

## **[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Finchley].**

### **Contributors**

Finchley (London, England). Municipal Borough.  
Hay, A. W.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH  
for the year 1955

A. W. HAY, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.  
*Medical Officer of Health*





# BOROUGH OF FINCHLEY

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Telephone: FINCHLEY 0018/19

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*With the Compliments  
of the  
Medical Officer of Health*

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
308, REGENTS PARK ROAD,  
FINCHLEY, N.3





ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1955

## MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

as at 31st December, 1955

Chairman : Alderman L. G. SNELLING

Vice-Chairman : Councillor Miss E. M. KILLIP

THE MAYOR (Councillor C. J. HARTIGAN, J.P.)

THE DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor G. T. BRUNSKILL)

Alderman A. T. PIKE, O.B.E., J.P.

Councillor Major K. M. CAVE, M.C.

„ R. N. CHESTERTON

„ W. J. ENRIGHT

„ W. G. HART

„ F. W. RICHES

„ N. J. SAPSTED

„ G. H. T. WATSON

„ Mrs. G. I. WILSON, M.A.

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## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health :

A. A. TURNER, M.C., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (retired 30/5/55)

A. W. HAY, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (appointed 1/6/55)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

CHRISTINA RUSSELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector : J. GRAY, M.B.E., F.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.

Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector : J. YATES, Cert.R.San.I.

District Sanitary Inspectors :

W. H. NICHOLLS, Cert.R.San.I., K. J. MILLEN, Cert.R.San.I.,

E. A. SELLAR, Cert.R.San.I., J. P. DAVIES, Cert.R.San.I.

Each of the Sanitary Inspectors holds the special diploma of the Royal Sanitary Institute for the inspection of meat and other foods.

Chief Clerk : D. J. LEGGE

Clerks :

Miss K. M. NICHOL Mrs. J. BEVENS (resigned 30/11/55)

A. G. FORSYTH Mrs. E. M. WELLS (appointed 19/12/55)

Miss J. FLOWERDEW (resigned 10/10/55)

Miss C. A. BURGE (appointed 10/10/55)



TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS  
OF THE BOROUGH OF FINCHLEY.

December, 1956.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1955. The preparation of the Report for this year has been greatly delayed by staff difficulties and, in particular, by the lack of a Chief Clerk for a period of four months. During this time the co-operation of the available staff enabled the more urgent day to day work of the department to be efficiently dealt with, but the statistical work required for a report of this nature could not be resumed until after the appointment of a Chief Clerk in October.

The Report shows that the state of public health in the Borough continues to improve. The statistics reveal that both the death rate and the infantile mortality rate are lower than the national average. The infantile mortality rate is generally taken as a fair index of the state of the medical services both from the point of medical care in the home and as an index of public health efficiency. We can be satisfied, therefore, in this respect.

A further cause for satisfaction and confidence in the continued improvement in medical services is shown by the fact that during the year there was not a single maternal death associated with pregnancy or child birth. Furthermore, in children between the ages of 5 and 15 years, only one death occurred from all causes.

The principal causes of death are once again coronary thrombosis and other heart disease. This is followed by cancer, the main form being cancer of the lung. It is fitting that great interest in the cause and prevention of this disease is being shown at the present time among the medical profession and the public. The rise in mortality from the disease has been startling and has not been accompanied to the same extent by a rise in mortality from other forms of cancer. The rise in mortality has been shown to follow the rise in cigarette smoking which took place in this country thirty to forty years ago and investigations indicate that the incidence of cancer of the lung is much greater in heavy smokers than in non-smokers. There may well be other factors involved but one should bear in mind the statement of the Minister of Health as long ago as



12th February, 1954, that "it is desirable that young people should be warned of the risks apparently attendant upon excessive smoking."

Turning to infectious disease, we find that tuberculosis, although the main cause of death in this category, is still diminishing and the figures for the year show the lowest case rate ever recorded in the Borough. No death occurred from tuberculosis in any person under the age of 45. The infectious diseases of childhood, although still prevalent (measles showed an increase from 99 cases in the previous year to 1,087 cases in this year) caused no deaths. Poliomyelitis, although much in the national news, caused only seven cases in Finchley, all of which were mild and all recovered without severe paralysis.

When considering the work of the Sanitary Inspectors one notes the increase in slaughtering from 623 animals in 1954 to 8,409 animals in this year. The inspectors worked long hours on meat inspection and their ready co-operation, together with that of Mr. Gray, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, is appreciated.

Here I would also mention with gratitude the assistance I have received during the year from the other chief officers of the Council, the encouragement of the chairman and members of the Health Committee, and the support of the members of the staff of the Public Health Department.

If the record of public health in Finchley for 1955 seems satisfactory, as indeed it is, I would say that this is due to a large extent to the General Practitioners of the district who are always prepared to spare time from a busy practice to help in public health problems which they regard as part of their every day interests.

Medicine to-day is indeed a combination of forces and I cannot end without a word of thanks to the County services in the Area, particularly the Welfare and Health Visiting sections. I feel privileged to have the willing co-operation of so many persons with a common aim of improving the state of public health in the Borough.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. W. HAY,

Medical Officer of Health.

## STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	3,478
Population, 1955 (Registrar-General's Estimate)	69,860
Number of Inhabited Houses (1955)	19,967
Rateable Value (1955)	£958,479
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£3,927
Total Live Births	894
Birth Rate per 1,000 home population	12.8
Birth Rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	15.0
Total Stillbirths	21
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	23.5
Total Deaths	746
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 home population	10.7
Standardised Death Rate	9.5
Death Rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	11.7
Infant Deaths	19
Infant Mortality Rate	21.3
Infant Mortality Rate (England and Wales)	24.9
Neo-Natal Deaths	15
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	16.8
Maternal Deaths	—
Maternal Mortality Rate	—
Maternal Mortality Rate (England and Wales)	0.64

### Live Births :

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	449	407	856
Illegitimate	19	19	38
	<hr/> 468	<hr/> 426	<hr/> 894

Birth rate 12.8 per 1,000 estimated home population.

	Males	Females	Total
Stillbirths	11	10	21

Rate 23.5 per 1,000 (live and still) births.



	Males	Females	Total
Deaths .....	340	406	746

Rate 10.7 per 1,000 estimated home population.

Deaths from disease and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth :

From Sepsis .....	.....	.....	.....	—
Other maternal causes .....	.....	.....	.....	—

Death Rate of infants under one year of age :

All infants per 1,000 live births .....	21.3
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births .....	21.03
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.....	26.84
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .....	146
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .....	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) .....	—

## Population

The Registrar-General has estimated the home population to be 69,860 which is 170 less than in 1954.

## Births

There were 894 registered live births in 1955 as compared with 877 in the previous year while the birth rate was 12.8 as compared with 12.5. The rate for England and Wales was 15.0.

