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HEALTH REPORT

for

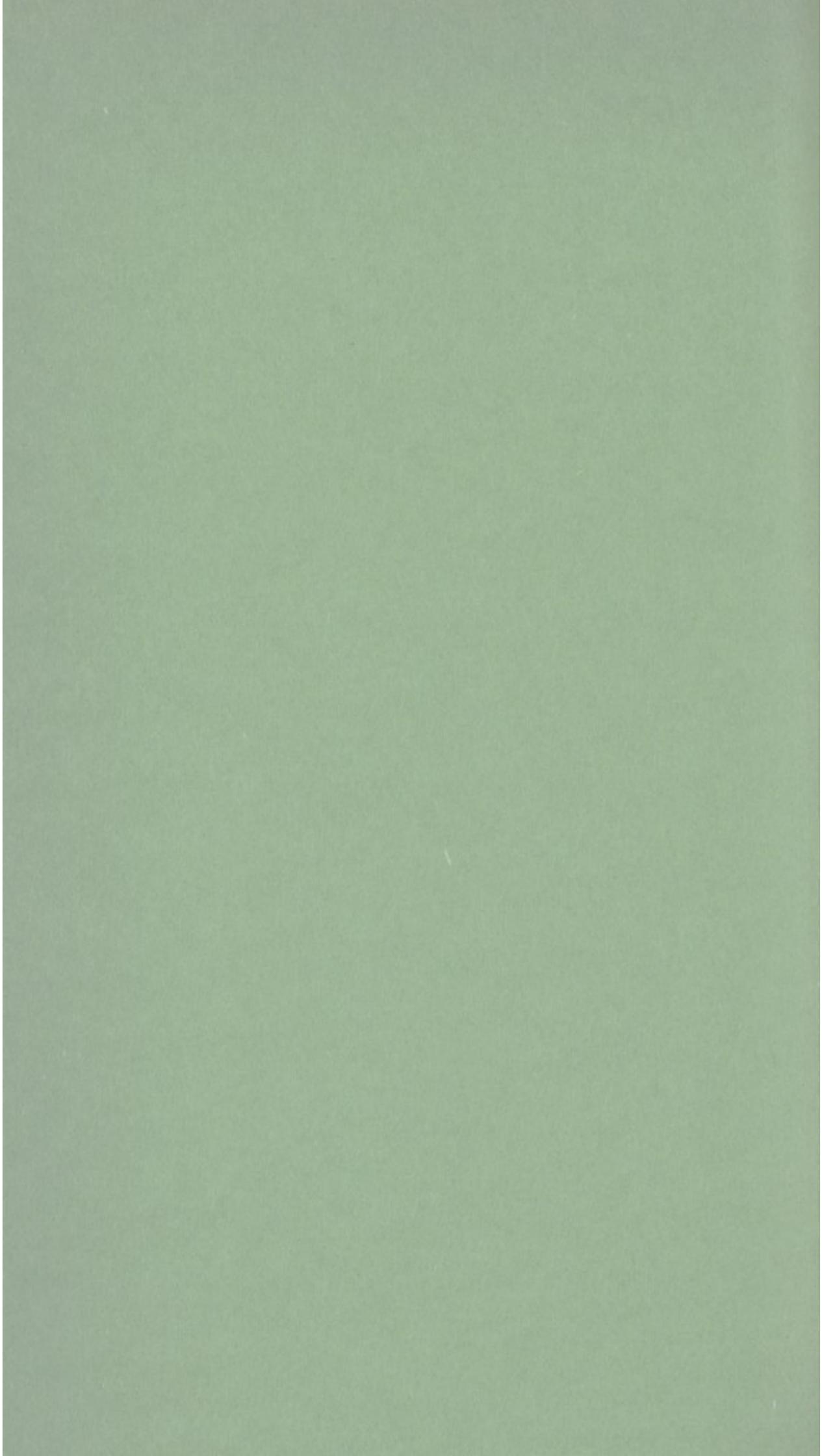
1954

for the

COULSDON & PURLEY URBAN DISTRICT

by the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF COULSDON AND PURLEY
1954

Public Health Department
Chairman: R. N. SAMPSON

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF COULSDON AND PURLEY.
1954

Public Health Committee.

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STAFF:

Medical Officer of Health:

*F. R. EDBROOKE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

*T. R. BENNETT., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

W. HAWORTH, F.S.I.A.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector:

G. H. COCKELL, M.S.I.A. (until 31st January, 1954).

W. RICE-JONES, M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

V. W. RIBBONS, M.S.I.A. (until 1st March, 1954).

E. R. ROGERS, M.S.I.A.

G. H. BOURNE, M.S.I.A.

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Assistant to Sanitary Inspectors:

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Rodent Operative:

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*Mrs. P. M. BRANCH, (until 25th December, 1954).

*Mrs. L. R. PROCTOR.

F. J. SMITH.

(* Part-time appointment only to this Council.)

COULSDON AND PURLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1954, this being my twenty-third report as your Medical Officer of Health.

As in previous years, this Report has been prepared in accordance with the instructions of the Minister, but on this occasion, in order to provide variety, the section on Maternity and Child Welfare has been slightly expanded, it being thought that members of the Council would be interested to note such variations as have occurred since they ceased to become directly responsible for this service. Similarly, to facilitate reference, most of the essential addresses and clinic arrangements have been tabulated together. It is hoped both innovations will be acceptable.

Although the year 1954 will remain in our memories as a comparatively sunless one, with a wet summer and autumn, it was quite a good one from the point of view of the public health, as judged by the vital statistics.

The Birth Rate was higher than in the preceding four years, and, although the Stillbirth Rate was slightly above the average for recent years, the percentage of illegitimacy remained at the lowest pre-war average.

Similarly, although the Death Rate again appears to have been high, this is due to the recent inclusion of deaths in the mental hospitals; the death rate for normal residents was, in fact, the lowest since 1938. The total Cancer Death Rate remained fairly steady, if anything being slightly less in 1954, but the proportion of male cancer deaths attributed to cancer of the lungs continued to increase. On the other hand, the death rates from tuberculosis and other infectious diseases were well below the average, and, apart from whooping cough and food poisoning, the incidence of infectious disease was very low. Only one case of slight paralytic poliomyelitis was notified.

The Maternal Mortality Rate was slightly lower, but the most spectacular feature of the year was the fall in the number of infant deaths, although even these might well have been fewer. The Infant Mortality Rate of 10.8 per 1,000 registered births is only slightly over half the lowest ever previously recorded in this District and, while a rate of this sort is apt to fluctuate violently, reflecting as it does such relatively small numbers, it is only natural to rejoice at this improvement even if, as is probable, this rate rises again to some extent next year. Even such temporary successes have their value in indicating what can be achieved, though of more permanent value is the steady decline in the average death rate from tuberculosis and the complete absence of diphtheria for eight successive years.

Unfortunately, in dealing with the public health, we have always to remember the possibility of the unexpected occurring, and of nature re-adapting itself to changing environmental conditions. With this in mind, modifications in the schemes for immunisation are welcomed as also the fairly satisfactory degree of public support received.

The use of combined diphtheria and whooping cough immunising agents has now become the customary practice, although not accepted by quite as high a percentage of parents as could be wished. The vaccination of about two thirds of the babies represents a distinct improvement since 'compulsion' was dropped. This year for the first time the routine immunisation of school children of a specified age group against tuberculosis has been instituted and the results will be watched with interest.

By contrast, it is rather regrettable to have to report an increase in deaths from accidents, mainly off the roads and two major outbreaks of food poisoning. Here there is no question of immunisation but of all members of the community taking the simple preventative measures which have been widely publicised. By cleanliness and the early consumption of cooked foods we can prevent not only food poisoning but the spread of dysentery which has become prevalent of late.

The recent establishment of a local voluntary Council for the Prevention of Accidents in the Home is a very welcome development.

In the Sanitary Inspector's section the year 1954 will be remembered for new legislation aiming at the clearance of unfit houses and the preservation of those which, although tending to deteriorate or become obsolete, can be saved. Increased inspection resulted forthwith but the outcome will be more obvious in my next Report.

In brief, this summary of the year's activities and assessment of the state of the public health show grounds for some satisfaction and hope that, if all concerned continue to play their part, including primarily, of course, the residents themselves, we can anticipate still better achievements.

May I, in conclusion, again express my thanks to all associated with the local Health and Social Services, both official and voluntary, for their co-operation during the year, and in particular I would mention the contributions of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and my Administrative Assistant, not only towards the production of this report, but for their loyal help at all times.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. R. EDBROOKE,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	11,142
Registrar-General's estimate of population, mid. 1954	64,650
Population, Census 1931	37,666
Population, Census 1951	63,770
Number of occupied houses, December, 1954	18,895
Number of occupied houses, 1931	9,533
Number of occupied houses, 1951	18,071
Rateable Value, December, 1954	£818,926
Sum represented by a penny rate	£3,240

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1954.

	Total	M.	F.	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
Live Births—Legitimate	811	405	406	12.9
do. Illegitimate	23	16	7	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<i>Corrected Birth Rate</i>
	834	421	413	13.9

	Total	M.	F.	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births.
Still Births—Legitimate	18	6	12	13.2
do. Illegitimate	—	—	—	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	18	6	12	

	Total	M.	F.	Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
Deaths	914	402	512	14.1
				<i>Corrected Death Rate</i>
				12.3

	Total	M.	F.	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births.
Deaths from puerperal causes :—				
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	—
Other Puerperal causes	1	—	—	1.17
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	1	—	—	1.17

Death Rates of Infants under one year of age :—	
All infants per 1,000 live births	10.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	11.1
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	142
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	Nil.

HEALTH REPORT FOR 1954.

The Urban District of Coulsdon and Purley was constituted by an Order of the Local Government Board dated 1st November, 1914, and came into existence on the 7th April, 1915. It has, therefore, been a separate District for 40 years.

Situated on the North Downs immediately to the south of Croydon, this well-favoured "dormitory" suburb, has a very considerable proportion of its area reserved as part of the "Green Belt," and there is comparatively little dense development.

The majority of the residents who work, do so in London or Croydon, travelling to and fro daily. Locally there are no really large manufacturing or other industries, most of the residents employed in the District being connected with building and decorating, with the provision of food and the other wants of the inhabitants, or attached to the mental hospitals. The amount of unemployment, apart from temporary unemployment pending transfer, is still negligible.

AREA AND POPULATION.

The District has an area of 11,142 acres, these being distributed among the wards as follows:—

Coulsdon East	...	...	2,812
Coulsdon West	...	...	1,253
Kenley	...	...	1,292
Purley	...	...	685
Sanderstead	...	...	2,311
Selsdon and Farleigh	...	...	1,924
Woodcote	...	...	865

At the time of the 1951 census the population was shown to be 63,770 and this is thought to have increased slightly since, the mid-year population for 1954 being estimated by the Registrar-General to have been 64,650 compared with 64,810 and 64,180 in the two previous years, but the latest figure is almost certainly an under estimate.

