

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Edmonton].

Contributors

Edmonton (London, England). Municipal Borough.

Publication/Creation

[1959?]

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**Borough of
Edmonton**

Annual Report

**of the
Medical Officer
of Health
for the Year**



1958

Borough of Edmonton

*With the
Compliments of the Medical Officer
of Health.*

*Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Edmonton, N.9.*

B O R O U G H O F E D M O N T O N

1 9 5 8

His Worship the Mayor Councillor A.J. Tanner, J.P.,

Deputy Mayor Councillor J.A.G. Beattie

P U B L I C H E A L T H C O M M I T T E E

Chairman: Councillor Mrs. R.A. Smythe

Vice-Chairman: Alderman Mrs. F Long, J.P.

Members:

THE MAYOR (Councillor A.J. Tanner, J.P.,) (Ex Officio)

THE DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor J.A.G. Beattie) (Ex Officio)

Councillor J.E. Cooke

" E.R. Holborn

" J.E. Lightfoot

" G.K. McLeod

" P.J. Smith

" L.J. Warren

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

D.A. Smyth, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

Catherine A Goggin, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

A B C

John P Farrar. (Retired 31.12.58.)

Public Health Inspectors:

A B C

F. Beilby (Died 21.8.58.)

A B C

H.W. Grieves (Retired 22.7.58.)

A B C D

V.C. Quin

A B C D

J.H. Willis

A C

T.C. Oliver

A C

L.C. Hibbs

3 Vacancies

Trainee Public Health Inspectors:

G.L. Littlechild (Commenced 24.3.58. Left 30.11.58.)

B.J. English (Left 13.1.58.)

G.F. Bateman (Commenced 5.5.58.)

J.G. Cummins (Commenced 20.12.58.)

Senior Clerk:

A

F.J. Nash.

Clerical Staff:

H.J. Weldon

A.F. Ballantine

Mrs. E.J. Richards

Mrs. I Kavanagh) Transferred to Typists' Pool -

Mrs. G.W. Cully) December 1958.

J.G. Cummins (Commenced 27.1.58, until 19.12.58.)

Mrs. N.E. Young (Commenced 3.3.58.)

Shops Act and Street Trading Inspector:

A. Robinson.

- A. Certificated Public Health Inspector
- B. Certificate of Meat and Food Inspector
- C. Inspector under the Petroleum Acts
- D. Certificate of Smoke Inspector

Public Health Department,

Town Hall,

Edmonton, N.9.

Telephone No: EDMonton 3000.

Ext. 16.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS

OF THE BOROUGH OF EDMONTON

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The state of affairs on which I now report is satisfactory, but not ideal. A good deal of the work of the Public Health Department depends on its 'field' workers, the Public Health Inspectors, and a study of the list opposite shows that there was a shortage of Public Health Inspectors in Edmonton in 1958. The advance towards a better communal health was, therefore, somewhat slower than usual and the vital statistics are not quite so good as usual.

I can still say, however, that the health record of the community during the year was a good one. The infant mortality was less than that for England and Wales and about the same as that for Middlesex, the corrected death rate was less than the death rate for England and Wales, and the birth rate, although lower than the England and Wales and Middlesex birth rate, was higher than that for last year. Despite this, the still-birth rate was less than that for last year. On the other hand, there was a maternal death and the deaths from tuberculosis were nearly double those for 1957; there is still room for improvement.

PART I. SOCIAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

T A B L E I

SOCIAL STATISTICS

Area	3,896 acres (6.09 square miles)
Population -	
Census as 1951 ...	104,270
Registrar General's estimate for mid-year 1958	95,118
Number of inhabited houses and separate dwellings at the end of 1958	28,202
Number of inhabited houses and separate dwellings at the end of 1957	28,158
Rateable Value, April 1958 .	£1,459,925
Estimated product of 1d rate in the £ for the year ending 31st	
March, 1959	£5,940
Rate in the £ for the year ending 31st March, 1959	18s. Od.

The Registrar General's estimate of Edmonton's population for mid-year 1957 was 96,530. He, therefore, reckons that in twelve months the population had fallen by 1,350 persons; this is due to families moving from Edmonton to Enfield, Southgate, Potters Bar and Waltham Cross, and to the New Towns and Expanding Towns in Hertfordshire, Essex, Sussex and Wiltshire. Since the natural increase in the population is about 300, the Registrar General estimates about 1,500 people or more leave Edmonton each year. Sample checks from other sources seem to corroborate this. The Registrar General does not think this is balanced to any extent by immigration into the Borough, but immigration into the Borough still seems quite common. A true estimate of Edmonton's population will have to await the 1961 census.

On the figures as they stand, the decrease in the population, coupled with the increase in the number of houses should have led to a small improvement in health and comfort.

T A B L E II

VITAL STATISTICS

	M.	F.	Total	Grand Total
<u>Live Births</u>				
Legitimate	641	540	1,181	
Illegitimate	26	27	53	1,234
(Percentage of live births) ...				4.29
Birth rate per 1,000 population..				12.96
Corrected birth rate				12.83
<u>Still Births</u>				
Legitimate	6	13	19	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
Still birth rate per 1,000				
total live and still births ...				15.16
<u>Deaths</u>				
Number	499	448	947	
Rate per 1,000 population				9.94
Corrected death rate per				
1,000 population				11.23
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000				
total live and still births ...				0.79 (1 death)

T A B L E I I I

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	Birth Rate		Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
	Live	Still		
England and Wales	16.4	21.6	11.7	22.5
Middlesex	14.5	16.3	10.3	18.9
Edmonton (Crude)	12.96	15.2	9.94	17.01
Edmonton (Corrected)	12.83	-	11.23	17.01

INFANT MORTALITY

T A B L E I V

Infantile Mortality		
(Legitimate)	.....	17.78
(Illegitimate)	.....	-
Total	.....	17.01
Neo-natal Mortality	.....	12.96
Peri-natal Mortality	.....	25.90

Number of children who died was 21; all legitimately born, 13 being males and 8 females. 16 of the deaths were in the first month of life, giving a neo-natal mortality of 12.96. The peri-natal mortality is the number of deaths and still births per thousand live still births. The causes and ages of death within certain limits are set out in Tables 5 and 6.

T A B L E V

MALES

Causes of Death	Weeks				Total in 1 month	Months				Total under 1 Yr.
	1	2	3	4		1-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	
Pneumonia	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Premature Birth	2	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Other causes	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Congenital malformations	2	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	5
Totals:	7	1	1	-	9	3	-	-	1	13

T A B L E V I

FEMALES

Causes of Death	Weeks				Total in 1 month	Months				Total under 1 Yr.
	1	2	3	4		1-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Atelectasis	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Premature Birth	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Other causes	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Totals:	7	-	-	-	7	-	1	-	-	8

It is obvious from Tables 5 and 6, the main causes of death in infants were pneumonia, premature birth and congenital malformations. Speaking generally, premature birth is due to poor health in the mother, and the poor health may be the result of infection, lack of adequate and proper food or undue physical strain. Pneumonia is an infection and is acquired from the mother or an elder child, but the baby's resistance to it may be lowered by poor nutrition or irritation of the lung by smoke polluted atmosphere. It is likely that if there is a drop in infant deaths, the drop will be mainly in those due to pneumonia and premature birth. Congenital malformations affect the babies of rich and poor alike and will, I am afraid, take their toll for some time.

Over the two years 1957 and 1958, of the 98 illegitimate children born only 2 died, giving an illegitimate infantile mortality rate for the two years of 20.4 against the ordinary infantile mortality rate for England and Wales during the two years of 22.75. To say that the general infantile mortality rate could be lowered by improved ante-natal care, therefore, is not to imply that the present standard of ante-natal care is low. To lower the infantile mortality rate it would be necessary to improve on an already high standard of ante-natal care, but I am confident that in time this can be done.

O T H E R D E A T H S

ACCIDENTS

There were 33 deaths from accidents in Edmonton in 1958, compared with 32 in 1957. There was a substantial drop in motor vehicle accidents from 12 to 8, and the increase was therefore due to other causes. 14 deaths were definitely due to home accidents and there were 9 other deaths due to falls, directly or indirectly, which might well have been due to home accidents. Practically all the home accidents are in elderly people and almost all are due to falls, poisoning or burning. Home is a dangerous place for the elderly in Edmonton. The list that follows gives some of the details:-

LIST 1

HOME ACCIDENTS

Date	Sex	Age	Cause of Death
23rd January, 1958.	F	70	Contusion of heart following fall at home.
25th January, 1958.	F	71	Hypostatic pneumonia due to fracture of dorsal vertebrae following fall down-stairs.
27th January, 1958.	F	81	Suppurative bronchitis following burns sustained when she was burned by a gas fire.
9th June, 1958.	F	69	Salicylate poisoning.
22nd August, 1958.	F	87	Hypostatic pneumonia following fracture of femur due to fall at home.
27th August, 1958.	F	90	Suppurative bronchitis following fracture of femur due to fall at home.
29th August, 1958.	F	84	Suppurative bronchitis following fracture of femur due to fall at home.
18th September, 1958.	F	36	Coal gas poisoning.
19th September, 1958.	F	75	Shock due to burns when clothing caught fire.
25th September, 1958.	F	83	Suppurative bronchitis and acute Cystitis following fracture second and third lumbar vertebrae due to fall at home.

LIST 2

POSSIBLE HOME ACCIDENTS

2nd January, 1958.	F	85	Hypostatic pneumonia following fracture of femur.
5th January, 1958.	M	88	Suppurative bronchitis following fracture of femur following fall.
25th February, 1958.	M	84	Hypostatic pneumonia due to fracture of femur due to fall.
8th March, 1958.	F	90	Suppurative bronchitis following fracture of the femur resulting from a fall.
25th May, 1958.	F	82	Hypostatic pneumonia and toxæmia due to pressure sores following fracture of the femur due to fall.
3rd August, 1958.	F	83	Hypostatic pneumonia following fracture to femur resulting from a fall.
11th August, 1958.	F	71	Toxic absorption from pressure sores following fracture of the sacrum resulting from a fall.
13th October, 1958.	F	78	Toxic absorption due to pressure sores following fracture of femur due to fall.
29th November, 1958.	F	87	Haemorrhage due to fractured ribs due to fall.