## Stillbirths

There were 21 stillbirths, all of which took place in hospital or nursing home.

The stillbirth rate for the Borough was 0.30 per 1,000 of the home population, and for England and Wales it was 0.35.

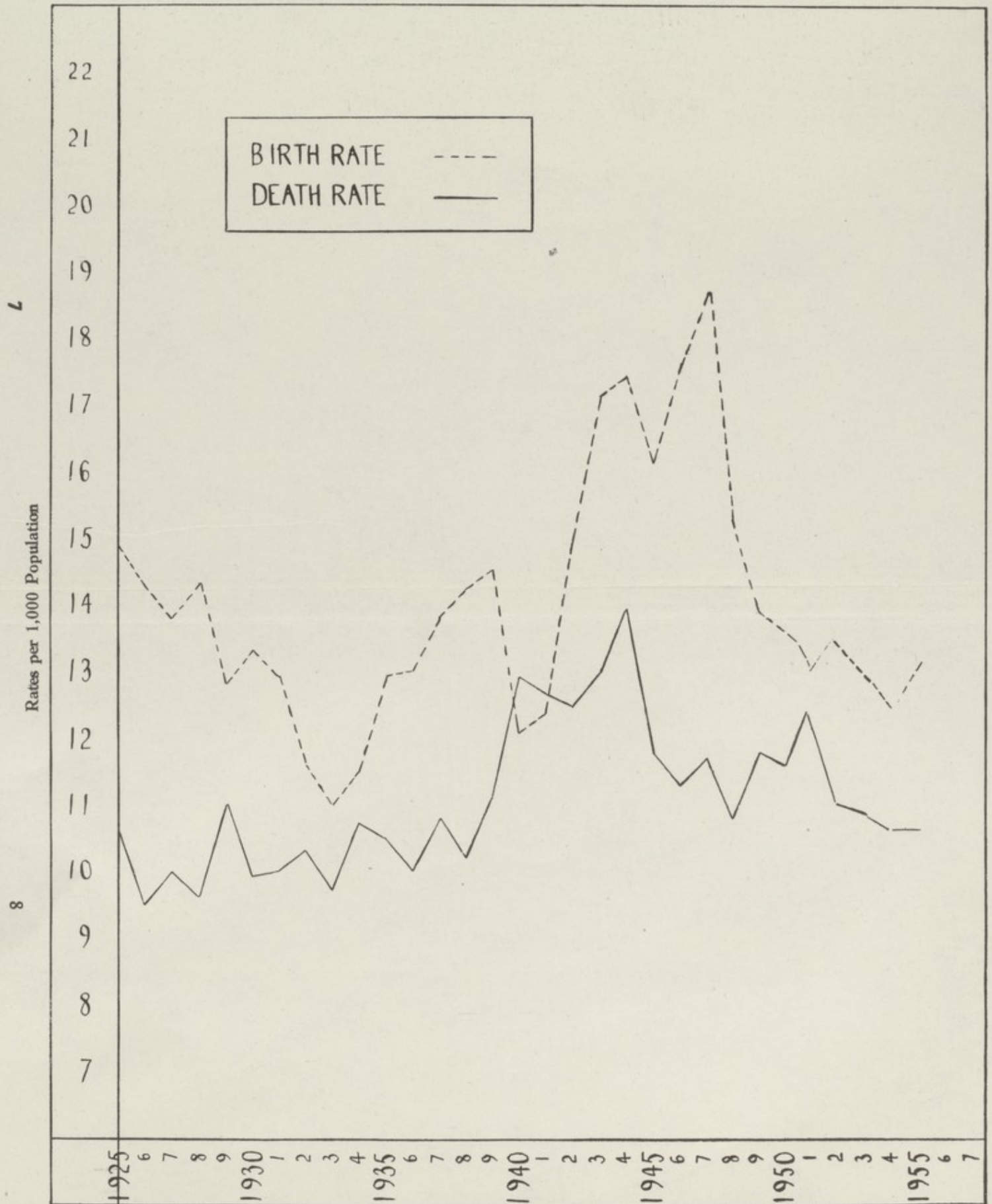
## Infantile Mortality

There were nineteen deaths of infants under one year of age giving an infantile mortality rate of 21.3 per 1,000 live births. The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 24.9.

## Maternal Mortality

There were no maternal deaths in 1955.

# BIRTH AND DEATH RATES SINCE 1925







## **Deaths**

There were 746 deaths in 1955, only one less than in 1954 and 19 less than in 1953. The standardised death rate was 9.5 and that for England and Wales was 11.7. The death rate for the Borough is the same as the previous year which was the lowest since 1938.

There were 33 deaths from cancer of the lung, 1 more than in the previous year.

Motor car accidents accounted for 5 deaths, other accidents for 12 deaths, and there were 15 suicides.

Of the total deaths 532 were of persons over 65 years of age.

## **Mortuary**

One hundred and thirty-six bodies were received in the Mortuary, and of these 12 were from Friern Barnet, and 26 from Potters Bar.

Post-mortem examinations were carried out in all cases.

# INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1955

Deaths from stated causes at various  
ages under one year of age

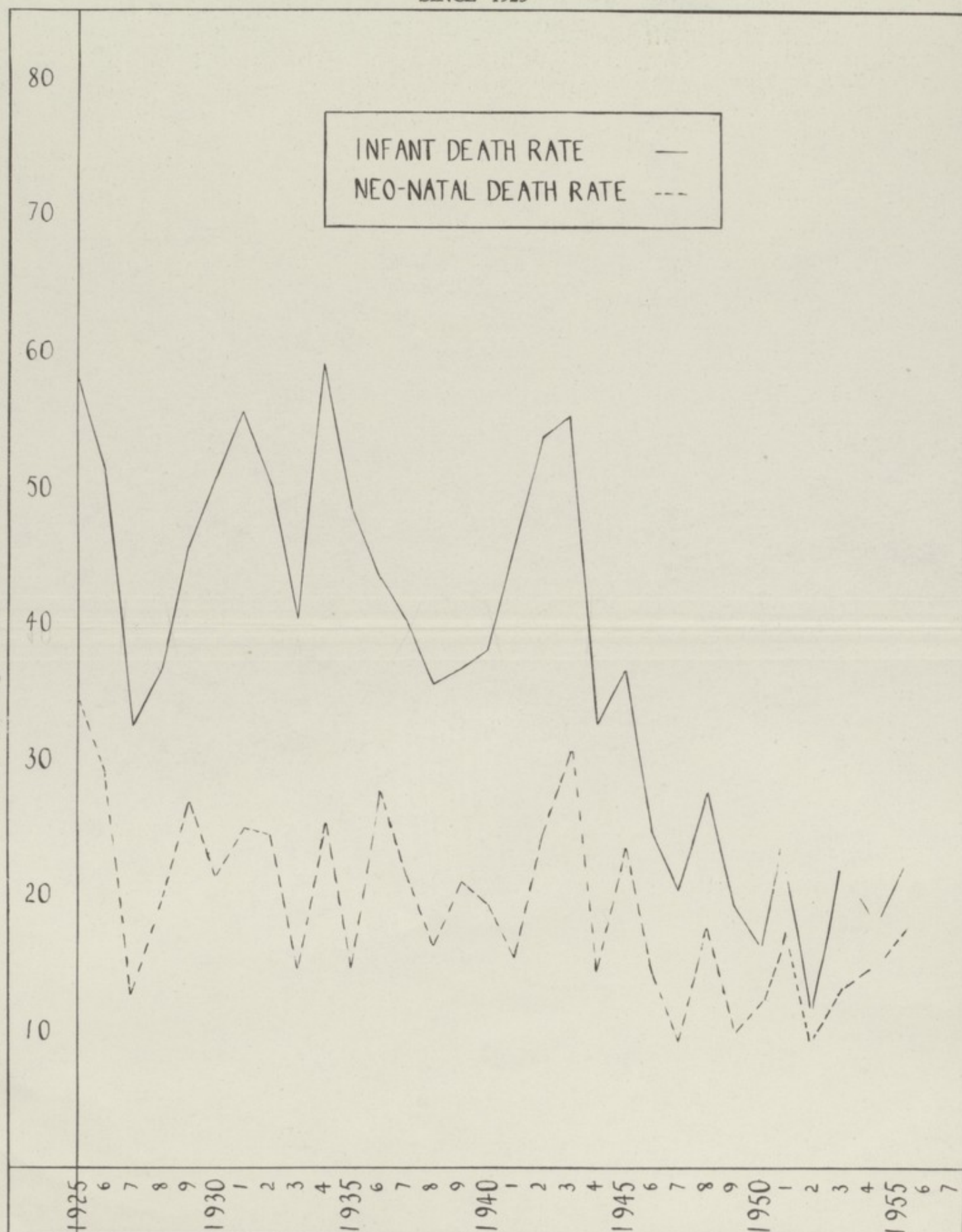
CAUSES OF DEATH		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	TOTAL
All Causes	Certified Uncertified	14 —	1 —	— —	— —	15 —	2 —	1 —	1 —	— —	19 —
Smallpox .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken Pox .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria & Croup .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Laryngitis .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Pneumonia (all forms) .....		—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Diarrhoea .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, Overlying Injury at Birth .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis .....		4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Congenital Malformations .....		2	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	4
Premature Birth .....		2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes .....		6	1	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	7
TOTALS .....		14	1	—	—	15	2	1	1	—	19

# INFANT DEATH AND NEO-NATAL DEATH RATES SINCE 1925

11

Rates per 1,000 Live Births

12







# CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1955

No.	CAUSES OF DEATH.	NET DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF " RESIDENTS " WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.									
		All Ages	Under 4 months	4 months and under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and under 75	75 and upwards
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	7							4	2	1
2.	Tuberculosis, Other	2					1		1		
3.	Syphilitic Disease	1							1		
4.	Diphtheria										
5.	Whooping Cough										
6.	Meningococcal Infections										
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis										
8.	Measles										
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1							1		
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	18							6	7	5
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	33					1		12	14	6
12.	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	19						2	11	5	1
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	4							2	1	1
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	72			1			3	19	26	23
15.	Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	2							1		1
16.	Diabetes	4							2		2
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	81						1	13	29	38
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina	129						1	32	44	52
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	18							1	3	14
20.	Other Heart Disease	103						2	8	22	71
21.	Other Circulatory Disease	36						1	5	6	24
22.	Influenza	1				1					
23.	Pneumonia	23	1						3	3	16
24.	Bronchitis	48		1					9	13	25
25.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	5							4	1	
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	11							2	3	6
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa	3							1	1	1
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	8					1	2		3	2
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate	6								2	4
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion										
31.	Congenital Malformations	8	4					1	3		
32.	Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	71	13				1	5	12	11	29
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	5					1	3		1	
34.	All Other Accidents	12			1			4		4	3
35.	Suicide	15					1	3	5	5	1
36.	Homicide and Operations of War										
	Totals	746	18	1	2	1	6	28	158	206	326





# VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS SINCE 1925

Year	Total Births	Birth Rate	Total Deaths	Death Rate	Total Infant Deaths	Infantile Mortality Rate	Deaths from Measles	Whooping Cough under 5 years	Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)
1925	724	14.9	515	10.6	42	58.0	4	3	1
1926	722	14.3	480	9.5	37	51.2	2	1	3
1927	709	13.8	515	10.0	23	32.4	—	—	—
1928	760	14.3	511	9.6	28	36.8	10	7	2
1929	704	12.8	604	11.0	32	45.5	1	6	5
1930	748	13.3	557	9.9	38	50.8	5	1	7
1931	761	12.9	588	10.0	42	55.2	1	—	6
1932	698	11.6	621	10.3	35	50.0	4	3	3
1933	671	11.0	592	9.7	27	40.2	—	3	6
1934	712	11.5	658	10.7	42	59.0	1	13	4
1935	807	12.9	656	10.5	39	48.5	—	—	17
1936	833	13.0	643	10.0	36	43.2	2	1	6
1937	895	13.8	704	10.8	36	40.2	—	1	7
1938	927	14.2	662	10.2	33	35.6	4	1	5
1939	951	14.5	705	11.1	35	36.8	—	—	3
1940	725	12.1	806	12.9	27	38.0	1	—	2
1941	721	12.4	734	12.7	15	21.8	—	3	1
1942	891	14.9	751	12.5	48	53.9	1	7	3
1943	1035	17.1	790	13.0	57	55.1	1	2	4
1944	1037	17.4	830	13.9	34	32.8	—	5	5
1945	987	16.1	725	11.8	36	36.4	1	—	1
1946	1207	17.6	774	11.3	30	24.9	1	1	5
1947	1319	18.7	830	11.7	27	20.5	—	1	4
1948	1086	15.3	763	10.8	30	27.6	—	1	2
1949	981	13.9	834	11.8	19	19.3	—	—	2
1950	962	13.6	819	11.6	16	16.6	—	—	—
1951	915	13.0	877	12.5	22	24.0	—	—	—
1952	953	13.6	782	11.1	11	11.5	—	—	—
1953	902	12.9	765	10.9	20	22.2	—	—	—
1954	877	12.5	747	10.7	16	18.2	—	—	—
1955	894	12.8	746	10.7	19	21.3	—	—	—

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases notified during the past five years :—

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Diphtheria .....	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	99	93	69	68	59
Smallpox .....	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	2	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis .....	5	3	11	1	7
Pneumonia .....	72	48	49	38	47
Measles .....	647	577	857	99	1,087
Whooping Cough .....	240	273	165	91	18

### Diphtheria

It is now 10 years since a case of Diphtheria occurred in Finchley. This most satisfactory state can only be maintained if parents ensure that their children are immunised.