These numbers include persons resident in Institutions in the District, the numbers of which at the end of 1954 were as follows:—

Cane Hill Hospital...	...	2,502
Netherne Hospital	...	2,091
Russell Hill School	...	244
Reedham Orphanage	...	267

In December, 1954 there were 18,895 occupied houses, distributed as follows:—

Coulsdon East	...	...	3,081
Coulsdon West	...	...	3,163
Purley	...	...	2,604
Woodcote	...	...	1,762
Sanderstead North	...	...	2,293
Sanderstead South	...	...	2,642
Selsdon	...	...	1,884
Kenley	...	...	1,466

This suggests an average of 3.42 persons per occupied house in 1954, or 3.15 if the institutional population is excluded, compared with 3.53 and 3.24 in 1951. As there were more than 800 additional occupied houses in 1954 compared with 1951, the population must have increased by quite 2,400 in that time rather than just 880 as estimated by the Registrar-General, and have been at least 66,200 in 1954.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The following table gives the average population, birth, death, maternal and other important mortality rates for the quinquennial periods 1920-1949, together with the actual figures for 1953 and 1954.

<i>Rates per 1,000 population.</i>	1920-1924.	1925-1929.	1930-1934.	1935-1939.	1940-1944.	1945-1949.	1953.	1954.
Birth rate ...	13.5	12.9	11.6	12.8	15.2	15.2	11.6	12.9
Percentage illegitimate ...	3.4%	3.7%	2.8%	3.4%	3.9%	3.4%	2.8%	2.8%
Stillbirth rate...	—	—	—	0.43	0.48	0.40	0.22	0.28
Death rate ...	7.4	7.0	7.4	8.3	11.4	9.7	15.3	14.1
Cancer death rate ...	0.96	1.15	1.35	1.19	1.70	1.75	2.39	2.19
Tuberculosis death rate (per 100,000 population)	57	36	38	35	48	36	29	15
Violence including Suicide	0.44	0.35	0.32	0.46	0.82	0.37	0.46	0.67
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	2.08	2.66	3.21	2.27	2.10	1.12	1.31	1.17
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 registered births) ...	28	38	32	38	40	26	29	11
Neo-natal mortality rate ...	—	—	—	26	28	19	21	8
Estimated population ...	21,351	28,950	41,616	53,084	49,880	60,610	64,810	64,650

BIRTHS.

During the year 1954, 834 births were registered as occurring in the District, of which 421 were male and 413 were female, compared with 750 in 1953. It will be seen by reference to the preceding table that this is equal to an annual birth rate of 12.9 per 1,000 population, as compared with 11.6 in 1953, and an average of 12.0 in the last five years.

If this rate is corrected in accordance with the Registrar-General's assessment of the atypical constitution of the population it becomes 13.9 and this should be comparable with the birth rates for England and Wales which were 15.2 in 1954, 15.5 in 1953, and an average of 15.8 in the last five years.

ILLEGITIMACY.— In 1954, of the births registered, 23 were illegitimate (16 males and 7 females), this being 2 more than in the preceding year. The percentage of illegitimate births was thus the same as the lowest pre-war average.

STILLBIRTHS.— The number of stillbirths registered during 1954 was 18 (6 males and 12 females), which is 4 more than last year. None of the stillbirths was in respect of an illegitimate child. The local stillbirth rate was 0.28 per thousand of population while that for England and Wales was 0.36 in 1954.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered during 1954 as belonging to this District was 914 (402 males and 512 females), which is 76 less than last year, but still 258 more than in 1952. It will be remembered that in 1953 a new system was introduced whereby the Register General now attributes to this District all the deaths occurring in the two large mental hospitals, it being suggested that as the majority of the inpatients in these hospitals are long stay cases, they should be regarded as forming part of the normal population. Numerically, of course, they are included in the population, but, their death rate being inevitably higher than the average, the effect on the local death rate is misleading. Applying the "comparability factor" supplied by the Registrar General, the gross local death rate of 14.1 is decreased to a corrected one of 12.3 but it is doubtful if this is really comparable with the national death rate of 11.3 for 1954.

In order to be able to compare more accurately the 1953-1954 death rates, the records in respect of the normal residents have been kept separate from those of the mental hospital patients who would previously have been transferred to their own districts, and as far as practicable throughout this Report a distinction has been made between them.

The total death rate for 1954 for normal residents would have been 8.6 but for the new system, compared with 9.9 and 10.2 in the two preceding years.

The principal causes of death locally during 1954 together with the rates per cent of total deaths, are shown in the following table, the deaths and comparable death rates among ordinary residents being shown in brackets:—

<i>Cause.</i>	<i>Number of Deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per cent. of Total Deaths.</i>
Heart and circulatory diseases ...	492 (299)	53.8 (53.4)
Cancer, malignant disease ...	142 (117)	15.5 (20.9)
Pneumonia	58 (24)	6.3 (4.3)
Bronchitis	25 (11)	2.7 (1.9)
Accidents	32 (19)	3.5 (3.4)
Tuberculosis (all forms) ...	10 (3)	1.1 (0.5)

(A full list of the causes of deaths and the ages at which they occurred is given in Table IV. in the Appendix.)

HEART AND CIRCULATORY DISEASE.

Among the ordinary residents the death rate from heart and other circulatory disease was 4.62 compared with an average of 5.17 in the preceding four years. As however, this group includes a high proportion of elderly people dying virtually of old age, it is not regrettable if this particular rate remains high.

Ignoring the mental hospital group, this year 73 per cent of residents dying from heart and circulatory disease were over 65 years of age at the time of death, compared with an average of 81 per cent in the previous five years, while 41 per cent were over 75 years of age. (Incidentally, 68 per cent of deaths from all causes were over 65 years, compared with an average of 67 in the five preceding years).

CANCER.

The cancer death rate in respect of normal residents was 1.81 in 1954 compared with an average of 1.85 in the last five years and 1.82 since the war. The tendency to stabilisation noted in recent years has, therefore, continued.

CANCER DEATHS 1954.

Localisation.	0-30		30-40.		40-50.		50-60.		60-70.		70-80.		Over 80.		TOTAL.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Larynx	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
Brain and Thyroid	1	—(1)	—	—(1)	1	—(1)	—(1)	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3(1)	(3)
Bone	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—(1)	—	—	—	—	2	(1)
Oesophagus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—(2)	—	—	1(1)	1	1(1)	1(2)
Stomach and Duodenum...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—(1)	3	1(1)	—	6	6	8(2)
Intestines	—	—	—	—	1(1)	1	1	1	3(1)	6(1)	6(1)	4	2	5	13(3)	17(1)
Liver	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1(1)	—	—	1	—	1	1(2)
Pancreas	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1
Lungs	—	—	—	—	3	—	7	1	6	1	6	1	1	—	23	3
Bladder	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	3	1
Prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
Uterus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1(1)	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2(1)
Vagina and Ovary	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2(1)	—	—	—	—	—	3(1)
Breast	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	—	3(2)	—	2	—	1	—	11(2)
Kidneys	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—(1)	—	—	—	—	—	2(1)	—
Ill-defined	—	1	—	—	—(1)	1	1	—	1	2(1)	—(2)	2	—	1	2(3)	7(1)
TOTALS	4	1(1)	—	1(1)	5(2)	4(1)	13(1)	7(1)	14(2)	15(10)	17(3)	13(1)	9(1)	14(1)	62(9)	55(16)

The previous table gives the age, sex and distribution of this disease in the fatal cases among ordinary residents which occurred in 1954, the mental hospital cases being added in brackets. Compared with recent years, the number of deaths from breast cancer in females was again below the average, but a further slight increase in the number of lung cases among males is noted. On the average, since the war 24 per cent of male deaths from cancer originated in the lungs, but in the last 2 years this percentage increased to 30 per cent and in 1954 it was 37 per cent. Research into the cause of the increase in this form of cancer is proceeding. While other carcinogenic factors may be involved the association with heavy cigarette smoking is very suspect and pending further evidence personal restrictive measures are justified. As previously stated, the younger generation would be wise to consider the unnecessary risk before they become addicted to what is, at the least, a foolish and uneconomic habit and one which most probably contributes to other forms of illhealth.

VIOLENCE.

Excluding 15 deaths among mental hospital inmates (previously transferable), mostly due to falls, there was a marked increase in deaths from violence (including suicide) compared with 1953, the death rate being 0.43 per thousand of population whereas it was 0.26 last year and averaged 0.39 both for the inter-war years and for the years since the war.

Deaths on the road increased by two, six deaths being attributed to this cause, including two elderly mental hospital patients who were struck by motor cars. All four ordinary residents were young; three were pedestrians and one a motor cyclist.

There was a variety of causes for the remaining 15 accidental deaths in the District, the most common being falls and gas poisoning in the elderly.

The number of deaths attributed to suicide was again 11, but 2 of these were mental hospital patients. The nett figure is above the annual average of 6.5 since the war.

TUBERCULOSIS AND PNEUMONIA.

Deaths from tuberculosis and pneumonia are referred to in later sections of this report.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Unfortunately, as in 1953, there was one maternal death, with a resultant maternal mortality rate of 1.17 per 1,000 live and stillbirths compared with that of 0.69 for England and Wales.

Death in this case resulted from post partum haemorrhage as a sequel to other abnormalities in a seventh pregnancy.

INFANT MORTALITY.

During 1954 there were only 9 deaths among children under one year of age, as compared with 22 last year, and an average of 20 in the last six years. None of the deaths was in respect of an illegitimate child.

While any death is regrettable, and at least 2 of these 9 might have been prevented, this is far and away the lowest number of infant deaths which has occurred in this District in any one year.

The resultant infant mortality rate was only 10.8 per 1,000 registered births, compared with 29.3, 24.0, 21.7 and 17.2 in the previous four years, the rate in 1950 being the lowest previously recorded for this District.

The infant mortality rate for England and Wales was the record of 25.5 in 1954, the lowest previously recorded being 26.8 in 1953.

The 7 babies dying in the first month correspond with a neo-natal mortality rate of 8.4 (i.e. deaths in the first month per 1,000 live births), whereas the average for the past nine years was over 18.

During the year 8 premature babies were notified as being born at home and 41 in institutions. Of the latter 5 died, 2 in the first day, and one on each of the 2nd, 5th and 7th days after birth.

This suggests that only 10 per cent of the premature babies died, compared with an average of 22 per cent in the years since 1945.

The following table gives the causes of the 9 deaths which occurred during 1954 together with the age at death.