In addition there were two deaths from drowning, one of a man aged 49 and one of a girl aged 11, and a youth of 18 died as a result of a fractured skull when a scaffolding collapsed.

ANGINA

(Coronary Disease)

There was a reduction in deaths due to coronary disease in the 55 to 65 age group, partially balanced by an increase in the 65 to 75 age group. There was a substantial reduction in the deaths from coronary disease in those aged 75 and over, but it may be that some of those who died from respiratory disease partially as a result of the influenza epidemics might otherwise have died from coronary disease. It is too soon to say that deaths from coronary disease have reached their peak in Edmonton and are declining.

BRONCHITIS AND PNEUMONIA

The second wave of the influenza epidemic though less widespread, was more severe than the first wave. It attacked the old and produced an increase in the number of cases of fatal pneumonia and bronchitis, recurrent fog may well have reduced the resistance of many of the elderly.

There should be less fog in future years and the day-to-day soiling of the air should also be less as a result of the smoke control programme. Factory smoke is decreasing, and at least one area in the town will become free from visible smoke each year from 1959 onwards.

There is some evidence that the teenagers who are in many ways the most sensible section of the community are forsaking the cigarette. Thirty years hence therefore, bronchitis should be ceasing to be a serious problem.

CANCER OF THE LUNG

This disease is undoubtedly mainly a disease of smokers. Most of the victims are cigarette smokers but cigarette smoking at the present day is much more common than pipe smoking. It has been suggested that the extrovert type of personality is likely to become a smoker and likely to develop lung cancer and that the two things are coincidental. Investigations so far undertaken however, indicate that pipe smokers are in general even more introverted than non-smokers, and yet show a substantially higher incidence of lung cancer. It is clear that whether or not one is susceptible to lung cancer, tobacco smoking substantially increases one's chances of getting it.

The annual increase in deaths from lung cancer is a ghastly tribute to the brilliant advertising campaigns of the tobacco manufacturers.

HYPERTENSIVE HEART DISEASE

The drop in the deaths from this form of heart disease was again in the 55 to 65 age group. It is difficult to say whether this is due to a

reduction in the underlying causes (about which we are in any case not very clear) or whether it is due to improved medical care.

INFLUENZA

The effect of the second wave of Asian Influenza showed itself mainly in deaths from pneumonia and bronchitis. Deaths from influenza occurred mainly in males, one being a boy aged one year and three middle-aged males.

LEUKAEMIA

The drop in Leukaemia deaths is very satisfactory, but I am unable to account for it.

MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS

Deaths from cancer of the stomach has dropped, as have deaths from cancer of the uterus. The first fall may be due partly to improved social conditions, and the second is probably due to ante-natal and post-natal care.

NEPHRITIS AND NEPHROSIS

Since there has been an increase in recent years in the number of cases of scarlet fever and tonsillitis, one might have expected an increase in deaths from nephritis. The death rate however, remains steady and we can be satisfied that our methods of control of scarlet fever are having some effect in preventing this complication.

TUBERCULOSIS

The deaths were mainly in the middle aged, but two men aged between 35 and 45 died. A patient can endure and overcome pulmonary tuberculosis if he or she co-operates fully with the Chest Physician, but many patients do not, and I suspect that most of the early deaths occur in this type of patient.

In the latter part of 1958 the Chest Physician and I had to seek the help of the Magistrates in order to compel a young woman to co-operate fully. She has co-operated fully since, and is now living a normal and healthy life.

SUICIDE

The number of suicides has risen slightly and some of the successful suicides were quite young, two aged between 25 and 35, and four between 35 and 45. There are obviously many people in the community bearing burdens which they feel to be crushing them, who are not able to find the help they need.

T A B L E VII

DEATHS BY AGE-GROUPS

Causes of Death	All Ages	-	1	2	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75	85
		to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	and
		1	2	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75	85	Over
Tuberculosis, respiratory	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	1	1	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	5	4	8	2	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	64	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	9	23	21	8	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	5	4	5	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	88	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	13	21	23	20	5
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Diabetes	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	84	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	11	23	28	17
Coronary disease, angina	156	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	20	31	61	32	8
Hypertension with heart disease	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	9	2
Other heart diseases	138	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	6	10	28	54	38
Other circulatory disease	51	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	5	10	13	14	7
Influenza	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1
Pneumonia	59	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	12	30	10
Bronchitis	72	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	16	22	20	7
Other disease of respiratory system	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	2	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	1	-	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	9	5	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	63	13	-	-	1	-	5	4	5	9	10	9	7
Motor vehicle accidents	8	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	1	2	-
All other accidents	25	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	4	11	6
Suicide	10	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	-	3	-	1	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	938	21	1	-	2	4	13	30	86	158	246	262	115

T A B L E VIII

DEATHS BY SEX-GROUPS

Cause of Death	M.	F.	TOTAL
Tuberculosis, respiratory	5	2	7
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	1	-	1
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	2	3
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	16	10	26
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	58	5	63
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	19	19
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	4	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	43	45	88
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	2	2
Diabetes	-	3	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	35	49	84
Coronary disease, angina	103	53	156
Hypertension with heart disease	8	6	14
Other heart disease	53	85	138
Other circulatory disease	26	25	51
Influenza	4	1	5
Pneumonia	30	29	59
Bronchitis	45	30	75
Other diseases of the respiratory system	5	2	7
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	7	2	9
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	3	1	4
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	5	7
Hyperplasia of prostate	5	-	5
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1	1
Congenital malformations	5	5	10
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	30	33	63
Motor vehicle accidents	5	3	8
All other accidents	4	21	25
Suicide	5	5	10
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
Totals:	499	448	947

T A B L E I X

MALES - DEATHS BY AGE-GROUPS

Causes of Death	All Ages	-	1	2	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75	85	
		to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	and
		1	2	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75	85	Over	
Tuberculosis, respiratory	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	1	-	
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	1	5	1	-	
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	58	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	20	21	8	-	-	
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	43	-	-	-	-	1	2	7	12	7	11	3	-	
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Diabetes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Vascular lesions of nervous system	35	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	13	10	5	-	
Coronary disease, angina	103	-	-	-	-	-	4	18	24	38	16	3	-	
Hypertension with heart disease	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	1	-	
Other heart diseases	53	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	7	14	15	11	-	
Other circulatory disease	26	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	5	6	8	2	-	
Influenza	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	
Pneumonia	30	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	6	17	3	-	
Bronchitis	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	14	14	12	2	-	
Other disease of respiratory system	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	
Hyperplasia of prostate	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Congenital malformations	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	30	6	-	-	1	-	1	3	-	4	7	3	5	
Motor vehicle accidents	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	-	-	
All other accidents	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	
Suicide	5	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Totals:	494	13	1	-	1	3	5	15	52	108	139	120	37	

FEMALES - DEATHS BY AGE-GROUPS

- 15 -

T A B L E X I

ALL DEATHS BY WARDS

Ward	Deaths	
	Male	Female
Bury Street	140	132
Church Street	112	127
Angel Road	101	71
Silver Street	141	114
Vagrants	-	-
Totals:	494	444

LABORATORY SERVICE

The following specimens submitted from the Edmonton Health Services were examined by the Medical Research Council Laboratory (Edmonton), during the year as follows:-

Nature of Examination	Positive	Negative	Total
Blood Counts	-	-	45
Blood - Haemoglobin Estimation	-	-	154
Blood - Kahn Reaction ..	-	-	76
Blood - Rhesus Factor ..	-	-	77
Blood - Grouping	-	-	80
Eye swabs for organisms	1	1	2
Faeces for the presence of organisms	106	737	843
Swabs for presence of C. Diphtheriae:			
(a) From Suspect Cases	-	9	9
(b) From Contacts	-	4	4
Swabs for presence of Haemolytic Streptococci ..	335	1,821	2,156
Swabs for presence of Vincent's Angina	-	3	3
Urines	-	-	138
Vaginal swabs for presence of organisms	5	11	16
Ear swabs	-	1	1
Faeces from Hamster	-	2	2
Fish Paste	-	1	1
Throat and nose for Staphs	-	-	5
Pus from Pork	-	1	1
Vulvar swab	1	1	2
Ham for Staphs	-	1	1
Swab from socket (Dental)	-	1	1
Pus from boil	-	1	1
Spam, Doughnuts, Peaches for Pathogens	-	-	3
1/3rd pint of milk for Paths	-	1	1
Roast Pork for Clostridium Welchii	-	3	3
Custard Powder	-	-	1
Faeces from Guinea Pig ..	-	1	1
Dried Egg	-	1	1
Total:			3,628

SHOPS ACT AND STREET TRADING

The department administers three local Orders under the Act:

The Edmonton Hairdressers and Barbers (Late Day) Order, 1947, made under the Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928; The Shops Act, 1912, Edmonton Weekly Half-Holiday Order, Section 4(2) and (6) (Butchers); The Shops Act, 1912, Edmonton Weekly Half-Holiday Order, Section 4(2); all the Orders stand amended by the Shops Act, 1950.

There are approximately 1,300 shops and places other than shops in the Borough which are liable to inspection.

The Shops Acts and Street Trading Inspector submits a monthly report to the Public Health Committee, and the following is a short summary of the work carried out during the year:

Visits to shops, licensed street traders, etc	1,200
Washing facilities, sink water heaters installed ...	10

Contraventions were in the main of a minor character, mostly concerned with the exhibition of notices.