During the year 24 children were immunised by General Practitioners and 27 by Medical Officers of the Local Health Authority. In addition, 597 children were immunised with a combined diphtheria and whooping cough prophylactic, 227 by General Practitioners and 370 by the Local Health Authority.

Three hundred and eighty-two children were given "booster" doses of diphtheria prophylactic alone, and 130 children were given "booster" doses of combined diphtheria and whooping cough prophylactic.

### Scarlet Fever

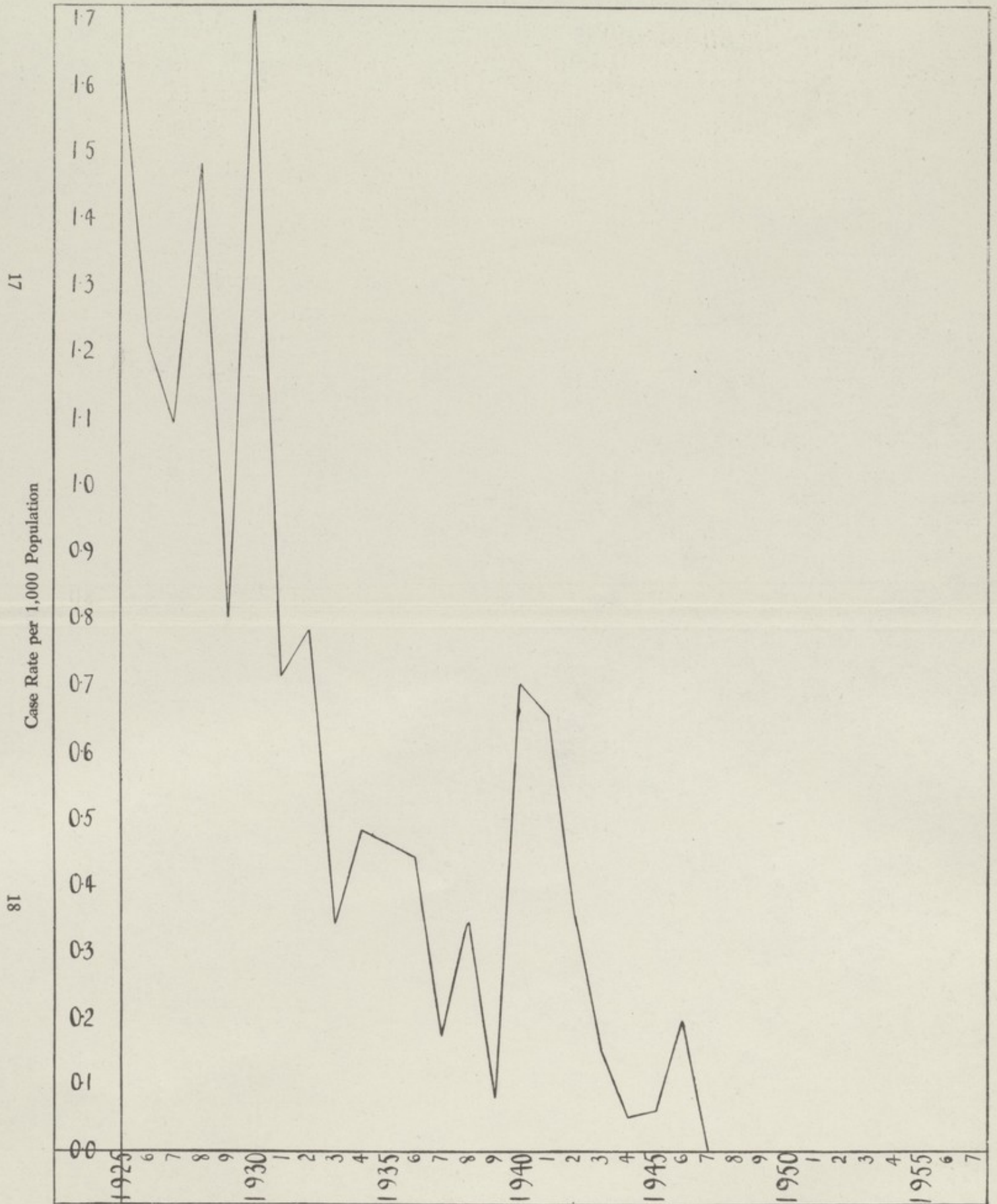
There were 59 cases of Scarlet Fever, nine less than in the previous year. The known cases were mild in character and there is little doubt that in a number of others the illness was so slight as to escape detection altogether. There were no deaths.

### Poliomyelitis

During the year, seven cases of Poliomyelitis were notified to me, and of these, 6 were found to be suffering from the paralytic form. All made good recoveries.



# INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA SINCE 1925







The Council have continued to grant to the North London Branch of the Infantile Paralysis Fellowship the use of the Squires Lane Bath on alternate Sundays for "old" cases of Poliomyelitis.

The cases are collected from a wide area by ambulances and cars and they are assisted in changing and also in the water by voluntary helpers.

All cases are certified by a doctor to be free from infection.

#### **Measles**

The number of notifications was 1,087 compared with 99 in 1954. This is the highest number of notifications recorded since the disease was made notifiable by the Regulations of 1939. There were no deaths.

#### **Whooping Cough**

The notifications numbered 18 in 1955 which is the lowest figure for some years. There were no deaths.

During the year, 7 children were immunised by Medical Officers of the Local Health Authority.

#### **Pneumonia**

Forty-seven cases were notified in 1955 and there were 23 deaths, 19 of which were persons of 65 years of age and over.

#### **Malaria**

No case of Malaria was notified in 1955.

#### **Puerperal Pyrexia**

The total number of cases notified during the year was 38; 37 occurred at the North Middlesex Hospital Annexe in The Bishop's Avenue, and one at home.

#### **Food Poisoning**

Fifteen cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. Four were single cases, three of which were due to *Salmonella Typhi-murium*, the agent for the fourth remaining unidentified.

The other 11 cases notified concerned an outbreak in a school and were due to a food poisoning organism known as *Clostridium Welchii*. In all, 230 boys, 11 teachers and 7 kitchen staff were affected in the outbreak. The symptoms were mainly nausea, abdominal distension, colic and diarrhoea. Most cases were mild with the symptoms clearing up in 12 hours, although in one case they lasted 36 hours.



The Central Public Health Laboratory at Colindale co-operated in establishing the cause of the outbreak. All the persons affected had eaten cold sliced salt beef, samples of which were found to contain the bacteria *Clostridium Welchii*, as did 24 faecal specimens from the persons affected.