Source	Age at Death	Cause of Death
Home	1 day	Respiratory Distress
Institution	1 day	Respiratory Distress
Institution	2 days	Respiratory Distress
Institution	5 days	Respiratory Distress
Institution	7 days	Respiratory Distress
Institution	10 days	Respiratory Distress
Institution	12 days	Respiratory Distress
Institution	15 days	Respiratory Distress
Institution	18 days	Respiratory Distress

For the eighth year in succession no case of diphtheria occurred in the District and only one suspicious but unconfirmed

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1954.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Under 1 week.</i>	<i>1-2 weeks.</i>	<i>2-3 weeks.</i>	<i>3-4 weeks.</i>	<i>Total under 4 weeks.</i>	<i>4 weeks and under 3 months.</i>	<i>3 months and under 6 months.</i>	<i>6 months and under 9 months.</i>	<i>9 months and under 12 months.</i>	<i>Total deaths under 1 year.</i>
Congenital malformation	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Blood condition	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Prematurity and Atelectasis	4	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Accidental Smothering ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
TOTALS ...	6	1	—	—	7	—	2	—	—	9

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table indicates the number of cases of infectious disease notified during 1954, the number thought to have been treated in hospital, and the number of deaths which occurred.

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Numbers Notified.</i>	<i>Treated in Hospital.</i>	<i>Total Deaths.</i>
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	68	15	—
Erysipelas	4	1	—
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—
Pneumonia — primary	20	8	58*
Enteric fever	1	1	—
Encephalitis, acute	1	1	1
Dysentery	12	12	1
Poliomyelitis, paralytic	1	—	—
Measles	9	—	—
Whooping cough	131	4	—
Food poisoning	74	72	—
TOTALS	321	114	60

* Deaths from all forms of pneumonia including mental hospital cases.

A further analysis of these cases by age, wards and the months during which they occurred is given in Tables I and II in the Appendix, while a full statement of the cases of infectious disease notified since 1924 is presented in Table III in the Appendix.

It will be seen that whooping cough was the commonest notifiable infectious disease while measles, scarlet fever and pneumonia were much less prevalent than in the previous year. More cases of food poisoning occurred, due to two outbreaks.

Excluding food poisoning, measles and whooping cough which were not notifiable between the two Wars, and the hospital cases of dysentery, the incidence of the remaining acute notifiable infectious diseases was only 1.5 per 1,000 population, which is much lower than the post-war average of 2.3.

SMALLPOX.

No case of this disease occurred in the District during the year but on at least three occasions individuals who had been in contact with cases overseas had to be supervised.

DIPHTHERIA.

For the eighth year in succession no case of diphtheria occurred in the District and only one suspicious but unconfirmed

case was admitted into hospital. Bearing in mind that the natural stimulants to immunity are declining rapidly, as judged by the rarity with which any form of diphtheria organism is reported during the routine bacteriological examination of throat swabs, it is all the more necessary to maintain the immunity of the population by artificial means.

SCARLET FEVER.

This disease remains of a very mild type and only 68 cases were notified as compared with 80, 90 and 149 in the previous three years.

To what extent the number of these known cases represents the degree of infection in the District it is impossible to say. There is a good deal of evidence to show that while the disease remains so mild a number of missed cases occur, the mildest often not coming to the notice of the doctors or being regarded as due to other causes; moreover it is well known that for every case exhibiting a rash, others suffer from a temporary sore throat or slight upset without producing a rash, although they have been infected with the same organism.

The question naturally arises whether all known cases of streptococcal infections should be notified, or alternatively whether the notification of scarlet fever and the measures associated therewith should be dropped. It is thought that wider notification would cause a great deal of inconvenience without materially affecting the spread of the infection, but on the other hand, in view of the tendency for scarlet fever to gradually vary in its severity, it is considered that it would be unwise to give up the present practice completely. Modifications in procedure have, however, gradually been introduced. The mildest cases are, for example, allowed to return to school earlier if they are normal clinically, though a minimum exclusion of fourteen days is probably desirable in case complications arise. Similarly normal contacts return after a week irrespective of whether the case is being treated at home or in hospital.

The disease has for some years been mainly associated with school children and particularly the 5-8 year old children, 52% being in this group in 1954 compared with 17% under school age and 20% older school children. Six cases occurred among adults, but half of these were connected with schools.

Almost all schools in the District, including a number of private schools, had one or more cases, the maximum in any one school being ten. Attention has been focussed on the examination of contacts at school and in general this policy appears justified, bearing in mind the factors mentioned above which foster the spread of this usually mild infection.

The hospitalisation of cases has further decreased, only 15 cases being admitted in 1954, (Wandle Valley 8, Bletchingley 5, Queen Mary's 1 and Waddon 1).

Of the 53 cases treated at home 4 were secondary cases occurring in the same house, and these were probably infected before hospitalisation of the first case would have been practicable.

ERYSIPELAS.

Only four isolated cases occurred in the summer, one of which was admitted to Hospital. All recovered.

ENTERIC FEVER.

One confirmed case of paratyphoid fever (B. type) was notified during the year, and two suspected cases of paratyphoid were admitted to hospital. The latter gave completely negative findings and the source of the definite case could not be traced.

DYSENTERY.

A total of 12 cases of dysentery were notified, compared with 13, 48 and 22 in the three preceding years. Of this number 11 were due to the Flexner bacillus and occurred among the inmates of one of the mental hospitals, one of whom died from this disease. The remaining case was due to the milder Sonne bacillus and this cleared up in hospital.

FOOD POISONING.

During the year a total of 74 notifications of food poisoning were received which is much the largest number of cases notified in any single year. The number of outbreaks was about the normal, however, being not more than five.

In three instances only one or two individuals were concerned, and in two of these the causal organism was not identified. The third, which affected two members of one family, was due to *S. typhi murium*, probably spread by mice.

The largest outbreak resulting in 69 notifications, was in one of the mental hospitals and was due to *Cl. Welchii* which had thrived in meat pies made on a Saturday, allowed to cool over night in meat tins in a warm atmosphere and reheated before consumption at lunch on the Sunday.

In addition it is known that in October a large firm in the District had at least 29 of their employees affected by food poisoning although not one of the cases was notified. (Only a minority saw a doctor but one of them was correctly diagnosed in a neighbouring District, though not notified).

As in the previous outbreak the causal organism was undoubtedly *Cl. Welchii* resulting from meat being cooked on one day, allowed to cool slowly in a warm atmosphere and reheated before

being served a day later. (Fairly conclusive evidence was produced subsequently by similar joints being treated in exactly the same way as those causing the outbreak and being shewn to yield very heavy growths of *Cl. Welchii*).

These two major outbreaks illustrate vividly the risk which is taken when meat, and particularly large joints, is allowed to cool slowly in an improperly ventilated room overnight and reheated before being served. The warm moist conditions encourage the multiplication of any organism in the food. If it is essential to cook the previous day, cooling should be expedited and the food stored, if possible, in a refrigerator. Cooking immediately before serving is, however, greatly to be preferred.

ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS.

One adult resident unfortunately died of this disease in April in a General Hospital to which he had been admitted as possibly suffering from pneumonia. It was impracticable to trace the source of the infection which appeared to be limited to this solitary case.

POLIOMYELITIS.

This disease was less prevalent nationally and locally. Only 1 case was notified as a paralytic one, but the infection was slight and all symptoms soon cleared up. It was not considered necessary for the adult concerned to be admitted to hospital.

On seven occasions individual residents or groups who had been in contact with recognised cases elsewhere were kept under supervision, but none developed the disease. The "Summer" of 1954 was generally considered to have been a wet one and this doubtless assisted in preventing the spread of this disease.

PNEUMONIA.

During the year 20 cases of acute primary or influenzal pneumonia were notified, compared with 44, 21 and 51 in the three preceding years. The cases occurred fairly uniformly throughout the year and only 2 of the cases appeared to be interconnected. Six of the cases were notified by one general practitioner and the remainder by seven other doctors. So far as is known only 8 of these cases were admitted to hospital and no deaths occurred among these notified cases.

MEASLES.

This disease is usually prevalent in alternate years and it was, therefore, expected that there would be fewer cases in 1954. What was surprising was that only 9 cases were notified compared with 1,319, 170 and 810 in the three preceding years.

So far as is known, the disease remained fairly mild in type and no cases were admitted to hospital.

WHOOPING COUGH.

In 1954 there was a moderate increase in notifications, 131 being received, compared with 66, 196, 204, and 242 in the four previous years. Of these only 4 cases are known to have been admitted to hospital and all recovered. The majority of the cases occurred between March and August, the incidence being highest in May and August. While Kenley produced the steadiest flow of cases, Sanderstead had the highest total with Purley a close second. Just over 40% were children under 5 years of age and 6 babies were under 1 year. It must here be emphasised, however, that this disease can be very serious and is often very debilitating. The immunisation of all children against it is strongly recommended and this treatment should be commenced by at least the sixth month of life.

Year	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Number of cases notified	66	196	204	242	131
Number of cases admitted to hospital	0	0	0	0	4
Number of cases recovered	66	196	204	242	131

The following table shows the age-groups in which notifications and deaths occurred:

Age Group	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Under 1 year	6	12	15	18	22
1-4 years	15	35	45	55	65
5-9 years	10	25	30	35	40
10-14 years	8	20	25	30	35
15-19 years	5	15	20	25	30
20 years and over	2	5	10	15	20
Total	46	112	125	153	192

The incidence of new cases of whooping cough has remained fairly constant and at a low level for the last 20 years.

The new cases were distributed amongst the wards as follows :—

Localisation.	Coulsdon East.	Coulsdon West.	Kenley.	Purley.	Sanderstead.	Selsdon and Farleigh.	Woodcote.
Pulmonary ...	8	7	—	7	7	2	—
Non-pulmonary ...	3	—	1	2	1	—	—
TOTALS ...	11	7	1	9	8	2	—

The following table illustrates the trend of this disease since the formation of the District.

Average figures for the quinquennial periods 1915-1954.

	1915-1924	1925-1934	1935-1944	1945-1949	1950-1954
PULMONARY—					
New cases notified	22	29	35	49	43
*Case rate ...	115	82	68	81	67
Deaths ...	12	13	21	27	16
*Death rate ...	65	37	42	44	22
NON-PULMONARY—					
New cases notified	3	6	7	8	5
*Case rate ...	15	18	15	13	8
Deaths ...	3	3	2	2	2
*Death rate ...	15	8	5	3	4

* (The rates in this table and the remainder of the section are in all cases per 100,000 population).