SHOPS ACT, 1950 - PART I, SECTION 1(2)

Edmonton Weekly Half-Holiday Order - Three letters of warning were sent to shopkeepers for contravening this Order.

SHOPS ACT, 1950 - PART I

Hours of Closing - A letter of warning was sent to a shop-keeper in this connection.

SHOPS ACT, 1950 - PART II, SECTION 17(1)

Condition of Employment - Two letters of warning were sent to the occupiers of shops where assistants were found working during the occasion of the weekly half-holiday.

SHOPS ACT, 1950 - PART IV - SUNDAY TRADING

Forty-one shops were visited in addition to supervisory operations and observations. Five contraventions were discovered; a letter of warning was sent in each case. Registers required to be kept under this Act were inspected periodically.

YOUNG PERSONS (EMPLOYMENT) ACT, 1938

Cinemas and boot and shoe repairing are the only occupations where young persons are being employed under the above Act. The registers kept at these premises were periodically inspected.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1944 - 1950 - STREET TRADING

Under the provisions of the Byelaws made by the Council under the above Acts, eleven letters of warning were sent for contravention of certain provisions of the Byelaws, ten to licensed street traders and one to an unlicensed street trader.

In one other case, legal proceedings were instituted and fines amounting to 20/-d. and costs of 21/-d. were imposed.

The inspection of shops, stalls and other traders' premises coming within the scope of the Act have been carried out throughout the year, including Sundays and evenings.

HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952.

The Shops Act Inspector is the Appointed Authorised Officer under the Act.

Inspections were carried out under the Act during the year, but no contraventions were found.

E N V I R O N M E N T A L H E A L T H

HOUSING

Table A, which follows below, shows that over 700 houses were made more habitable by formal and informal action on the part of the Public Health Inspectors. This number is more than twice that dealt with in 1957, and reflects great credit on the depleted staff. 58 houses were dealt with in Clearance Areas; the Silver Street and Grove Street Clearance Areas comprising 108-122 (even) and 142-174 (even) Silver Street, and 1-23 (odd) and 27-67 (odd) Grove Street, being declared in September 1958. In due time, 184 people were rehoused from these areas.

TABLE A

Action taken under the Housing and Public Health Acts

Number of houses repaired in consequence of informal action ..	379
Number of notices served under Section 9 Housing Act	1
Number of houses rendered fit after service of notices:-	
(a) by owner	4
(b) by Local Authority	-
Number of notices served under Public Health Acts	389
Number of houses repaired after service of notices:-	
(a) by owner	221
(b) by Local Authority in default	4

TABLE B

Defects Remedied

Roofs repaired	410
Gutters and rainwater pipes repaired	285
Brickwork or pointing repaired	74
Chimney stacks, etc., repaired or rebuilt	30
Yards or forecourts repaved or repaired	42
Drains examined, tested or exposed	622
Drains cleared, trapped or repaired	468
Drains reconstructed	80
Chambers inserted or built up to ground level	26
Soil and vent pipes, new fixed or repaired	61
W.C's repaired or improved	132
Flushing cisterns repaired or new fixed	54
Sink waste pipes repaired or new fixed	33
New sinks fixed	19
Drinking water cisterns covered, cleansed, repaired .	-
Water fittings repaired	50
Water taken off main or restored	8
Internal walls	230
Ceilings repaired, cleansed, etc	119
Floors repaired	109
Floors ventilated	24
Dampness remedied	194
Window frames or sashes repaired or renewed	367
Fireplaces, stoves repaired	53

TABLE C

RENT ACT, 1957

The above Act came into force on 6th July, 1957, and set out below are details of the applications received during 1958:-

Part I - Applications for Certificates of Disrepair

(1) Number of applications for Certificates	271
(2) Number of decisions not to issue Certificates ...	3
(3) Number of decisions to issue Certificates	270
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	171
(b) in respect of all defects	99
(4) Number of undertakings given by Landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	228
(5) Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule -	
(6) Number of Certificates issued	39

Part II - Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

(7) Applications by Landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of Certificates	37
(8) Objections by tenants to cancellation of Certificates	5
(9) Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objections	Nil
(10) Certificates cancelled by Local Authority (1957 Act)	21
(1954 Act)	7

FOOD HYGIENE CONTROL

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Seven visits were paid and the carcasses and organs of 11 pigs killed were inspected during or shortly after slaughter. All were found to be fit for human consumption.

MILK SUPPLY

Various licences were granted as under:-

	Primary	Supplementary
Pasteurised	42	17
Tuberculin Tested	24	14
Sterilised	96	16
	162	47

Supplementary licences are granted to retailers who live outside the Borough, but who sell milk in the Borough; the Primary licence is granted by the Authority in which the premises are situate.

The number of Dairies registered at 31st December, 1958 was 9.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 - SECTION 16

During the year 26 premises were registered for the Sale and Storage of Ice Cream.

Number on Register at end of year:-

Manufacturers and Vendors	6
Vendors only	214

During the year no premises were registered for the Preparation or Manufacture of Preserved Food, etc.

Number on register at end of year:- 40

UNSOUND FOOD

The following is a list of the food surrendered for examination and retained as unfit for human consumption:-

Meat	5,728 tins	Lamb	119½ lbs.
Milk	6,430 do.	Mutton	8½ do.
Fish	2,732 do.	Pork	260½ do.
Jams, etc.	1,686 do.	Veal	69 do.
Soups	1,081 do.	Offal	113 do.
Beans	2,373 do.	Chickens	31 only
Beetroot	37 do.	Ham	1,581¾ lbs.
Carrots	344 do.	Bacon	29¾ do.
Mixed Vegetables	145 do.	Whiting	40 do.

UN SOUND FOOD - Continued

Peas	4,685 tins	Skate	8 stone
Apples	91 do.	Sausages (Pork)	25 lbs.
Apricots	1,815 do.	Cheeses 499 packets & 44 $\frac{1}{2}$	do.
Blackcurrants	6 do.	Yeast	22 cwt. 3 qrs.
Cherries	520 do.	Fish Paste	99 jars
Damsons	3 do.	Macaroni	35 tins
Grapes	1 do.	Meat Paste	94 jars
Grapefruit	697 do.	Pickle	275 do.
Gooseberries	128 do.	Puddings	529 tins
Greengages	30 do.	Sauce	695 bottles
Fruit Salad	1,059 do.	Spaghetti	196 tins
Oranges	2,477 do.	Sandwich Spread	158 tins
Peaches 216 Trays and	3,734 do.	Currants	10 do.
Pears	1,484 do.	Raisins	7 lbs
Pineapple	3,651 do.	Margarine	48 lbs
Plums	2,077 do.	Sugar	6 pkts
Prunes	135 do.	Salad Cream	493 jars
Raspberries	143 do.	Tomatoes	3,215 tins
Rhubarb	134 do.	Fruit Juices	652 tins
Spinach	3 do.	Beef	545 lbs
Strawberries	107 do.	Rice	12 do.
Tomato Juices	105 do.		

The food examined and condemned by the Officers of the Public Health Department is disposed of either at the Council's Refuse Disposal Incinerating Plant or the Council's Refuse Disposal Pit.

SUMMARY OF FOOD PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16

OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream	5
Sale only of Ice Cream	221
Manufacture of Sausages	24
Manufacture of Sausages and Sale of Pressed, Pickled, Preserved, Potted Meats and other foods	14
Manufacture of Cooked Meat	1
Manufacture of Preserved Foods	1
Butchers	57
Fish Shops	27
Grocers and Provision Dealers	173
Bakers and Confectioners	22
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	61
Dairies	9
Retail Purveyors of Milk	135
Cafes	55
Factory Canteens	70

FOOD SAMPLING

The report of the Chief Officer, Public Control Department, Middlesex County Council, on the work carried out in Edmonton during the year 1958 is as follows:-

Samples procured in the Borough of Edmonton during the year 1958:

Article	Total Samples Procured	Unsatisfactory
Milk (New)	39	1
Milk (Various)	109	3
Butter	14	-
Cakes	14	-
Cooked Meat	17	-
Cream	11	-
Cheese	8	2
Drugs	22	-
Fish and Fish Products	18	-
Fruit - Canned, Dried, etc.	6	-
Fruit Squash	5	1
Ice Cream	6	-
Liver	10	-
Margarine	5	-
Meat and Meat Products	50	1
Non-Brewed Condiment	5	2
Preserves	4	-
Sausages, Sausage Meat, etc.	13	-
Spirits	9	-
Vinegar	15	-
Miscellaneous	23	-
Totals:	403	10

Milk

One sample of new milk was found to be slightly deficient in milk fat. This sample was taken from one churn forming part of a delivery of new milk consigned by a farmer to a milk processor in your district; the average composition of the whole consignment was satisfactory and no further action was taken. Three 1/3 pint bottles of school milk were found to be slightly deficient in milk fat. Two of these had been sold by one supplier and the third by a second supplier. In each case other 1/3 pint bottles of milk from the same deliveries were found to be satisfactory and no further action was taken.

Cheese

A retailer supplied Blue Vein cheese in response to a request for Gorgonzola cheese; the manager of the shop concerned was severely cautioned. A box of assorted processed cheeses was found to contain a different assortment from that described on the label on the outside of the carton. A letter of caution was sent to the manufacturers who undertook to amend suitably all the labels on the large stock of this food which they held ready for distribution.

Fruit Squash

A sample of orangeade was found to be contaminated with hydrogen sulphide. The bottle was closed with a vulcanised stopper and it is known that occasionally the vulcanising of such stoppers will break down and the subsequent inter-action with the acid normal to the drink produces hydrogen sulphide. A letter of caution was addressed to the manufacturers who had already instituted a programme for replacing vulcanised stoppers by others made of a plastic material.