As a result of this outbreak I convened a conference with Dr. Betty Hobbs, the Food Bacteriologist from the Central Public Health Laboratory, the Bacteriologist employed by a large food firm, the Chief Chemist of the same firm and the Borough Senior Sanitary Inspector, to see what measures could be taken to prevent a recurrence of this type of food poisoning. I also talked to the Area School Meals Organiser and as a result of these discussions the following points emerged :—

- (1) The method of salting meat in brine tanks should, if possible, be standardised with the brine strength not less than 20% as measured by a hydrometer (concentrations of less than 20 % are not effective in inhibiting the growth of bacteria).
- (2) Thorough cooking and rapid cooling of joints of meat is essential to prevent the multiplication of food poisoning bacteria in the interior but this is difficult unless the joints are cut so that they weigh not more than 6 lbs.
- (3) The process of boning and rolling meat allows the introduction of surface contamination into the joint. Even prolonged boiling may be insufficient to kill heat-resistant spores of bacteria such as *Clostridium Welchii* at the centre of the meat.
- (4) Rapid cooling is essential immediately after cooking or the surviving spores develop quickly in conditions of warmth and sufficient bacteria to cause illness are produced. This rapid and thorough cooling cannot be guaranteed unless the joints are placed on wire cooling trays and electric fans are used in addition.
- (5) In canteens meat should be cooked and eaten the same day, but if this is impracticable with the present methods of cooking, then pressure cooking should be used instead.

These points were included in a complete report on the whole outbreak of food poisoning which was sent to the Minister of Health.



## Miscellaneous

The following cases were also notified :—

Dysentery	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Erysipelas	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	.....	.....	.....	.....	20

## Vaccination against Smallpox

The number of persons vaccinated for the first time by General Practitioners and Medical Officers of the Local Health Authority was five hundred and ninety-three.

Two hundred and fifty-eight persons were re-vaccinated.

## Bacteriological Work

The following table shows the number and nature of the specimens examined at the Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale, during 1955 :—

			Positive	Negative
Throat/Nose Swabs :				
Diphtheria Bacilli	.....	.....	—	229
Hæmolytic Streptococci	.....	.....	54	
Vincent's Angina	.....	.....	4	
Fæces :				
Sonne Dysentery	.....	.....	3	118
Salmonella	.....	.....	7	
Clostridium Welchii	.....	.....	25	
Sputum :				
T.B. Smear	.....	.....	10	52
Other Organisms	.....	.....	—	
Whooping Cough :				
Cough Plate	.....	.....	—	2
Post-nasal Swab	.....	.....	3	
			—	—
			106	401

## Tuberculosis

Nine persons died from tuberculosis during 1955, giving a death rate of 0.129 per 1,000 population.

Fifty-two new cases were notified, and this number is the lowest recorded since 1929. The case rate per 10,000 population was 7.44, the lowest recorded.

Only one child of school age was found to be suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs.

Close co-operation between the Public Health Department, the Area Health Department and the Chest Clinic in the constant search for possible sources of infection in new cases of tuberculosis continues.

The following table shows the number of notifications and the number of deaths during the past 10 years :—

Year	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1946	43	26	2	8	14	9	1	2
1947	54	36	1	4	18	9	2	—
1948	37	26	4	5	5	7	3	2
1949	41	37	2	4	10	8	1	4
1950	37	21	2	7	9	5	2	—
1951	37	30	2	6	6	10	1	2
1952	43	21	4	6	15	2	—	—
1953	29	33	1	2	7	4	—	—
1954	29	23	1	2	2	4	—	—
1955	27	20	2	3	6	1	1	1

## Mass Radiography

During the year, arrangements were made with the North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board for the Mass X-Ray Unit 5B to visit Finchley. In April, public sessions, the first of their kind in the Borough, were held at East Finchley, North Finchley and Church End. 2,689 persons were X-rayed, of which 3 were found to be suffering from tuberculosis.

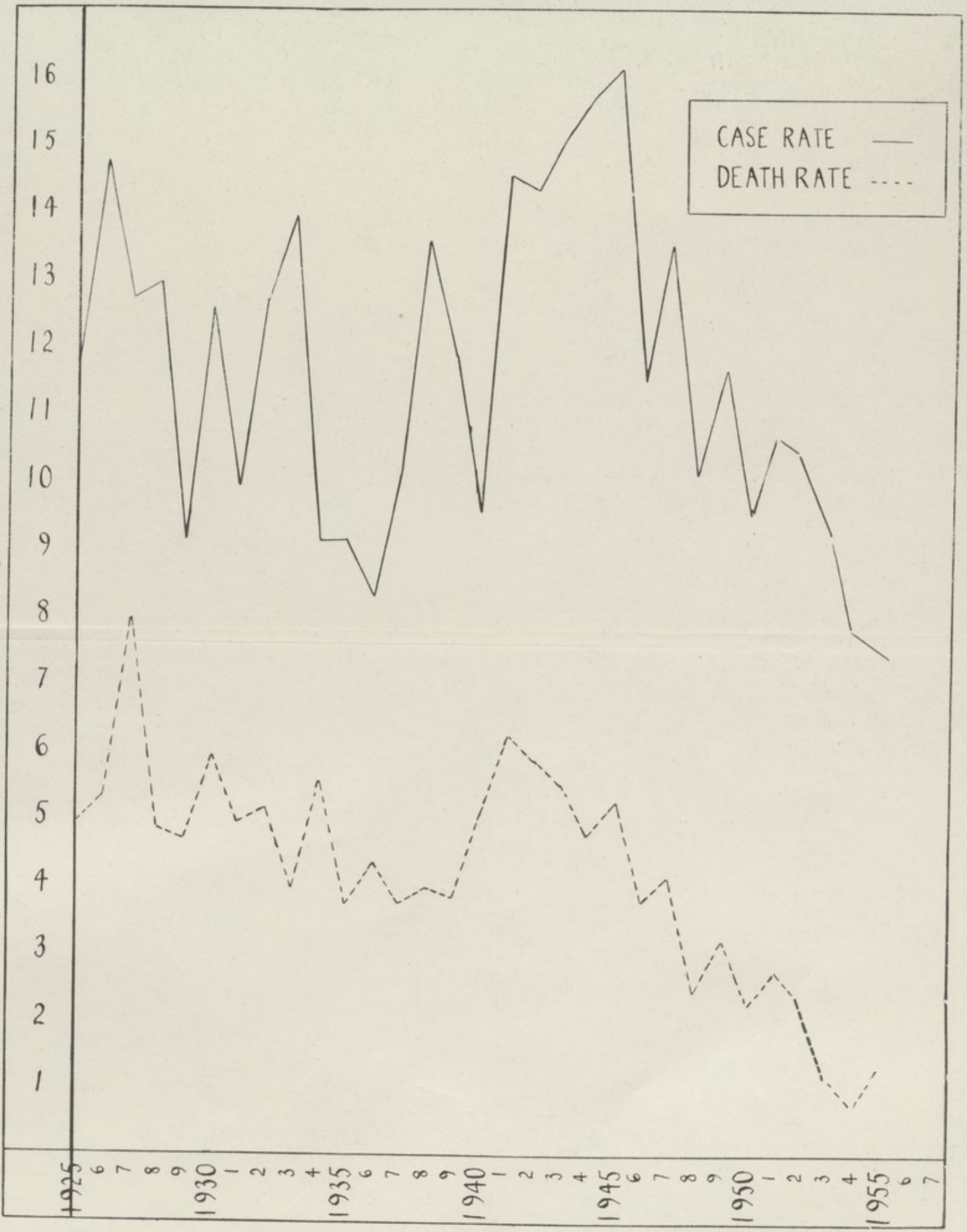


# TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS)

23

Rate per 10,000 Population

24







Organised groups, comprising employees of some local firms, were also arranged, and the Unit visited 5 premises in September. 2 persons were found to be suffering from tuberculosis out of a total of 702 persons X-rayed.

