mortems held.	No. of infectious cases.
34	32	66	39	—

CREMATORIUM.

The St. Marylebone Crematorium, situated at East End Road, Finchley, has now been in use for over a year. Cremation facilities are available for St. Marylebone and other districts at fees ranging from three to five guineas.

In pursuance of No. 10 of the Cremation Regulations, 1930, the Secretary of State appointed the Medical Officer of Health to be Medical Referee, and the Deputy Medical Officer of Health to be Deputy Medical Referee, in respect of the Crematorium and during the year 91 certificates authorising cremation were issued—79 by the Medical Referee, and 12 by the Deputy Medical Referee.

TRANSPORTATION OF BODIES ABROAD.

In certain cases where bodies are transported overseas, the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which death has taken place is called upon to furnish to the shipping company a certificate to the effect that the body is not infectious and that it has not been exposed to infection. During 1938 one such certificate was issued in respect of a body transported to Australia.

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

STAFF.

Information with regard to the staff of the department is contained in a statement on page 7, as required by Ministry of Health Circular 359. During the year a number of changes took place. On the 15th December, Dr. Anderson relinquished his position as Tuberculosis Officer and Assistant Medical Officer of Health to take up an appointment as Deputy Medical Officer of Health of Fifeshire.

On the 1st April, 1938, Mr. A. H. James succeeded Mr. Curtis as Chief Clerk of the department. The death, on the 20th January, of Mr. William John Howe, a Principal Assistant, is recorded with great regret. He had served the Council and their predecessors, the St. Marylebone Vestry, for nearly 39 years. Vacancies in the clerical staff were filled by the transfer, from other departments of the Council, of Messrs. D. H. Drewell, H. J. Payne and M. Kelly. Two temporary shorthand-typists were engaged in connection with the Air Raid Precautions work of the Department.

In the Maternity and Child Welfare section of Health Centre No. 2, Mr. J. A. Smith was engaged in January as part-time Dental Surgeon, and Miss Percy, in April, as part-time chiropodist.

The services of a temporary sanitary inspector were found to be necessary to relieve Inspectors Scoble and Wilson, upon whom heavy calls were made in connection with the work of air raid precautions, and Mr. H. Ridler was engaged in this capacity as from the 2nd May. Miss H. K. Dupont, a health visitor, resigned on marriage as from the 1st September, and Miss F. H. M. Chapman was appointed on the 1st November to fill the vacant position.

Miss F. A. Baker, who had served the Council for 37 years and gained the affection and esteem of her colleagues and a wide circle of friends in the Borough, though retired from the permanent staff of the Council as from the 22nd March, 1937, continued duty as a temporary tuberculosis visitor until the 29th January, 1938. Reluctant to sever her association with the department, Miss Baker then undertook, in an honorary capacity, work in connection with the Dental and Foot Clinics when these services were first established as part of the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme of the Borough in the early part of the year. The vacancy created by the retirement of Miss Baker was filled by Miss Pepler, whose appointment took effect on the 3rd January.

Mr. C. J. Kendall, the Senior Disinfecter, retired as from the 14th July on the completion of 40 years' service. He was succeeded by Mr. J. Overton, whose position as Assistant Disinfecter was filled by the appointment of Mr. W. J. Jones.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Dr. L. E. H. Whitby, C.V.O., M.C., continues to act as the Council's Bacteriologist. The work is carried out in the Bland Sutton Institute of Pathology at the Middlesex Hospital, and details of investigations in relation to (a) the water of the Council's swimming pools, (b) milk, ice cream and other foods, and (c) infectious disease, are set forth under the appropriate headings of this report at pages 45, 57, 60 and 82.

Mr. J. F. F. Rowland, B.A., A.I.C., is the Public Analyst for the Borough, and his laboratory is situated at No. 133, Gloucester Place, N.W.1. A report on the work done during 1938, together with a statement of food and drugs analysed, will be found on pages 60—62.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The efficient ambulance service of the London County Council is available in the Borough for the conveyance of persons suffering from infectious disease, for cases of accident, sudden illness and for maternity cases. The ambulances of the County Council may also be utilised, on payment, for private and non-infectious cases.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The Paddington and St. Marylebone District Nursing Association continue to provide adequate nursing services in the home under an arrangement made with the Council. The number of cases of pneumonia nursed fell from 171 in 1937 to 11 in 1938. Thirty-eight cases of measles or German measles were nursed during 1938 as against none in the previous year. Table 17 gives full particulars of the work carried out in 1938.

TABLE 17.
HOME NURSING SERVICE.

	No. of cases nursed.	No. of visits paid.
Maternity	25	507
Ophthalmia neonatorum	3	82
Pemphigus neonatorum	3	40
Puerperal pyrexia	1	3
Influenza	10	43
Erysipelas	2	40
Pneumonia	11	175
Tuberculosis	3	86
Mumps	2	38
Measles or German measles	38	348
Chicken pox	1	6

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

Under this heading a description is required of any developments or changes in regard to treatment centres and clinics, including clinics solely for diagnosis or consultation.

The Council has three health centres :—

No. 1. Accommodated temporarily at the Old Baths Establishment, No. 181, Marylebone Road, pending transfer, during 1939 it is hoped, to the new building in course of erection on a site adjoining the Town Hall. This centre comprises a tuberculosis dispensary, maternity and child welfare clinics and a diphtheria immunisation clinic.

No. 2. A new building at No. 217, Lisson Grove with provision for maternity and child welfare clinics and auxiliary services of various kinds, including dental treatment, chiropody, child guidance, light therapy and massage.

No. 3. A new and smaller centre inaugurated during the year at No. 21a, Paddington Street, and providing ante-natal and child welfare clinics.

In addition, consultations held at the Middlesex and Queen Charlotte's Hospitals form part of the Council's maternity and child welfare scheme.

HOSPITALS: PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY.

Hospital accommodation being a matter with which the Borough Councils in London have no direct concern, it is not considered necessary to make special reference to it. St. Marylebone is fortunate in the number of voluntary hospitals and dispensaries of various kinds that are situated within its boundaries, and to these cases from the welfare centres are referred as and when necessary. Queen Charlotte's and the Middlesex Hospitals are available for ante-natal and complicated maternity cases.

Nursing homes in the Borough number 59, but with these, registration under the Nursing Homes (Registration) Act, 1927, being in the hands of the London County Council, the Borough Council have no concern.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The following extract from a statement required by the Ministry of Health showing the arrangements made by the Council and by Voluntary Associations providing Maternity and Child Welfare services in respect of which the Council pay contributions under section 101 of the Local Government Act, 1929, or otherwise, contains much useful information on the work of this section. Tables 20 (page 26) and 21 (page 29) give further particulars of the work done at the various clinic centres during the year.

Statement Showing Arrangements Made for Maternity and Child Welfare.

Number of births notified in the area during the year under section 255 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, as adjusted by any transferred notifications: (a) Live births, 833; (b) Still-births, 29; (c) Total, *862; (d) By midwives, 175; (e) By doctors and parents, 72; (f) By hospitals, 347; (g) By nursing homes, 64; (h) inward transfers, 204.*

*The total of the figures given under (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h) agree with the figure under (c).

Health Visiting.

- (i) Number of officers employed for health visiting at the end of the year: (a) by the Council, 8; (b) by voluntary associations, 2.
- (ii) Equivalent of whole time services devoted by the whole staff to health visiting (including attendance at infant welfare centres): (a) in the case of health visitors employed by the Council, 6½; (b) in the case of health visitors employed by voluntary associations, 2.
- (iii) Number of visits paid during the year by all health visitors: (a) To expectant mothers, first visits, †349; total visits, 706. (b) To children under 1 year of age, first visits, †627; total visits, 4,428. (c) To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years, total visits, 7,153.

†Excluding cases which are known to have previously been visited in another district.

Infant Welfare Centres.

- (a) Number of centres provided and maintained by the Council, 4 (including a three year old pre-school clinic).
- (b) Number of centres provided and maintained by voluntary associations, 3.
- (c) Total number of attendances at all centres during the year: (i) By children under 1 year of age, 11,011 (7,709 St. Marylebone residents); (ii) By children between the ages of 1 and 5 years, 9,082 (6,785 St. Marylebone residents).
- (d) Total number of children who attended at the centres for the first time during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were: (i) Under 1 year of age, *687 (484 St. Marylebone residents); (ii) between the ages of 1 and 5 years, 213 (199 St. Marylebone residents).

*Excluding children who are known to have previously attended a centre in another district.

(e) Total number of children who attended at the centres during the year and who, at the end of the year, were : (i) Under 1 year of age, 600 (402 St. Marylebone residents) ; (ii) over 1 year of age, 1,085 (716 St. Marylebone residents).

(f) Percentage of notified live births represented by the number in (d) (i), 58.

During the year show-cases were provided at the Council's health centres for the display of maternity and child welfare exhibits.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics (whether held at infant welfare centres or at other premises) :

	Ante-Natal.	Post-Natal.
(a) Number of clinics provided and maintained by the Council	2*	2*
(b) Number of clinics provided and maintained by voluntary associations	2	2
(c) Total number of attendances at all clinics during the year	25,011 (1,766)†	2,804 (147)†
(d) Total number of women who attended at all clinics during the year	4,055 (403)†	1,766 (112)†
(e) Percentage of total notified births (live and still) represented by the number in (d)	47	13

*One clinic opened 3rd August, 1938.

†Figures in brackets refer to St. Marylebone mothers.

Supply of Milk and Food.

(a) Arrangements made for this service are indicated by " Yes " or " No " in each space in Table 18.

TABLE 18.

Terms of supply.	Milk.			Meals supplied at Dining Centres.			Other Food.		
	Expectant Mothers.	Nursing Mothers.	Children under 5 years of age.	Expectant Mothers.	Nursing Mothers.	Children under 5 years of age.	Expectant Mothers.	Nursing Mothers.	Children under 5 years of age.
Free, or at less than cost price, in necessitous cases.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	No.	No.	No.
At cost price in other cases (e.g., sale of dried milk at Centres).	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	—	—	—	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.

(b) The total quantity of milk supplied during the year to expectant and nursing mothers and young children was 9,067 gallons (liquid) and 2,488 pounds (dried). No milk was supplied by voluntary associations.

During 1938 there has been no change in the methods adopted in relation to the supply of milk and dinners to mothers and children. Up to 31st December, 1938, the amount expended was £973 14s. 1d., as against £784 8s. 1d. in the year ended 31st December, 1937. The actual number of cases dealt with was 377, and the number of orders issued 2,325, varying slightly from those for 1937, when the cases numbered 358 and the orders 2,059.

The system, it may be said, has worked with absolute smoothness and has done a very great deal of good. The efforts of the officers and of Councillor Mrs. Davis, who has given most valuable help as representative of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, to make a just assessment have continued to meet with success.

Day Nurseries.

- (a) Number of day nurseries : (i) provided by the Council, nil ; (ii) provided by voluntary associations, 3.
- (b) Number of places for children under 5 years of age in the nurseries : (i) provided by the Council, nil ; (ii) provided by voluntary associations, 150.
- (c) Total number of attendances of children at these nurseries during the year, 20,445.

The situation of the three day nurseries in the Borough, together with details of the attendances for the year, are shown in Table 19.

TABLE 19.

Day Nursery.	Address.	Attendances, 1938.	
		Whole-day.	Half-day.
The Portman ... (St. Marylebone Health Society).	Carton Hall, Carton Street (temporary premises). Re- moved in August to new premises at Nos. 12-18, Salisbury Street.	6,348	608
The Crossley ... (St. Marylebone Health Society).	38, Barrow Hill Road ...	4,206	1,327
St. Vincent's Crèche ... (Convent of the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul).	14, Blandford Street ...	7,632	324

The St. Marylebone Health Society's new Portman Day Nursery in Salisbury Street, erected on a freehold site presented by Capt. The Hon. G. B. Portman, was formally opened by the Rt. Hon. The Viscount Stonehaven, P.C., G.C.M.G., D.S.O., LL.D., D.L., on the 13th July, 1938, and brought into use on the 29th August, 1938. The scheme was designed and carried out by Mr. Howard Robertson, F.R.I.B.A. The contractors were Messrs. Prestige & Co.

The Nursery is situated on the first and second floors of the new building. For the infants, from one month to two years, there are two large nurseries, each accommodating 15 cots. There is also a small room between these two nurseries, where a child who is fretful or unwell can be isolated. The infants' reception room is on one side, with convenient bathing arrangements. On the other side of the landing are the toddlers' reception rooms, where there are baths and small basins fixed at a height for the children to wash their own faces and hands, and to clean their teeth. From specially designed wall-fixtures each child's towel, face-cloth, comb and tooth-brush are suspended separately. Special racks are fixed in niches on the landing for

their home clothes, as they wear the Nursery clothes all day ; and there are cupboards for coats and racks for shoes.

The 40 children of nursery school age pass through the toddlers' reception rooms to the large nursery at the end of the building. There is a kitchenette with a hatch from which their meals are served. On the floor above, the playroom, sleeping-porch and open-air playground are situated.

On this floor the staff quarters are also arranged. There is a sitting-room for probationer nurses, a bed-sitting room for the Matron, bedrooms for two staff nurses and the cook-housekeeper, bedrooms for six probationers, and two bathrooms. The dining room also serves as a sitting-room for the staff nurses.

The kitchen for the Nursery is placed on the ground floor, and the Matron's and Secretary's offices and linen room adjoin the entrance, which is in Whitehaven Street. There is an indoor perambulator room, and two service lifts, electrically operated, one from the kitchen, for the meals, and the other from the laundry in the basement, for the linen. The central heating and the hot water are provided by a boiler, operated by a patent mechanical stoker.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Maternity and Child Welfare Contributions (London) Scheme, 1937, the Council make a grant at the rate of £546 per annum to the Health Society in respect of the services provided at the Portman Day Nursery.

Incorporated in the new building are the Sieff Hall and the Christine Murrell Memorial. The hall, which occupies the greater part of the ground floor, is licensed for music and dancing and let to Clubs, or for social evenings, meetings, or such activities as "Keep Fit" classes.

The Christine Murrell Memorial Unit was presented by friends and associates of the late Dr. Christine Murrell, who established an Infant Consultation in Salisbury Street 32 years ago. It is intended to carry on in the memorial unit medical work of a remedial and preventive character.

Infectious Diseases.

Table 20 gives information regarding infectious disease notifications, and the number of cases visited and for whom home nursing or hospital accommodation was provided.

TABLE 20.

Disease.	Number of cases notified during the year.	Number of cases visited by officers of the Council.	Number of cases for whom home nursing was provided by the Council.	Number of cases removed to hospital.
(1) Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	4	4	3	4
(2) Pemphigus Neonatorum ...	—	—	3	—
(3) Puerperal Fever	3	3	—	2
(4) Puerperal Pyrexia	18	18	1	17
* (5) Measles and German Measles (in children under 5 years of age)	2	197	26	—
* (6) Whooping Cough (in children under 5 years of age)... ..	17	33	—	11
(7) Epidemic Diarrhoea (in children under 5 years of age)... ..	Not Notifiable	5	—	—
(8) Poliomyelitis (in children under 5 years of age)	1	—	—	1

*Notifiable as from 1st October, 1938.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Four cases of ophthalmia neonatorum, of which details are given below, were notified during the year. The number in 1937 was ten.

Vision unimpaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
Removal from district	...	...	...	...	...	1
Died	...	...	...	...	...	—
						—
						4
						—

Home Nursing.

- (a) Number of nurses employed at the end of the year for the nursing of expectant mothers and children under 5 years of age, maternity nursing, or the nursing of puerperal fever : (i) by the Council, nil ; (ii) by voluntary associations, the time of 1½ nurses.
- (b) Total number of cases attended during the year by these nurses, 66.

Home Helps.

Number of cases in which home helps have been provided during the year, 3.

Convalescent Homes.

- (a) Number of convalescent institutions with accommodation for expectant or nursing mothers or children under 5 years of age :
 - (i) provided by the Council—nil.
 - (ii) provided by voluntary associations—accommodation maintained by the Council at the Zachary Merton Convalescent Home, Rustington, Sussex, for nursing mothers, and children under 5 years of age.
- (b) Number of beds for such cases in convalescent institutions :
 - (i) provided by the Council—nil.
 - (ii) provided by voluntary associations—2.
- (c) Total number of cases admitted to the beds included in (b) during the year—15 mothers and 20 babies.
- (d) Total number of such cases sent by the Council during the year to other convalescent institutions—nil.

Midwives.

After a review of the arrangements for a domiciliary midwifery service in London which were inaugurated on the 1st January, 1938, under the Midwives Act, 1936, the London County Council expressed satisfaction that the service was operating with considerable success and decided to continue the existing arrangements with voluntary organisations, subject to further consideration before the 31st December, 1939. The co-operative arrangements with the borough councils' maternity and child welfare services are also reported to have functioned satisfactorily, and periodical conferences between the County Medical Officer of Health and the Medical Officer of Health in each area will continue to be held as may be necessary.

In September medical practitioners in the Borough were notified of the coming into operation on the 1st November, 1938, of the County of London (Midwifery—Prohibition of Unqualified Persons) Order, 1938, made by the Minister of Health under section 6 (2) of the Midwives Act, 1936. By virtue of the Order and section 6 of the Act of 1936, any unqualified woman or any male person who receives any remuneration for attending in the Administrative County of London as a nurse on a woman in childbirth, or at any time during the ten days immediately after childbirth, becomes liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten pounds. Persons not debarred from such attendance are :—

- (a) Women certified under the Midwives Act, 1902, or registered in the general part of the register of nurses required to be kept under the Nurses Registration Act, 1919.