Meat and Meat Products

A complaint was received from a private purchaser concerning a meat pie which, it was alleged, caused sickness. The Public Analyst certified that it was free from arsenical or metallic contamination, but it was not possible to assess its freshness when sold since two weeks had elapsed before the complaint was made to this Department.

Non-Brewed Condiment

A preliminary sample, followed by a formal sample, was each found to be slightly deficient in acetic acid content. An official caution was sent to the retailer.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACTS, 1887 - 1953

The majority of the inspection work carried out under the provisions of the above Acts relates to ensuring that the requirements of the various Marking Orders made under the provisions of the Act of 1926, and which relate to the marking with an indication of origin of certain imported food-stuffs when exposed for sale or sold, are complied with. Inspections were made at 232 separate premises of 863 displays of meat, apples, tomatoes, poultry, dried fruit and bacon.

One trader was prosecuted in respect of offences for failing to mark imported meat with an indication of origin and also for marking meat with a false indication of origin. Fines totalling £18 were imposed. Two other traders received official cautions for failing correctly to mark imported meat and offal exposed for sale, with an indication of origin.

LABELLING OF FOOD ORDER, 1953

This Order requires pre-packed food to be marked with the name and address, or with the registered trade mark, of the packer or labeller. It also requires such food to be labelled with its common or usual name (if any) and with the names of the ingredients of a compounded food. It also controls the manner in which the presence of vitamins and minerals is disclosed and prescribed specific labelling of certain foods.

A total of 1,636 articles of pre-packed food was examined at 282 premises to ascertain whether the above requirements were complied with; no serious infringements of this Order were detected.

FALSE OR MISLEADING DESCRIPTIONS

As in previous years food advertisements and labels have been scrutinised for false or misleading statements and descriptions. Much of this scrutiny of food labels can be combined with inspection work under the Labelling of Food Order. No serious infringements were disclosed. Corrective action was secured in relation to descriptions applied to "milk block", "Double Tea", an imitation cream powder, cakes filled with a mixture of butter and sugar, canned mixed vegetables, raspberry syrup, powdered soup mixes, medium red salmon, gorgonzola cheese spread and cheese spread.

SPECIAL DESIGNATED MILK

During 1958 my Council issued two Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) and one Dealer's (Steriliser's) licence in respect of premises within your area where milk is processed. These premises were regularly inspected, and compliance with statutory requirements was well maintained. A total of 94 samples of designated milk was taken. One was reported to be unsatisfactory; it failed to satisfy the phosphatase test for adequate heat treatment and the methylene blue test for keeping quality.

WATER

The water supply of the Borough has at all times been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

The Metropolitan Water Board is responsible for the supply which is piped direct to every dwelling-house throughout the Borough and serves the entire population.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Number on Register at end of year:-

Premises where filling materials used	14
Licences granted for storage of rag flock ...	2

Ten samples of rag flock and other filling materials were examined during the year. All proved satisfactory.

SANITARY CONVENIENCES

There are seven public conveniences in the Borough under the supervision of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

No charge is made for the use of W.C's in the Males and Females Conveniences; free hand-washing facilities are provided and paper towels are supplied.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948

The following work has been carried out under the above Acts:-

1. Inspections for the Purpose of Provisions as to Health

Premises	Number in Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	205	292	9	-
Factories without mechanical power	15	5	3	-
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering and construction but not including out-workers premises)	3	4	-	-
Total:	223	301	12	-

2. Defects found

Particulars	Number of Defects				Number of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	2	2	1	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences-					
Insufficient)					
Unsuitable or)					
defective)	33	29	-	6	-
Not separate for)					
sexes)					
Other offences - (Not including offences relating to outwork)	2	2	1	2	-
Totals:	37	33	2	8	-

3. Outwork - Sections 110 and 111

Nature of Work	No. of Out-workers in August list	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel, making etc.,	190	-	-	-	-	-
Artificial flowers	4	-	-	-	-	-
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	20	-	-	-	-	-
Brush making	56	-	-	-	-	-
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.	7	-	-	-	-	-
Toy painting	35	-	-	-	-	-
Brass and brass articles	26	-	-	-	-	-
Electrical fittings	65	-	-	-	-	-
Embroidery - Household linen	2	-	-	-	-	-
Feather sorting	1	-	-	-	-	-
Cabinet making	1	-	-	-	-	-
Leather bags	15	-	-	-	-	-
Sewing canvas	10	-	-	-	-	-
Fetlings - Diecastings	22	-	-	-	-	-
Total:	454	-	-	-	-	-

MIDDLESEX COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1950. SECTION II

One person and premises was registered during the year. No persons were registered to trade in the Borough where storage premises are located in other districts.

There were 86 hawkers on the Register at the end of 1958.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The three deposit gauges at St. David's Hospital, Silver Street, Cuckoo Hall Lane School and the Town Hall continued in use throughout 1958, and the results are shown on the opposite page.

SUMMARY OF ANALYSES

1958	Rainfall in inches (a) (b) (c)			DEPOSIT IN TONS						PER SQUARE MILE					
				Insoluble Deposits (a) (b) (c)			Ash (a) (b) (c)			Soluble Deposits (a) (b) (c)			Total Solids (a) (b) (c)		
January	2.26	2.38	2.57	16.28	9.09	4.27	3.71	5.83	2.47	4.58	5.47	6.54	20.86	14.56	10.81
February	2.33	2.52	2.33	4.69	9.95	5.85	2.87	6.60	3.71	4.93	6.89	4.89	9.62	16.84	10.74
March	1.08	1.03	0.93	6.49	10.88	7.24	4.35	7.81	4.60	5.14	6.44	5.38	11.63	17.32	12.62
April	1.19	1.42	1.30	4.68	8.37	6.89	2.91	5.47	4.33	4.14	4.80	4.33	8.82	13.17	11.22
May	3.07	2.64	2.28	5.53	6.94	5.39	3.78	4.82	3.70	4.57	5.31	4.42	10.10	12.25	9.81
June	5.49	4.99	4.91	4.67	6.56	7.45	2.49	3.63	4.35	5.30	6.86	5.63	9.97	13.42	13.08
July	2.35	2.40	3.61	4.60	6.75	5.43	2.30	4.36	3.22	4.39	5.42	7.57	8.99	12.17	13.00
August	3.87	3.92	3.71	5.66	6.07	2.99	3.96	3.98	1.87	4.83	6.53	5.38	10.49	12.60	8.37
September	3.86	3.34	3.31	1.39	4.02	4.48	0.61	2.76	3.23	5.54	5.86	5.61	6.93	9.88	10.09
October	2.44	2.55	2.44	2.56	4.69	3.65	1.32	2.90	2.26	4.24	5.43	4.80	6.80	10.12	8.45
November	1.87	1.78	1.70	3.06	6.47	3.02	1.70	3.90	1.56	5.28	4.53	3.91	8.34	11.00	6.93
December	2.95	2.91	2.77	5.01	9.66	6.14	3.35	4.79	4.06	7.36	6.93	5.63	13.37	16.59	11.77

(a) Site No.1. St. David's Hospital

(b) Site No.2. Town Hall

(c) Site No.3. Cuckoo Hall Lane School

It is not unreasonable to deduce from these figures that at least 700 tons of grit and dust fall on Edmonton each year. The figures for June to December 1958 are somewhat less than those for the same period in 1957, and this is due mainly to a reduction in the emission of grit and dust from the factory chimneys.

During the year 834 observations of industrial chimneys in the Borough were made by the Public Health Inspectors and nuisances were alleviated in a number of cases. The No.1. Smoke Control Order agreed in principle in 1957 was declared in June 1958, and was to come into force on the 1st June, 1959. This was, of course, the area bounded on the east and north-east by Latymer Road, on the north by Harrow Drive, on the west by the Great Cambridge Road, and on the south by Church Street. It was a small area containing 402 dwelling-houses, 2 industrial premises and 7 other premises. No.2. Smoke Control Area was agreed in principle in June 1958, and was a somewhat larger area. This was an area bounded on the west by the Borough boundary, on the north by Ridge Avenue and Bury Street, and the east by the Great Cambridge Road, and on the south by Hedge Lane. This area contained about 2,070 houses, of which about 1,500 required conversions of one sort or another to render them capable of burning smokeless fuel, was some 353 acres in extent and immediately adjoined No.1. Area, being separated from it by the Great Cambridge Road.

The No.1. Area subsequently came into force without incident and has, I think, been welcomed by the citizens of Edmonton.

RODENT CONTROL

Your Senior Public Health Inspector, as Officer-in-Charge, Rodent Control, reported as follows:-

The Council have an Assistant Rodent Officer, two Rodent Operators, the part-time services of a Clerk and appointed the Public Health Inspectors as Rodent Officers.

During the year the treatment of business premises by "Warfarin" was continued and has proved very successful.

The Public Health Inspectors, in cases where there was a possibility of the infestation being due to defective drainage, visited the premises and tested the drainage and any defects discovered were dealt with through the usual channels. In 80 per cent of the cases defects were discovered and as one can quite appreciate, entailed quite a large amount of work. The following table gives details of the work carried out during the year.

Prevalence of Rats and Mice:

	Type of Property			Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	All other including Business and Industrial	
Properties inspected as a result of notification	6	596	46	648
Other properties investigated	2	3,077	25	3,104
Properties found to be infested				
Rats (a) Major infestations	-	-	1	1
(b) Minor infestations	3	553	17	573
Mice (a) Major infestations	-	-	-	-
(b) Minor infestations	-	51	10	61
Number of properties treated by Rodent Operators	3	604	28	635
Number of inspections	129	6,719	209	7,057

During the year, maintenance treatment of the sewers took place by the Borough Engineer's Department, and I am indebted to the Borough Engineer for the following report:-

RAT DESTRUCTION IN SEWERS

The twenty-seventh maintenance treatment was carried out by the '1080' method of direct poisoning.