### **Medical Examinations**

Thirty persons were examined on appointment to the Council's staff and 20 workmen were examined with a view to their admission to the Council's Sickness Pay Scheme.

### **National Assistance Act, 1948**

#### **(a) Section 47**

Cases continued to be brought to the notice of the Department of persons who were living in insanitary surroundings and who were not receiving proper care and attention. In one instance it was necessary to take emergency action in respect of an elderly lady, aged 70 years, and a Magistrate's order for her removal to Redhill House, Edgware, was obtained.

In all other cases it was possible to make satisfactory arrangements for these persons without having to resort to compulsory removal to suitable premises under the provisions of the above section.

#### **(b) Section 50**

No burials were carried out by the Council under the provisions of this Section.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The following are particulars of the work of the Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1955 :—

### Housing Statistics

#### 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .....	1,969
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	5,690
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .....	—
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	3
(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 .....	516

#### 2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action .....	360
--	-----

#### 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.....	11
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners .....	8
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .....	—



B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	15
(2) Number rendered fit :	
(a) By owners .....	14
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .....	—

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 .....	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....	4

Houses Unfit for Human Habitation

10, Station Road, N.3.

Arising from an appeal by the owners against a Demolition Order, this house was purchased by the Council, completely renovated and let to a family selected from the Council's housing list.

3, Gruneisen Road, N.3.

The above house, on which a closing order had been made, was vacated during the year, sold and completely reconditioned, a bathroom, hot water system, etc., being installed.

The Closing Order was rescinded.

958, High Road, N.12.

White Lion Cottage, Great North Road, N.2.

The above houses were found to be unfit and incapable of repair at reasonable cost. Representations were made to the Council and Demolition Orders made.

57, Friern Park, N.12.

The basement rooms of this house were found to be unfit for human habitation and were voluntarily closed.

357, 359 and 361, Regents Park Road, N.3.

An application was received from the owner of the above property for the Closing Order made on the above property to be rescinded, the owner giving an undertaking to carry out the work necessary to render the premises fit.

Upon completion of the work the Order was cancelled.

### Repair of Insanitary Houses

An appeal by the owner of five houses against the Council's notice to repair the property was heard at the County Court. The Judge, after hearing the evidence and inspecting the property, disallowed the appeal, although the cost of repairs was high in relation to the value of the property.

### Slum Clearance

Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, imposed a duty upon the Local Authority to submit within one year as from the 30th August, 1954, an estimate of the total number of unfit houses in the area in such form as the Minister required, and proposals for dealing with houses within the district which appeared to be unfit for human habitation and with any other houses which in the opinion of the authority ought to be included in Clearance Areas.

As a result of the foregoing a survey of the district was made and the following is a schedule of the property which was submitted to the Minister.

Proposed Year	Address	No. of Houses
1956-7	1-10, Belgrave Terrace, N.12	10
	4 & 8, Stanhope Road, N.12	2
1956-7	43 & 49, Gainsborough Road, N.12	2
1958-9	5 to 18 & 21, Winifred Place, N.12	15
	306-324 (even nos.), Friern Barnet Lane, N.20	10
1955-6	1-8, Solomons Terrace, N.20	12
	1291 & 1293, High Road, N.20	
	Vine Cottage & Oak Cottage, Totteridge Lane, N.20	
1955-6	84 & 86, Swan Lane, N.20	2
	1-5, Primrose Cottages, Granville Road, N.12	5
1957-8	185, 187, 189 & 191, East End Road (known as 1-4, Percival Cottages, East End Road, N.2)	4
	2-16, Church Lane, N.2	8
		<hr/> 70 <hr/>



Before these proposals were submitted to the Minister it was necessary to collaborate with the Housing and Town Planning Committees, to consider other aspects including the development of sites, compulsory purchase of land and properties in the areas, and land or properties adjoining the areas, the sequence in which these areas should be dealt with to fit in with Council development, and rehousing of the displaced families.

The form of proposals also included areas which had been submitted to the Minister in 1954, and the following premises are within that category :—

Address	No. of Houses	
11, 13, 15 & 17, Swan Lane, N.20.....	4	Clearance Area and Compulsory Purchase Order
1118, 1120, 1122 & 1124, High Road, N.20 .....	4	Clearance Area and Compulsory Purchase Order
411, 413 & 415, Long Lane, N.2 .....	3	Clearance Area
27, 29, 31 & 33, Market Place, N.2.....	26	Clearance Area and Compulsory Purchase Order
1a, Prospect Place, N.2 .....		
1, 2, 3 & 4, Galpins Cottages, Prospect Place, N.2 .....		
1-17, Prospect Place, N.2 .....		
	37	

A public inquiry was held with regard to three of the above areas, and the Minister later confirmed all the Clearance Areas and Compulsory Purchase Orders.

#### **Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954**

##### **Repairs Increase and Certificates of Disrepair.**

The above Act, which came into force on the 30th August, 1954, imposed a duty on Local Authorities to issue Certificates of Disrepair where the landlord claimed a repairs increase in rent and the tenant felt that the house was not in good repair and was not reasonably fit for occupation. A charge of one shilling is made for a certificate, or for the revocation thereof.

Many owners have availed themselves of the provisions to increase the rent by two-thirds of the statutory allowance where the tenant undertook to carry out internal decorative repairs.



The following table shows the particulars of applications received during the year :—

Applications received	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
Certificates granted	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
Applications under consideration at end of year	.....				1
Certificates refused	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Applications withdrawn	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Revocations	.....	.....	.....	.....	7

### Inspections

The total number of inspections made during the year was 13,993. At 555 of the houses and other premises visited, defects or nuisances to the number of 2,076 were discovered, and at the end of the year 1,631 including a number outstanding at the end of 1954 had been remedied or abated. The work in connection with 347 was in hand and 1,482 were outstanding. In order to ascertain that the sanitary defects were being properly remedied 1,188 visits were paid to the respective premises while the work was in progress.