- (b) Persons who, while undergoing training with a view to becoming a duly qualified medical practitioner or a certified midwife, attend on a woman as aforesaid as part of a course of practical instruction in midwifery recognised by the General Medical Council or by the Central Midwives Board.
- (c) Persons attending on a woman as aforesaid in any nursing home which is registered or which is exempt from registration under Part XI of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, or in any hospital or other premises excluded from the definition of "nursing home" in section 304 of the same Act.
- (d) Women, who before 1st January, 1937, have been certified by the authorities of a hospital or institution approved by the Minister to have been trained in obstetric nursing and who have notified the local supervising authority in writing accordingly.

Child Life Protection.

Administration of Part I of the Children Act, 1908 as amended by Part V of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932.

- (a) Number of persons on the register who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year, 9.
- (b) Number of children on the register : (i) at the end of the year, 11 ; (ii) who died during the year, nil ; (iii) on whom inquests were held during the year, nil ; (iv) returned to parents during the year, 2 ; (v) removed to institutions during the year, nil ; (vi) adopted during the year, nil.
- (c) Number of infant protection visitors at the end of the year who were : (i) health visitors, 6 ; (ii) female, other than health visitors, nil ; (iii) male, nil.
- (d) Number of persons (in addition to or in lieu of visitors under (c) above) or societies authorised to visit under the proviso to Section 2 (2) of the Act of 1908, nil.
- (e) Proceedings taken during the year : No. of cases, nil.
- (f) Number of cases in which the local authority has given a sanction during the year : (i) under (a) of section 3 of the Act of 1908, nil ; (ii) under (b) of section 3 of the Act of 1908, nil ; (iii) under (c) of section 3 of the Act of 1908, nil.
- (g) Number of orders obtained during the year under section 67 of the Act of 1932 : (i) from a court of summary jurisdiction, nil ; (ii) from a single justice, nil.
- (h) Number of inspections, 242.

For the information of those desiring to receive or to place children, and with the object of providing protection for the latter particularly, the Public Health Committee arranged for the continued publication at regular intervals throughout the year in newspapers published in the Borough of an advertisement to the following effect :

Infant Life Protection.—Persons accepting or proposing to accept payment or reward for accommodating infants and children in their homes, and those desirous of finding accommodation for children, should apply to the Medical Officer of Health at the Town Hall, Marylebone Road, N.W.1. Advice is given free and there is no fee on registration.

Health Visitors and Home Visits.

There are five whole-time and three part-time health visitors employed by the Council, whose duties include the carrying out of periodic visits to the homes of children from birth to 5 years of age. Children of from 18 months to 2 years are visited every 3 months and those from 2 to 5 years every 6 months. At these visits the health visitors make enquiries into the health of the children and persuade the mothers to attend the clinic, or otherwise obtain treatment of any illness or defect that may be present. Many of the children of from 3 to 5 years attend school but routine visits are still made to the homes of these children.

The number of visits paid in 1938 by health visitors to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years was 7,153.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

At Health Centres Nos. 1, 2 and 3, maintained by the Council, children up to 5 years are seen.

At Health Centre No. 2, a special "toddlers' clinic" is held once a week. The mothers are encouraged to bring their children to this clinic once a month. Regular visits are carried out by the health visitors to encourage them to attend, and cards are sent to the mothers to remind them of the date of the clinic when their children should next be seen. Children of from 18 months to 5 years are also seen at any of the other consultations held at the centre if it is more convenient for the mothers to attend then.

In addition to these centres, consultations are held weekly at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, Middlesex Hospital, Church Army Dispensary, and at the St. Marylebone and Western General Dispensary. All these clinics are chiefly attended by infants, but children up to the age of 5 years are also seen. At the Middlesex Hospital a special clinic for toddlers is held once a week. All the consultations referred to in this paragraph are open to other than St. Marylebone babies.

Clinic for Pre-School Children.

At Health Centre No. 1, a special clinic is held for 3 year old children. The object of this clinic, which was established experimentally in 1931, was to endeavour to make touch, before they entered school, with children who had never attended a clinic or welfare centre, and find out something with regard to their condition for their own benefit and for the information of the school medical officer. To this end all children who have reached the age of 3 years are found from a register, and unless they are already in attendance at a clinic, an invitation is sent and they are visited specially, if they have not been recently seen during one of the health visitor's routine calls, and attendance at the clinic advised. Of the 46 children who were examined during 1938, 28 needed treatment for one or more conditions. Table 21 gives a summary of the conditions found.

TABLE 21.

Condition.	Cases.
Dental caries	12
Enlarged tonsils necessitating removal ...	9
Under-nourishment and flabbiness (referred to massage and sunlight clinic)	2
Difficult and spoilt children (referred to child guidance clinic)... ..	2
Rheumatic heart	2
Congenital heart	1

Treatment of Minor Ailments.

Children suffering from minor ailments were treated at the London County Council clinic at Health Centre No. 2.

Dental Clinic.

By arrangement certain sessions at the Dental Clinic of the London County Council are set aside for the inspection and treatment of mothers and children under the maternity and child welfare scheme of the Borough Council. Table 22 contains statistics for the year 1938.

TABLE 22.

Attendances—mothers...	...	...	...	...	434
„ children...	...	...	...	...	97
Cases receiving advice and treatment	...	...	...	...	390
Extractions under gas—mothers	...	...	...	...	109
„ „ „ children	...	...	...	...	32
Dentures provided at cost price—full	...	...	...	...	12
„ „ „ „ „ partial	...	...	...	...	10

The following report is submitted by the Dental Surgeon (Mr. J. Arthur Smith, L.D.S., R.C.S.) :—

“ The dental clinic at Health Centre No. 2 has been working throughout the year with satisfactory results. The need for dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers cannot be emphasised too much. Oral sepsis affects the gastric mucosa, and infective foci in the jaws lead to untold infections and damage which could so easily be prevented. Fortunately, the mothers are attending the clinic regularly. It is most necessary, too, that the temporary teeth of the children should receive attention and not be neglected in that important period prior to coming under the care of the school dental surgeon. Apart from other ills there is a definite relationship between a septic temporary dentition and the chronically enlarged tonsil. The interest of the mothers goes to show that they appreciate the services offered them by the Borough Council.”

Foot Clinic.

For some time attention had been directed to the need of making provision for care of the feet, particularly in the case of the mothers attending the welfare centres, many of whom were, in fact, more or less disabled as a result of conditions affecting the feet, for which treatment could readily and effectually be provided. The Council, therefore, decided that as from the 1st April, 1938, a foot clinic should be established in the orthopaedic department of Health Centre No. 2 as part of the maternity and child welfare scheme of the Borough. The fee charged per attendance is 1/6d. or 1/- or 6d. according to the circumstances of the patient. In necessitous cases treatment is provided free of cost. Sessions have been held twice weekly, but owing to the demands on the clinic it will be necessary to arrange for an additional session per week in the near future.

Miss Margaret Percy, M.L.I.Ch., the chiropodist in charge, submits the following report on the first nine months' working of the clinic :—

“ Actually the time has been too short to see anything very striking in the way of progress, though from the beginning there has been a steady increase in numbers. By way of general comment on the figures, which relate to the period 1st April, 1938 to 31st December, 1938, I should like to say that, as regards individual patients, progress has been quite steady. In the majority of cases the conditions seen and dealt with are corns and callosities, the patient paying regular visits on an average at intervals of a month. Undoubtedly the

work has been retarded by the footwear worn by most patients. This is a usual experience, although it is interesting to find that a great deal more concern has been shown by the women in this subject. On the whole I feel they are becoming more "foot conscious," and this in every way I have tried to bring about.

SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCES AND TREATMENT.

A. *All Ages.*

During the nine months 63 sessions were held and 271 attendances made.

	First Attendances (New Cases)	Subsequent Attendances	Total Attendances
Mothers ...	100	161	261
Young Children	8	2	10
Totals ...	108	163	271

B. *Mothers—Defects Treated.*

Anidrosis ...	7
Bursitis ...	15
Callosities ...	61
Dropped anterior transverse arch ...	11
Heloma durum ...	76
Heloma molle ...	7
Hallux valgus ...	10
Hyperidrosis ...	2
Hammer toe ...	1
Metatarsalgia ...	3
Morton's toe ...	1
Onychocryptosis ...	4
Onychogryphosis ...	8
Pes cavus ...	7
Pes planus ...	2
Septic conditions ...	2
Subungual clavus ...	3
Conditions due to sprain ...	1

Nine patients were referred to their medical practitioners for medical or surgical treatment for the following conditions :—

Exostosis and bursitis ...	1
Oedema ...	5
Eczema ...	1
Varicose condition ...	2

Three patients were referred for massage for the following conditions :—

Pes plano valgus ...	1
Bunions ...	1
Arthritis ...	1

One patient was referred to hospital for surgical treatment for the following condition :—

Stiff pes plano valgus.

C. *Young Children—Defects Treated.*

Heloma durum ...	2
Onychocryptosis ...	1

Patients referred for massage for the following conditions :—

Pes cavus	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pes planus	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

One patient was referred to hospital for surgical treatment for the following condition :—

Congenital talipes equino varus.

Two patients were referred to their medical practitioners for the following conditions :—

Verruca vulgaris	...	...	...	...	...	1
Adducted digit	...	...	...	...	...	1."

Child Guidance Clinic.

During 1937 the question of the establishment of a child guidance clinic in connection with infant welfare centres was discussed with the Child Guidance Council, a body which has as one of its objects the encouragement of local authorities and other bodies to set up clinics at which various nervous and behaviour disorders in children are investigated and treated.

The reason for desiring to make treatment available at such centres was mainly to bring out the preventive effect of the measures, since investigation had shown that it was in the earlier years, before the child entered school and while he was still or should be attending the welfare centre, that the difficulties occurred and the nervous trouble was established.

Though a clinic of this kind had been in operation in the provinces for some time, no similar scheme had been tried in London. As a result of the discussions, the Child Guidance Council decided that it would be worth while to make a trial of the arrangement at two of the better-known centres in the metropolis, and of these St. Marylebone Health Centre No. 2, it was felt, should be one.

The Borough Council approved the proposal and the Child Guidance Council placed at their disposal, for the purpose of conducting a clinic on one afternoon per week, one of their specialist medical officers for a period of one year, and themselves undertook to meet all expenses. The officer appointed was Dr. Grace Sherwood Calver, Physician, Children's Department, Tavistock Clinic; Medical Psychologist, Aural Department, Infants' Hospital; Demonstrator in Mental Hygiene, King's College; and Lecturer in Mental Hygiene, Mothercraft Training Society.

The first session of the clinic was held at Health Centre No. 2 on the 20th January, 1938, cases being referred during the experimental period by the Deputy Medical Officer of Health and the Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer. The following report on the first year's working is submitted by Dr. Grace Calver :—

"The purpose of the work was to discover whether in an infant welfare centre there were cases which the doctor in charge would refer to a child guidance unit attached to the centre. If such cases were referred, the type of cases, and how these could most effectively be dealt with: (a) advice to the mother; (b) simple play therapy with the child; (c) referral to an organised child guidance clinic.

This report covers the work done in such a unit for a period of roughly twelve months, during which 64 new cases have been seen and a total number of 118 attendances made.

Age Groups.

- i. Greatest number of cases fall between 1 year and 2 years. Boys predominate.
- ii. Second largest group is between 2 and 3 years old, and in this group the number of boys and girls are equal.

Types of Symptoms.

1. The symptoms complained of in these age-groups are practically all associated with assertive tendencies and their results. Screaming fits, feeding difficulties and disturbances of sleep predominate as symptoms.
2. Anxiety symptoms after severe illness or operations.

Environmental Factors.

- I. Marked anxiety in mother.
- II. Lack of understanding of what is natural behaviour in young children.
- III. Commonly associated history of marital unhappiness.
- IV. Grandparents.
- V. Pre-marital conception.

Value of the Work.

- (a) Enables one to instruct mother in what is to be expected at various stages in a child's natural development.
- (b) To suggest methods of dealing with objective situations accentuating the child's difficulties, such as marital or family problems. A change of environmental conditions may completely alter child's behaviour.
- (c) Dealing with mother's own emotional problems, anxiety, guilt, etc. Most mothers respond well to suggestions and advice, but we have to accept the fact that there are always a certain proportion of parents who are quite incapable of being helped, and others in whom the emotional conditions are too severe to be dealt with by advice alone.
- (d) With very young children difficulties and problems have not become fixated, and simple forms of play therapy can release tension and anxiety.
- (e) This play therapy in the presence of the mother has a great educative value, and increases her understanding of childhood behaviour.

Prevention of Neurosis and Production of Mental Health.

The greatest value of this work lies in its preventive aspect. We tackle problems easily, eradicate the child's emotional difficulties, and help its more positive attitude to life and living. If at this early stage we can help the parents in the development of right attitude towards children, and help to make the parents conscious of the effects of their own emotional difficulties both on their children and themselves, we can do much more to produce mental health in the growing child than any amount of child guidance work at later periods when emotional attitudes have become more complicated and fixated. The work with young children and their parents more than repays all the money and energy expended on it.

As a typical instance of a difficulty in a child exaggerated by parental difficulties, I take the case of a 2½ year old boy with very marked obsessional tendencies, who was eating badly, sleeping badly, and failing to gain weight. He looked miserable and terrified. At the end of a month, and as the result of four visits, he was eating well, sleeping peacefully, and had already begun to gain weight. All his obsessional traits had disappeared. The symptoms were the result of too repressive treatment, especially by the father who had a very quick temper and completely lacked understanding of small children. The case was dealt with by helping the mother to understand that the child's desire to do things was perfectly natural, and also by talking over her own emotional problems which were very marked. Unfortunately, the father could not be seen, but the mother was able to gain his co-operation. The child was helped through play with material suitable for his age to be less afraid of his own assertive urges, and by these means, his environment becoming much more suitable, he was able to develop more happily."

It is certain that clinics of this sort are necessary, and it is inevitable that in a short time they will come to be regarded as an essential part of every properly constituted maternity and child welfare scheme.

As the Child Guidance Council intimated that they would be unable to bear the cost of the clinic beyond the end of March, 1939, the Borough Council decided to take over the clinic, with Dr. Calver as psychiatrist, as part of the maternity and child welfare scheme of the Borough as from the 1st April, 1939, the Minister of Health approving the arrangement for a year from that date and requesting to be furnished in due course with a further report on the working of the clinic.

Food and Diet (Weight Control) Clinic.

Many of the mothers attending the welfare centres have noticed that they have put on weight excessively, particularly after the birth of their children. As errors of diet are frequently the cause of obesity and other disorders among the clinic mothers, it was decided to try experimentally at Health Centre No. 2, under the supervision of Dr. Wallace, the Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer, a food and diet clinic at which mothers could obtain advice on diet with a view to reduction of their weight or the correction of digestive or other disorders resulting from eating the wrong foods.

In the operation of the Clinic the Council have been fortunate in obtaining the voluntary assistance of Miss Margaret Grant, B.Sc., who is a specialist in dietetics, having held the appointment of Dietician at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, and who is at present Dietician at King's College for Social Science.

Since the clinic was established on the 8th April, 1938, sessions have been held weekly, first at 8 p.m. and subsequently at 5 p.m., on Fridays. The mothers are weighed and a complete physical examination made to find any physical cause for the obesity or any condition which might render a special diet unsuitable. A careful history of the food consumed daily by the patient is taken and a daily menu advised in which the amounts of fat and carbohydrate are reduced. Each patient is dealt with individually, the menu given being modified from the diet they have previously been consuming.

During the experimental period 28 patients have between them made a total number of 114 attendances.

The mothers who have kept to the diets advised and have continued to attend have all lost weight, and their general health has also benefited from the treatment.

Only 6 mothers have, however, attended regularly for a period of three months or more. The chief difficulty appears to be the regular continuance on the diet; as a result the rules are dropped and they cease to attend.

The effects of such a clinic are not confined to the simple reduction of weight among a certain group of women. The vast majority of mothers of the working classes consume diets which have a great excess of sugar and other carbohydrates and are lacking in proteins, minerals and protective foodstuffs. The clinic has been a valuable means of propaganda for teaching the principles of correct feeding.

Massage Clinic.

Sessions were held twice weekly at Health Centre No. 2.

Orthopædic Treatment.

Cases requiring orthopædic treatment are referred by the medical officers at the welfare centres to the Royal National Orthopædic Hospital, which is situated in the Borough.

Artificial Sunlight Therapy.

Clinics for providing this form of treatment were held thrice weekly at Health Centre No. 2.

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics.

As indicated on pages 65 and 66, these clinics continued to operate throughout the year, and were largely attended.

Maternity Cases.

The Council has not established a maternity home or hospital, having regard to the large amount of accommodation available within the borough at Queen Charlotte's Hospital and Middlesex Hospital. The number of births notified from these institutions during 1938 was 2,717, the total births numbering 3,980. The midwives residing in the borough, registered as intending to practise in the administrative County of London, number 31. Two conduct maternity homes which are registered by the London County Council. By an arrangement with the Paddington and St. Marylebone District Nursing Association, all women in the borough attended by externs of St. Mary's Hospital are provided with nursing attention by the Association. During the year 25 cases were dealt with and 507 visits were paid, the services of the nurses being greatly appreciated by the patients.