The '1080' treatments were carried out at three months intervals throughout 1958 and a 'test-bait' check with unpoisoned bait was carried out in March 1959.

From 1950 to 1957 using the zinc phosphide and arsenious oxide poisons with two prebaitings the average number of 'takes' as compared with the number of manholes baited was 60%.

In the 'test' in March 1959, this figure was reduced to 6%.

The inference to be drawn is that the number of rats in the sewers has been considerably reduced.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Number of journeys to collect bedding and spray verminous premises	363
Number of journeys to return bedding	233
Rooms disinfected after infectious disease	238
Rooms disinfected after Phthisis	58
Rooms disinfected after other cases	53
Rooms disinfected after vermin	133
Articles	
Bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected after infectious disease	2,941
Bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected after Phthisis	98
Bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected after other cases	291
Bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected after vermin	41

The Council distribute a disinfecting powder and fluid to residents who apply for same at the Town Hall Yard. During the year the applicants numbered 15,650. One hour daily is allowed for such distribution with the exception of Fridays and Saturdays. A Formalin Chamber is used for the disinfection of books, leather goods, etc., articles that would be damaged by steam. The number of books and other articles thus disinfected was 264.

19 Council properties and 61 other houses were found to be infested; the total number of rooms disinfested was 133. The whole of the work is carried out by the Department, the materials used being insecticides containing D.D.T. as a base.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

No new licences were granted during the year.

Number on Register at end of year 8

INSPECTIONS

The following tabular statement gives the number and the nature of the inspections made during the year:-

Complaints	1,683
Infectious Disease	325
Food Poisoning	75
House-to-House	339
Atmospheric Pollution	150
Smoke Control Areas	340
Factories with mechanical power	292
Factories without mechanical power	5
Rents Act, 1957	839
Housing Act 1949, Improvement Grants	37
Factories (other)	4
Outworkers	6
Schools	7
Offensive Trades	18
Shops and Stalls	70
Shops Act	-
Pets Act	17
Sanitary conveniences and urinals	331
Smoke observations	835
Rat infestation	221
Petroleum	334
General Inspections	473
Sundry Visits	2,024
Cinemas and Halls	37
Stables and Piggeries	34
Movable Dwellings	46
Sampling Water	3
Sampling Ice Cream	-
Sampling Milk	-
Rag Flock Premises	9
Sampling Rag Flock	10
Re-inspections	4,178

INSPECTION OF PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED

Butchers	68
Fish Shops	46
Cafes and Restaurants	96
Dairies and Milkshops	38
Slaughterhouses	7
Bakehouses (Factory)	34
Bakehouses (Workshops)	-
Ice Cream Shops	50
Canteens	49
Other food premises	189
Sampling other food	-

DEFECTS REMEDIED

Roofs repaired	410
Gutters and rainwater pipes repaired	285
Brickwork or pointing repaired	74
Chimney stacks, etc., repaired or rebuilt	30
Yards or forecourts repaved or repaired	42
Drains examined, tested or exposed	622
Drains cleared, trapped or repaired	468
Drains reconstructed	80
Chambers inserted or built-up to ground level ...	26
Soil and vent pipes new fixed or repaired	61
W.C's repaired or improved	132
Flushing cisterns repaired or new fixed	54
Sink waste pipes repaired or new fixed	33
New sinks fixed	19
Drinking water cisterns covered, cleansed, repaired	-
Water fittings repaired	50
Water taken off main or restored	8
Internal walls	230
Ceilings repaired, cleansed, etc.	119
Door frames repaired	-
Floors repaired	109
Floors ventilated	24
Dampness remedied	194
Window frames or sashes repaired or renewed	367
Fireplaces, stoves repaired	53
Coppers repaired	-
New dustbins supplied	27
Premises rat-proofed	6
Improper keeping of animals discontinued	1
Foul accumulations removed	14
Other nuisances abated	185
Movable dwellings removed	30
New boiler house constructed	-
New boiler installed	-
Factory sanitary conveniences inspected	-
Factory sanitary conveniences improved	33
Factory other defects remedied	4
Petroleum installations - defects remedied	57
Petroleum installations tested	32
Smoke Abatement - boiler plants improved	14
Food Regulations - contraventions remedied	-

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS, 1928-1936

During the year 6 new licences and 114 renewals were granted by the Council. The following is a list of particulars of quantities, etc., affected by these licences:-

Petroleum Spirit	500,498 gallons
Petroleum Mixtures	20,713 gallons
Rubber Solution	100 lbs. and 800 gallons

PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

Thirty-seven inspections of cinemas and other places of entertainment were made in accordance with the Circular of the Ministry of Health of 1920. Conditions were found to be generally satisfactory.

E P I D E M I O L O G Y

MEASLES

Measles spread from Enfield to the north-west corner of the Borough in January. During February and March, it spread mainly in association with the Infants' Schools. In the middle of April, a peak incidence of 42 cases in one week was recorded. Thereafter, measles spread throughout the Borough, but by September, it had died down to a low level. In November, however, it flared up again with renewed violence and in the second week in November, 94 cases were notified in one week. By the end of the year however, the epidemic seemed finally at an end.

Table E(1) shows that though there were no deaths, 28 of the 686 children notified as suffering from measles had to be removed to hospital and very nearly half of the cases occurred in children under five. If the American vaccine against measles now under trial proves safe and reliable, it should certainly be made available to parents, whose children are in the second year of life.

WHOOPING COUGH

The number of cases notified was only a quarter of that for 1957. In a community not given special protection, one expects an epidemic of whooping cough roughly every two years, the 96 cases notified in 1957 represent a modified epidemic. I am hopeful that the 1959 level of incidence will be lower than that of 1957. Perhaps there will be 50 to 60 cases.

DYSENTERY

As usual, most of the cases were of Sonne Dysentery. The number of cases were not large and the disease was seen as scattered cases and a number of small outbreaks.

The first outbreak was discovered as the result of the routine examination of faeces of two new entrants to the Edmonton Day Nursery. One was a boy aged 2½ years, and the other a girl aged 8 months. Both these children were found to be infected with Sonne bacilli and the girl was admitted to St. Ann's General Hospital in January. It was found that these two children were cared for during the day by a child minder at her own house and that two other children, a boy aged 2 years and a girl aged 4 years, were looked after by her at the same time. These two children were found to be infected and so was their own mother. Further investigation showed that another boy, a playmate of the boy entrant to the Day Nursery, was infected, and so was his mother. The boy entrant's grandmother was found to be infected, as was the lodger at the same address. The first outbreak then, accounts for nearly one-sixth of the cases.

The second outbreak occurred at a boarding school for physically handicapped girls. The visiting Medical Officer informed me on the 15th February, that he had three cases of Dysentery in this school, and the condition of one of the cases was such that he had to remove her to hospital on the previous day. He had already submitted faeces specimens to the laboratory and these proved to be positive. Specimens were taken from all the children at the school and from all the staff. Four girls and one member of the staff were found to be infected with Sonne bacilli. The girls were isolated in the school sick-bay and the member of the staff was moved to hospital and regular disinfection of lavatory seats and the hands of staff and girls was practised. The original source of the outbreak was not discovered, but the measures taken proved sufficient to prevent any further spread of the disease.

MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION

One case was notified during the year.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Eleven cases were notified during the year, all in the North Middlesex Hospital.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

110 cases were notified during the year, 105 at the North Middlesex Hospital, and 5 at home.

SCARLET FEVER

217 cases were notified in 1958, only one being a return case. Scarlet Fever appears to be on the increase, but the increase seems less marked in Edmonton than elsewhere.

TUBERCULOSIS

A Mass X-Ray Unit of the North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital

Board was in Edmonton during October and November. The unit's visit was publicised on the Council's rate demands, by posters, and in the local press. During the survey, Red Cross cadets distributed leaflets to a number of houses.

Between a sixth and a seventh of the adolescent and adult population of the Borough were x-rayed in public sessions and in special sessions in and near the factories. The actual figures were 11,623, men outnumbering women by nearly 50%. Though the number of cases needing supervision or treatment was only 27 (in this context I am referring to cases of pulmonary tuberculosis), these citizens were undoubtedly helped by the visit of the Mass X-Ray Unit. 12, it will be seen, only required occasional clinic supervision, but if not detected might in due course have required hospital treatment; 13 required immediate treatment, but would undoubtedly have required a much longer period of treatment if they had not been diagnosed at this stage.