During 1954 the number of new notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis was only 31 compared with an average of 43 in the last five years. This corresponds with a case rate of 48, which is the lowest the District has known, and this in spite of the introduction of Mass Radiography and other means of early detection of the disease. While fluctuations are apt to occur in dealing with relatively small numbers the steady improvement in each of the last four years is quite encouraging.

Similarly on the average the local death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis has steadily decreased as has the national death rate.

The incidence of new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis and the corresponding death rate have remained fairly constant and at a low level for the last 20 years.

The Council is responsible for one of the most important measures aimed at combating this disease, viz., rehousing, and also for disinfection, but the County Council bears the responsibility for all other preventive measures except the treatment of cases, which is that of the Regional Hospital Boards.

Schemes are being carried out for the immunisation of certain sections of the population, and for tracing contacts of infectious cases among school children. During the second half of 1954, the parents of children attending the County Council's schools who were 13 years of age, were asked if they would agree to their children being tested and, if necessary, given B.C.G. immunisation. As a result, 73% accepted and 89% of these children were immunised. In 1955 a similar offer will be made to the parents of local school children in this age group in further schools.

The Mass X-Ray Unit operated for a period in Croydon during the year but a visit to this District could not be arranged. The local Tuberculosis Clinic is held every Monday from 2-4 p.m. at the Surrey County Council Clinic, 62 Whytecliffe Road, Purley, with one additional session each week.

There is still no sign of progress in the erection of the anticipated self-contained Chest Clinic which it is hoped will be built in Purley Hospital grounds. The provision of this Clinic is urgently required as the County Council Clinic is being seriously over-used.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 172.
PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS)
REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action has been required under these powers during recent years.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The group of non-notifiable infectious diseases including influenza again accounted for very few deaths.

Excluding the death returns, the only information as to the presence of outbreaks of non-notifiable infectious disease is obtained from the returns from the nurseries and public elementary schools. As judged by these, there were scattered cases of chickenpox and mumps throughout the year with appreciable outbreaks of the former in Sanderstead in February/March and Selsdon and Chipstead Valley in November/December. Mumps was most marked in Sanderstead and Chipstead Valley in the Spring and in Old Coulsdon in the Summer and Autumn. Only one case of ringworm was reported and no serious outbreak of influenza occurred.

Home visitation and exclusion from school are still the two chief methods relied upon to prevent the spread of these diseases. Treatment in hospital is provided when required owing to social or physical complications being present, but records of these admissions are rarely received.

INFESTATIONS.

(a) SCABIES.

During 1954 only 2 adults and 2 children forming one family were treated by the Health Department for this disease, compared with 2, 4, 11 and 11 in the four preceding years and a maximum of 399 in 1944.

In view of the very small number of isolated cases now occurring it would be preferable for them to be referred to the Medical Officer of Health in order that the contacts can be dealt with really effectively.

(b) VERMIN.

The number of reported cases of infestation also remained small and was limited to 18 children found to have head nits in school. Almost all of these were only casual infestations which immediately responded to the treatment which was mainly provided by the parents.

THE CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

When it can be used, immunisation is the most effective of the measures for the control of infectious disease, but its usefulness is proportional to the degree of public support and the standard of immunity which is maintained by reinforcing doses, if and when these are necessary.

The comparatively small risk of inoculations influencing the onset of poliomyelitis is now well-recognised, particularly when precautionary measures are instituted. It should certainly not deter parents from agreeing to immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough, which treatment will only be given if the time is considered opportune by the doctor concerned, and especially if subcutaneous injections are used as these avoid damage to the muscles. This is now standard practice locally.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

As previously stated it is still very important that the parents of all children should ensure that they are kept as highly immune as possible against diphtheria by early immunisation and periodical enhancing doses.

The following table shows the treatment given during 1954, and the proportion of children estimated to have been immunised:—

CENTRES AND CLINICS (including day nurseries).						
Number who completed Primary treatment	...	...	...	...	...	379
Number of "Booster" doses given	...	...	...	...	...	144
SCHOOLS.						
Number who completed Primary treatment	...	...	...	...	...	24
Number of "Booster" doses given	...	...	...	...	...	964
GENERAL PRACTITIONERS.						
Number who completed Primary treatment	...	...	...	...	...	385
Number given "Boosters"	...	...	...	...	...	484
Proportion of children estimated to have been immunised:—						
(a) from 1-5 years	...	...	...	...	...	67%
(b) from 5-14 years	...	...	...	...	...	92%

The total number of primary treatments was slightly more than last year but 784 more children received boosting doses.

As a result the percentage of children aged 1 to 5 years estimated to have been immunised was slightly higher, but the proportion of school children who have been treated during the last 5 years, and who can therefore be considered to be sufficiently immune, is only about 73%. There is therefore room for improvement in all age groups.

VACCINATION.

The following table shows the number of vaccinations performed in the District during 1954:—

WELFARE CENTRES.						
Primary vaccinations	...	...	...	...	...	227
GENERAL PRACTITIONERS.						
Primary vaccinations 0-15 years	...	...	...	...	...	382
" " over 15 years	...	...	...	...	...	46
Re-vaccinations 0-15 years	...	...	...	...	...	27
" over 15 years	...	...	...	...	...	107

The number of primary vaccinations was 87 more than last year, and it is good to find that about 64% of the babies born in 1954 were vaccinated compared with 60% in the 2 previous years. If this percentage can be maintained it will be very satisfactory.

WHOOPIING COUGH IMMUNISATION.

The year 1953 was the first in which this treatment was provided both by private Doctors and at the Infant Welfare Centres. The following numbers were treated during 1954 and it is pleasing to note that 104 more children were given primary courses and that reinforcing doses increased by 129.

WELFARE CENTRES.		
Number who completed Primary treatment		368
Number of "Booster" doses given		20
GENERAL PRACTITIONERS		
Number who completed Primary treatment		346
Number of "Booster" doses given		249

At present it is recommended that 3 doses of whooping cough vaccine should be given (usually combined with a diphtheria immunisation agent) at monthly intervals, commencing at the latest in the sixth month, and followed by a "booster" dose at 2 years, but with experience this time table may be varied. As this treatment is not usually given much after 2 years of age, there is a tendency for fewer children to be immunised against whooping cough than against diphtheria, but this year the difference is only 74, or about 10%.

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Almost all the specimens requiring bacteriological examination in the interests of the public health are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, West Hill House, West Hill Road, Epsom, and during 1954 reports were received on the following specimens :—

Milk, ice cream, and water samples	424
Food utensils	225
Nose or throat swabs	33
Food	22
Eye Swabs	2
Faeces	100
Vomit	13
Rectal swabs	10

Samples of water requiring chemical analysis, and milk for biological examinations were sent by the Local Authority to The Clinical Research Association, while Food and Drug samples are submitted to the Public Analyst.

DISINFECTION.

The disinfection of bedding, etc., is undertaken at the Wandle Valley Hospital, while the disinfection of premises is carried out by the officers of the Public Health Department.

For the convenience of ratepayers, the Council has decided to arrange disinfection even when this is not essential to the public health, but in these cases the following charges are made:—

£1 per load of bedding, etc., 5s. for the first room and 2s. 6d. for each additional room disinfected at the same time.

During 1954 the following disinfections were carried out:—

	<i>Free of cost.</i>	<i>Upon payment.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Loads of bedding, etc ...	42	2	44
Houses disinfected ...	82	—	82
Parcels of clothing ...	—	4	4
Library books ...	579	—	579

MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS.

The provisions of Part IV of the Surrey County Council Act, 1931, relating to the registration and management of massage establishments, are in operation. There are 18 such establishments in the Urban District.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47.

The powers given under this section for securing the removal of aged persons from insanitary conditions were not utilised during 1954.

Periodically border line cases occur in which the Welfare Officers seek advice, but every endeavour is made to find a satisfactory solution without resorting to compulsory powers, especially as the latter are so limited in their application.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 50.

Under the above section, as from 5th July, 1948, the Council became responsible for the disposal of the remains of any person dying in the District, where suitable arrangements would not otherwise be made, and during the year one burial was thus arranged.

HEALTH PROPAGANDA.

Constant attention is given to the opportunities for health propaganda at the Clinics and Centres in the area and during the visits made by the Health Visitors and Sanitary Inspectors. In addition each year a number of talks are given by the Officers to various organisations who request their assistance. If time permitted doubtless more of these could be given to advantage.

The material supplied by the Central Council for Health Education and other bodies is extremely useful.

OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITY HEALTH SERVICES.

Since 1948 the local Council has been represented on the S.E. Divisional Health Sub-Committee of the County Health Committee and the corresponding Educational Executive, which bodies have certain specified powers and responsibilities for some of the allied Health Services. The Medical Officer of Health for this District and his Deputy, who hold similar positions in the Caterham and Warlingham Urban District, are the responsible officers for the Divisional Health Services, and deal to a limited extent, among other things with the maintenance and detailed organisation of the following branches.

MATERNITY CLINICS.

Residents are welcome to attend the Clinics enumerated in tabular form at the end of this part of the Report, the arrangements for which have not been altered this year.

Since the National Health Service Act has been implemented, prospective Mothers wishing to take advantage of its provisions may arrange for their confinements with

- (1) a doctor providing midwifery service and a maternity nurse, or
- (2) a midwife, the doctor of their choice being on call in emergency, or
- (3) a hospital, where a bed may be reserved in certain circumstances.

Expectant mothers making arrangements (2) or (3) usually attend the Council's Maternity Clinics but private doctors can also refer their cases for special purposes, e.g., blood tests for Rhesus factor, etc.

Conversely in some cases the District Midwives assist general practitioners at ante-natal sessions in their surgeries.

It may be of interest to note some of the numerical effects of these arrangements.

In 1947 the number of new ante-natal cases who attended the 3 local clinics was 434 representing 41% of the registered births (53% in 1945/6).

In 1954 only 181 new cases attended these clinics (22%) but a few more may have attended the Warlingham and Caterham Hill clinics. The average attendance per session meanwhile dropped from 24 to 10, the reduction at Selsdon being the most marked. (To some extent the decrease in 1954 may have been due to changes in the staff and holding 3 morning instead of afternoon sessions.)

Corresponding with this the number of residents who were confined in the Redhill County and Purley Hospitals rose from 335 in 1947 to 393 in 1954, the increase chiefly affecting the Purley Hospital admissions. (In 1954 approximately 28% of the local

births occurred in their own homes, 62% in hospitals and 10% in Nursing Homes.)

MOTHERCRAFT AND RELAXATION CLASSES.

Classes covering these subjects were commenced in Purley at the end of 1953 and the numbers attending have increased very rapidly. It is now necessary for expectant mothers wishing to join these classes to make application to the Divisional Health Visitor at 115 Brighton Road, Purley, who will inform them as soon as a vacancy occurs.

MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING SERVICE.