The total number of inspections made in regard to each section of work is recorded below, together with a summary of the sanitary improvements carried out :—

Inspections under Housing Acts	.....	.....	.....	.....	215
Special Inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,775
Re-inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,553
Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954	.....	.....	.....	.....	33
Inspections of Works in Progress	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,188
Inspections of Factories and Workplaces (including Bake-houses and Restaurant Kitchens)	.....	.....	.....	.....	523
Visits to Slaughterhouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	419
Inspections of Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
Inspections of Ice Cream Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	75
Inspections of Meat, Fish and Other Food Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	523
Inspections of Shops (Shops Act)	.....	.....	.....	.....	180
Visits re Infectious Disease and Vermin	.....	.....	.....	.....	300
Visits re Rodent Control	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,581
Visits re Housing Act, 1936	.....	.....	.....	.....	66
Visits re Hawkers	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Visits to Hairdressers' Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
Visits re Pet Animals Act, 1951	.....	.....	.....	.....	6

Visits re Heating Appliances—Fireguards	.....	.....	.....	11
National Assistance Act	.....	.....	.....	10
Miscellaneous	.....	.....	.....	473
				<hr/>
				13,993
				<hr/>

## Summary of Sanitary Improvements carried out

### Drainage

Repairs or amendments to existing drains	.....	.....	.....	48
Drains or gullies unstopped or cleansed	.....	.....	.....	256
Length in yards of stoneware drains laid	.....	.....	.....	266
Length in yards of iron drains laid	.....	.....	.....	31
Manholes provided	.....	.....	.....	25
Manholes repaired	.....	.....	.....	11
Manhole covers provided	.....	.....	.....	37
Intercepting traps fixed	.....	.....	.....	21
Fresh air inlets provided or repaired	.....	.....	.....	18
New gully traps fixed	.....	.....	.....	26
Gully curbs provided or repaired	.....	.....	.....	6
New soil pipes and ventilating shafts fixed	.....	.....	.....	19
Soil pipes and ventilating shafts repaired	.....	.....	.....	6
Water tests applied	.....	.....	.....	124
Smoke tests applied	.....	.....	.....	36
Air tests applied	.....	.....	.....	4

### Water Closets and Sanitary Fittings

New W.C. Basins fixed	.....	.....	.....	66
W.Cs. unstopped, cleansed or repaired	.....	.....	.....	32
New flushing boxes fitted to W.Cs.	.....	.....	.....	28
Existing flushing boxes repaired	.....	.....	.....	17
New W.C. accommodation provided	.....	.....	.....	3
New W.C. apartments provided	.....	.....	.....	17
W.C. apartments cleansed	.....	.....	.....	3
Urinals cleansed or repaired	.....	.....	.....	3
Lavatory basins provided	.....	.....	.....	38
Baths provided	.....	.....	.....	13
New impervious sinks provided	.....	.....	.....	20
New waste pipes fixed	.....	.....	.....	16



Waste pipes trapped, repaired or unstopped	.....	.....	.....	25
Ventilated lobbies provided	.....	.....	.....	2
<b>Miscellaneous</b>				
New Roofs provided	.....	.....	.....	4
Roofs repaired	.....	.....	.....	116
Eaves gutters renewed, cleansed or repaired	.....	.....	.....	59
Stack pipes provided, repaired or unstopped	.....	.....	.....	21
Damp walls remedied	.....	.....	.....	129
Walls repointed, repaired or underpinned	.....	.....	.....	74
Ventilation under floors provided or unstopped	.....	.....	.....	5
Paving of yards repaired	.....	.....	.....	7
Floors of rooms relaid	.....	.....	.....	8
Floors of rooms repaired	.....	.....	.....	54
Rooms cleansed, distempered or repapered	.....	.....	.....	296
Plasterwork repaired	.....	.....	.....	268
Windows repaired and/or made to open	.....	.....	.....	76
New windows provided	.....	.....	.....	2
New sash cords provided	.....	.....	.....	68
Window sills repaired or provided	.....	.....	.....	21
Doors provided or repaired	.....	.....	.....	22
Doorsteps provided or repaired	.....	.....	.....	5
Ventilated food store provided	.....	.....	.....	1
Staircases repaired	.....	.....	.....	9
New stoves and ranges provided	.....	.....	.....	18
Stoves and ranges repaired	.....	.....	.....	35
Cisterns repaired, cleansed and covered	.....	.....	.....	13
Water service pipes repaired	.....	.....	.....	13
Movable sanitary dustbins provided	.....	.....	.....	20
Manure receptacles provided	.....	.....	.....	1
Nuisances from keeping of animals abated	.....	.....	.....	2
Smoke nuisances abated	.....	.....	.....	5
Accumulations of refuse removed	.....	.....	.....	17
Accumulations of manure removed	.....	.....	.....	1
Workrooms cleansed	.....	.....	.....	1
Various	.....	.....	.....	67
<b>Notices Served</b>				
Informal notices	.....	.....	.....	454
Statutory notices	.....	.....	.....	27



### Enquiries—Outstanding Sanitary Notices

One thousand nine hundred and fifty-two letters were received during the year from the Town Clerk enquiring whether or not there were any outstanding notices with respect to certain properties in the district. The necessary searches were made and the required information furnished.

### Disinfection and Disinfestation

Number of rooms disinfected after infectious disease .....	94
Number of articles disinfected .....	1,011
Number of verminous premises dealt with .....	16
Verminous rooms disinfested .....	33

Three hundred visits were made by inspectors and disinfectors in connection with cases of infectious disease and verminous premises and the necessary investigations were made in order to obtain the detailed information required.

Four premises infested with bugs were dealt with during the year.

The following is a summary of disinfestation work carried out during the year :—

	Premises
Bugs .....	4
Fleas .....	1
Cockroaches .....	8
Ants .....	1
Wasps .....	93
Moths .....	2
Miscellaneous .....	11

The number of verminous rooms which were dealt with was 33 compared with 42 in 1954.

Many complaints were received regarding the infestation of dwellings by wood beetles, and considerable damage found to be caused by the larvae (woodworm). These infestations appear to be on the increase and are a matter of great concern. Although help and advice is given when sought, many cases are not notified or escape detection in the early stages.

In a number of cases where the Valuation Officer has made a survey arising from an application for a loan under the Housing Act, 1949, this trouble has been found and the inspectors have assisted in giving advice and supervising the remedial work.

### Sanitary Conveniences

There are 24 conveniences attached to public houses within the Borough. These premises are inspected periodically.

There are 14 public conveniences in the Borough, including those in recreation grounds. Thirteen of these conveniences provide accommodation for both sexes and one for males only.