(ANALYSIS OF SURVEY ON PAGE 35)

TABLE T (1)

ANALYSIS OF SURVEY

GROUP		No. exam- ined	Recalled for Large Film	Recalled for Clinical Inter- view	Did not attend for Large Film or inter- view	Carcinoma of Bronchus	Pres- umed Healed	PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS				Cardio- vascu- lar lesions	Other Abnor- malities
								Suspect T.B. Not Yet con- firmed	Occas- ional Clinic Super- vision	Close Clinic Super- vision	Requir- ing immedi- ate treat- ment		
<u>KNIGHTS LANE</u>	Male	563	10	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5
	Female	528	4	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-
<u>THE ANGEL</u>	Male	550	7	5	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	3
	Female	573	9	8	-	-	2	-	1	-	2	2	1
<u>KENDAL PARADE</u>	Male	481	12	7	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	2
	Female	565	9	4	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	1
<u>HOUNDSFIELD ROAD</u>	Male	161	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	Female	308	3	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
<u>"CART OVERTHROWN"</u>													
<u>BOUNCES ROAD</u>	Male	641	11	6	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
	Female	549	4	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
<u>BUSH HILL PARK PARADE</u>	Male	209	8	5	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	1	-
	Female	318	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>FACTORY NO.1.</u>	Male	188	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
	Female	290	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>TRAMWAY AVENUE</u>	Male	130	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	Female	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>HOSPITAL NO.1.</u>	Male	518	7	4	-	-	3	-	1	-	1	1	1
	Female	635	8	6	-	-	1	-	3	-	1	1	1
<u>FACTORY NO.2.</u>	Male	557	6	4	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3
	Female	114	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>FACTORY NO.3.</u>	Male	2115	22	12	1	1	2	-	1	1	-	-	6
	Female	664	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>FACTORY ESTATE</u>	Male	563	6	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
	Female	192	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
<u>HOSPITAL NO.2.</u>	Male	201	5	3	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
<u>TOTALS:</u>	MALE	6877	102	61	4	6	10	-	6	1	6	4	34
	FEMALE	4746	43	28	-	-	9	1	6	-	7	5	4
<u>GRAND TOTAL:</u>		11623	145	89	4	6	19	1	12	1	13	9	38

OTHER ABNORMALITIES DISCOVERED WERE:-

	MALE	FEMALE
Abnormalities of Bony Thorax - Acquired	2	-
Pneumonia	4	1
Bronchiectasis	3	-
Emphysema	9	-
Pulmonary Fibrosis - Non T.B.	12	1
Pneumoconiosis	1	-
Sarcoidosis	1	-
Pleural Thickening	1	-
Diaphragmatic Hernia	1	-
Elevation of Diaphragm	-	1
Substernal Goitre	-	1

The number of cases notified has dropped again from 71 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in 1957 to 58 cases in 1958.

Tables T(2) and T(3) give details of the ages and sex of new cases of Tuberculosis, also deaths from the disease; this latter figure includes the deaths of non-notified cases.

TABLE T(2)

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Non-				Non-			
	Respiratory		Respiratory		Respiratory		Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-15 years	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-25 years	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-35 years	5	7	-	1	-	-	-	-
35-45 years	4	4	-	1	2	-	-	-
45-55 years	5	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
55-65 years	6	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
65 years upwards	4	3	-	2	2	-	-	-
Totals:	32	26	-	4	5	2	-	-

In addition, 29 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 3 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis previously notified in other areas, moved into Edmonton.

TABLE T(3)

	MALES		FEMALES		TOTAL
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	
Added to Register during 1958	59	1	45	7	112
Number of cases notified for the first time during the year	32	-	26	4	62
Number of cases restored to Register having been previously removed	12	-	5	1	18
Number of cases added to Register other than by formal notification	15	1	14	2	32
Removed from Register during 1958	47	1	40	4	92
Number of deaths from Tuberculosis - Notified cases	5	-	2	-	7
Number of deaths from Tuberculosis - Non-notified cases	-	-	-	-	-
Number of deaths, Other causes - Notified cases	8	-	1	1	10
Number of cases, left district, recovered, etc.	34	1	37	3	75

The non-respiratory forms of Tuberculosis notified were:-

Part of Body Affected	Males	Females
Glands of neck	-	3
Spine	-	1

TABLE T(4)

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the end of 1958 was:-

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary forms	677	516	1,196
Non-pulmonary forms	71	100	171
	748	616	1,367

TABLE T(5)

The corresponding figures at the end of 1957 were:-

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary forms	665	511	1,176
Non-pulmonary forms	71	97	168
	736	608	1,344

TABLE T(6)

Corresponding figures for previous years were:-

	Males	Females	Total
1956	722	603	1,325
1955	706	599	1,305
1954	701	608	1,309
1953	668	598	1,266
1952	635	567	1,202
1951	570	536	1,106
1950	519	498	1,017
1949	509	468	977
1948	500	452	952
1947	442	405	847
1946	417	375	792
1945	389	332	721
1944	370	319	689
1943	411	355	766
1942	348	304	652
1941	355	293	648
1940	349	313	662
1939	357	301	658
1938	363	297	660
1937	336	260	596
1936	315	252	567
1935	330	265	595

It will be seen that in latter years there has been a steady increase in the number on the register but that despite this increase in the possible pool of infection, it has been possible to reduce slowly but steadily the number of new cases each year.

POLIOMYELITIS

No cases were notified during the year. Like measles, poliomyelitis tends in any one district or Borough to have waves of incidence about every two years, i.e. alternate years. There were no cases notified in 1958, but that does not mean that there will be no cases notified in Edmonton in the future despite an effective campaign of immunisation against poliomyelitis.

PNEUMONIA

40 cases were notified during the year.

FOOD POISONING

There were 85 notifications of suspected food poisoning during the year. 52 of these occurred in outbreaks, 33 as single cases. There were three outbreaks due to the *Bacillus* (*Clostridium*) *Welchii* and one due to *Staphylococcal* infection, and a further four to *Salmonella* infections. I will comment on only two of these, the *Cl. Welchii* infection at a long stay hospital and a family outbreak due to *Staphylococcal* infection.

Cl. Welchii Outbreak at Local Hospital

On 10th March, the Medical Officer of a local long stay hospital notified me by telephone that he had 20 patients suffering from diarrhoea. The first patient had started to feel ill about 8 p.m. on Sunday, 9th March, and similar symptoms had appeared in the other patients through the night. None of the patients suffering from diarrhoea, as it happened, had gone out for a meal on a Saturday or Sunday. (Most of the patients at this hospital are not seriously disabled by their chronic illness).

It was discovered that for lunch on Sunday, 9th March, the patients had had roast pork which had been cooked on Saturday. The roast pork had been kept in an ordinary meat safe during the interval of 20 to 24 hours. It had been warmed up on a hot plate and then covered with a hot gravy. All the pork and gravy and pork dripping had been used and none was available for examination.

Faeces specimens were obtained from all those affected and *Cl. Welchii* were found in four of the specimens. (*Cl. Welchii* is a sporing bacillus and its spores are resistant to heat). It is found quite frequently in the soil and in the gut and flesh of domestic animals). A specimen of roast beef taken on 16th December was found to be contaminated with *Staphylococci* but *Cl. Welchii* was not found. The cooking arrangements were reorganised and from then on all meat was refrigerated and kept down to 3lb. joints before cooking and eaten on the day it was prepared. Arrangements were put in hand for the supply of pressure cookers. There have been no further outbreaks at this hospital.

Family *Staphylococcal* Outbreak

In this outbreak the food at fault appeared to be cooked ham. The food was cooked by the housewife on 30th August, 1958, and a portion was eaten by her husband and son the same day. The remainder of the ham was stored under a colander on top of the washing machine until Tuesday evening (2nd September). The ham was then removed from the top of the washing machine and eaten by the husband and son at about 10.15 p.m. Vomiting and blood-stained diarrhoea followed in the small hours. *Staphylococcus Aureus* was isolated from the faeces of the husband and son and from the ham. The housewife had discharging boils on her hands and arms.

(A)

Particulars of Outbreaks

Agent	Number of Outbreaks		Number of Cases		Total No. of Cases
	Family Outbreaks	Other Outbreaks	Notified	Otherwise Ascertained	
Sal: Typhi-Murium	3	-	8	-	8
Sal: Oranienburg	1	-	2	-	2
Staphylococci (including toxin)	1	-	1	1	2
Cl. Welchii	2	1	29	-	29
Totals:	7	1	40	1	41
Agent not Identified	3	-	10	-	10

(B)

Single Cases

Agent	Number of Cases		Total No. of Cases
	Notified	Otherwise Ascertained	
Sal: Typhi-Murium	16	-	16
Sal: Group "B"	6	-	6
Sal: Enteritidis	2	-	2
Totals:	24	-	24
Agent not Identified	9	-	9

(C)

Salmonella Infections, not Foodborne

Salmonella Type	Outbreaks		No. of Cases (Outbreaks)	Single Cases	Total No. of Cases. (Outbreaks and Single Cases)
	Family	Other			
Sal: Typhi-Murium	1	-	2	-	2
Totals:	1	-	2	-	2

Epidemic Vomiting

On the afternoon of Thursday, 12th June, the Headteacher of an Infants' School in the north west of the Borough reported that she had a number of children in the School suffering from vomiting. I visited this School expecting to find an outbreak of food poisoning. The children were found to

suffer mainly from vomiting and abdominal discomfort and the incidence was as great in children not staying to school meals as those who did.

The first case had occurred on the 6th June, 3 more children had fallen ill on 10th June and on 12th June 13 children had vomited, some of them more than once. I decided therefore this was an outbreak of epidemic vomiting. Nose and throat swabs and faeces specimens were taken from a sample of the children and proved negative.

The children affected were excluded from school for one week, but 45 more children fell ill during the 24 hours from 4 p.m. on 12th June to 4 p.m. on 13th June. These 45 were excluded and their brothers and sisters and their immediate neighbours in class. 61 more children fell ill during the week-end, 12 more on the 17th, one more on the 18th, one more on the 19th, 3 on the 23rd, one on the 26th and one on the 27th, in addition, three of the School Welfare workers became ill on the 16th June and were excluded. The Junior School on the same campus got off more lightly with 20 cases on 16th June, 15 on 17th June and 2 on the 18th. Smaller numbers were involved at two other Schools in the northern half of the Borough, 18 children at one Infants' School and 19 at one Junior School. By the end of June the epidemic seemed to be at an end but a further school was affected in September with about 60 cases, and there were a further 6 cases at the original school.