Apart from some changes in the personnel there were no alterations in this service during 1954.

Only one of the former Coulsdon and Purley midwives remains and she is the only nurse now engaged solely in midwifery, hence it is difficult to indicate the trend in that service and impossible to give comparable figures for the Home Nursing Service, which was formerly undertaken by voluntary associations.

District nursing has undoubtedly increased considerably in recent years as would be expected in an ageing population, with the greater number of injections now given and as a result of the difficulty of arranging hospital admissions.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

This service had been given much encouragement and had expanded rapidly before it was transferred to the County Council. Slightly more cases have since been accepted annually and it would now appear to have come near to saturation point, 498 cases having been attended in 1954 compared with 414 in 1947. Priority is still given to maternity cases, but only 110 were assisted in 1954 (215 in 1947). A relatively high proportion of short or acute cases has always been accepted owing to the absence of any comparable service in the District, but the number of long or chronic cases has tended to increase in recent years.

FAMILY PLANNING.

The local Clinic continues to give useful service to those cases in which, on medical grounds, it is undesirable for a further early pregnancy to occur. In 1954 advice was given to 51 such cases compared with 75 in 1947 when, in addition, 16 were advised on sub-fertility. Treatment for the latter is now, presumably, given at the hospitals, as only one case applied for help in this direction last year.

HEALTH VISITATION.

Eight Health Visitors are now employed in the District compared with 6 in 1947 of whom 5 were solely engaged in maternity

and child welfare work and one dealt mainly with the schools. All now have mixed duties which cover a wider field and it must be remembered that, although the number of births has decreased, the school population is much larger than it was in 1946.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

No alterations have been made recently in the arrangements appertaining to the 9 Centres, all except one of which were established before 1947. The attendances in the different parts of the District tend to fluctuate from time to time as the constitution of the local population changes, but the following table indicates the trend in respect of the use of these centres.

	1938	1947	1954
Total attendances	17,038	14,819	13,442
Total new cases	667	984	597
New cases as % of registered births in previous year	96%	95%	79%
Sessions	239	315	405
Average attendance per session ...	71	47	33
Doctor's consultations	3,522	3,414	3,735
Doctor's consultations per Session attended	20.2	11.7	9.9

Unfortunately the statistics for the three years are not strictly comparable as, for example, in 1954 the 'new cases' were limited to children who on first attending had not celebrated their first birthday. In general, however, the variations provide food for thought.

DAY NURSERIES.

Since 1948 there have only been two Day Nurseries in the District and of these the one at Sanderstead, which accepts children of 0-5 years of age, is never full to capacity. The Old Coulsdon Nursery takes children of 0-3 years and is usually full. Children are only admitted when the mother is the sole wage earner or on grounds of health including unsatisfactory housing conditions. The result is a smaller demand than in War time and frequently shorter periods of attendance, but a very useful service for those affected. It is a pity from the point of view of training girls for nursing and for life generally that for several years neither of the local Nurseries has been a Training Nursery.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

The basis of this service is the periodical medical and dental inspection of all the children in attendance at the local schools who, in this Division, now number over 12,000 compared with 7,490 in 1946. Several full and part time doctors and one full time dentist are employed on the work in this District. Some of the defects noted need to be kept under observation and others are referred for treatment by private doctors, hospitals or specialist

clinics. Among the Clinics organised by the Education Authority are the dental, eye, speech, general medical, child guidance and remedial exercise clinics.

Special attention is given to handicapped children, some of whom require to be admitted to special schools, e.g. those for the deaf, mentally or physically sub-normal.

As is noted in other parts of this Report, the condition of the school premises and of the school meals service are kept under supervision and special steps are taken to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, including the immunisation of school children.

This well established service performs a very useful function but does not often attract the attention of the majority of residents.

WELFARE SERVICES.

The members of the Health Services work in close co-operation with the local representatives of the County Council's Welfare, Children's and Education Departments and such voluntary bodies as the Guild of Social Service, N.S.P.C.C. and Marriage Guidance Council.

The Divisional Medical Officer has become responsible for co-ordinating the activities of all concerned with "Problem Families" and children neglected in their own homes.

ADDRESSES FOR READY REFERENCE:

AMBULANCES.

Ambulance Station, 115a, Brighton Road, Purley.

Sanderstead Fire and Ambulance Station, Limpsfield Road, Sanderstead.

Requests should be made to FAIrlands 8893, or in cases of emergency dial 999.

The Area Superintendent, Mr. R. A. Cupit, is stationed at the S.C.C. Main Ambulance Station, St. Helier Hospital, Wrythe Lane, Carshalton. (FAIrlands 8893).

AUTHORISED OFFICER FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Telephone:

Mr. D. E. Twivey, 44, Reigate Hill, Reigate Reigate 3357

BLIND WELFARE WORKER.

Telephone:

Miss Mitchell, 53, Abbey Road, Selsdon SANDerstead 2790

CHILDREN'S OFFICER FOR THE DISTRICT.

Telephone:

Miss J. M. Vann, Children's Department, County Hall,
Kingston-upon-Thames KINGston 1050

DAY NURSERIES.

Telephone:

"Hazelglen" Day Nursery, Sanderstead Road, Sanderstead. (Matron: Miss I. M. Bettridge) SANDerstead 5329

Old Coulsdon Day Nursery, Bradmore Green, Old Coulsdon (Matron: Mrs. L. C. Bryan, S.R.N.) Downland 4071

DIVISIONAL HEALTH AND SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES,
IMMUNISATION AND FAMILY PLANNING.

Divisional Medical Officer, 115, Brighton Road, Purley. *Telephone:* UPLands 9277

DIVISIONAL EDUCATION EXECUTIVE.

38 Grovelands Road, Purley *Telephone:* UPLands 7601

EMERGENCY UNITS ('FLYING SQUADS').

Redhill County Hospital, Earlswood Common, Redhill *Telephone:* Redhill 3581
St. Helier Hospital, Wrythe Lane, Carshalton ... FAIrlands 6622
May Day Hospital, Mayday Road, Croydon THOrnton
Heath 6999

HOME HELP ORGANISER.

115 Brighton Road, Purley *Telephone:* UPLands 7014
(Telephone preferably between 9.30/10.30 a.m.) (UPLands 9277)

HOSPITAL GROUPS.

Croydon General Hospital, London Road, Croydon ... *Telephone:* CROydon 7755
Redhill County Hospital, Earlswood Common, Redhill Redhill 3581

MATERNITY CLINICS.

62, Whytecliffe Road, Purley, 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday in each month, 10 a.m.—12 noon. (Purley and Kenley mothers).
62, Whytecliffe Road, Purley, Every Thursday 10 a.m.—12 noon. (Coulsdon and Sanderstead mothers).
Westway, Caterham-on-the-Hill. Every Tuesday, 2—4 p.m. (Old Coulsdon mothers).
The Baptist Church, Addington Road, Selsdon. 2nd and 4th Wednesday in each month, 10 a.m.—12 noon.

MIDWIVES.

Miss Neighbour, Flat 1, "Woodlands," Sanderstead Hill, Sanderstead *Telephone:* SANDerstead 3514
Miss Dale, Flat 2, "Woodlands," Sanderstead Hill, Sanderstead SANDerstead 5654
*S.C.C. Nurses' Home, "Westview," Woodstock Road, Coulsdon Downland 4005

*Premature baby outfits are held by these officers for use throughout the Division.

HOME NURSING SERVICE.

S.C.C. Nurses Home, "Westview," Woodstock Road, Coulsdon *Telephone:* Downland 4005
Miss Dickinson, 58, Brighton Road, Purley UPLands 6815
Mrs. Hill, 42 Beaumont Road, Purley UPLands 8077
Mrs. St. John Smith, 14, Foxley Hill Road, Purley ... UPLands 0247

SCHOOL CLINICS.

S.C.C. Clinic, 62, Whytecliffe Road, Purley	...	Fridays	9—11 a.m.
Baptist Church, Addington Road, Selsdon	... ..	Mondays	1.30—2.0 p.m.
St. John's Hall, Bradmore Green, Old Coulsdon	... ..	Wednesdays	1.45—2.0 p.m.

SCHOOL DENTAL CLINIC.

S.C.C. Clinic, 62 Whytecliffe Road, Purley	Monday, 9.45 a.m.	or by appointment.
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WELFARE OFFICERS.

115a Brighton Road, Purley.		<i>Telephone:</i>	
Mr. W. J. Middleton (Principal Divisional Welfare Officers)	UPLands 0076	
		BALham 5375	
Mr. E. G. Griffiths, (Divisional Welfare Officer)	... ..	WALLington 9237	

WELFARE HOMES.

		<i>Telephone:</i>	
"Chipstead Lodge," Hazelwood Lane, Chipstead	... ..	Downland 4811	
"Santa Tecla," Stanstead Road, Caterham	... ..	Caterham 2641	

VOLUNTARY BODIES.

MORAL WELFARE WORKER.

Miss Scoones, 1 Sunnyside, Caterham	Caterham 3728	
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NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

Inspector R. Lee, 37, Hartley Road, Croydon	THORnton Heath 4250	
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COULSDON AND PURLEY GUILD OF SOCIAL SERVICE.

Miss Honeyman, 105, Brighton Road, Purley	UPLands 6800	
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COULSDON AND PURLEY OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE ASSOCIATION.

Secretary: Miss D. M^{rs} Barnett, 2, Graham Road, Purley.

COULSDON AND PURLEY MARRIAGE GUIDANCE COUNCIL.

Secretary: Mrs. H. W. Pritchard, 38, Russell Hill, Purley	UPLands 9029	
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ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE (COULSDON AND PURLEY).

Secretary: Major A. Melling, 17, Briton Crescent, Sanderstead	SANderstead 3451	
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HOME SAFETY COUNCIL (COULSDON AND PURLEY).

Secretary: Mrs. A. Pope, 34 Grasmere Road, Purley	UPLands 8047	
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HOUSING.

The following is a statistical record of work carried out in respect of the sanitary condition of dwelling houses, as required by the Minister.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR 1954.	
(1)(a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	450
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1,424
(2)(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	57
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	243
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	9
(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	200
2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:—	
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	179
3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—	
(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	3
(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 the Public Health Acts:—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	10
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	12
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	4
(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	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
(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 ...	Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	Nil
(e) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953:—		
(1) Closing Orders made under Section 10(1)	...	2
4. HOUSING ACT, 1936, PART IV—OVERCROWDING:—		
(a) (1) Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at end of year		4
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	... ..	4
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	... ..	14
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	... ..	3
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	... ..	7
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	... ..	31
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	... ..	Nil
NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR:—		
By the Local Authority	... ..	83
By other persons	... ..	461

It will be noted that there was an appreciable increase in the number of dwellings inspected for housing defects and this reflects the coming into force of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 on the 30th August. This Act makes further provision for the clearance and re-development of areas of unfit housing accommodation, and for securing or promoting the reconditioning and maintenance of houses, besides amending the enactments relating to housing, the exercise of certain powers relating to land, and rent control.