Maternity beds are also provided by the London County Council. The new maternity ward at Paddington Hospital was taken into use on the 1st November, 1938. From that date maternity patients from St. Marylebone were admitted to Paddington Hospital instead of St. Mary Abbots Hospital, Kensington, as formerly.

To secure the closer linking up of the maternity and child welfare services of the London County Council with those of the Borough Council, arrangements have been made for the Borough Council's two Assistant Medical Officers of Health to be associated, in an honorary capacity, with the Paddington Hospital, where every facility has been afforded them for seeing not only their own patients, but the work generally of the hospital, and the maternity department in particular. This arrangement makes for greater co-operation, and cannot fail to re-act beneficially so far as the patients are concerned.

Obstetric Consultants.

During the year the Council approved the provision of the services of obstetric consultants to be available for any doctor in the area needing assistance in difficulties or complications arising during pregnancy or at or after confinement in the case of patients resident in the Borough. The panel of consultants consists of the under-mentioned obstetric surgeons:—

Mr. Louis Carnac Rivett, F.R.C.S.,
135, Harley Street, W.1.

Mr. Frederick William Roques, F.R.C.S.
90a, Harley Street, W.1.

Mr. William Ralph Winterton, F.R.C.S.,
41, Harley Street, W.1.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres—Statistics.

Tables 23 and 24 on pages 36 and 37 give some idea of the work done at the various centres during the year.

TABLE 23.

STATEMENT SHOWING WORK OF THE INFANT CONSULTATIONS AND OTHER CLINICS.

Centre.	Health Centre No. 1.	Health Centre No. 2.	Health Centre No. 3.	Queen Charlotte's Hospital.	The Middlesex Hospital.
No. of Consultations held :—					
Infants	97	202	92	99	152
Toddlers	—	53	—	—	52
Maternity	—	52	14	364	252
Massage	—	90	—	—	—
Light	—	87	—	—	—
No. of attendances of mothers at clinic :—					
Ante-natal	—	587	53	18,959 (741)	5,412 (385)
Post-natal	—	68	3	2,171 (46)	562 (30)
No. of attendances of babies	1,400	3,347	859	1,599 (1,059)	3,806 (1,044)
No. of attendances of children over one year	1,278	3,368	754	802 (621)	2,834 (718)
No. of attendances at Light Clinic :—					
Infants	—	96	—	—	—
Toddlers	—	1,776	—	—	—
No. of attendances at Massage Clinic :—					
Infants	—	48	—	—	—
Toddlers	—	1,098	—	—	—
No. of Orders issued for milk	556	1,072	208	255	203
No. of Home visits ...	648	3,380	460	210	3,126
No. of new cases :—					
Infants	91	196	61	119 (67)	220 (69)
Toddlers	31	54	65	1	16 (3)
Ante-natal	—	145	14	3,035 (158)	604 (45)
Post-natal	—	44	1	1,421 (45)	366 (20)
Massage					
Infants	—	2	—	—	—
Toddlers	—	54	—	—	—
Light					
Infants	—	13	—	—	—
Toddlers	—	120	—	—	—

NOTE.—Figures in brackets refer to St. Marylebone residents attending Queen Charlotte's Hospital and Middlesex Hospital.

TABLE 24.
STATEMENT SHOWING WORK OF THE MUNICIPAL ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.

1938.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
No. of Sessions	4	4	5	4	4	6	5	6	6	6	7	6	63
New Ante-natal cases	17	13	13	12	15	14	6	15	17	9	24	4	159
New Post-natal cases	3	6	6	4	4	2	3	6	3	7	3	2	49
Attendances Ante-natal	58	55	77	47	45	62	46	45	50	41	68	43	637
Attendances Post-natal	7	9	7	6	5	5	4	8	5	8	5	4	73
Transferred to Queen Charlotte's Hospital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transferred to St. Mary Abbots Hospital	7	4	12	8	10	13	6	6	8	4	—	—	78
Transferred to Paddington Hospital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	4	14
Put on special diet	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pads and belts provided	1	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
High blood pressure	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Low blood pressure	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
X-ray examinations	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	8
Referred to Dental clinic	1	—	6	5	7	7	4	3	3	1	6	—	43
Urine Tests	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Undernourished... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3
Miscarriage	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Threatened miscarriage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Cases referred by—													
Hospitals	—	—	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	8
Midwives	—	5	3	—	2	1	—	4	1	1	5	2	24

PHYSICAL TRAINING AND RECREATION ACT, 1937.

In connection with this Act, which came into force on the 13th July, 1937, various preliminary matters were considered during the year. After consultation with the London County Council in regard to facilities which the County Council were providing under the statute, it was arranged that the Borough Council would be consulted at an early stage in the event of any further provision in St. Marylebone being proposed.

On the 9th March, 1938, the Medical Officer of Health presided over a meeting associated with the Health, Sport and Fitness Exhibition of the Royal Institute of British Architects, held at the headquarters of the Institute in the Borough.

Survey.

At the request of the Regional Fitness Committee, an exhaustive survey of the facilities available in the Borough for physical training and recreation was carried out and a tabulated statement of detailed information forwarded to the Committee.

"Fitter Britain" Exhibit.

The excellent exhibit, "Towards a Fitter Britain," which occupied one of the four halls of the British Government Pavilion at the Empire Exhibition at Glasgow, and was seen by nearly four million visitors, was shown, by arrangement with the Ministry of Health, at Messrs. Selfridge's store in Oxford Street for several weeks. The exhibition, exceptionally comprehensive, included the following sections: 1. Model Health Clinic; 2. Health Statistics; 3. Enemies of Health; 4. Mother and Child; 5. Health at School; 6. Health at Play; 7. Good Food; 8. Good Housing. Afterwards the whole exhibit was handed over to the Central Council for Health Education, to whose funds the Borough Council make an annual contribution.

Holiday Camps.

Towards the end of the year arrangements were made for the Council to be represented at conferences of local authorities convened by the National Fitness Committee (London and Middlesex) to consider the question of the provision of municipal holiday camps under section 4 of the Act.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Under this heading the Minister of Health calls for a report with regard to Water-Closet Accommodation, Public Cleansing, Sanitary Inspection, and many other matters. In respect of certain of these, on account of the circumstances and arrangements existing in London Boroughs, there is little to be said, and much of the information is obtainable only from other departments of the Council or from other bodies. In order, however, to comply with the requirements of the Ministry, and to assist in obtaining uniformity in reports, each of the more important matters is dealt with as fully as possible.

WATER.

As usual, complaints as to water supply were few. All were dealt with, and a remedy found.

Water Supply cut off.

In accordance with the requirements of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, section 98 (1), the Metropolitan Water Board reported that the water had been cut off in 10 occupied premises. The reason for discontinuing the supply was in all cases the non-payment of rate.

In cases in which the premises were tenement houses, action was taken immediately on receipt of the Board's notice, in order to secure that the tenants should suffer no hardship as a result of being deprived of water.

Cisterns.

The bulk of the houses in the Borough, in accordance with the requirements of the Metropolitan Water Board, are provided with a cistern, and though in a considerable percentage water for drinking purposes is drawn direct from the main, there are still a number in which supplies for all purposes are obtained from a cistern. A bye-law of the Council requires that such cisterns shall be emptied and cleansed every six months. During the year 15 notices were served in regard to defects in and necessity for cleansing cisterns.

Water Supply in Dwelling Houses.

The certificates granted under section 95 (2) of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, in respect of new and rebuilt premises numbered 17. The number in 1937 was four.

In 28 instances intimation notices were served, calling for the provision of a supply of water to the upper storeys of tenement houses, as required by section 95 (5) of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936. The supply was provided in all cases after receipt of the intimation notice.

DRAINAGE.

During the year a large number of blocks of flats and commercial premises have been erected, replacing private houses where the leases have expired. Business and commercial premises are rapidly displacing private houses in the southern portion of the Borough; while moderate and high-class flats, together with detached residences, are still being constructed in the northern part of the Borough.

Duties in connection with drainage in the portion of the Borough north of Marylebone Road, which were allotted to Inspector Cook in 1929 have been in his hands ever since, duties in the southern half being performed by Inspector Draper. Engaged exclusively in drainage work, these officers between them in 1938 made 3,564 inspections, as shown in Table 25.

TABLE 25.
DRAINAGE OF PREMISES.

1938.	Northern District.	Southern District.	Total.
Number of plans deposited—New Buildings ...	28	25	53
" " " " Old Buildings ...	163	198	361
Number of inspections made	1,823	1,741	3,564

The total number of plans deposited in 1937 was 480, 63 relating to new buildings, and 417 to old buildings.

In the bulk of the cases the arrangements shown were in accordance with the bye-laws of the London County Council, and the work was allowed to proceed under the preliminary approval of the Medical Officer of Health. In cases in which there was departure from the requirements a special report was made to the Public Health Committee, who rarely refused approval if satisfied that compliance was impossible and that there was no possibility of nuisance or injury to health arising. In the majority of cases the departure referred to closet accommodation and affected particularly conveniences proposed to be constructed in basements.

Proceedings.

In no case was it found necessary to institute legal proceedings during the year.

Combined Drainage.

Orders under seal as to combined drainage were issued in respect of 12 premises. The number in 1937 was 22.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

In Table 26 on page 44, summarising the work carried out by the district inspectors, figures indicating the number of defects in water closets remedied and of water closets erected are set out.

In most instances the closets were erected with a view to providing additional accommodation in tenement houses, shops, or workshops or in order to afford suitable separate accommodation for women in places where both sexes were or were about to be employed. Though there may be here and there a small lock-up shop in which it is necessary for the individuals engaged on the premises to make use of a convenience in some other part of the building, or more rarely in an adjoining building, there are no premises in the Borough totally without sanitary conveniences of this type. The water-closet is, of course, the only type of closet in general use, though it may be mentioned that, in connection with air-raid precautions shelters, chemical closets are commonly being installed.

One of the great difficulties experienced from time to time is in regard to finding a suitable position for a convenience in which there will be complete compliance with the requirements of the bye-laws in respect of water-closets. This is particularly the case in relation to closets in basements and in the more overcrowded business and shopping portions of the Borough. All plans showing proposals to construct water-closets are most carefully scrutinised, but as noted in previous reports, the 1930 bye-laws having considerably modified the requirements so far as situation is concerned, the need for granting special approval now less frequently arises. Particularly by allowing of the introduction of closets in bath-rooms entered directly from rooms used exclusively as sleeping or dressing-rooms, they have met a demand that has been increasing for some time and that formerly caused considerable administrative difficulties.

PUBLIC SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

The usual supervision was exercised over the public conveniences during the year, Inspector Hill, the outdoor superintendent, visiting those provided for the use of males; the women inspectors, especially Miss Pepler, supervising those provided for females.

Reports and comparative statements as to receipts for the use of the public conveniences were regularly submitted to and considered by the Public Health Committee.

All Night Opening at Oxford Circus.

The Council arranged for the Oxford Circus Men's and Women's Conveniences to be kept open throughout the whole of the day and night for twelve months commencing on the 1st November, 1937. The question as to whether or not all night opening should be continued was reviewed towards the end of the year, and the Council decided that these Conveniences should remain open nightly until 2 a.m. for a further experimental period of one year.

London Passenger Transport Board.

Under an arrangement with the Transport Board, certain classes of their employees who use the accommodation provided at the public conveniences are given receipts on payment of the normal charges, in order that they may be reimbursed by the Board.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection and disposal of house refuse in the Borough is under the jurisdiction of the Highways Committee and the scheme is administered by the Borough Engineer (Mr. James Gair) to whom I am indebted for the following information.

Refuse Collection.

All premises in the Borough receive at least a twice-weekly collection, but over a great portion of the Borough a daily collection is made. In certain thoroughfares, more particularly in those streets in which refuse collection vehicles are prohibited by the Ministry of Transport during certain hours, collection is carried out from the kerb within stated hours, the bins being placed by the occupiers ready for collection by the Council's vehicles. This entails concentration of a large number of collecting vehicles in certain parts of the Borough in the early hours of the day.

During the year 111 intimation notices and 5 statutory notices were served by the Sanitary Authority in respect of defective bins; approved type metal dustbins were provided at 114 premises; while 913 visits were made by Inspector Hill, who gives part-time to this work.

An important part of the collection system is the use of the "container" in large business premises, blocks of flats, hotels, etc. This system was first introduced at the end of 1925, when containers were purchased by several of the large business houses in Oxford Street and other main thoroughfares in the Borough. By the end of 1936, 16 containers were in use. The system has since that date made steady progress and has been adopted by the owners or builders of most of the newer large blocks of flats, restaurants, etc. There are now 220 containers in use: they are purchased by the owners or occupiers of the premises concerned, and are collected daily by specially designed vehicles, removed to the Council's wharf, and there emptied, cleansed, and disinfected before return. This arrangement has proved to be more hygienic, quicker, less noisy in working and altogether more satisfactory than the use of a number of small bins. In this connection approach has been made to the Royal Institute of British Architects to obtain their co-operation with a view to attention being given to the problem of refuse storage and collection, by members of the Institute when planning and designing new buildings. Immediately plans of buildings to be erected in the Borough are deposited, representations are made to the architects regarding incorporation of the refuse container system, and considerable progress has been achieved in this direction.

As a result of action taken by the Borough Council, the London County Council now include, in appropriate cases, in their consent under the Town and Country Planning Act, a condition that the storage, collection and disposal of refuse shall be to the satisfaction of the Borough Council.

In conjunction with the "container" system of collection, the use of dust chutes is possible in suitable buildings, and where adopted, this system has proved efficient and worked very satisfactorily.

The fleet of vehicles used for the normal collection consists of entirely enclosed end-loading motor vans, steps being fitted to facilitate entry.

Refuse Disposal.

The whole of the house refuse collected in the Borough is discharged into a collecting pit at the Council's wharf situated at Paddington Basin on the Grand Union Canal. From this pit it is lifted by an electric crane and passed through a graded screen which separates large and small material and extracts the fine ashes and breeze. From the larger material are extracted saleable articles such as waste paper, rags, bones, scrap metal, etc. A magnetic separator deals with the tin and metal output. The whole of the material obtained by screening and separation is readily disposed of to scrap merchants, brick makers and others.

The residue is taken by a conveyor belt to a series of furnaces and a Woodall Duckham destructor, mechanically fed and clinkered. The steam thus produced is used to generate current for lighting and heating at the wharf and to drive the electrical machinery of the incineration plant.

Part of the refuse, together with the clinker from the furnaces, is conveyed by barge to the Council's shoot at Northolt where it is carefully covered in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Health regarding controlled tipping and the requirements of the Middlesex County Council and the Ealing Borough Council pursuant to the Middlesex County Council Act of 1934. The emanations from the two destructor plants at the wharf are dealt with by means of a 200 ft. chimney shaft.

The Council have under consideration the erection of a complete new incineration plant to a specification prepared by the Borough Engineer in conjunction with Consulting Engineers appointed by the Council. If adopted this will deal with the whole of the refuse collected in the Borough.

The work of refuse collection, screening, incineration, barging and tipping is continually under supervision with a view to avoiding any possibility of nuisance. Every precaution is taken to ensure satisfactory and efficient working and to give as little annoyance as possible.

Street Cleansing.

For cleansing purposes the Borough is divided into beats and each sweeper is entirely responsible for a definite length of public way. A similar system applies to the night sweeping gangs. Sweepings are collected and placed in galvanized refuse bins, two of which are mounted on each orderly barrow which has pneumatic tyres and is pushed by the sweeper. Periodical calls are made during the day at pre-arranged collecting spots and the contents of the bins are transferred to specially constructed side-loaded and covered collecting lorries and conveyed to the Council's wharf, treated, loaded into boats and conveyed to the shoot. The covers fitted to these vehicles prevent the possibility of the refuse being blown over the public streets. Gulley cleansing is carried out by means of three mechanically operated gulley cleansing machines. The contents of the gulleys are pumped into vehicles entirely under cover during the whole process and conveyed direct to the Council's wharf, where the material is deposited into a pit to allow for drainage and settling and final conveyance to the shoot.

Offal.

Various classes of offal, e.g., fish and green offal, and refuse from petrol interceptors at garages, are collected by the Council, a charge being made for these services and for the removal of certain trade refuse. Fish offal is sold to a contractor, other offal being treated in the same way as street sweepings.

Statistics.

The tonnages dealt with during 1938 were :—

House and trade refuse	...	...	49,943 tons.
Street sweepings and gulley refuse	...	...	8,115½ „

A sum of approximately £2,444 was obtained from the sale of by-products (ashes, breeze, wastepaper, rags, metal and tins).

In addition, approximately £1,159 was received for the removal of trade refuse, green and fish offal and for the cleansing of petrol interceptors.

The Crown Estate.

In that part of the Borough constituting the "Crown Estate," which comprises a large number of properties encircling Regent's Park and includes certain premises in Marylebone Road and Park Road, the responsibility for collection, removal and disposal of refuse is still in the hands of the Crown authorities.

Offensive Refuse.