Notification of the main Infectious Diseases are presented in tabular form below:-

Disease	Total No. of Cases	Number Removed to Hospital	Deaths	- to 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over
Scarlet Fever	217	146	-	-	6	12	20	31	21	24	3	-	-	-	-
Measles	686	28	-	19	59	71	66	98	35	16	4	-	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	25	1	-	3	4	1	3	2	12	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	40	8	59	3	-	-	1	-	2	4	2	1	3	15	9
Puerperal Pyrexia	110	107	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	84	10	-	-
Erysipelas	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Food Poisoning	85	6	-	3	3	3	3	2	7	10	2	16	10	20	6
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia															
Neonatorum	11	11	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	51	2	-	4	4	11	2	2	3	6	5	8	3	3	-
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis	3	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1

I M M U N I Z A T I O N

The Area Medical Officer for Area No.1. Middlesex (Edmonton and Enfield) has kindly given me the following details of immunization against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough during 1958:-

Age	Children who completed a full course of primary immunization			Children given a reinforcing injection		
	Diphtheria only (2)	Diphtheria and Whooping Cough (3)	Whooping Cough only (4)	Diphtheria only (5)	Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough (6)	Whooping Cough only (7)
Under 1	96	386	28	-	-	-
1	46	279	15	-	-	-
2 - 4	27	22	5	175	21	31
5 - 14	33	4	3	494	54	14
15 and over	-	-	-	2	1	-
Total:	202	691	51	671	76	45

Most diphtheria epidemics in recent years have been associated with schools, and the numbers of children given a reinforcing injection are therefore important. The number of school children protected is sufficient to ensure that any epidemic of diphtheria is likely to be small and non-fatal. It will be observed that 856 children under the age of 4 were protected against diphtheria, about 68% of those newly at risk per annum. 745 children under the age of 4 were protected for the first time against whooping cough, about 63% of those newly at risk per annum. Since the whooping cough vaccine is slightly less effective in preventing whooping cough than the diphtheria toxoid in preventing diphtheria, it is probable that 80 to 85% of those at risk need to be protected by the vaccine before the disease can really be banished from homes and schools. Whooping cough is, however, becoming a much less serious problem as a result of the immunization programme.

H E A L T H E D U C A T I O N

(A) H O M E S A F E T Y

After careful consideration of the subject for some months, the Public Health Committee decided that Home Safety education would be better run by the Public Health Committee itself than by a voluntary Home Safety Committee. Separate provision was made in the estimates for expenditure on Home Safety education, and the Home Safety programme started with a public meeting on 24th April 1958, in the Town Hall. The speaker was Miss Barbara Naish, Manager of the Home Safety Department of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents and her subject was "Twenty Questions on Home Safety". Her department pub-

lishes a Twenty Questions Quiz leaflet and she went through this leaflet expanding the various points. After her talk a comedy film "Accidents Will Happen", featuring Richard Hearne as 'Mr. Pastry' was shown. Posters on burns and scalds and falls were displayed on the Health Department's four poster-boards during April. During May, Home Safety Quiz posters were sent to all the schools, together with advice on their use and in July, Home Safety was featured in the Health Department Exhibition as part of the Charter Celebrations Local Government Exhibition. (Saturday, 5th July, 1958). During July, also, a duplicated Home Safety Bulletin, mainly in rhyme and illustrated by line drawings, was sent out to the Infant and Junior Schools. One bulletin was sent to every two children. This led to difficulties, and when the second issue was sent out in November 1958, one copy was sent for each child above the Infants' First Year. A national "Guard that Fire" campaign was initiated in October 1958, and the Borough co-operated in this. Posters were displayed, stickers were displayed in the shops and on certain of the Corporation vehicles, and a Home Safety Poster Competition was held in the Infant and Junior Schools. 700 children contributed posters to the competition and each child was given a Home Safety pencil bearing the slogan "The A.B.C. of Home Safety - Avoid Being Careless". Savings Certificates were given for the best poster from each school and also for the best in each group, and the prizes were presented by the Mayor after the Council Meeting in January, 1959.

In addition to this, I contributed an article on Home Safety to the local press (Tottenham and Edmonton Herald) in April, and an article on winter hazards, which, of course, included matter on Home Safety, in October.

(B) GENERAL

Poster publicity on Food Hygiene, Lung Cancer and Tuberculosis was carried out throughout the year. The Health Department exhibits at the Local Government Exhibition in the Jubilee Park on Saturday, 5th July, were housed in a large marquee and demonstrated Food Hygiene, Smoke Control, Rodent Control and Home Safety. Food Hygiene stand included two 6' stands and a number of specimens kindly loaned by the Borough of Hackney, material provided by the Food Hygiene Laboratory Colindale, and photographs purchased from the Central Council of Health Education in addition to some of our own material. An illuminated exhibit on Rodent Control was provided by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Smoke Control exhibit consisted of a stand provided and staffed by the Coal Utilisation Council and a small stand of our own. The exhibits aroused considerable interest and at least 2,000 people visited the tent.

During September and October publicity was given to the visit of the Mass X-Ray Unit. As I have said, the visit was publicised on the Council's Rate Demand and by distribution of leaflets, by leaflets and bookmarks in the Libraries, by posters and by an article by myself in the Tottenham and Edmonton Herald. A film show on 8th October at the Town Hall, dealing with respiratory disease (Programme - "Arthur Askey and The Nose Has It", "Guilty Chimneys", "Inside Story" (of Tuberculosis), "X-Ray Inspector" and a film strip on the use of "Smokeless Fuel"), was attended by about 40 people. A Health "Brains Trust" on 15th October was attended by about 30 people. The small audience at the

latter meeting got good value since the "Brains Trust" consisted of Sir Frederick Messer , M.P., Dr. Horace Joules - Medical Superintendent at the Central Middlesex Hospital, Dr. M. Thomas - Pathologist, Edmonton Public Health Laboratory and Mrs. W.E. Duncan - Publications Officer of the Central Council of Health Education, with Dr. T. Jones - Headmaster of Latymer School, Edmonton, as Chairman. However, a good many of the population of Edmonton got some valuable information second-hand through the account of the Brains Trust in the columns of the Tottenham and Edmonton Weekly Herald.

Health Education in Edmonton would undoubtedly be much more effective if it was run by one authority and one department of that authority. At present the co-operation between the County Council and the Public Health Department is good, but there are inevitably times when the two programmes are 'out-of-step'. If the Health Visitors were under my general supervision, I feel sure that a much wider and more effective programme of Health Education could be carried out.

WELFARE OF THE ELDERLY

A great deal of help, both medical and social, is given to the elderly people in the Borough by General Practitioners and by the paid Officers of the County Council, mainly Health Visitors and Welfare Officers. National Assistance officials, also, act not only as paymasters but as social advisers. Nevertheless, the bulk of the work for old people in the Borough is carried out by Voluntary Workers and Associations, co-ordinated in the Edmonton Welfare Association. The report of the Secretary for 1958/59 gives a fair picture of what is being done.

The work of the Association for the year under review has, once again, been one of steady progress, which is proof of the need for the services provided by the Association.

In paying its tribute to the magnificent work of the voluntary organisations affiliated to the Association, we are sensible of the fact that, without their co-operation and team work, many of the services now provided would virtually cease to exist.

The Constitution, and method of working together as a team, has put the Association in the position today of being a model of its kind, and we are constantly asked to receive visitors and give information and advice as to how the 'wheels go round'.

It gives great pleasure to the Association to acknowledge with grateful thanks the work of the voluntary organisations - British Red Cross; Women's Voluntary Service; Toc H; Salvation Army and the Citizens' Advice Bureau. We also take this opportunity of expressing to Mr. H.B. Heafield, M.C.C. Area Welfare Officer and Miss S.J. Briggs, Superintendent Health Visitor, M.C.C. No.1 Area, our sincere appreciation of their assistance in our work over many years. We also value the co-operation of the National Assistance Board, Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, Almoners, North Middlesex Hospital, local Doctors, etc.

Through this co-operation, in the field of social welfare in the Borough of Edmonton, a great number of people of all ages, have been given help and happiness and for some new friendships and new interests of lasting value. This surely is the measure and purpose of our work.

Given hereunder is a brief report on the work of some of the services of the Association -

MEALS-ON-WHEELS SERVICE: During the year 1958 no less than 12,630 meals were delivered, and during the first four months of this year, January to April inclusive, 4,538 meals have been delivered. Time has proved that whilst the maximum capacity of the service is 1,000 meals per month, as emergencies arise the service is 'stretched' as indicated in the figures above.

Early this year the Executive authorised, on receipt of a supplementary grant of £90 from the Edmonton Borough Council, the purchase of four 'Hot-Lock' containers, and these are now in operation. The primary purpose of the 'containers' is to keep the food warm to the last person on the delivery round. This, of course, makes the meal more palatable and obviates waste. It is necessary, however, to have two persons on each vehicle, one for serving the meal from the 'Hot-Lock' and the other to deliver it. It is the intention of the Meals Organiser and the Welfare Organiser to visit all the Old People's Clubs to try and recruit additional helpers. This is suitable work for older people as the person serving the meal from the 'Hot-Lock' only has to hand the cans to the person delivering the meal, and the approximate time for the complete journey, from loading up to return with the empty cans, is 2 hours.

Through the introduction of this new system, we shall be able to maintain our reputation of being one of the most outstanding Meals Services in London.

To facilitate the delivery of the meals under this new hygienic system, the Edmonton Borough Council made a grant to the Edmonton Welfare Association to purchase a more suitable van in the place of the old van which needed extensive overhaul and was not suitable for the 'Hot-Lock' service.

During the period under review, any cases of doubt have been referred to the M.C.C. Area Health Visiting Service for investigation and report. It can be accepted, therefore, by the Association, that the provision of meals to the people on this service are fully justified.

The Association acknowledge with sincere thanks the outstanding work of the Women's Voluntary Service, especially the invaluable services of Mrs. E. Everitt, Meals Organiser, who voluntarily give so much of their time to this service, for without them the "Meals-on-Wheels" service would cease to function. Our thanks are also due to the Edmonton Borough Council's catering staff and transport staff who assist in this excellent work.