An important provision in the Act is that requiring Local Authorities to submit to the Minister of Housing and Local Government within one year, proposals for dealing with houses within their Districts which appear to them to be unfit for human habitation, and with any other houses which are or in their opinion ought to be included in clearance areas. This has necessitated a general survey throughout the District of houses to which the provision might apply.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector writes that "Although it is early yet to comment on the effect of the "rent increase" provisions of the Act, which were introduced with the well intentioned object of encouraging owners to keep property in good repair, there is increasing evidence that the possibility of a Certificate of Disrepair being issued on a house is having a restraining effect on owners of that type of property in most need of attention. This factor is bound up with the post-war problem of cost of repairs

in relation to the rent which is obtainable, even after the statutory increase allowable under the new Act is taken into consideration. On this question, the Act does not appear to offer any solution, although it is of interest to record that during the year under review, the Council decided to purchase a house under Section 3 in lieu of making a Closing Order where the owner failed to submit proposals in respect of the house, which required repairs estimated to cost in the region of £700”.

“Although this may not be the true intention of the Section, its increasing use may be necessary in order to preserve houses that would otherwise become obsolescent.”

During the year the Council also agreed, in approved cases, to operate the Housing Act provisions relating to Improvement Grants, but only in respect of works for the purpose of improving sub-standard properties. The Chief Sanitary Inspector, in consultation with the Engineer and Surveyor, was instructed to report upon any such applications to the Public Health Committee for their consideration and report to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of the District was, as in previous years, provided by the Sutton District Water Company and the East Surrey Water Company, with a private supply supplementing, as necessary, at Cane Hill Hospital.

Routine samples of the treated water in public supply were submitted quarterly for bacteriological and chemical examination. In addition, two samples were obtained for bacteriological examination only from the private supply at Cane Hill Hospital, making 18 samples in all.

In addition, both the Water Companies and the Local Authorities sharing these public supplies provided the Department with copies of the reports on the samples taken by them. No complaints were received during the year with regard to the quality or quantity of water supplied by the Companies, and no unsatisfactory reports were received on the samples taken from the supplies to the District.

The Cane Hill Hospital Management Committee has made arrangements with the Public Health Department of the London County Council for routine sampling and supervision of the water supply from the relatively shallow well in their grounds, which is used exclusively by this Hospital. Adequate chlorination is essential and steps have been taken to ensure this and to effect closer co-operation between the officers of the three authorities interested in the standard of this supply.

The results of two chemical and two bacteriological examinations of the water in public supply are given below and these are fairly typical of the reports received:—

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

	Sutton District Water Company.		East Surrey Water Company.	
	Parts per Million.	Grains per Gallon.	Parts per Million.	Grains per Gallon.
Total solid matter (dried at 180°C.)	175.0	—	125.0	—
Chlorine present as chloride ...	14.5	—	16.0	—
Ammonia, free ...	0.00	—	0.03	—
Ammonia, albuminoid ...	0.002	—	0.002	—
Nitrate nitrogen ...	5.3	—	5.3	—
Nitrite nitrogen ...	trace	—	0.04	—
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate solution in 4 hours at 27°C. ...	0.09	—	0.06	—
Hardness — Temporary ...	93.0	—	31.0	—
Permanent ...	32.0	—	40.0	—
Total ...	125.0	8.75	71.0	5.0
Iron and other metals ...	absent	—	absent	—
Residual chlorine at time of receipt	0.03	—	0.21	—
pH ...	7.4	—	8.4	—
Electric conductivity at 20°C. ...	255 units	—	165 units	—

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Probable number of coliform bacilli,

MacConkey 2 days, 37°C. 0 per 100 ml. 0 per 100 ml.

There are no private wells in use in the District; all houses are provided with a mains supply laid into the house, and there are no standpipes for common use.

Forty-six samples were taken from the supplies of the two Companies and examined for hardness by the Department, all of which were satisfactory in that adequate softening had been carried out.

RAINFALL.

The rainfall registered by the automatic rain gauge installed at Alderstead Heath was 29.54 inches, this being an increase of 3.05 inches compared with the previous year. The monthly totals throughout the year were as follows:—

	inches.
January ...	1.43
February ...	2.42
March ...	2.08
April ...	0.38
May ...	2.70
June ...	3.33
July ...	2.68
August ...	3.14
September ..	2.20
October ...	2.04
November ...	5.12
December ...	2.02

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

A total of 441 yards of new sewers was constructed during the year as a result of development by the Council and private builders.

Although a scheme for the provision of a new sewer in Old Farleigh Road and Beech Way, Selsdon, was approved, commencement of the works was unfortunately delayed and operations had not commenced at the end of the year. This sewer will provide main drainage for 18 existing houses.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

During the year, 3 houses were connected to the public sewer and 2 cesspools abolished. In addition, a large private school, situated in the neighbouring district of Banstead but served by an obsolete sewage disposal system situate within the area of the Council, was connected to the main sewer involving the construction of approximately 1,000 ft. of private drain.

At the end of the year the following pail closets and cesspools remained in use:—

Premises with pail closets	...	...	11
Number of cesspools	...	...	136

The contents of pail closets at private premises are disposed of in the gardens by the occupiers of the houses.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection of refuse was continued on a weekly basis throughout the year, and the charges for trade refuse collection and for cesspool emptying remained unchanged.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The chimneys of the small factories in the District give little trouble and no serious nuisance was recorded during the year.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

From time to time inspections are made of the watercourses in the District, and they have been cleared whenever necessary. No particular difficulty has arisen in regard thereto.

CAMPING SITES.

The Boy Scouts' camping site at Featherbed Lane continues to be used, and is conducted in a very satisfactory manner.

The action under Section 57 of the Surrey County Council Act, 1931, as amended, which was taken by the local Council in 1951 to obtain prohibition orders in respect of certain areas in the District has continued to prove effective in preventing nuisance arising from gipsy encampments.

The unauthorised camp site for trailer caravans for residential and occasional use established on land at Dean Lane, Merstham, adjoining Alderstead Heath, has continued to operate, subject to the conditions stipulated by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on appeal.

SWIMMING BATHS.

There are two swimming baths in the District which are used by the general public, and during the year 14 samples of water were obtained for chemical and bacteriological examination, with satisfactory results.

Both baths are privately controlled and regular routine inspections are carried out for the purpose of making residual chlorine and pH tests of the bath water. During the year 67 such combined tests were made and the appropriate action taken.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

As far as possible inspections have been made of the sanitary accommodation, washing facilities, heating and ventilation of shops and offices, and improvements have been effected as circumstances have permitted.

Surveys are carried out as and when necessary to observe compliance with the Shops Act in respect of general closing hours, half day closing and Sunday trading, with individual inspections as necessary in respect of conditions of employment of young persons.

In addition, advice is given to traders on the operation of the Shops Act as related to specific trades.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

PART I.

1. INSPECTIONS.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Number on Register.</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Written notices.</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted.</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	41	39	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	146	280	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	12	—	—
TOTAL ...	190	331	2	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

<i>Particulars.</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found.</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.</i>
	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>	<i>Referred</i>		
			<i>To H.M. Inspector.</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector.</i>	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient... ..	3	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	21	21	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	24	23	—	2	—

PART VIII.

OUTWORK.

(SECTIONS 110 AND 111)

<i>Nature of Work.</i>	<i>Section 110.</i>			<i>Section 111.</i>		
	<i>No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c).</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.</i>	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.</i>	<i>Notices served.</i>	<i>Prosecutions.</i>
Wearing apparel { Making, etc. Cleaning and washing ...	24	—	—	—	—	—
Umbrellas, etc. ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, etc. of buttons etc. ...	24	—	—	—	—	—
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc. ...	5	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	54	—	—	—	—	—

SANITARY INSPECTIONS, ETC.

The following is a summary of the complaints received and visits made, together with details of work carried out and defects remedied as a consequence of notices served during the year, 1954:—

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED.

General disrepair and insanitary conditions ...	49
Dampness ...	18
Overcrowding ...	5
Defective drainage systems ...	20
Blocked drainage systems ...	160
Defective drainage fittings ...	1
Defective W.C. pans and flushing apparatus ...	15
Defective service water pipes ...	4
Defective hot water systems ...	4
Defective chimney stacks ...	4
Absence of, or defective dustbins ...	5
Insanitary pig waste bins ...	1
Accumulation of refuse, etc. ...	17
Rats and mice ...	363
Keeping of animals ...	1
Insect pests, etc. ...	23
Wasps' nests ...	120
Smoke nuisance ...	6
Contaminated food ...	16
Unsound food ...	67
Miscellaneous ...	56
TOTAL ...	955

New W.C. pans fixed	22
W.C. flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	16
Cesspools cleansed, repaired or renewed	7
Sewage disposal plant cleansed and repaired	1
Cesspools abolished	1
Cesspools abolished and house drains connected to sewer	2
Septic tanks abolished and house drains connected to sewer	1
Soakaways reconstructed	10
Eaves gutters and stack pipes renewed or repaired	30
New lavatory basins fixed	3
Glazed sinks renewed or repaired	2
Waste pipes trapped, repaired or renewed	8
Sink gully dishings repaired	7
Urinals cleansed	1
Miscellaneous	26

General Housing Repairs:

Defective roofs repaired	18
Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	11
Yards paved, or paving repaired	7
Dampness in walls remedied	31
Damp-proof courses provided	7
Additional sub-floor ventilation provided	2
Walls and ceilings repaired	82
New ceilings provided	11
Walls of rooms cleansed	25
Ceilings of rooms cleansed	21
Floors repaired or renewed	25
Staircases repaired or renewed	1
Ventilation and lighting of rooms improved	2
Windows repaired or renewed	41
Doors repaired or renewed	9
Firegrates repaired or renewed	20
Service water pipes repaired or renewed	8
Cellars cleansed or filled in	1
Portable dustbins provided	18
Miscellaneous	31

Food Premises:

Food shops reconstructed	4
Hot water supply provided for ablution purposes	13
Lavatory basins provided	7
Glazed sinks provided	10
Draining boards provided	5
Waste pipes repaired	3
Staff rooms provided	1
Staff sanitary accommodation repaired	9
Staff sanitary accommodation cleansed	18
Staff sanitary accommodation provided	4
Walls and ceilings cleansed and repaired	113
Floors repaired or relaid	11
Staircases repaired	2
Rooms enlarged	1
Windows repaired	2
Refrigerators provided	3
Dustbins provided	6
Yards paved	3
Roofs, gutters and rainwater pipes repaired	4
Drains cleansed or repaired	7
Accumulations removed	15
Miscellaneous	39

Ratproofing:

Work carried out by occupiers of premises after completion of treatment	27
---	----

NOTICES SERVED.