Owing to the number of hotels, boarding houses, restaurants, and large private establishments in the borough, considerable quantities of food refuse (hogwash) are collected by pig-feeders daily, and close watch is necessary in order to ensure that the requirements of the bye-laws relating to removal of offensive refuse, as to hours of removal, provision of proper receptacles, etc., are complied with. During the year a number of warnings with regard to these matters were issued.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

Complaints.

The total number of complaints received was 2,291, as against 2,589 in 1937. The majority of these complaints were made by the inspectors themselves, though a certain number came from other members of the Council's staff, from voluntary workers of various organisations, occupiers of premises, neighbours and others.

Intimation Notices.

In 2,231 cases the nuisances were abated by the persons responsible for their removal after receipt of a preliminary (intimation) notice advising them of the existence of the defect.

Statutory Notices.

Statutory notices were issued in 60 instances. Of these notices, 37 related to ordinary nuisances (dirt, dampness, etc.), 4 to verminous rooms, 6 to insufficient water-closet accommodation, 2 to defective drains, 8 to inadequate staircase lighting and 3 to rat infestations. The number of statutory notices served in 1937 was 37.

Legal Proceedings.

In no case was it found necessary to institute proceedings in court for failure to comply with statutory notices to abate nuisances.

Details of the various nuisances detected and remedied, to the total number of 4,737, are set out in Table 26.

TABLE 26.

Nature of Nuisance.	Districts.						The Borough.
	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.	No. 5.	No. 6.	
Houses damp, dirty or dilapidated remedied	88	253	225	114	131	45	856
Doors, windows, floors, ceilings, sash cords, grates and flues, etc. repaired... ..	96	132	88	39	52	21	428
Verminous rooms	19	155	165	52	51	37	479
Dirty and verminous furniture and bedding cleansed	—	4	93	22	8	18	145
Overcrowding abated	43	51	213	25	42	26	400
Underground rooms (illegal occupation) dealt with	—	—	3	1	1	—	5
Water closet defects remedied	63	74	167	90	54	50	498
Insufficient and unsuitable water closet accommodation remedied	—	3	8	30	15	25	81
Urinal defects remedied	1	—	—	—	2	3	6
Drains and water closet stoppages cleared	1	10	7	13	24	11	66
Drains relaid or amended	—	—	11	10	10	4	35
Soilpipes and ventilating shafts repaired or renewed	3	2	17	8	18	5	53
Waste pipe defects remedied... ..	2	35	47	9	21	8	122
Yard defects remedied	44	28	143	62	33	10	320
Wash-house defects remedied... ..	34	28	134	59	27	11	293
Area defects remedied... ..	1	10	19	67	10	4	111
Basement defects remedied	—	—	1	—	8	12	21
Roofs and gutters repaired	17	51	48	37	31	8	192
Water supply to houses reinstated	—	1	1	3	2	—	7
Water supply laid on to upper storeys	—	—	4	21	3	—	28
Water cistern defects remedied	—	1	—	9	14	4	28
Dung or dust receptacles repaired or renewed	15	15	17	17	29	21	114
Rubbish, manure, etc., accumulations removed	5	28	32	32	39	8	144
Animal nuisances abated	—	—	4	1	—	—	5
Rats and mice infestation	2	1	10	18	7	—	38
Bakehouses dirty	—	—	2	1	—	—	3
Smoke nuisances	—	7	3	2	1	1	14
Shops insufficiently ventilated or heated	—	3	9	4	2	20	38
Miscellaneous	64	24	42	25	37	15	207

SHOPS.

Under the Shops Act, 1934, the Borough Council as Sanitary Authority are responsible for the inspection of shops and warehouses in connection with (1) the provision of suitable and adequate sanitary accommodation for the workpeople, (2) the provision of proper ventilation, and (3) the maintenance of reasonable temperature.

During the period under review 351 shops were inspected. In 38 instances notices were served in respect of contravention of the Act and in 37 cases the defects were remedied without the need for further action. In one case proceedings were instituted for failure to provide and maintain suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences available for the use of persons employed in or about the shop. The magistrate found the case proved, and ordered the defendant to pay £5 costs.

CAMPING SITES.

No sites in the Borough were used for camping purposes during 1938.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year, 228 observations were made and 52 complaints were received and dealt with. In each case the attention of the offender was drawn to the matter. Fourteen intimation notices were issued, but in no instance was the service of a statutory notice or the institution of legal proceedings called for.

SWIMMING BATHS.

The new Public Baths Establishment in Seymour Place contains two swimming pools, slipper baths, laundries, and a squash rackets court.

The water of the swimming pools is treated by modern filtration and purification plant. Samples, taken periodically, have, under bacteriological examination, yielded entirely satisfactory results.

There are three privately owned swimming pools in the Borough; one at the Middlesex Hospital for the use of the staff; one at the Polytechnic in Regent Street, available only to members of the Institute; and one at the Mansergh Woodall Club in Hill Road, for the use of members (boys from 10 to 14 years).

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

As in previous years a considerable amount of work was carried out in 1938 in connection with disinsection. Much of it had reference to the removal of furniture and bedding from old houses to new flats. In addition, the routine following-up of old cases of infestation was actively pursued.

Particulars of the action taken for the eradication of bed bugs are set out below:

- | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (1) Number of Council houses found to be infested | ... | ... | ... | 79 |
| Number of other houses found to be infested | ... | ... | ... | 235 |
| Number of Council houses disinsected | ... | ... | ... | 79 |
| Number of other houses disinsected | ... | ... | ... | 235 |
- (2) Methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs:—
 - (a) *In badly infested premises.* Furniture is removed in vans, treated with hydrogen cyanide, and returned to the premises. Rooms are stripped of wooden mouldings and sprayed with an insecticide.
 - (b) *In moderately infested premises.* Wallpaper is stripped, wooden mouldings are removed, and treatment is carried out either by a blow lamp or with an insecticide applied with a sprayer loaned by the Council.
 - (c) *In slightly infested premises.* Cleansing is carried out by tenants themselves, and use is made by them of an insecticide applied with a sprayer loaned by the Council.
 - (3) Methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses:—
 - (a) Belongings are collected from the old homes in vans, treated with hydrogen cyanide, and delivered to the new homes after disinsection.
 - (b) Bedding is treated in the Council's steam disinfectors.
 - (4) Whether the work of disinsection is carried out by the local authority or by a contractor:—
 - (a) Hydrogen cyanide treatment of furniture, etc., is carried out by a contractor.
 - (b) Buildings are treated either by builders using blow lamps or an insecticide (the latter supplied by the Council with loan of sprayer), or by the Council's staff using a sprayer and insecticide.

- (5) Measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing :—

A woman sanitary inspector (Miss Margaret Sharp) devotes the whole of her time to the matters referred to in this heading, and her work continued on the lines indicated in the report for 1937. Table 27 provides evidence that improvement has taken place since her appointment in November, 1934. It may be noted that instances of the slightest infestation or of re-infestation are included in the figures given.

TABLE 27.

Municipal or privately owned.	Flats first occupied.	Total number of flats.	Number found to be verminous	
			Flats.	Year.
Municipal	Prior to 1935 ...	303	201	1935
			96	1936
			70	1937
			63	1938
Municipal	December, 1935	60	17	1936
			15	1937
			10	1938
Municipal	February, 1937	72	8	1937
			5	1938
Privately owned ...	Prior to 1936 ...	204	59	1936
			30	1937
			25	1938

During May, Miss Sharp and one of the male sanitary inspectors specially concerned with vermin disinfection attended a course of lectures and demonstrations on the subject, organised by the Royal Sanitary Institute.

CLEANSING OF VERMINOUS PERSONS.

The new Cleansing Station, which forms parts of Health Centre No. 2 at No. 217, Lisson Grove, was brought into use at the beginning of the year. The numbers of adults and school children using the baths during 1938 were 714 (535 males, 179 females) and 3,575 (1,070 boys, 2,505 girls) respectively.

SHELTER.

The shelter included as part of Health Centre No. 2 under section 195 (4) of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, became available for occupation at the beginning of 1938, and during the year two families (eight persons) made use of the accommodation.

RAT REPRESSION.

Though activity in this connection continues unabated, the number of complaints received varies little year by year. In 1933 it reached 49, in 1934, 44, in 1935, 45, in 1936, 42, in 1937, 43, and in 1938, 48. The slight increase in the number of complaints received and of premises inspected was due mainly to the demolition of old buildings and sites left vacant for a while pending development. In a number of these cases infestations of a temporary nature occurred. The investigation of the complaints necessitated the inspection of 71 premises, 38 of which were found to be rat infested. Included in this latter number were 12 business premises (6 of these for the preparation or storage of food), 23 private or tenement houses and

3 vacant sites. In 8 of the cases investigated the infestation was directly attributable to defects in the drainage system, and the nuisance disappeared when repair or reconstruction was carried out. In every instance all advice and assistance was given to the owner or occupier by Inspector Willis, who acted as rat officer and secured excellent results from the methods advocated.

The following report, submitted to the Public Health Committee on the 1938 National Rat Week, contains information on this subject that may be found interesting :

" At the direction of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Rat Week this year commenced on Monday, the 7th November, and all local authorities responsible for the execution and enforcement of the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, were urged to make a special effort to secure concerted action during that week with a view of the destruction of rats and mice. As in previous years the courses of action suggested by the Ministry have been followed as far as possible, and again there has been considerable success not only in obtaining the whole-hearted co-operation and support of neighbouring local authorities, but also of the general public. The following gives some indication of the procedure that has been adopted, and the results obtained :—

Press Publicity.

The editors of the local newspapers were invited to co-operate with the Department by publishing special articles on Rat Week, and in stimulating interest in the campaign that was conducted in St. Marylebone. Attention was drawn to the fact that rats and mice were responsible for an immense loss to the country each year in the destruction of foodstuffs and other materials and as the agents and carriers of disease germs. It was pointed out that advice on the subject was always available at the Town Hall, and that an inspector would call at any premises within the Borough believed to be rat-infested, with a view of the most suitable action being taken to get rid of the vermin.

Poster Campaign.

Copies of the Ministry's illustrated poster were exhibited prominently in various parts of the Borough and on the notice board in the Public Health Department. Opportunity was taken of making use particularly of the hoarding on the site adjoining the Town Hall for a special display of these posters, where they attracted considerable attention.

Circularisation of Business and Trade Premises, etc.

An invitation to participate in the organised attack on the vermin was extended to railways, commercial undertakings, business houses, property owners, builders, estate agents, power stations, restaurants, and other food premises. The response was most encouraging, and the Department was asked to assist in several cases where difficulty was experienced in exterminating rats and mice. Steps were also taken by the Zoological Society of London to intensify the campaign at the Zoological Gardens by every means at their disposal.

Bulletin on Rat Extermination.

The Ministry's booklet on " Rats and How to Exterminate Them," as formerly, was supplied free of charge on request to ratepayers. Several applications were made during the week by firms for copies of this Bulletin to be sent to them.

Co-operation with Neighbouring Local Authorities and Treatment of Sewers.

Special attention was given to the sewers and the number of baits normally laid down was increased ; in this respect adjoining local authorities took concerted action with St. Marylebone, and the combined effort was again rewarded with encouraging results. Experience has shown that trapping by means of traps of the " break-back " variety is most efficacious, and in this connection it is interesting to note that the Council of a neighbouring Borough last year decided to adopt this

method of extermination, as a result of information contained in my Annual Report. The Medical Officer of Health of that district has informed me that this departure met with great success.

That the determined efforts of the Council to focus attention on the necessity for extermination of rats and mice, and their insistence that measures to this end should be promptly adopted, once again captured the interest of the public, cannot be doubted. Though no serious cases of rat or mice infestation were reported during the week, Mr. E. E. Willis, the inspector who is in charge of this branch of the Council's activities, was able to offer valuable advice and assistance in the cases where information was solicited or where special difficulty was being encountered. It may be claimed, as a result of the activities of the Department and the concerted action that was secured, that the steady improvement noted last year has been maintained."

PIGEONS, ETC.

Under section 121 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, the Council is empowered to seize and destroy, sell, or otherwise dispose of, or cause to be seized, etc., house doves or pigeons in excessive numbers, if they believe them to be without an owner. Nine complaints (six relating to private dwellings and three to public buildings) were made in 1938, as against ten in 1937. As in other years, as much assistance as possible was given by the inspector in charge of this work to reduce the nuisance.

During the year complaints were received of annoyance and nuisance from fouling of the footway caused by flocks of starlings and sparrows which made use of a number of large plane trees which are still in the forecourts of premises in one of the principal thoroughfares in the Borough. The nuisance was considerably minimised in some instances by drastic lopping and pruning of the trees. In another case an attempt was made to get rid of the birds by systematic scaring but this proved less effectual.

FOULING OF FOOTWAYS BY DOGS.

As a result of the carrying out of close and routine observations by the temporary streets nuisance inspector, breach of the bye-law was detected in 40 cases, in 36 of which, following prosecution, convictions were secured and penalties imposed.

In their efforts to deal with this most objectionable nuisance the Council received great assistance from the police, 18 prosecutions undertaken being on the reports of police officers.

The total number of prosecutions since the bye-law came into operation in 1928 is 282, the amount of fines imposed being £101 4s. 0d.

NOISE.

During the year 30 complaints of noise were received, eleven relating to nuisance at night (rowdy disturbances, door slamming, etc.), four to motor vehicles, four to operation of machinery in industrial premises, three to roller skating on the public way, three to itinerant newsvendors, two to dogs, two to milk delivery, and one to street hawking.

Street Musicians and Singers.

On the 28th July, 1938, the Council made the following bye-law in pursuance of section 38 of the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1938 :—

"(1) No person shall sound or play upon any musical or noisy instrument or sing in any street or public place within 100 yards of any dwelling-house, office, or business or professional premises to the annoyance or disturbance of

any inmate or occupant thereof, after being requested to desist by any constable, or by any inmate or occupant so annoyed or disturbed, or by any person acting on his behalf.

Provided that this byelaw shall not apply to—

(a) any person taking part in a properly conducted religious service, except where the request to desist is made on the ground of the serious illness of any inmate of the house ; or

(b) any person (i) whilst playing under the order of his commanding officer, in any band belonging to any branch of His Majesty's Naval, Army, Air Reserve or Territorial Forces ; or (ii) whilst playing in any band performing with the sanction of and in a place appointed by the London County Council or the St. Marylebone Borough Council.

(2) Any person offending against the foregoing byelaw shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £5."

The bye-law was duly confirmed by the Home Secretary and came into operation on the 1st November, 1938. Eight complaints were received and dealt with informally.

Wireless Loudspeakers, etc.

During the year, seven complaints were received relating to nuisance from wireless loudspeakers, gramophones and similar instruments. In six cases, abatement of the nuisance was secured without the service of formal notice. In the remaining instance, the issue of a notice was necessary to obtain a remedy.

In securing attention to the several provisions relating to noise nuisances, the temporary streets nuisance inspector rendered valuable assistance, and also co-operated with the police in regard to a number of the complaints received.

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933.

The number of traders whose names are on the Council's list of persons entitled to sell poisons included in Part II of the Poisons List is as follows :—

On list at end of 1937	...	...	117
Added to list in 1938	...	...	8
Deleted from list in 1938	...	...	8
On list at end of 1938	...	...	117

Inspections of all premises were carried out during the year, and in no instance was there failure to comply with the requirements which apply to the sale of poisons by a listed seller of Part II poisons.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

In St. Marylebone the number of factories and workshops, many of them of the domestic type, is considerable, and work in relation to them bulks very large amongst the duties of the sanitary inspectors, more especially those in charge of districts on the south of Marylebone Road. The staple industry is dressmaking, millinery and tailoring in all its branches, but in a number of places other trades are carried on.

The following report, which the Medical Officer of Health is required to make to the Secretary of State, relates to administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, and the Factories Act, 1937 (which superseded the Act of 1901 on 1st July, 1938).

TABLE 28.

1.—INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspection. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories with mechanical power	156	28	—
Factories without mechanical power	772	63	—
†Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	504	51	—
Total	1,432	142	—

† Electrical Stations are reckoned as factories.

TABLE 29.

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)... ..	29	28	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	3	3	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)... ..	1	1	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	21	21	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	2	2	—	—
Sanitary {insufficient	10	10	—	—
Conveniences {unsuitable or defective	39	39	—	—
(S. 7) {not separate for sexes	15	14	—	—
Other offences	4	4	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
Total	124	122	—	—

TABLE 30.

3.—HOME WORK.

OUTWORKERS' LISTS (S. 110).							OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES. (S. 111)		
NATURE OF WORK.	Lists received from Employers.			Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists.	Prosecutions.		Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
	Lists	Outworkers.			Failing to keep lists.	Failing to send lists.			
		Con- trac- tors.	Work- men.						
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Wearing Apparel—									
(1) Making, etc. ...	77	183	729	9	—	—	80	80	—
(2) Cleaning and wash- ing ...	3	13	56	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	80	196	785	9	—	—	80	80	—

TABLE 31.

4.—REGISTERED FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES.

Factories and Workshops on the Register at the end of the year. (1)	Number. (2)
Dressmaking, Millinery, Laundry, Cabinet Making, &c. ...	1,365
Coffee Shops, &c. ...	375
Bakehouses ...	40
Total ...	1,780

TABLE 32.