ENTERTAINMENT AND RECREATION: The Municipal Entertainments Department of the Edmonton Borough Council have continued over the year to maintain

a comprehensive programme of concerts to the Old People's Clubs, and in addition, there has been a series of special concerts during the summer months at the Summer Theatre. The 'All-Star Variety' show and the special Cinema Show are two of the high lights of this work which also included special Olde Tyme Dances, free admission to plays, quiz contests, etc. The facilities for entertainment provided by the Edmonton Borough Council are greatly appreciated by the old people.

VISITING SERVICE: This service is the most difficult to maintain owing to the lack of suitable volunteers to undertake this important work. However, the cases referred to the Association are often sent on to the Old People's Clubs in the particular locality from which the enquiry is received, and the Clubs report back the need of any special welfare services. In a number of cases, lonely old people have consequently taken up membership in the Club. Voluntary workers are urgently needed in this service, especially to visit house-bound old people who live alone.

HOLIDAYS: As in previous years, there have been many enquiries with regard to 'off-season' holidays at reduced prices for old people, and full information has been sent to all the Old People's Clubs and interested organisations, of the facilities available.

Many of the Old People's Clubs arrange for parties of their members to go away together under these special facilities, and there is no doubt that they derive great benefit from this happy association in new surroundings.

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE: The Town Hall continues to receive a large number of cases of people in need of information and assistance on a wide variety of problems. Many of these cases are referred to us by the local Doctors, Hospitals, National Assistance Board, Police, etc., and an endeavour is made to treat each case individually with courtesy, sympathy and understanding. During the year a number of editions of the "News Letter" have been circulated, giving information quickly and briefly to the greatest number of people possible through its distribution to the Old People's Clubs, affiliated organisations, etc.

LIBRARY DELIVERY SERVICE: This admirable and efficient service with its bi-weekly delivery of books to the physically handicapped and house-bound old people, is greatly appreciated, and we record our thanks to the Libraries staff for their courteous and willing service. Today there are 47 people enjoying this service.

WELFARE FOOD SERVICE: During the year the sales of welfare foods have increased - Ovaltine 1,510 tins; Bovril 986 bottles; and Marmite, which is in its first year of sale - 222 bottles. The Executive asked that an examination be made as to how far the distribution arrangements could be extended, and a system has now been introduced by which Old People's Clubs advise, in advance, the British Red Cross Society, who then deliver the order on the day that the Club concerned meets. Whilst the British Red Cross maintain control over the distribution, the new arrangements give a wider distribution and is greatly appreciated by the Old People's Clubs. The Association record their

sincere thanks to the British Red Cross Society for operating this service by acting as distributing agents on behalf of the Association.

HAIRDRESSING SERVICE: This service continues to receive many demands upon the members of the London and Provincial Hairdressers' Association - Edmonton Branch - who operate the scheme in the Borough, and the concessions they give and work they do for the old people are greatly appreciated.

RADIO REPAIR SERVICE: The Association are grateful to the members of the London District 'operating unit' of the Radio Society of Great Britain for their continued service. Our spare sets are out on loan to old people whilst their set is under repair, and this is greatly appreciated by old people who are house-bound and living alone as the radio is their only companion.

PROVISION OF SHORT-STAY ACCOMMODATION FOR OLD PEOPLE:

The Executive of the Association appointed a 'Pilot' Sub-Committee to examine information collated on this problem. The evidence submitted proved that the problem was not an easy one to solve as the potential number of old people who would be concerned in such a scheme was in the region of 350 cases known to local Doctors, and obviously would be much greater if the proposals were advertised. At the moment, the major difficulty is to obtain financial assistance from the appropriate Government Department, and these aspects of the problem are still under consideration.

LECTURE COURSE ON THE "WELFARE OF OLD PEOPLE":

By arrangement with the London Council of Social Service, under the King George VI Social Service Scheme, a course of six weekly lectures were given at the Town Hall to representatives from the voluntary organisations; Salvation Army, Churches and Old People's Clubs. Each lecturer was an expert in their particular field, and it was acknowledged by the London Council of Social Service and those who attended the Course, that it was an outstanding success. A great deal of value was obtained by using the second part of the lecture as a 'study group' to discuss points raised by the lecturer as they were related to local circumstances. A report on the points raised by the 'study group' has been presented to the Executive for their consideration.

CLUBS:

The William Preye Club: This Club, by its continued success, has proved that it is now accepted as an important social centre for old people. There is no doubt that its success is mainly due to the excellent work of the Voluntary Wardens and the Officers, and they can be justly proud that the Club is recognised by the London Council of Social Service and the National Council for Old People's Welfare as one of the show places in London for people working in this particular field of social welfare. This is indicated by the number of 'official visitors' the Club has received during the past year. Two visitors of special importance were two officers from the National Council for Old People's Welfare, one an architect, and the purpose of their visit was to see whether the grant of £1,000 from the King George VI Memorial Fund had been pro-

perly spent. Their verdict was - " ... This is one of the best Clubs we have visited in the country! ". They paid a particular tribute to the happy atmosphere at the Club, and complimented the Officers on the work they were doing. The Autumn Fair raised over £150, and from the proceeds the Club gave a tea-party to 140 members. The Executive of the Association have expressed their thanks to the Club for donating the sum of £100 towards the cost of running the Club. It is acknowledged that the Sewing Corner and the weekly Whist Drive are the most profitable sources of income to the Club. The financial position of the Club is very sound.

The Association would like to record its thanks and appreciation to the Management Committee, Officers, Voluntary Wardens of the Club for their excellent work which is giving so much pleasure to a great number of people.

Pymmes Park Club for Old People: The Club has continued to meet the need for a meeting place for the old people in this part of the town. The average daily attendance is 20 members. Whilst the Club provides social recreation for its mainly male membership, efforts have been made to recruit women members but without success. The erection of the billiard table during the winter months has been greatly appreciated by the members. The Inter-Club Matches with the William Preye Club have given great pleasure to both Clubs. A successful outing was arranged during the summer months, the members paying only 2/6d. towards the cost. The annual tea-party was attended by 50 members and was voted a great success. The Association record their thanks to the Management Committee, Officers and Voluntary Wardens of the Club for their services during the year.

FOOT SERVICE: The Foot Clinic Service, provided on alternative Mondays at the William Preye Club and the Red Cross Centre, are doing excellent work, and they report that no less than 1,430 treatments were given during the year under review. Many of the old people appreciate the importance of early treatment for foot ailments, and the speed in which appointments are given, helps in the efficiency of the service. As a token of appreciation of the services given in this excellent work, the Association have made a grant of £50 to the British Red Cross Society, Edmonton.

PUBLIC BATHS - RED CROSS SERVICE TO ELDERLY AND INFIRM: The Red Cross have continued to provide a Red Cross Nurse each week at the Baths to assist elderly and infirm old people attending the Baths. This service is greatly appreciated but would warrant greater publicity, and appropriate action is being taken to that end.

OTHER SERVICES: All the other services are working satisfactorily, but there is still an acute shortage of voluntary workers to make these more effective.

CONCLUSION: The Association, working through the Executive Committee, with its wide representation of interests in the field of social welfare, has shown once again the importance for the need of these services in the Borough of Edmonton. The true measure of our achievements has been the result of close co-operation and liaison with all the voluntary organisations working together as a team for the common good.

The Association and its affiliated organisations go forward together to maintain and expand the services, and thereby serve the people to the best of their ability.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

The Association wish to acknowledge and offer its sincere thanks to -

Mr. D.C. Jardine and his colleagues of the Radio Society of Great Britain, for their work in the "Radio Repair Service".

Mr. J. Ross and his colleagues of the Edmonton Branch of the London and Provincial Hairdressers' Association for their work in the "Hairdressing Service".

The Chairman and Directors of BOVRIL; the Chairman and Directors of OVALTINE, and the Chairman and Directors of MARMITE, for their special concessions to the Association, and their prompt and courteous attention at all times.

The Manager, Marks and Spencer, Fore Street, Edmonton, N.18, for his special services to the Association.

The Head Teachers, Staff and pupils of the Cuckoo Hall Junior School; Raynham Junior School; Houndsfield Junior School and the Fleecefield Primary School, for their gifts which gave so much pleasure to the old people.

To the Editor of the "TOTTENHAM AND EDMONTON WEEKLY HERALD" for their publicity and interest in the work of the Association,

and especially to all the VOLUNTARY WORKERS in the Borough of Edmonton who so willingly give so much of their time to the work of the Association.

COUNCIL'S EMPLOYEES

During 1958, a total of 422 visits were paid to those employees who had been on the sick list for longer than a fortnight and when necessary, at fortnightly intervals. Of these, 83 were 'not at home' and 57 had already resumed duty.

Also during the year, the following medical examinations or assessments were made prior to appointment to permanent posts:-

Medical examinations	.....	.....	66
Assessments without medical examinations	.....	.....	101
Medical assessments (not appointed)	.....	.....	123

C O N C L U S I O N

In conclusion, I should like to pay tribute to three members of the staff who left the Council's service during 1958. Mr. H.W. Grieves retired

on 22nd July, 1958, after nearly 22 years' service in the Department. He had trudged around his district for more than 20 years without complaint and to some good effect. Mr. F. Beilby unfortunately died on 28th August, 1958. He had served in the Department since 1926, first as Housing Inspector and then as Public Health Inspector and although his health was never good, he played a most useful part in the work of the departments. Mr. J.P. Farrar retired on 31st December, 1958, after more than 40 years' service with the Council. He had served the Council during two World Wars and had seen Edmonton grow in size, become industrialised and gain Borough status. During the past 20 years in particular, the work of the department owes much to him. I would also like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their help and advice during 1958, to thank the other Chief Officers and Members of their departments for their co-operation and assistance, and to thank very warmly my Deputy and all the Staff and workers of the Public Health Department. In the years to come, I am now sure we shall make steady and substantial progress.

I have the honour to be,

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

D. A. SMYTH,

Medical Officer of Health.