Preliminary Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	526
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	21

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

It was not necessary to take legal proceedings in connection with any public health matter in 1954.

SCHOOLS.

Matters affecting adversely the hygienic conditions of the schools are normally reported by the Divisional Medical Officer to the Divisional Executive or, in the case of the canteens, to the Central Committee concerned, and improvements are slowly being effected.

Close co-operation exists between the School Health and Public Health Services in relation to the above and the prevention of the spread of infectious disease.

DISINFESTATION.

During the year only 1 house needed to be, and was disinfested owing to the presence of bed bugs, but action was taken by the Department in 98 cases of infestation with other pests such as crickets and wasps, the complaints regarding the latter increasing by nearly 80 compared with the previous year.

In the majority of cases disinfestation was carried out by spraying with a proprietary insecticide.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The table on the following page is a tabular statement indicating the action taken in 1954 under this Act.

During that year, 77 visits were made to the Council Depots at Millstock, Purley Oaks, Kenley and Old Lodge Lane, and land at Littleheath Woods, Selsdon.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries agreed to dispense with the normal routine test baiting of sewers in the District as required in former years, but maintenance treatment was carried out as was necessary.

The Council's charges for services rendered in the destruction of rats and mice remain the same, i.e. 6/3d. per hour, plus the cost of materials at premises other than private dwellings, and a flat rate charge of 5/0d. in respect of private dwellings.

The Council continues to undertake the routine disinfestation of schools and school canteens owned by the County Council within the District, as and when necessary, on a contract basis.

Type of Property.	Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority as a result of—			Number of properties found to be infested by—		Number of treatments carried out by Department by arrangement with occupier.		Number of Notices served under Section 4.		Number of inspections made.		
	Notification	Otherwise.	Total.	Rats.	Mice.	Rats.	Mice.	Treatment.	Structural works, i.e. proofing.	Primary and re-inspections.	Sewer treatment.	Total.
Local Authority	3	21	24	8	—	8	—	—	—	5,058	197	5,255
Dwelling Houses	307	313	620	272	38	246	37	—	—			
Business Premises	45	69	114	35	21	33	21	—	—			
Agricultural	4	39	43	4	—	4	—	—	—			
TOTAL	359	442	801	319	59	291	58	—	—			

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949 - 1954.

In accordance with these Regulations, the handling, distribution and sale of milk after leaving the point of production continued to receive the necessary supervision.

The entries in the register, which has to be kept, were as follows:—

Distributors of Milk in the district	18
Premises registered as Dairies	2

During the year one of the registered Dairies stopped processing milk and obtained its supplies in bottles from outside the District. The remaining Dairy is equipped with pasteurising plant and is licensed by the Council under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949-1953.

By virtue of the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order, 1951, which came into operation on the 1st October of that year, the use of a special designation became obligatory in respect of all sales of milk within the Urban District.

MILK SAMPLING.

The routine sampling of milk was continued and a total of 326 samples was submitted for bacteriological and biological examination, with the results set out in the following tables:—

BACTERIOLOGICAL.

TESTS REQUIRED BY THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1949 - 54.

<i>Designation.</i>	<i>Num- ber.</i>	<i>Methylene Blue.</i>		<i>Phosphatase.</i>		<i>Turbidity.</i>	
		<i>Satis- factory.</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory.</i>	<i>Satis- factory.</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory.</i>	<i>Satis- factory.</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory.</i>
Pasteurised	197	192	5	195	2	—	—
T.T. (Raw)	25	21	4	—	—	—	—
T.T. (Pasteurised)	20	20	—	20	—	—	—
Sterilised	30	—	—	—	—	30	—
TOTALS ...	272	233	9	215	2	30	—

BIOLOGICAL.

Designation.	Number.	Tubercle Bacillus.	
		Present	Absent
Tuberculin Tested	25	—	25
Ungraded	29	—	29
TOTALS ...	54	—	54

Only a comparatively small number of samples failed to pass the Methylene Blue (keeping quality) test or Phosphatase test of the efficiency of pasteurisation, and subsequent samples taken of similar supplies proved satisfactory.

In accordance with a standard practice throughout the County, samples of all milk (including T.T. milk) which is sold to the public without heat treatment are submitted to routine biological testing, and it is most satisfactory to be able to record that none of the 54 samples showed any evidence of the presence of the tubercle bacillus.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1949 - 1954.

Licences to sell milk under the above Regulations were issued as follows:—

Dealers:

Tuberculin Tested	13
Pasteurised	12
Sterilised	16
Pasteuriser's	2

Supplementary

Tuberculin Tested	10
Pasteurised	10
Sterilised	8

ICE CREAM.

Under the provisions of Section 64 of the Coulsdon and Purley Act, 93 premises within the District are registered for the sale of ice cream and a further 3 for the manufacture and sale of this commodity. In addition, the sale of ice cream is carried on from 25 premises which are exempt from registration. During the year, 72 visits of inspection were made to these premises.

One registration for the sale of ice cream was cancelled because of the change in character of the general business carried on at the premises concerned.

The manufacture of ice-cream was not carried out at any of the premises registered for that purpose during the year, and thus, with a minor exception, all the ice cream retailed in the District was obtained by the vendors, prepacked, from large scale manufacturers whose premises are situated outside the District.

A total of 130 samples of ice cream was examined for bacterial quality by submission to the methylene blue reduction test, and placed in the following provisional grades—

Grade I	...	...	...	104
Grade II	...	..	..	15
Grade III	...	...	...	8
Grade IV	...	..	...	3

Grade I and II samples can be considered satisfactory; only about a fifth of the samples taken from any dealer should be of Grade III quality, and none of Grade IV.

Although not quite up to the standard of recent years, the above results can be considered fairly satisfactory.

MEAT.

During the year the Council gave consideration to the question of providing slaughtering facilities in the District, following the decontrol of meat and livestock and cessation of rationing, which occurred during the summer.

Having regard to the comparatively small numbers of livestock slaughtered in the two slaughterhouses licensed prior to the War, no action was taken in the matter.

An application for a licence for the use and occupation of one of the two slaughterhouses referred to was refused in the interests of the public health. No appeal was made.

The owner of the remaining slaughterhouse intimated that in the circumstances, he did not propose to apply for the renewal of his licence.

One slaughterman's licence was issued under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, for the purpose of slaughtering at a Public Institution in the District.

The arrangements made to carry out post-mortem inspections of all animals slaughtered at Cane Hill and Netherne Hospitals for consumption by the inmates were continued, but in fact no slaughterings were recorded at the Cane Hill slaughterhouse during the year.

At Netherne Hospital the carcasses and offals of 5 cattle, 3 calves and 56 pigs were inspected for evidence of disease, and a small quantity of offal only was condemned as unfit for food.

There are 31 butchers' shops in the District, all registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved meat under the provision of Section 64 of the Coulsdon and Purley Act.

Retailers now obtain supplies of fresh and imported meat from the Croydon Abattoir and Meat Market and the Smithfield Market, and in addition small quantities of fresh meat direct from Scotland.

Frequent inspections of shops are carried out and, during the year, 128 visits were made for this purpose.

OTHER FOODS

The routine inspection of food shops and other food premises has continued to form an important part of the work of the Sanitary Inspectors. A register of all such premises includes the following:—

Confectioners	...	...	...	...	63
Butchers	...	...	...	...	31
Fishmongers (Wet and Dry)	...	...	...	...	16
Fishmongers (Fried))	...	...	...	...	6
Bakers	...	...	...	...	28
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	...	...	50
Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	64
Grocers	...	...	...	...	76

Two grocers' shops and one baker's premises are registered under the local Act for the preparation of preserved meat, etc., and all the fish friers' premises are similarly registered in respect of fish frying.

During the year, one registration for fish frying was cancelled because of the change in character of the business carried on at the premises concerned.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector reports:— "Generally, the standard of food premises in the District is good, although a very small minority of traders lag behind in thought and deed in applying the principles of Food Hygiene to their premises and methods.

The co-operation and discrimination of the public is relied upon to supplement the efforts of the Department in raising the standard of these premises.

Regular inspections are made of all food premises and particular attention is given to catering establishments. Every opportunity is taken, by discussion and example, of impressing on food handling personnel the importance of a high standard of cleanliness in equipment and person, coupled with improved methods.

In the course of this advisory work, 88 swabs were taken from washed crockery and 6 samples of washing up water were taken for bacteriological examination. The results were varied but follow-up tests on adverse reports indicated quite clearly that greater attention to detail resulted in higher standards even with the most simple equipment.

Miscellaneous samples of food submitted for bacteriological examination included synthetic cream, chocolate eclairs, cream buns and frozen liquid egg."

The Council has adopted the new Model Byelaws issued by the Ministry of Food in connection with the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air, and copies have been circulated to all food traders in the District.

UNSOUND FOOD.

The following unsound foods were surrendered during the year, the total bulk being less than that surrendered in 1953:—

	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>ozs.</i>
Canned Soups	—	4	7½
Canned Meat	2	94	9
Canned Fish	—	13	3½
Canned Vegetables	—	94	10
Canned Fruits	3	108	8½
Canned Milk and Cream	—	67	8
Meat, Bacon, Poultry, etc.	11	103	10
Fish	1	97	14
Meat and Fish Pastes	—	—	5½
Butter, Fats and Cheese	1	46	9½
Sugar, Jam, etc.	—	36	—
Flour, Bread, Cereals and Biscuits	—	11	6
Pickles and Sauces	—	5	10
Dried Fruit	—	35	12
Eggs	—	5	4
Coffee	—	2	8
Miscellaneous	—	18	4
TOTAL	24	74	1½

All unsound food, with minor exceptions, is disposed of at the Council's refuse destructor at Kenley.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The following samples were taken during 1954 and submitted to the Public Analyst, with the results shown:—

<i>Article.</i>	<i>Analysed.</i>			<i>Non-Genuine.</i>		
	<i>For- mal.</i>	<i>Infor- mal.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>For- mal.</i>	<i>Infor- mal.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Almonds, ground	1	—	1	—	—	—
Apricots, dried	2	—	2	—	—	—
Aspirin Tablets	—	1	1	—	—	—
Beans in tomato sauce	2	—	2	—	—	—
Beer	3	—	3	—	—	—
Bread	1	1	2	—	—	—
Bread and Butter	1	—	1	—	—	—
Butter	1	1	2	—	—	—
Cake	2	—	2	—	—	—
Cake decorations, edible	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cheese	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cherries, glaze	1	—	1	—	—	—
Coconut, dessicated	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cod liver oil and malt	1	—	1	—	—	—