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class. (1)	Number. (2)
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factories Act (s. 114)	8
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factories Act (s. 9).	
Notified by H.M. Inspector...	45
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	45
Other	—
Underground Bakehouses (s. 54) :—	
Certificates granted during the year	—
In use at the end of the year	29

During the year two certificates relating to approval of source of supply of drinking water in a factory were issued under section 41 (1) of the Factories Act, 1937.

RAG FLOCK.

There are no premises within the district where rag flock is manufactured, used in the making of mattresses, etc., or sold. Frequent inspections have been made but in no instance has the use of flock for repairs been discovered.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

The total number of houses and flats in the Borough at the end of 1938 was 20,352, the number occupied by the working classes being 8,231.

The information asked for by the Ministry of Health with regard to housing is contained in the following statement.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	2,872
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	11,365
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925... ..	528 houses and 53 tenements.
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	2,314
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation... ..	841

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	825
--	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers :—

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	60
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	57
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made... ..	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	3
(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made ...	168
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	3

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding :—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	650
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	650
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	3,011
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	4
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	420
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	1,628
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ...	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report :—	

Steady progress has been made in the efforts to secure abatement of overcrowding and the situation has improved. Continued observations are kept to prevent re-overcrowding.

CLEARANCE AND IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES.

As to progress in this connection it may be noted that advance continued in the direction of improving housing conditions within the Borough. Especially was this so in the Boscobel (late Princess) Street area, the reconstruction of which was commenced during the year.

Table 33 gives particulars of the various areas dealt with by the London County Council, the Borough Council, and the St. Marylebone Housing Association.

TABLE 33.

RE-HOUSING SCHEMES.

Situation.	Area (Approximate) Acres.	Estimated cost of rehousing.	No. of persons involved.	Position.
*Richmond Street ...	1.01	£ 31,000	349	Clearance Order confirmed by the Minister of Health, 27th June, 1935. Dwellings on this site included in Lilestone Estate
*Providence Place and Sun Cottages.	0.46	10,500	122	Sites cleared in accordance with Clearance Order confirmed by Minister of Health, 19th June, 1935.
*Tucker's Place, Becketts' Place and Eamont Place.	0.5	12,500	145	} Sites cleared in accordance with Clearance Orders confirmed by Minister of Health, 19th June, 1935 and 30th January, 1936.
†Henry Place...	0.31	8,500	97	
*Vine Cottages ...	0.03	1,400	17	
†Little Grove Street...	0.23	6,000	69	
†Byron Street ...	0.34	9,500	112	
*Harrow Street ... (Together with certain additional lands)	2.71	120,000	1,096	Clearance Order confirmed by the Minister of Health, 7th October, 1936. The London County Council are now negotiating for the acquisition of the various properties included in the Area.
*Boscobel Street (late Princess Street) ...	2.496	74,000	655	Clearance Orders confirmed by Minister of Health, 31st March, 28th July and 15th November, 1938.
Salisbury Street ...	0.903	50,000	306	Estate erected by St. Marylebone Housing Association, Ltd.
Wilcove Place ...	1.05	15,000	269	Estate erected by St. Marylebone Housing Association, Ltd. Financial assistance given by the London County Council and the Borough Council.
Penfold Street (late Carlisle Street) ...	7.55	410,000	2,777	Clearance under London County Council (Carlisle Street Improvement) Order, 1927. (Lilestone Estate).
Fisherton Street ...	1.845	114,000	659	Site presented to Borough Council by Lord Portman. Displacements and building operations from 1919 to 1927. 112 flats built under Housing, etc., Act, 1919, and 18 flats under Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1924.
*Hatton Street ...	0.495	—	—	Compulsory Purchase Order confirmed by Minister of Health, 17th June, 1937.

* Included in Borough Council's proposals.

† Represented by London County Council.

In addition, the Borough Council are the owners of Crawford Place Dwellings, which were constructed in 1902 at an approximate cost of £18,000, and comprise 52 flats and provide housing accommodation for 182 persons.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

Included under this head are all ordinary tenement houses in which the rooms or floors are let out separately. A large proportion of the houses in the Borough are so let, and under bye-laws made by the London County Council under Section 6 of the Housing Act, 1936, all houses which are occupied, or are of a type suitable for occupation, by persons of the working classes and let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family are subject to registration, and in them there must be compliance with certain requirements as to sanitation, cleansing, etc. During the year some 6,896 visits were paid to the 1,645 houses of the tenement type. The number of intimation notices served was 639, relating to cleansing and other defects. Except in 34 cases, where statutory notices were issued, all of these notices were complied with without the necessity for further proceedings arising.

In all tenement houses the provision of artificial lighting arrangements in stair-cases is called for by the bye-laws. During 1938, 58 intimation notices and 9 statutory notices were served in regard to this matter, and all were complied with.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

During 1938, 51 visits were paid by officers of the department to the two lodging houses in the Borough. In addition, the premises were periodically inspected by a Fire Inspector (Mr. M. W. A. Davey) specially appointed for the purpose. Apart from minor matters calling for attention, no action was found to be necessary in respect of either of the common lodging houses.

TABLE 34.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

Address.	Registered Owner.	Registered number of Occupants.
2, Burne Street, and premises in Lisson Street	The Salvation Army Trustee Company, Limited	436 men
Portman House, Daventry Street and Harrow Street, Lisson Grove ...	The Rev. Prebendary Wilson Carlile, C.H., D.D. (The Church Army)...	100 women
	Total ...	536

UNDERGROUND ROOMS.

During the year the number of underground rooms occupied was still further reduced, action taken in respect of 168 in which the occupation was definitely illegal securing discontinuance of such occupation. In addition, improvement of conditions in a number of cases was secured under the regulations as to underground rooms.

RENT RESTRICTION ACTS.

Three certificates as to state of repair of premises were granted during 1938 under section 12 of the Rent, etc., Restrictions (Amendment) Act, 1933, and two reports were subsequently issued under section 5(2) of the 1923 Act.

In order to avoid delay in dealing with applications for certificates, the Council delegated their powers and duties under the Act of 1933 to a sub-committee of the Public Health Committee consisting of the Mayor and the Chairman of the Committee for the time being.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

Analysis of Milk.

The quarterly returns as to the number of milk samples taken are as follows : 1st Quarter, 55 ; 2nd Quarter, 44 ; 3rd Quarter, 17 ; 4th Quarter, 59, making a total for the year of 175. No sample was found to be adulterated.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

With a view to testing the purity of milk from the bacteriological point of view, 57 samples were taken and submitted to the Council's bacteriologist for examination.

In each case in which a result not entirely satisfactory was obtained communications were sent to the local authority of the district in which the milk was produced in order that an investigation might be carried out locally. On all occasions, the greatest willingness to co-operate was shown by the officers of these authorities, and it is safe to claim that definite improvements have followed the taking of action on these lines.

Dairies, Milkshops, etc.

There are 187 premises upon which milk is sold. During the year 240 inspections were made with the object of discovering whether or not the requirements of the regulations as to cleanliness, etc., under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, were being complied with. In no case was it necessary to take action.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

During the year 53 applications were received from 26 milk purveyors for licences under the Order. As in each case all relevant requirements had been complied with, appropriate licences were granted as shown in Table 35.

TABLE 35.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

Grade of Milk.	Type of Licence.	No. of Licences issued.
Pasteurised	Pasteurising	1
	Dealers	27
	Supplementary	4
Tuberculin Tested	Bottling	1
	Dealers	15
	Supplementary	3
Accredited	Bottling	1
	Dealers	—
	Supplementary	1
Total ...		53

Milk for School Children Scheme.

The scheme for the provision of milk to school children, under the auspices of the Milk Marketing Board, which came into operation on 1st October, 1934, has worked with absolute smoothness and greatly to the benefit of the children taking advantage of the provision. In no case was an adverse report received from the Council's bacteriologist in regard to samples taken.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Food Inspection.

The work of food protection receives year by year the closest attention. As for some years past, the main duties have been carried out by Inspector Smith, who made inspections of premises in which food is sold, stored or prepared, and acted as sampling officer under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928. During 1938, as formerly, the special Saturday night and Sunday inspections in market streets, etc., were made, and in carrying them out Inspector Smith received the assistance of other members of the staff having the necessary qualifications and experience.

Unsound Food.

On a great many occasions the inspector was called by vendors to examine articles of food under section 180 (8) of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, and to accept surrender of such as were unsound or unwholesome or unfit for food. Table 36 contains a list of the articles dealt with in this way.

TABLE 36.

UNSOUND FOOD CONDEMNED AND DESTROYED.

<i>Meat—</i>				<i>Tinned Goods—</i>			
Beef ...	...	...	160 lbs.	Corned Beef ...	...	97	tins
Lamb ...	...	...	80 "	Hams ...	...	31	"
Pork ...	...	...	30 "	Veal ...	...	4	"
				Brawn...	...	30	"
				Herring Roe ...	...	191	"
				Kipper Snacks	...	72	"
<i>Fish—</i>				Dressed Crab ...	...	48	"
Cod ...	...	...	3 stone	Lunch Tongue	...	1	"
Cod Fillets	...	...	8 "	Ox Tongue ...	...	1	"
Cod Roe	...	...	8 "				
Kippers	...	...	2 boxes				
Haddock	...	...	2 stone	<i>Miscellaneous—</i>			
Whiting	...	...	1½ "	Bacon ...	...	2½	cwt.
				Cheddar Cheese	...	196	lbs.
<i>Fruit—</i>				Warwick Cheese	...	140	"
Oranges	...	...	23 cases	Turkeys	...	8	
Apples...	...	...	16 boxes	Partridges	...	5	
				Beef Extract	...	480	jars
				Mayonnaise	...	516	"
				Salad Cream	...	648	"

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

These regulations continue to work smoothly so far as the provisions relating to butchers' shops and to stalls are concerned, the butchers endeavouring to comply as completely as possible with the requirements. On the whole it may be claimed that as a result of the operation of the regulations there has been real improvement so far as regards exposure of meat, and that in the matter of protection from contamination, conditions are very much better than they were when the regulations came into operation.

Slaughterhouses.

At the moment the only slaughter house in the Borough is that at the Zoological Society's premises in Regent's Park. The slaughtering done is for the food of the animals in the gardens and humane killers are used. Ten inspections were made in 1938.

Slaughtermen.

Three licences to slaughter or stun animals, granted to skilled slaughtermen pursuant to section 3 of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, were renewed during the year.

Offensive Businesses.

At the end of 1938 there was only one premises within the Borough where a business classed as offensive was carried on, that being the slaughter of poultry. The food inspector made 13 visits, but no cause for complaint was found.

Premises used for Food Preparation.

The Public Health (London) Act, 1936, in section 187, gives powers to the Borough Council to register all premises used for the sale or the manufacture for the purpose of sale of ice cream or other similar commodity intended for sale or for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved meat, fish or other food intended for sale, and the Council have authorised the Public Health Committee to administer the powers given under the Act. At the end of 1938, 98 premises were registered for the preparation or manufacture of foods (other than ice cream) intended for sale, and 245 inspections were made by the Food Inspector.

Ice Cream Premises.

These are also required to be registered under section 187 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936. The actual number of premises included in the register at the end of 1938 was 145, 40 more than in 1937. Throughout 1938, 130 inspections were made, and in 3 cases notices were served in respect of uncleanly conditions.

Butter, Margarine, etc., Premises.

At the end of the year there were on the register 16 dealers in margarine, 1 wholesale dealer in milk-blended butter and 2 butter manufacturers. Sixty-three visits were paid to the registered premises during 1938.

Bakehouses.

At the end of 1938 the number of bakehouses on the register was 40, 29 being underground bakehouses. During the year 94 inspections were made and 3 notices with regard to defects were served. In one case proceedings were instituted in respect of three occasions upon which (1) refuse was allowed to accumulate in the bakehouse, and (2) there was failure to observe due cleanliness in the bakehouse. The defendants were fined £1 on each of three summonses, and were ordered to pay £5 5s. costs. In accordance with the requirements of the Factories Act, notices were issued calling for the limewashing, etc., of the inside walls and other parts of the bakehouses once at least in every six months.

Fried Fish Vendors and Fish Curers.

The number of premises in the Borough used by vendors of fried fish is 19 and by fish curers 3. Notices calling for periodical lime-washing, etc., of such premises, as required by the bye-laws of the London County Council, were issued quarterly, and during the year 56 inspections of fried fish shops and 35 inspections of fish curers' premises were made by the food inspector. In the case of the fried fish shops, 4 notices were served and complied with.

Restaurants, Tea-rooms, etc.

For a variety of reasons the number of premises in the Borough in which meals are provided or food is sold already cooked or is prepared for sale is very large. At the end of 1938 there were 374, this number including restaurant and dining room kitchens, 210; tea-rooms and pastry-cookshops, 106; and hotel kitchens, 36. As already explained, legal provision has now been made for registration of

premises in which ice cream is prepared or sold and certain articles of food are manufactured or prepared. At present the requirement does not apply to cook-shops or cooked-food shops, but in time the difficulties with which the procedure is supposed to be surrounded in the case of such establishments may be met. As a matter of routine, a number of restaurants and other food premises are visited each week by the food inspector, and any matters discovered at these inspections are dealt with at once. In 1938, the total number of inspections was 421, the number of notices served being 10.

Food Stalls.

Under the bye-laws with regard to registration of street traders under the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1927, food stalls, in common with other stalls, must be registered. The Committee actually responsible is the Highways Committee, who co-operate in the closest possible manner with the Public Health Committee and endeavour to limit the number of traders to whom registration is granted. Wherever possible, the Committee refuse to allot space for stalls from which food is to be sold, and in each case full enquiries are made and investigations of storage accommodation carried out. Where improvements are required and are possible, these are called for. If the conditions are unsatisfactory and irremediable, this is made a ground for refusal of registration. All food stalls are inspected daily by officers of the Public Health Department, a special feature being made of inspections over each week-end.

Bacteriological Examinations.

During the year, apart from milk samples, 5 samples of ice cream and 1 pork pie were examined bacteriologically. All were found to be satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

The total number of samples taken under this Act in 1938 was 1,067, the figure for 1937 being 1,066. The sum paid in respect of each analysis was 12s. 6d.

No sample was reported by the analyst as being below standard or not of the nature, substance and quality demanded by the purchaser. The percentage of adulteration in 1937 was 0.5.

The method adopted in connection with the taking of samples and described in former reports, it has not been found necessary to alter.

The majority were "informal" samples, and in carrying out the sampling, the officer was almost invariably assisted by an agent.

The bulk of the samples taken were of milk and dairy produce.

The following tables and report from the Public Analyst (Mr. J. F. F. Rowland) give full information with regard to samples submitted to and examined by him.

Annual Report of the Public Analyst.

Table 37 contains a complete list of the articles submitted for analysis during 1938.

TABLE 37.

STATEMENT OF FOOD AND DRUGS ANALYSED

No.	Article.	Number Examined.				Number Adulterated, etc.			
		Formal.	Informal.	Private.	Total.	Formal.	Informal.	Private.	Total.
1	Apricots	—	1	—	1				
2	Benger's Food	—	1	—	1				
3	Bicarbonate of Soda	—	8	—	8				
4	Blaud's Pills	—	2	—	2				
5	Boric Ointment	—	17	—	17				
6	Butter	84	207	—	291				
7	Butter and Roll... ..	—	12	—	12				
8	Candied Peel	—	6	—	6				
9	Cheese	—	25	—	25				
10	Cherries, Glacé	—	5	—	5				
11	Cinnamon Essence	—	4	—	4				
12	Cocoa	—	15	—	15				
13	Cod Liver Oil	—	2	—	2				
14	Coffee	—	7	—	7				
15	Crab (Tinned)	—	1	—	1				
16	Cream (Loose)	12	2	—	14				
17	Cream (Tinned)... ..	—	10	—	10				
18	Currants	—	15	—	15				
19	Dripping... ..	—	4	—	4				
20	Fish Paste	—	8	—	8				
21	Fruit, Homogenised (Tinned) ...	—	1	—	1				
22	Gin	—	1	—	1				
23	Glycerine and Thymol	—	1	—	1				
24	Honey	—	10	—	10				
25	Iodine, Tincture of	—	5	—	5				
26	Jam	—	41	—	41				
27	Lard	1	77	—	78				
28	Margarine	—	33	—	33				
29	Marmalade	—	25	—	25				
30	Meat Paste	—	8	—	8				
31	Milk	96	78	1	175				
32	Milk, Condensed	—	23	—	23				
33	Milk, Dried	—	9	—	9				
34	Mincemeat	—	1	—	1				
35	Mustard	—	8	—	8				
36	Mustard, French	—	3	—	3				
37	Olive Oil... ..	—	15	—	15				
38	Paraffin, Liquid... ..	—	5	—	5				
39	Peas (Tinned)	—	6	—	6				
40	Pepper	—	6	—	6				
41	Pickles	—	2	—	2				
42	Raisins	—	15	—	15				
43	Rice	—	8	—	8				
44	Rice Flour	—	1	—	1				
45	Rice Powder	—	1	—	1				
46	Salmon (Tinned)	—	1	—	1				
47	Sardines	—	16	—	16				
48	Sauce	—	5	—	5				
49	Sausages, Pork	—	40	—	40				
50	Sild	—	2	—	2				
51	Sugar	—	6	—	6				
52	Sultanas	—	15	—	15				
53	Syrup, Golden	—	3	—	3				
54	Tea	—	30	—	30				
55	Treacle, Black	—	3	—	3				
56	Vegetables, Homogenised (Tinned)	—	1	—	1				
57	Vermouth	—	2	—	2				
58	Vinegar, Malt	—	6	—	6				
59	Wine, Raisin	—	1	—	1				
60	Witch Hazel	—	7	—	7				
		193	873	1	1,067	—	—	—	—

Milk.