Article.	Analysed.			Non-Genuine.		
	For- mal.	Infor- mal.	Total.	For- mal.	Infor- mal.	Total.
Coffee and chicory essence... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—
Colour, synthetic	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cooking fat	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cough mixture	2	1	3	1	—	1
Cream	1	1	2	—	—	—
Dripping, beef	1	—	1	—	—	—
Fish cakes	1	—	1	—	—	—
Fruit, mixed dried	3	—	3	—	—	—
Fruit, tinned	3	—	3	—	—	—
Gin	1	—	1	—	—	—
Ginger, ground	1	—	1	—	—	—
Herbs, mixed dried	2	—	2	—	—	—
Honey	1	—	1	—	—	—
Horseradish relish... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—
Jam	1	—	1	—	—	—
Lard	2	—	2	—	—	—
Lemonade crystals	1	—	1	—	—	—
Margarine	2	—	2	—	—	—
Marmalade	2	—	2	—	—	—
Meringue powder	1	—	1	—	—	—
Milk	60	—	60	—	—	—
Mincemeat	1	—	1	—	—	—
Mint in vinegar	1	—	1	—	—	—
Orange drink... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—
Paraffin, liquid	1	—	1	—	—	—
Paste, meat	1	—	1	—	—	—
Peas, tinned	1	—	1	—	—	—
Peas, split	1	—	1	—	—	—
Pectin, fruit	1	—	1	—	—	—
Peel, mixed cut	1	—	1	—	—	—
Pepper, ground white	2	—	2	—	—	—
Pie filling	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pudding, black	1	—	1	—	—	—
Rice	2	—	2	—	—	—
Rose hip syrup	1	—	1	—	—	—
Rum	1	—	1	—	—	—
Sago	1	—	1	—	—	—
Salad cream	1	—	1	—	—	—
Sardines, tinned	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sauce	1	—	1	—	—	—
Sausages	11	—	11	—	—	—
Soup	2	—	2	—	—	—
Spice, mixed ground	1	—	1	—	—	—
Steak, tinned	2	—	2	—	—	—
Suet, shredded beef	3	—	3	—	—	—
Sweets	2	1	3	—	—	—
Tapioca	1	—	1	—	—	—
Tea	1	—	1	—	—	—
Tomato juice	1	—	1	—	—	—
Whisky	2	—	2	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	152	8	160	1	—	1

It will be noted that only one adverse report was received, and that on a sample of Cough Mixture, upon which a discrepancy occurred in the stated formula on the label. Representations were made to the vendors concerned, and an assurance was received that this error would be corrected.

TABLE I.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1954.

Disease.	At all ages.	Number of cases notified. At Ages—Years.											Total cases notified in each Ward.								
		Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 3.	3 and under 4.	4 and under 5.	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and over.	Coulsdon East.	Coulsdon West.	Purley.	Kenley.	Sanderstead.	Selsdon and Farleigh.	Woodcote.	
		Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	68	—	—	1	2	8	41	9	4	2	1	—	—	7	13	17	4	11	16	—	—
Erysipelas	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	20	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	2	2	3	5	4	—	3	8	3	4	2	—	—
Dysentery	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	7	11	1	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Measles	9	—	2	1	—	—	3	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
Whooping cough	131	6	7	8	18	14	63	10	1	3	—	1	—	7	17	31	24	38	9	5	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	74	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	3	17	50	—	69	5	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	321	7	9	11	20	22	111	23	7	12	8	29	62	26	107	65	32	58	28	5	—

TABLE II.
THE MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1954

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet fever	4	6	14	7	11	9	4	3	1	2	2	5	68
Erysipelas	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	2	—	5	1	3	2	—	1	—	—	4	2	20
Dysentery	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	5	—	12
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Measles	1	—	—	1	3	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	9
Whooping cough	5	6	12	14	21	21	15	24	4	—	6	3	131
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food poisoning	—	—	2	2	69	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	74
TOTALS ...	12	13	36	26	107	33	22	28	5	9	19	11	321

TABLE III.
INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED EACH YEAR SINCE 1924.

Disease	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	
Small pox	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet fever .. .	58	35	48	74	94	125	69	45	29	69	119	124	117	62	71	65	61	39	45	184	88	67	98	78	62	138	149	90	80	118	68	
Diphtheria .. .	101	14	17	11	23	26	17	8	21	16	24	52	35	8	10	10	25	7	9	7	19	15	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas .. .	12	10	4	13	8	3	11	8	11	23	17	11	12	14	13	10	17	27	22	5	9	4	8	5	8	4	4	3	—	3	4	
Typhoid and paratyphoid fever ..	5	24	9	9	9	6	4	4	7	5	5	1	3	26	5	1	53	12	3	1	6	4	4	2	2	2	1	11	1	—	1	
Meningococcal infections .. .	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	4	8	6	1	4	2	1	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal fever .. .	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	1	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal pyrexia .. .	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	3	5	1	2	1	—	2	5	3	2	—	2	3	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	3	2	3	—	
Poliomyelitis .. .	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	2	—	1	1	—	3	1	1	1	2	3	—	—	2	1	11	2	9	10	—	8	9	1	
Polio-encephalitis .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute encephalitis ..	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
Ophthalmia neonatorum ..	—	—	12	—	3	—	1	1	2	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia .. .	16	11	—	9	7	38	11	14	29	28	20	32	13	30	12	52	19	32	38	27	9	17	16	20	13	5	23	51	21	44	20	
Malaria .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	11	214	479	275	52	705	41	218	567	600	477	810	170	1319	9	
Dysentery .. .	—	—	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	1	2	10	85	224	121	21	42	172	82	43	71	14	28	22	48	13	12	
Whooping cough ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	136	36	55	51	100	31	115	201	42	242	204	196	66	131		
Food poisoning ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	2	5	2	74	
Tuberculosis:—																																
Pulmonary .. .	24	14	19	25	23	22	38	44	36	44	28	30	27	36	32	31	31	32	43	39	51	44	38	59	48	57	47	60	42	37	31	
Other forms ..	6	5	2	9	4	2	7	4	6	10	17	5	3	7	10	12	8	11	7	9	7	3	7	11	13	5	7	4	4	3	7	
Totals ..	224	114	113	153	174	232	162	135	154	196	235	265	213	197	162	207	323	743	809	632	337	1137	435	564	990	880	998	1260	579	1617	359	

53

TABLE IV.

DEATHS OCCURRING DURING THE YEAR, 1954.

Cause of death.	Private Residents		Hospital Cases		Total.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and over.
	Males	Females	Males	Females									
Respiratory tuberculosis	2	—	3	3	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	2
Other tuberculosis ...	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Syphilitic disease ...	2	—	2	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	1	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—
Cancer ...	62	55	9	16	142	—	—	1	2	1	8	40	90
Leukaemia ...	1	3	1	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1
Diabetes ...	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	27	52	20	29	128	—	—	—	—	—	2	28	98
Coronary disease, angina	60	36	18	16	130	—	—	—	—	—	1	38	91
Hypertension with heart disease ...	3	10	10	12	35	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	31
Other heart disease ...	31	51	9	44	135	—	—	—	—	—	2	22	111
Other circulatory disease	15	14	17	18	64	—	—	—	—	—	4	20	40
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	6	18	11	23	58	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	43
Bronchitis ...	4	7	11	3	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	21
Other respiratory diseases	1	—	4	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	6	1	1	2	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	9
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	4	3	1	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Hyperplasia of prostate	5	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Congenital malformation	1	2	—	2	5	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	28	17	3	44	92	6	—	—	1	—	6	21	58
Motor vehicle accidents	2	2	—	2	6	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	2
All other accidents ...	10	5	1	10	26	2	—	1	—	—	5	3	15
Suicide ...	6	3	2	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	4
Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	278	282	124	230	914	9	—	2	4	3	42	209	645

INDEX.

	<i>Page</i>
Addresses of Health and Welfare Services	30, 31, 32
Ambulances	30
Analysis of Mortality	12, 13, 14
Area	7, 8
Bacteriological work	25
Bed Bugs, Eradication of	43
Birth Rates	6, 8
Births, Live, Illegitimate and Still	6, 8
Camping Sites	37
Cancer	10, 11
Causes of Deaths	10, 54
Clinics :	
Diphtheria Immunisation	23
Family Planning	28
Infant Welfare	29
Maternity	27
School	29
Mothercraft and Relaxation	28
Closet Accommodation	37
Day Nurseries	29
Deaths and Death Rates	6, 8, 9, 54
Diphtheria	15
Diphtheria Immunisation	23
Disinfection	25
Disinfestation	43
Drainage and Sewerage	37
Dysentery	17
Encephalitis	18
Enteric Fever	17
Erysipelas	17
Eye Defects	30
Factories	40, 41
Food and Drugs Act	49, 50
Food Supply :	
Milk	45
Meat	47
Unsound	49
Food Premises	48
Food Poisoning	17
Health Visitors	28
Health Propaganda	26
Heart Disease, etc.	10
Home Helps	28
Home Safety Council	32
Houses, Inspection of	33
Houses, Inhabited	8
Housing	33, 34
Ice-Cream	46
Illegitimate Babies	9
Infectious Disease :	
Cases Notified	15, 53
Control of	23
Monthly incidence of	52
School Notifications	22
Inspection and Supervision of Food	45

INDEX—*continued.*

Laboratory Facilities	25
Legal Proceedings	43
Massage Establishments	26
Measles	18
Meat	47
Midwifery Service	28
Milk and Dairy Regulations	45
Milk (Special Designation) Regulations	46
Milk, Sampling of	45
Mortality :	
Analysis of	12
Infant	13
Maternal	12
Mumps	22
National Assistance Act, Sect. 47	26
National Assistance Act, Sect. 50	26
Non-notifiable Infectious Disease	22
Nursing Service	28
Pneumonia	18
Polomyelitis	18
Population	6, 7
Public Cleansing	37
Public Health Committee	3
Rainfall	36
Rateable Value	6
Rats and Mice Destruction	43, 44
Rivers and Streams	37
Sanitary Inspections, etc	40, 41, 42
Scabies	23
Scarlet Fever	16
Schools	43
Sewerage	37
Shops	38
Slaughterhouses	47
Smallpox	15
Smoke Abatement	37
Social Conditions	7
Staff	3
Statistics :	
Housing	33, 34
Vital	6, 8
Swimming Baths	38
Tuberculosis	20, 21
Typhoid Fever	17
Vaccination	24
Violence, Deaths from	12
Water Supply	35, 36
Welfare Services	30
Whooping Cough	19
Whooping Cough, Immunisation	25