Of the 175 samples analysed, none was found to be adulterated.

The average composition of the milk examined during 1938, as well as that for the two years preceding, was as follows :—

Year.	Sp. Gr.	Total Solids.	Fat.	Solids not Fat.
1936	1031.3	12.29%	3.60%	8.69%
1937	1031.5	12.36%	3.62%	8.74%
1938	1031.5	12.24%	3.52%	8.72%

Cream.

During the year 14 loose creams were examined. The fat content of these ranged from 30.0% to 50.0%, the average being 42.53%. The tinned creams numbered 10, and the fat varied from 20.2% to 25.0%. Each of these tinned creams was specifically examined for tin. This metal was found to be present in every sample, the amounts ranging from 0.075 to 0.32 grains per lb., with an average of 0.19 grains per lb. In every instance the cream was contained in an unlacquered container. Possibly the use of some such interior protective lining might prove efficacious in preventing the interaction between the constituents of the cream and the metal.

Butter.

Of the 291 samples examined, none was found to be adulterated. The whole of the 12 samples of butter and roll taken were genuine.

Preservatives.

In no instance was preservative found in any sample not permitted to contain it. In those cases where preservative was allowed it was never found to be present in amount exceeding that permitted by the regulations.

Drugs.

All the samples examined conformed to the standards laid down for them in the British Pharmacopœia."

ARTIFICIAL CREAM ACT, 1929.

Under this Act the Council are required to keep a register of all premises where artificial cream is manufactured, sold or exposed or kept for sale for human consumption. At the end of the year four premises appeared on the register, and in no instance was action under the Act called for.

PUBLIC HEALTH (CONDENSED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1923 and 1927.

During the year 23 samples of condensed milk were examined and all were found to comply with the regulations.

PUBLIC HEALTH (DRIED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1923 and 1927.

Nine samples of dried milk were taken during 1938, and in no case was there failure to comply with the requirements.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1925 to 1927.

The public analyst devotes special attention to investigations for the detection of the presence of preservatives in food. During the year it was not found necessary to take any action under the provisions relating to this matter.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Under this section of the report the Minister of Health requires information with regard to the prevalence of notifiable infectious diseases during the year, with any noteworthy facts of the source or spread of infection.

The various diseases are each dealt with and commented upon under their respective headings and notes are also included with regard to immunisation and preventive treatment.

Table 38 gives a list of diseases which were notifiable in St. Marylebone during the year under review.

TABLE 38.
LIST OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Smallpox	Acute Encephalitis Lethargica
Cholera	Polio-Encephalitis
Diphtheria	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Membranous Croup	Tuberculosis
Erysipelas	Malaria *
Scarlatina or Scarlet Fever	Induced Malaria
Typhus Fever	Dysentery *
Typhoid Fever	Acute Primary Pneumonia
Paratyphoid Fever	Acute Influenzal Pneumonia
Enteric Fever	Plague
Relapsing Fever	Glanders
Continued Fever	Anthrax
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Farcy
Puerperal Fever	Food Poisoning
Puerperal Pyrexia	Measles
Acute Poliomyelitis	Whooping Cough

from 1st October,
1938.

* A Medical Practitioner is not required to notify cases of Malaria, or Dysentery, if the case has already, to his knowledge, been notified within the period of 6 months immediately preceding the date on which he first became aware of it.

Table 39 shows the number of cases of infectious disease notified during the past six years :—

TABLE 39.
INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS.

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	78	104	119	121	108	93
Erysipelas	76	59	35	28	47	35
Scarlet Fever	198	212	155	141	121	88
Enteric Fever	7	3	3	5	5	8
Paratyphoid Fever... ..	2	1	3	3	4	3
Continued Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	8	3	10	4	13	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	17	18	36	28	34	18
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1	1	1	1	3	4
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)... ..	148	132	93	107	117	105
Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)	16	25	19	23	17	24
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	3	2	2	4
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	1	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	6	8	10	7	10	4
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	74	70	33	66	61	24
Malaria	—	1	1	—	1	2
Dysentery	1	2	3	1	6	16
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	3
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	17
Totals	633	639	525	538	549	451

Table 40 shows, with regard to the infections, the total number of notifications received, the age distribution, the number of cases notified from each of the four registration districts, and the total deaths during 1938.

TABLE 40.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1938.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.														Total cases notified in each locality.					Number of cases removed to hospital from each locality.					Cases isolated. at home.	Total deaths.
	At all ages	At Ages—years.													All Souls.	St. Mary.	Christ Church.	St. John.	Totals.	All Souls.	St. Mary.	Christ Church.	St. John.	Totals.		
		—1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	65—													
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	93	7	4	7	7	8	29	7	8	9	6	1	—	29	23	30	11	93	29	23	30	11	93	—	2	
Erysipelas	35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	4	14	11	6	14	6	9	35	5	10	3	7	25	10	—	
Scarlet Fever...	88	—	6	5	6	8	28	10	6	10	4	5	—	23	14	39	12	88	23	14	39	11	87	1	2	
Typhus Fever...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Enteric Fever...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	2	5	1	1	1	8	5	1	1	1	8	—	—	
Paratyphoid Fever	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	3	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	
Relapsing Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Continued Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Fever	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	15	2	—	—	1	5	6	6	18	1	5	5	6	17	1	—	
Plague...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Glanders	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Farcy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	4	—	1	2	1	4	—	—	
Tuberculosis—																										
Pulmonary	105	—	—	—	1	—	2	4	6	43	23	21	5	27	25	34	19	105	13	12	13	7	45	60	34	
Non-Pulmonary	24	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	10	5	2	—	4	12	6	2	24	—	5	5	1	11	13	10	
Acute Poliomyelitis	4	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	4	1	—	1	2	4	—	—	
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Neonatorum ...	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	4	—	2	2	—	4	—	—	
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia	24	2	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	5	7	5	1	5	8	8	3	24	2	8	5	1	16	8	70*	
Malaria	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	
Dysentery	16	1	—	—	2	1	3	—	1	2	1	3	2	3	—	9	4	16	2	—	8	1	11	5	2	
†Measles	3	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	
†Whooping Cough	17	4	2	3	4	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	7	3	17	1	2	2	2	7	10	1	
Totals	451	22	12	16	21	21	71	23	30	105	54	55	21	106	112	156	77	451	82	83	119	54	338	113	122	

* This figure is for all forms of pneumonia, including acute primary pneumonia and acute influenzal pneumonia which alone are notifiable.
† Notifiable from 1st October, 1938.

DIPHTHERIA (INCLUDING MEMBRANOUS CROUP).

There were 93 cases of diphtheria notified during 1938, 2 deaths resulting. The highest number of cases reported in any one week was 6. In 1937 there were 108 cases and 3 deaths.

The cases were more or less evenly distributed, as usual, throughout the borough, and only in a few instances was it possible to determine accurately the source of infection. In 7 cases the source appeared to be a member of the family previously infected; in 11 cases infection was counted to have been acquired in school, and in 12 cases in an institution.

The number of swabs from doubtful cases submitted for bacteriological examination was 678, a positive result being returned in 47 instances.

Of the registration districts, that contributing the largest number of cases was Christ Church with 30. In All Souls the number was 29, in St. Mary 23 and in St. John 11.

The age group 5—10 was most affected, 29 of the cases falling into this group.

Diphtheria Antitoxin.

Two applications were made for a free supply of antitoxin under the Diphtheria Antitoxin (London) Order, 1910.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The Schick Testing and Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic opened at the beginning of 1928, continued to operate under Dr. Bulman at Health Centre No. 1 (temporary premises, No. 181, Marylebone Road) and at the Middlesex Hospital. T.A.F. (Toxoid-Antitoxin-Floccules in suspension) was the only diphtheria prophylactic employed.

Table 41 gives details of the work carried out during the year.

TABLE 41.
WORK OF THE DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINICS.

	Pre-school children.	School children.	Adults.	Totals.
Attendances	734	272	534	1,540
New cases	191	76	236	503
Schick negative	—	4	53	57
Completely immunised (three injections but not retested)	169	70	79	318
Retested... ..	99	27	19	145
Positive after retest	2	1	—	3

Table 42 provides interesting information in respect of diphtheria amongst the child population of the Borough and the results of immunisation against the disease during the last three years.

TABLE 42.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION OF CHILDREN (AGES 0—15 YEARS).

	1936	1937	1938
Estimated child population (0—15 years) ...	13,500	13,300	13,300
Number of cases of diphtheria notified amongst child population ...	94	82	69
Number of notified cases of diphtheria in which diagnosis was confirmed ...			
Attack rate per 1,000 child population ...	6.96	6.16	5.19
Deaths from diphtheria amongst child population ...	6	2	2
Death rate from diphtheria per 1,000 child population...	0.44	0.15	0.15
Number of children Schick negative on preliminary test	5	2	5
Number of children given course of immunising injections who on subsequent test proved negative ...	127	104	132
Number of cases of diphtheria amongst immunised children ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Deaths from diphtheria amongst immunised children...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Immunising agent used ...	T.A.F.	T.A.F.	T.A.F.

SCARLET FEVER.

Notifications of this disease numbered 88, the highest number of cases reported in any one week being 9. There were two deaths from scarlet fever during 1938. In 1937 there were 121 notifications, no death resulting.

The districts to suffer most from the disease were Christ Church and All Souls. In the former there were 39 cases and in the latter 23. St. Mary and St. John reported 14 and 11 respectively.

As usual, the majority of the patients were children, 63 being under 15 years of age. Of the remainder, 16 were in the age-group 15-35 and 9 were over 35 years of age.

Though it seemed probable that many of the children notified acquired their infection in school, it was only in 12 instances that a definite connection could be made out.

ENTERIC FEVER AND PARATYPHOID FEVER.

Eight notifications of enteric fever and three of paratyphoid fever were received. There were no deaths. In none of the cases was any information obtainable indicating that the source of infection arose within the Borough.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

There were four cases of cerebro-spinal fever notified during the year. No death was attributed to this disease.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA AND POLIO-ENCEPHALITIS.

No notification of either of these diseases was received during the year, neither were any deaths reported as due to them.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.

Four cases of acute poliomyelitis were notified during the year. No death from this disease was recorded.

ERYSIPELAS.

The notifications of erysipelas numbered 35, no death resulting directly from

the disease. Most of the cases were notified from St. Charles' Hospital and the general hospitals, and 29 patients were treated in such institutions. In 1937, 47 cases were notified.

PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

The number of cases of puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia notified was 3 and 18 respectively.

Most of the notifications received came from institutions where, of course, the precautions taken would naturally result in the detection of any signs indicating the occurrence of pyrexia (fever) in the early stages of the lying-in period. All other cases, however, were visited by one of the health visitors and assistance and advice as were suitable and possible offered. No application was made for the services of a consultant or any other of the facilities which the Council is empowered to provide. No death from puerperal sepsis was recorded.

MEASLES.

The total number of cases of measles reported by school teachers during the twelve months was 663. There was one death.

On the 1st October, 1938, the County of London (Measles and Whooping Cough) Regulations, 1938, brought into operation a limited form of compulsory notification, no notification being required where to the knowledge of the medical practitioner a case of measles or whooping cough, as the case may be, has occurred in the house and has been notified within the two months immediately preceding the date on which he first became aware of the disease in the case he is attending. During the remainder of the year three notifications were received under the regulations.

The course adopted in relation to the reported cases was the same as in previous years. Practically every case was visited by the health visitors, particular attention being given to such as occurred in tenement houses. It was found necessary to call upon the services of a nurse, under the agreement between the Council and the Paddington and St. Marylebone District Nursing Association, in 38 cases.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Previously most of the information obtained with regard to this disease was derived from notices received from school teachers, who reported 10 cases during the year.

On the 1st October, 1938, however, whooping cough became compulsorily notifiable in the Borough under conditions similar to those already noted in regard to measles. In the last three months of the year, 17 cases of the disease were notified. There was one death due to whooping cough in 1938, as against three in 1937.

GLANDERS, ANTHRAX AND FARCY.

No cases were notified during the year.

DYSENTERY.

During 1938, 16 cases of this disease were notified, mainly from hospitals. Two deaths were recorded, but the majority of the cases were of a very mild type.

MALARIA.

Two cases of induced malaria were reported.

SMALLPOX.

There have been no cases of this disease in the Borough.

Vaccination.

Table 43, prepared by the Vaccination Officer, contains the vaccination return relating to the year 1937. The following statement gives some information with regard to the work done and the results obtained by Dr. Bulman during 1938 :—

Number of visits paid	...	...	...	...	...	1,239
Number of vaccinations—						
Primary ...	...	...	...	...	1,000	
Re-vaccinations...	...	...	...	...	163	
					—	1,163
Number of successful vaccinations...	...	...	...	...	...	918
Number of unsuccessful vaccinations	...	...	...	...	...	136
Awaiting inspection ...	...	...	...	...	...	109

TABLE 43.

VACCINATION RETURN—1937.

RETURN made to the Borough Council and Ministry of Health on the 11th February, 1939. by Dr. Charles Porter, Vaccination Officer of the Borough of St. Marylebone, respecting the Vaccination of Children whose Births were registered in St. Marylebone from 1st January, 1937, to 31st December, 1937, inclusive.

Registration Sub-Districts comprised in the Vaccination Officer's District.	Number of Births returned in the " Birth List Sheets " as registered from 1st January to 31st December, 1937.	Number of these Births duly entered by 31st January, 1939, in Columns I, II, IV and V of the " Vaccination Register " (Birth List Sheets), viz. :					Number of these Births which on 31st January, 1939, re- mained unentered in the "Vaccination Register " on account (as shown by Report Book) of			Total number of these Births re- maining on 31st January, 1939, neither duly entered in the "Vaccination Register" (columns 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 of this Return) nor temporarily accounted for in the "Report Book" (columns 8, 9 and 10 of this Return).	Number of Certificates of Successful Primary Vaccination of children under 14 years received during the calendar year 1938.	Number of Statutory Declarations of Con- scientious Objection actually received by the Vaccination Officer irre- spective of the dates of birth of the children to which they relate during the calendar year 1938.
		Col. I.	Col. II.		Col. IV.	Col. V.	Post- pone- ment by Medi- cal Certifi- cate.	Removal to Districts, the Vaccination Officer of which has been duly apprised.	Removal to places unknown, or which cannot be reached; and Cases not having been found.			
			Suc- cess- fully Vaccin- ated.	Insus- cep- tible of Vaccin- ation.									Had Small- Pox.	Number in respect of whom Statutory Declara- tions of Con- scientious Objection have been received.	Died un- vacci- nated.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1. All Souls	1,181	725	15	—	138	33	3	220	46	1	1,942	585
2. St. Mary	1,898	1,041	5	—	347	77	1	386	40	1		
3. North Marylebone	249	164	1	—	44	11	4	11	9	5		
Total	3,328	1,930	21	—	529	121	8	617	95	7	1,942	585

Dated 11th February, 1939.

(Signed) CHARLES PORTER, Vaccination Officer.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

The number of cases of this disease notified in 1938 was 4, and information with regard to these is given in Table 44. Ten cases were notified in 1937. Visits were paid to the cases by the health visitors, and where necessary arrangements were made for a nurse from the Paddington and St. Marylebone District Nursing Association to attend and apply treatment. During the year the nurses paid 82 visits to three cases. Where the condition is serious, removal to hospital is carried out, special arrangements having been provided at St. Margaret's Hospital for receiving and dealing with children suffering from this condition.

TABLE 44.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Notified.	Cases Treated.		Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.	Removed, etc.
	At Home.	At Hospital.					
4	1	3	3	—	—	—	1

INFLUENZA.

This disease was less prevalent than in 1937, though correct information as to the number of cases was, of course, unobtainable. The district nurses paid 43 visits to 10 cases. The deaths certified as due to influenza numbered 10 as against 44 in the previous year.

PNEUMONIA.

Notifications of this disease numbered 24. The services of the nurses were requisitioned in 11 cases. The number of deaths certified as due to all forms of this disease was 70.

FOOD POISONING.

Three notifications of food poisoning or suspected food poisoning were received during the year. Various foodstuffs came under suspicion, but no definite evidence as to the responsibility of these articles was obtainable. All those affected quickly recovered.

PSITTACOSIS.

During March, cases of psittacosis (parrot disease) occurred at the Zoological Gardens. Exhaustive pathological investigations were carried out on parrots that died or were destroyed, but actually in only three instances was it possible to declare with any degree of certainty that they had suffered from the disease.

Complement fixation tests on the blood serum of five attendants suspected of psittacosis infection were found to be strongly positive, and one patient unfortunately died. Immediately on the occurrence of the outbreak, all necessary steps were taken, including the closure of the parrot house, etc. At a conference on the 25th May, 1938, with representatives of the staff of the Zoological Society and the Ministry of Health, all the circumstances were fully considered and reviewed, and on the 15th June, 1938, when the period of isolation extending over three months had elapsed, permission was given for the parrot house to be reopened. As a further measure of safety and with the object of preventing a possible recurrence of the disease, instructions were given that, in future, all consignments of parrots or other birds liable to infection with psittacosis should be quarantined for a period of at least three months in a special building situated at some distance from the Gardens.

Certain suggestions with regard to the hygiene of the parrot house cages, quarantine station, etc., were also offered, and these were readily adopted by the Zoological Society.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action was taken under section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, the London County Council undertaking the welfare of blind persons in the County of London by means of their scheme formulated under the Blind Persons Acts, 1920 and 1938.

Under an arrangement with the London County Council the borough council has undertaken that provision for blind children up to the age of five years shall be made by the child welfare centres, and that home visiting in such cases shall be carried out by the health visitors. Where the home conditions are unsuitable for a blind child, arrangements are made for its reception into an approved institution. Only in very exceptional circumstances, however, is a blind child removed from its own home. No case came to the knowledge of the Department during 1938.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN SCHOOLS.

Table 45 shows the number of cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases reported from schools during 1938.

TABLE 45.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN SCHOOLS.

SCHOOL.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough.	Chicken- pox.	Measles	All other Diseases.
All Souls, Foley Street	2	3	—	1	32	6
Barrow Hill Road	2	—	—	5	61	7
Bell Street	1	1	—	4	10	7
Capland Street	3	1	7	15	35	17
Christ Church, Cosway Street	3	—	—	—	28	—
Clipstone Street	1	1	—	7	8	1
Convent (St. Edward's) Golford Place	—	1	—	2	33	—
Cosway Street	2	—	—	13	110	8
Emmanuel, Aberdeen Place	—	—	—	—	—	1
Gateforth Street	1	4	—	3	4	—
Hampden Gurney	3	—	—	4	37	6
Homer Row, Roman Catholic	1	—	—	—	4	—
Jewish, Hanway Street	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orchardson Street, Roman Catholic	1	9	1	3	29	—
Regent's Park Central	—	—	—	—	3	—
St. James's, Marylebone Lane	—	1	—	—	1	—
St. Mark's, Violet Hill	3	3	—	13	31	1
St. Marylebone Central, Marylebone High Street... ..	2	3	—	71	96	9
St. Marylebone Grammar, Marylebone Road	1	—	1	—	15	1
St. Mary's (Western), York Street... ..	—	2	1	12	28	3
St. Paul's Bentinck, Rossmore Road	4	—	—	25	54	8
St. Thomas's, Picton Place... ..	—	4	—	—	31	—
St. Vincent's, Wigmore Street	1	—	—	—	—	—
Schools in other Boroughs	1	1	—	8	13	—
TOTALS	32	34	10	186	663	75

TUBERCULOSIS.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis and the Milk Trade.

Provision is made in the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, designed to secure that no person suffering from respiratory tuberculosis

who is in an infectious condition, shall be engaged in any form of dairy work involving the milking of cows, the treatment of milk or the handling of milk containers. During the year no case occurred which called for attention under the regulations.

Compulsory Removal of Tuberculous Patients to Hospital.

No action was required during 1938 under section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, which relates to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis : New Cases and Mortality.

Table 46, prepared at the request of the Ministry of Health, contains information with regard to age and sex distribution of all forms of tuberculosis.

TABLE 46.
TUBERCULOSIS : NEW CASES AND DEATHS.

Age Periods.	*NEW CASES.				†DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	1	—	1	—	—	—	3	—
5—10	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	2
10—15	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—20	4	2	2	2	—	—	—	—
20—25	9	14	2	1	1	2	—	—
25—35	17	12	6	2	5	5	2	—
35—45	18	8	1	4	1	2	—	—
45—55	13	3	1	1	9	1	—	2
55—65	6	4	—	1	1	3	—	—
65 and upwards	2	4	—	2	3	1	—	1
Totals ...	72	51	16	15	20	14	5	5

* Including all *primary* notifications and also any other new cases of tuberculosis which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

† Excluding deaths occurring in the district amongst temporary residents, which were transferred to another district, but including deaths occurring outside the district amongst persons normally resident in the district. Subject to this, the figures in the table relate to the total deaths in the district during the year.

Tuberculosis Notifications.

In all, 129 notifications were received, 105 relating to pulmonary tuberculosis, the remainder (24) to cases in which structures other than the lungs were affected.

Table 47 gives information regarding the localisation of the disease, while Table 48 contains the information required by the Ministry of Health with regard to notifications.

From time to time reference is made to the difficulty associated with the obtaining of notifications sufficiently early, and the following figures are introduced because they are interesting in this connection. They relate, in some instances, as will be seen, to cases in which death had taken place before the fact that the individual was suffering from the disease had been brought to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health, as required by the regulations :—

1. Total number of deaths from tuberculosis in the borough	...	44
2. Number of cases unnotified or notified at death ...	...	10
3. Number of cases notified within a month of death	...	7
4. Number of cases notified within three months of death ...	...	3
5. Number of cases notified within six months of death	...	4

Six cases of tuberculosis were unnotified at death. The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths was therefore 1 : 7.

So far as the Borough itself is concerned, notification of tuberculosis may be regarded as efficient. The local medical practitioners fulfil their obligations in this respect, and take advantage of the facilities provided by the municipal tuberculosis scheme and co-operate with the officers of the local authority for the benefit of their patients. The comparatively high percentage of cases unnotified or notified at death is a matter for regret, but investigation into the circumstances invariably shows that in each case a satisfactory explanation for non-notification is forthcoming.

The institution of proceedings was not called for in regard to any case of wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

TABLE 47.
TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS—LOCALISATION OF DISEASE.

Localisation of disease.	Cases notified in whole district.								Total cases notified in each locality.					Number of cases removed to hospital from each locality.					Cases iso- lated at home.
	At all Ages.	At ages—years.							All Souls.	St. Mary.	Christ Church	St. John.	Totals.	All Souls.	St. Mary.	Christ Church	St. John.	Totals.	
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.											
Lungs	105	—	1	6	26	46	21	5	27	25	34	19	105	13	12	13	7	45	60
Cervical adenitis	7	1	—	2	—	3	1	—	1	3	3	—	7	—	—	2	—	2	5
Kidney	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	2	—	—	3	—	2	—	—	2	1
Meninges	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	1	—	1	1
Fistula in ano	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	1	—	1	2	—
Epidydimis	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	1	1	—	2	—
Knee	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Neck	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Eyebrow	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Peritoneum	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Rib	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Spine	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—
Bladder	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
Hand	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS	129	1	1	9	32	58	23	5	31	37	40	21	129	13	17	18	8	56	73

TABLE 48.

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930.

PART I.—Summary of notifications during the period from the 1st January, 1938, to the 31st December, 1938, in the area of the Metropolitan Borough of St. Marylebone.

Age periods.	Formal notifications.												Total notifi- cations.
	Number of primary notifications of new cases of tuberculosis.												
	0-	1-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	Total (all ages.)	
Pulmonary, males ...	—	1	1	1	4	7	13	16	10	6	2	61	64
„ females	—	—	1	3	2	13	10	7	3	2	3	44	50
Non-pulmonary, males	1	—	2	—	2	2	5	1	1	—	—	14	15
„ females	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	4	—	1	—	10	11

SUPPLEMENTAL RETURN.

PART II.—New cases of tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the above-mentioned period, otherwise than by formal notification.

Age periods.	0-	1-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	Total.
Pulmonary, males ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	3	—	—	11
„ females	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	2	1	7
Non-pulmonary, males	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
„ females	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	5

The source or sources from which information as to the above-mentioned cases was obtained is stated below :—

Source of Information.		No. of cases.	
		Pulmonary.	Non-pulmonary.
Death returns	{ from local registrars	2	1
	{ transferable deaths from Registrar-General ...	—	3
Posthumous notifications		1	—
“ Transfers ” from other areas (other than transferable deaths)...		15	3
Other sources (Form II)		—	—

PART III.—NOTIFICATION REGISTER.

	Pulmonary.			Non-pulmonary.			Total cases.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Number of cases of tuberculosis remaining at the 31st December, 1938, on the register of notifications kept by the Medical Officer of Health	324	153	477	30	46	76	553
Number of cases removed from the register during the year by reason <i>inter alia</i> of:—							
(1) Withdrawal of notification ...	2	3	5	4	3	7	12
(2) Recovery from the disease ...	7	11	18	8	5	13	31
(3) Death	20	14	34	5	5	10	44
(4) Removal from district	63	58	121	21	22	43	164

Treatment of Tuberculosis.

Of the cases notified, admissions to hospital and sanatorium numbered 218, and during the year every effort was made to obtain admission to sanatoria of cases deemed suitable for such treatment. Of the total new cases notified, 79 were insured persons who were admitted and re-admitted from time to time during the year to sanatoria and hospitals for treatment, the total admissions numbering 90. Non-insured persons numbered 50, the total admissions for these patients (including 5 children) being 48. District nurses were sent in to 3 cases and 86 home visits were paid.

The London County Council continued the arrangement whereby the Borough Tuberculosis Officer is deemed to be an honorary consultant for tuberculosis in the general hospitals under the County Council's control. The hospital attended by the Tuberculosis Officer for this purpose is St. Charles', Ladbroke Grove, North Kensington, W.10, to which the majority of St. Marylebone patients for hospital treatment are admitted.

Extra Nourishment for Tuberculous Persons.

Under arrangements made by the Council and sanctioned by the Minister of Health under section 219 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, milk was supplied to tuberculous persons under the tuberculosis dispensary scheme. The number of orders issued during the year ended 31st December, 1938, was 284, the amount expended being £119 11s. 3½d.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Eleven of the total notifications—24 as against 17 in 1937—in the case of this form of tuberculosis came from institutions where the patients were undergoing treatment. Visits were paid to the homes and, where necessary, advice offered.

Prevention of Tuberculosis.

The dispensary continued to occupy temporary accommodation at the Old Baths Establishment, Marylebone Road, pending the erection of Health Centre No. 1 (of which the dispensary will form part) on a portion of the site adjoining the Town Hall.

As is in general the case the dispensary continued to prove most valuable, the members of the staff rendering excellent service in relation to preventive work.

Particulars with regard to patients dealt with during the year are shown in Tables 46 and 48, while the following short table summarises the information as to visits, etc., paid by the Tuberculosis Officer and other members of the dispensary staff :—

No. of cases at dispensary	...	...	New, 445	...	Old, 371
No. of attendances at dispensary	...	...	...	...	2,334
No. of contacts	...	...	New, 170	...	Old, 77
No. of home visits by Tuberculosis Officer	...	...	New, 34	...	Old, 122
No. of hospital visits by Tuberculosis Officer	...	...	...	...	61
No. of home visits by Tuberculosis Visitors—					
			First visits, 146		Re-visits, 2,170
No. of Care Committee meetings held	...	...	...	...	23

The Tuberculosis Officer has submitted the following report upon the work of the year :

“ Out of the 168 progress reports on patients who have had sanatorium treatment through the London County Council, 40 men, 32 women, and 14 children are working or at school ; 8 are fit but have no work, 17 are unfit, 41 have been transferred to other districts, and 6 lost sight of. Six declined to attend the dispensary, and four have to be reported as having died.

The Care Committee, with Councillor J. Bennett as Chairman and Miss M. E. Broadbent as Honorary Secretary, met fortnightly and 361 cases were reviewed.

The work of the Committee now consists chiefly of considering the needs of the patients as regards extra nourishment, clothing, fresh employment, re-housing, and financial aid. In a few cases help was given direct from the Committee ; others were referred to different charitable agencies within the borough, while the majority were dealt with, on the Committee's recommendation, by the London County Council. Miss Bowen continued her excellent work for the ex-service men and their families. Extra nourishment in the form of milk is supplied to necessitous cases either by the Borough Council or, in the case of patients already in receipt of out-relief, by the Public Assistance Committee on the receipt of a certificate from the Tuberculosis Officer.

The number of X-ray examinations made during 1938 was 409, an increase of 39 on the previous year. The practice of X-raying all new cases and adolescent contacts was continued as in the previous year. By this means only can it be definitely ascertained that all early cases of pulmonary tuberculosis are detected and sanatorium treatment provided at the stage when most benefit can be derived from it. Cases on discharge from sanatorium have likewise been supervised by radiograms at frequent intervals to ensure that improvement from sanatorium treatment has been maintained.

The number of patients who have returned from sanatorium and were receiving artificial pneumothorax treatment as out-patients of hospitals was 18 at the end of 1938, an increase of two on the previous year. The treatment in such cases was continued mainly at the Brompton and Middlesex Hospitals at a fee of 10/6d. per refill, which includes X-ray supervision. Now that facilities for X-ray examinations for diagnostic purposes are more generally available, it is hoped that, with earlier detection of the disease, artificial pneumothorax treatment or a similar form of collapse therapy will be suitable for more patients than has previously been the case. It is a hopeful sign to see the continued increase in the number of patients having successful treatment by this means, as it usually ensures a shorter stay in sanatorium and a quicker return to their occupation. Most of the patients on the dispensary register who are at present continuing this treatment are successfully following their original occupation without adverse effects to themselves or danger of infection to others.”

Deaths from Phthisis.

Some reference has already been made to the matter of deaths from tuberculosis and at this point it is proposed only to deal with the figures relating to tuberculosis of the lungs (consumption or phthisis).

During 1938 the total number certified as due to this cause was 34, the death-rate being 0.38 per 1,000. In 1937 the deaths numbered 51, the death-rate being 0.56 per 1,000. The distribution of the deaths according to registration districts is shown in Table 49 which gives also the figures for each of the 5 years 1934-1938.

TABLE 49.
PHTHISIS MORTALITY, 1934-1938.

Year.	Estimated population.	Deaths at All Ages.	Sub-Districts.			
			All Souls.	St. Mary.	Christ Church.	St. John.
1934	92,320	62	9	13	32	8
1935	92,200	63	12	16	23	12
1936	92,400	62	7	16	32	7
1937	92,110	51	13	9	21	8
1938	90,680	34	6	5	10	13

The places at which the 34 deaths occurred were as follow : In general and other hospitals, 23 ; at home, 11.

Of those who died 19 were insured (12 males and 7 females), and 15 uninsured (8 males and 7 females).

As it may be useful for statistical purposes it may be mentioned that while the deaths numbered 34, the notified cases of pulmonary tuberculosis totalled 105.

TABLE 50.
TUBERCULOSIS SCHEME.

Return showing the work carried out in connection with the Dispensary during the year 1938.

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY.				TOTAL.				GRAND TOTAL.	
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
A.—NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts) :—														
(a) Definitely tuberculous ...	52	31	1	1	8	8	3	—	60	39	4	1	104	
* (b) Diagnosis not completed ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	3	1	2	13	
(c) Non-tuberculous ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	69	13	11	135	
B.—CONTACTS examined during the year :—														
(a) Definitely tuberculous ...	2	5	4	3	—	—	—	—	2	5	4	3	14	
* (b) Diagnosis not completed ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	6	
(c) Non-tuberculous ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	72	33	24	150	
C.—CASES written off the Dispensary Register as :—														
(a) Recovered ...	3	7	—	2	2	1	2	1	5	8	2	3	18	
(b) Non-tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the Dispensary Register as tuberculous)...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	64	145	47	36	292	
D.—NUMBER OF CASES on Dispensary Register on December 31st :—														
(a) Definitely tuberculous...	157	98	15	13	16	19	14	10	173	117	29	23	342	
(b) Diagnosis not completed ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	3	2	4	20	
1. Number of cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st ...		356		2. Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years ...								36		
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the scheme, and cases "lost sight of" ...		106		4. Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes) ...								36		
5. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts) ...		2,334		6. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December ...								116		
7. Number of consultations with medical practitioners :—				8. Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officer to homes (including personal consultations) ...								156		
(a) Personal ...		33												
(b) Other ...		202												
9. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes ...		2,117		10. Number of :—								191		
				(a) Specimens of sputum, &c., examined ...										
				(b) X-ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work ...								409		
11. Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register and included in A(a) and A(b) above...		Nil.		12. Number of "T.B. plus" cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st...								173		
Number of dispensaries for the treatment of tuberculosis (excluding centres used only for special forms of treatment) :														
Provided by the Council, One.														
Provided by voluntary bodies, One—Margaret Street Dispensary, Margaret Street, W.1														

*i.e., remaining undiagnosed on 31st December.

TABLE 51.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Supplementary Annual Return showing in summary form (a) the condition at the end of 1938 of all patients remaining on the Dispensary Register; and (b) the reasons for the removal of all cases written off the Register.

Condition at the time of the last record made during the year to which the return relates.				PULMONARY.										NON-PULMONARY.										
				Previous to 1938.					1938.					Previous to 1938.					1938.					
				Class T.B. minus.	Class T.B. plus				Class T.B. minus.	Class T.B. plus				Bones and joints.	Abdominal.	Other organs	Peripheral glands.	Total.	Bones and joints.	Abdominal.	Other organs	Peripheral glands.	Total.	
					Group 1.	Group 2.	Group 3.	Total (Class T.B. plus)		Group 1.	Group 2.	Group 3.	Total (Class T.B. plus)											
(a) Remaining on dispensary register on 31st December.	Disease arrested.	Adults	M.	7	11	4	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	
			F.	6	4	2	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	
		Children.	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	8	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Disease not arrested.	Adults	M.	22	10	46	20	76	11	9	10	4	23	6	—	1	1	8	1	—	3	1	5	
			F.	22	8	21	6	35	14	5	9	—	14	2	—	3	3	8	—	—	3	1	4	
		Children.	6	—	1	1	2	7	1	—	—	1	6	2	—	2	10	—	—	—	3	3	3	
	Condition not ascertained during the year.			2	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Total on dispensary register at 31st December, 1938.			76	33	77	27	137	32	15	19	4	38	16	8	7	16	47	1	—	6	5	12	
	(b) Not now on dispensary register and reasons for removal therefrom.	Discharged as recovered.	Adults	M.	11	5	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	8	1	1	1	11	—	—	—	—	—
				F.	22	10	5	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—
Children.			29	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	9	3	—	18	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Lost sight of, or otherwise removed from dispensary register			431	252	149	40	441	8	3	5	3	11	78	14	16	51	159	1	—	5	—	6		
Dead.		Adults	M.	17	19	41	245	305	—	—	1	6	7	6	2	2	2	12	—	—	1	—	1	
			F.	16	9	14	128	151	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	1	—	3	—	1	—	—	1	
	Children.	5	—	—	4	4	1	—	—	—	—	4	1	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Total written off dispensary register.			531	296	211	417	924	9	3	6	10	19	110	22	21	73	226	1	1	6	—	8		
GRAND TOTALS				607	329	288	444	1061	41	18	25	14	57	126	30	28	89	273	2	1	12	5	20	

Tuberculosis Care Committee.

The Committee continued to meet fortnightly throughout the year, Dr. Anderson, Miss Pepler and Miss Kenion attending and assisting in every way possible. Table 52 contains a list of the members.

TABLE 52.
TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE.

NAME.	REPRESENTS.
Bennett, Councillor J. (Chairman) ...	Charity Organisation Society.
Broadbent, Miss M. E. (Hon. Secretary)...	Invalid Children's Aid Association.
Fuller, Councillor Dr. C. A. ...	St. Marylebone Borough Council.
Ramsay, Councillor G. B....	ditto.
Bennett, Miss A. M. ...	Paddington & St. Marylebone District Nursing Association.
Bowen, Miss E. A. (M.B.E.) ...	War Pensions Committee & United Services Fund.
(resigned October, 1938).	
Davis, Councillor Mrs. E. ...	Public Assistance Committee.
Dover, Miss W. M....	The Middlesex Hospital.
Fenn, Miss D. M. ...	Margaret Street Hospital.
Higgin, Miss E. ...	St. Marylebone Registration.
Lazarus, Miss O. ...	Central Jewish Synagogue.
Lesser, Mr. H. E. ...	London Insurance Committee.
St. Hill, Miss M. ...	London County Council and School Care Committee.
Simpson, Dr. R. H. ...	Divisional School Medical Officer, London County Council.
Williams, Miss M. H. ...	St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington.
Fisher, Mr. J. (resigned March, 1938) ...	The Working Classes.
Weaver, Miss H. (appointed April, 1938)	ditto.

DISINFECTION AND DISINSECTION.

The methods employed were substantially the same as in previous years; articles suitable for treatment by steam were dealt with in the Washington-Lyons Disinfector, while for rooms either formalin or sulphur was generally used.

Articles.

The number of articles disinfected is shown hereunder :—

TABLE 53.

Compulsorily Notifiable Infectious Diseases.	Other Infectious Diseases.	Vermin.	Miscellaneous.	TOTAL.
3,564	260	17,419	4,275	25,518

The number of journeys made by the disinfecting vans during the year ended December, 1938, was :—

January ...	114	August ...	88
February ...	88	September ...	100
March ...	48	October ...	192
April ...	88	November... ..	104
May ...	100	December ...	166
June ...	87		
July ...	193		
			<hr/> 1,368 <hr/>

The number of journeys made during 1937 was 1,291.

Rooms.

The number of rooms dealt with and the reasons for carrying out disinfection are stated below :—

TABLE 54.

Compulsorily Notifiable Infectious Diseases.	Other Infectious Diseases.	Vermin.	Miscellaneous.	TOTAL.
308	56	87	218	669

The number of rooms disinfected in 1937 was 997.

Library Books.

At the request of the Public Libraries Committee, whose rule requires that on the occurrence of a case of infectious disease in any house in which there is a library book, information must be given to the librarian, arrangements were made to receive and disinfect the volumes. The number dealt with during the year was 671.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Table 55 shows the number of specimens examined for the purposes of diagnosis, and indicates also the organisms in relation to which the examinations were made.

TABLE 55.

Examination.	Positive.	Negative.	Suspicious.	TOTAL.
Throat and Nasal swabs (for B. diphtheriae and haemolytic streptococci)	47	619	12	678
Sputa (for tubercle bacilli)... ..	12	152	—	164
Faeces (for typhoid)... ..	2	5	—	7
Widal test (for typhoid)	3	3	—	6
Urine (for typhoid)	1	4	—	5
Swab (for gonococcus)	—	1	—	1
Totals	65	784	12	861

HEALTH PROPAGANDA.

The special efforts made locally, during the last four months of 1937, to secure a wider use of the health services, following the inauguration of a national campaign by the Prime Minister on the 30th September, 1937, were continued throughout the year 1938. The arrangements included, in addition to the usual forms of propaganda practised through the health centres and by the officers of the sanitary authority, the distribution of large quantities of leaflets and other literature throughout the Borough and the exhibition of posters. In the latter connection the Marylebone Road hoarding of the new Town Hall extension, which was placed at the disposal of the Public Health Committee for publicity purposes, again proved a valuable site for the display of attractive poster sets drawing attention to the various health services available to the inhabitants of the Borough.

INDEX.

	PAGE		PAGE
Abdominal Tuberculosis	14	Christine Murrell Memorial Unit ...	26
Abstract of Factories and Workshop Act	52	Church Army Dispensary	29
Accident	16	Circulatory Diseases	19
Accredited Milk	57	Cirrhosis of Liver	19
Ambulance Facilities	21	Cisterns	39
Analysis of Butter	62	Cleansing, Public	41
" " Cream	62	" Street	42
" " Drugs	62	" Station	46
" " Milk	62	" of Verminous Persons ...	46
" " Preservatives	62	Clearance and Improvement Schemes	54
Analyst, Public	7, 21	Clinics, Ante-Natal... ..	24
" " Report of	60	" Artificial Sunlight... ..	34
Aneurysm	19	" Child Guidance	32, 33, 34
Analytical Examinations	60, 61, 62	" Dental	21
Annual Returns, Tuberculosis ...	74, 75, 79, 80	" Diphtheria Immunisation	35, 65, 66
Ante-Natal Clinics	24	" Massage	34
Anti-Toxin, Diphtheria	65	" Minor Ailments	29
Anthrax	67	" Post-Natal	24
Appendicitis	19	" Pre-School Children	29
Artificial Cream Act, 1929	62	" Toddlers	29
" Pneumothorax Treatment	77	" Treatment Centres and ...	22
" Sunlight Clinic	34	Closet Accommodation	40
Atelectasis	14	Closing Orders	53
Atrophy	14	Coffee Shops	51
		Collection, Refuse	41, 42
Bacteriological Examinations ...	60, 65, 82	Combined Drainage... ..	40
" " of Milk	57	Committee, Public Health	6
Bacteriologist	7, 21	" Tuberculosis Care	77, 81
Bakehouses	51, 59	Common Lodging Houses	56
" Underground	52, 59	Comparison, The Years 1909 and 1938	4
Baths Establishment, Old	22	Compulsory Removal, Tuberculosis	72
" Cleansing of Persons... ..	46	Condensed Milk	62
" Swimming	45	Conditions, Social	8
Bed Bugs, Eradication of	45	Congenital Malformation	14, 19
Birth, Injury at	14	Consultants, Honorary	35
" Rate	9, 10	" Obstetric	35
Births, Notification of	11, 23	Containers, Refuse	41
" Registration of	10	Continued Fever	63
" Vital Statistics	9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14	Convalescent Homes	27
Blindness, Prevention of	71	Conveniences... ..	41
Bodies, Transportation Abroad ...	20	" Oxford Circus, All	
Books, Library	82	Night Opening	41
Bronchitis	14, 15, 19	Convulsions	14
Bugs	45	Cook Shops	60
Business, Offensive	59	Corrected Death Rate	11
Butter, Analysis of... ..	62	Cream... ..	62
" and Margarine Premises ...	59	" Artificial Cream Act, 1929	62
		" Tinned... ..	62
Camping Sites	44	Cremation	20
Camps, Municipal Holiday... ..	38	Crematorium... ..	20
Cancer	9, 16, 19	Crossley Day Nursery	25
Care Committee, Tuberculosis ...	81	Crown Estate, Refuse Collection ...	43
Causes of, and Ages at, Death ...	12	Curers, Fish	59
Census, Population	8		
Centres, Treatment and Clinics ...	22	Dairies, Milkshops	57
" Infant Welfare	23, 29	Day Nurseries	25
Cerebral Haemorrhage	19	Deaths, Accident, Suicide and Man-	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	19, 63, 64, 66	slaughter... ..	16
Chicken Pox	14, 22	" Causes of and Ages at ...	12, 15, 19
Child Life Protection	28	" Infantile Mortality	9, 12, 13, 14
" Guidance Clinic	32, 33, 34	" Infectious Diseases	15
" Welfare, Maternity and ...	23	" Maternal Mortality	15
" " Statistics	35, 36, 37	" Rate	9, 11
Children Act, 1908	28	" Registration of	11
Chiropodist	7, 21, 30	" Tuberculosis	15
Chiropodist's Report	30-32	" Vital Statistics	9
		" Debility	14
		Demolition Orders	53

INDEX—continued.

	PAGE		PAGE
Middlesex Hospital ...	11, 22, 29, 35, 36	Parrot Disease ...	70
Midwifery Service, Domiciliary ...	27	Pasteurised Milk ...	57
Midwives ...	27, 35	Pemphigus Neonatorum ...	22, 26
Milk, Accredited ...	57	Peptic Ulcer ...	19
" Analysis ...	57, 62	Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933 ...	49
" Bacteriological Examination of ...	57	Phthisis, see Tuberculosis	
" Condensed ...	62	Physical Training and Recreation	
" Dried ...	62	Act, 1937 ...	38
" (Special Designation) Order,		" —Survey ...	38
1936... ..	57	Pigeons ...	48
" Trade and Tuberculosis ...	71, 72	Pneumonia ...	14, 15, 19, 22, 63, 64, 70
" Pasteurised ...	57	Pneumothorax Treatment, Artificial ...	77
" Purveyors ...	57	Poisoning, Food ...	70
" Schoolchildren ...	57	Poisons Act, 1933, Pharmacy and... ..	49
" Shops ...	57	Polioencephalitis ...	63, 66
" Tuberculin Tested ...	57	Poliomyelitis... ..	26, 63, 64, 66
" and Food (to Mothers and		Population ...	8, 10
Children), Supply of ...	24	Portman Day Nursery ...	25, 26
Minor Ailment Clinics ...	29	Post-Natal Clinics ...	24
Mortality, Infant ...	9, 12, 13, 14	Prematurity ...	14, 19
" Maternal... ..	15	Pre-School Children Clinic ...	29
Mortuary ...	20	Premises used in Food Preparation ...	59
Mothers and Children, Supply of		Preservatives in Food ...	62
Milk and Food to... ..	24	Prevalence of and Control over In-	
Mumps ...	22	fectious Diseases ...	63
		Prevention of Blindness ...	71
National Rat Week ...	47	" Tuberculosis... ..	76
Nephritis ...	19	Proceedings, Legal ...	43
Night Opening, Oxford Circus Con-		Propaganda, Health ...	82
venience... ..	41	Psittacosis ...	70
Noise Nuisance ...	48	Public Analyst ...	7, 21
" " from Street Musicians ...	49	" " Report of ...	60
" " from Wireless Loud-		" Cleansing ...	41
speakers ...	49	" Health Committee ...	6
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	76	" Sanitary Conveniences ...	41
Noteworthy Causes of Sickness ...	9	Public Health (Condensed Milk)	
Notification of Births ...	11	Regulations, 1923	
" Infectious Diseases ...	26, 63	and 1927... ..	62
" Tuberculosis 63, 64, 72, 73, 74		" " (Dried Milk) Regula-	
Nuisances ...	44	tions, 1923 and	
" Noise ...	48	1927 ...	62
" Streets Nuisance Inspector ...	48	" " (Meat) Regulations,	
Nurseries, Day ...	25	1924 ...	58
Nursing Association, District ...	22, 35, 70	" " (Preservatives, etc., in	
Nursing, Home ...	22, 27	Food) Regulations ...	62
" Homes ...	22	Puerperal Fever ...	26, 63, 64, 67
		" Pyrexia ...	22, 26, 63, 64, 67
Obstetric Consultants ...	35	" Sepsis ...	9, 19
Occupations of Inhabitants ...	8	Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Milk	
Offal ...	43	Trade ...	71
Offensive Businesses ...	59	Purveyors, Milk ...	57
" Refuse ...	43		
Old Baths Establishment ...	22	Queen Charlotte's Hospital 11, 22, 29, 35, 36	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum 22, 26, 27, 63, 64, 70			
Orthopaedic Treatment ...	34	Rag Flock ...	52
Outworkers ...	51	Rate, Birth ...	9, 10
Overcrowding ...	54	" Death ...	9, 11
Overlaying ...	14	Rateable Value ...	8
Oxford Circus Convenience... ..	41	Rat Week, National... ..	47
		Rats ...	46
Paddington and St. Marylebone		Referee, Medical ...	20
District Nursing Asso-		Refuse, Collection and Disposal of ...	41, 42
ciation ...	22, 35, 70	" " " " Statistics ...	43
" Hospital ...	35	" Containers ...	41
Paralysis of Insane, General ...	19	" Crown Estate ...	43
Paratyphoid Fever ...	19, 63, 64	" Offensive ...	43
		Registration of Births ...	10
		" Deaths ...	11

INDEX—continued.

	PAGE		PAGE
Rehousing Schemes	55	Tenement Houses	39
Relapsing Fever	64	" " Water Supply ...	39
Removal of Tuberculosis, Compulsory	72	Tinned Cream	62
Rent Restrictions Acts	56	Toddlers Clinic	29
Respiratory Diseases	15, 19	Transportation of Bodies Abroad ...	20
Restaurants, Tea Rooms, etc. ...	59, 60	Treatment Centres and Clinics ...	22
Rickets	14	" of Tuberculosis	76
Royal Institute of British Architects	38, 41	Tuberculin Tested Milk	57
Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital	34	Tuberculosis Abdominal	14
		" Annual Returns	
		74, 75, 76, 79, 80, 81	
Samples, Food and Drugs	60, 61	" Care Committee	77, 81
Sanitary Conveniences, Public ...	41	" Compulsory Removal	72
" Inspection	43	" Deaths	15, 72, 78
" Inspectors... ..	7	" Dispensary	79
Scarlet Fever ... 14, 15, 19, 63, 64, 66		" Extra Nourishment	76
Schools, Infectious Diseases in ...	71	" Home Nursing	22
Selfridge's Exhibition	38	" New Cases	72
Senility	19	" Non-Pulmonary	76
Shelter	46	" Notifications 63, 64, 72, 73, 74	
Shops Act, 1934	44	" Prevention of... ..	76
" Coffee	51	" Pulmonary and Milk	
" Dressmaking, Millinery, Laun-		Trade	71, 72
dry, Cabinet Making, etc. ...	51	" Regulations	75
Shops, Milk	57	" Respiratory System	19
Sickness, Noteworthy Causes of ...	9	" Treatment of... ..	76
Sieff Hall	26	Tuberculosis Officer's Report ...	77
Slaughterhouses	58	Tuberculous Meningitis	14
Smallpox	14, 63, 64, 68	Typhoid Fever	19, 64
Smoke Abatement	45		
Social Conditions	8	Underground Bakehouses	52, 59
St. Mary Abbots Hospital	11, 35	" Rooms	53, 56
St. Marylebone & Western General		Unemployment	9
Dispensary	29	Unsound Food	58
Health Society	25, 26		
St. Vincent de Paul Day Nursery ...	25	Vaccination	68, 69
Staff	7, 21	Vermin	45, 46
Stalls, Food	60	" in Flats	46
Statistics, General	8	Verminous Persons, Cleansing of ...	46
" Infectious Disease	63, 64	Vital Statistics	17, 18
" Maternity and Child Wel-			
fare	35, 36, 37	Water	39
" Refuse Collection	43	" Supply, Factory	52
" Tuberculosis	71-80	" " cut off	39
" Vital	17, 18	" Closets	40
" Vaccination	68, 69	Western General Dispensary, St.	
Statutory Notices	43	Marylebone and	29
Stillbirths	9, 11, 14, 23	Whooping Cough 9, 14, 15, 19, 26, 63, 64, 67	
Street Cleansing	42	Wireless Loudspeakers	49
Street Musicians and Singers ...	48	Workshops	49, 50, 51, 52
Streets Nuisance Inspector... ..	48	" Registered	51
Suffocation	14		
Suicide	16, 19	Years 1909 and 1938, A Comparison	4
Supply of Milk and Food (to			
Mothers and Children)	24	Zachary Merton Convalescent Home	27
Survey, Physical Training	38	Zoological Society of London ...	70
Swimming Baths	45		
Syphilis	14, 19		
Tabes Dorsalis	19		
Tea Rooms, Restaurants, etc. ...	59, 60		