### Complaints

One thousand five hundred and eighty complaints were received with reference to the following matters, viz. :—

Absence of, or defective condition of, dustbins .....	15
Accumulations of refuse and manure .....	25
Blocked or defective drains .....	247
Defective roofs .....	92
Defective W.Cs. ....	42
Dirty milk bottles .....	4
Flooding .....	12
Foreign matter in food .....	5
Insanitary or defective condition of houses .....	204
Noise .....	16
Non-removal of refuse .....	5
Nuisances from dampness .....	71
Nuisances from the burning of refuse .....	9
Nuisances from the keeping of animals or poultry .....	11
Premises infested with insects .....	72
Premises infested with rats or mice .....	475
Smells from Public Sewers .....	14
Smoke nuisances .....	27
Unsatisfactory Housing Conditions, including Over-crowding .....	28
Unsound food .....	20
Verminous condition of houses .....	1
Wasps' nests .....	93
Other complaints .....	92



The complaints were investigated promptly and in those cases in which the Council had power to intervene the necessary steps were taken to remove the cause of complaint.

### Places of Public Entertainment

The cinemas, dance halls and other places of public entertainment have been inspected, special attention being given to the condition and adequacy of the sanitary accommodation. The defects discovered as a result of these inspections were remedied after notice had been given to the persons responsible. Eighteen premises were inspected and report was submitted to the Middlesex County Council which is the licensing authority.

### Factories Acts, 1937-1948

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health made during the year.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	129	150	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	216	322	4	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>345</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>



## 2. Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) .....	8	9	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .....	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) .....	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) .....	2	2	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .....	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences .....					
.....(S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient .....	8	7	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective .....	19	19	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes .....	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .....	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL .....	38	38	—	2	—

The total number of Factories and Workplaces on the Register is 345, made up as follows :—

Bakehouses .....	24
Boot Repairers .....	25
Builders' Workshops .....	17
Cycle Makers or Repairers .....	10
Farriers and Blacksmiths .....	4
General Engineers and Motor Engineers .....	64
Glass Blowers .....	2

Laundry	1
Monumental Masons	4
Plant Propagation	1
Plastic Manufacturers	3
Prepared Meat Factories	6
Printers and Printers' Accessories	11
Restaurant Kitchens	67
Tailors and Dressmakers	18
Timber Merchants and Sawyers	10
Tyre re-treading	3
Upholsterers	10
Watch and Clock Repairers	3
X-Ray Apparatus	1
Other Trades	61

These premises have been visited from time to time and, as a result of action taken by the Department, the following works have been carried out :—

W.C. apartments provided or reconstructed	4
Ventilated lobbies provided	5
Artificial lighting provided to W.C.	1
New W.C. pan provided	1
W.Cs. cleansed or repaired	10
Urinal Cleansed	1
Joints between flush pipe and W.C. pan repaired	3
Flushing cisterns provided or repaired	1
New sinks provided	4
New sink wastepipes provided	2
Drains unstopped	1
Fresh air inlet repaired	1
Smoke nuisance abated	1
Floors repaired	2
Premises cleansed	9

### Outworkers

Visits have been made by the Sanitary Inspectors to the homes of persons notified as outworkers to the department from adjoining local authorities. It has been found that the home conditions are quite satisfactory.

The following table shows, by trades, the number of outworkers residing in the district :—

Wearing apparel .....	38
Artificial flowers .....	2
Lampshades .....	4
Cake Ornaments .....	1
Furrier .....	1
Fancy Goods and Toys .....	2
Paper boxes .....	1
Textile Fabric .....	1
Handbags .....	1



## FOOD

### Food Hygiene

(1) The number and type of food premises in the Borough :

(a) Bakers, etc.	.....	.....	.....	34
(b) Butchers	.....	.....	.....	47
(c) Confectioners	.....	.....	.....	83
(d) Fishmongers	.....	.....	.....	18
(e) Greengrocers	.....	.....	.....	59
(f) Grocers and Provisions	.....	.....	.....	120
(g) Restaurants, Cafés, etc.	.....	.....	.....	64
Total				<hr/> 425 <hr/>

(2) (i) The number and type of food premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 :

(a) Sale of Ice Cream	.....	.....	.....	155
(b) Manufacture of Sausages	.....	.....	.....	35
(c) Cooking of Hams	.....	.....	.....	6
(d) Pickling of Meat	.....	.....	.....	3
(e) Preparation of pickled and preserved food	.....	.....	.....	6
Total				<hr/> 205 <hr/>

(ii) The number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 ..... 9

(3) (i) Number of Inspections :

Eight hundred and sixteen visits were made to registered and various other premises, and improvements have been carried out in a number of cases, as set out below :

Drains repaired or unstopped	.....	.....	5
Formica counters and shelves provided	.....	.....	1
Refrigerated counter provided	.....	.....	1
Sneeze screens provided	.....	.....	3

Floors required or renewed .....	4
Ventilated lobby to W.C. provided .....	1
New W.C. basin .....	1
Dustbin provided .....	1
Accumulation of refuse removed .....	2
New washing facilities provided .....	2
Premises cleansed .....	17
Refrigerators provided .....	4
Sinks provided .....	4
Waterheaters provided .....	4

#### (ii) Display of Dog Notices in Food Shops :

Notices for exhibition have been supplied to all food shops in the district, pointing out that the presence of dogs is a danger to the health of the public.

#### (4) Education Activities :

Lectures to classes of senior school children were arranged at five schools. Talks were given by the Sanitary Inspectors, after which films were shown and discussed. The lectures were attended by some 140 children.

In addition, Dr. Betty Hobbs of the Central Public Health Laboratory and the Senior Sanitary Inspector addressed a meeting of 23 School Meals Supervisors on food poisoning outbreaks.

#### (5) Method of Disposal of Condemned Food :

Condemned food is removed by the Public Health Department's van and is destroyed at the Council's Refuse Destructor.

#### Inspection of Meat and Food

The inspection of food and premises where food is prepared continued to receive special attention.

Four new registrations of hawkers were granted during the year. Before registration is granted the Council insist upon satisfactory storage accommodation being provided and this is checked where necessary with the Local Authority concerned. Two changes of storage premises were registered.



The number of barrow boys operating in the district at the end of the year was 4.

### Slaughterhouses

The two slaughterhouses in the district have been regularly inspected and as will be seen from the figures in the table of carcasses examined the number of pigs slaughtered (8,409) was very much higher than in the previous year (623).

Most of these were slaughtered at one slaughterhouse for the wholesale market and were brought from various parts of the country, arriving at the slaughterhouse at all times of the day and sometimes night, with the result that difficulties arose regarding the receipt of adequate notice of intention to slaughter and involving visits by the Inspectors late at night and during the week-ends.

As this slaughterhouse is situated in a built-up area comprising good class property, it was inevitable that complaints would arise, and these were dealt with as far as possible, including unsuccessful efforts to get the existing legislation amended to restrict the hours of slaughter and prohibit Sunday killing.

# Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed..... (if known)	298	22	1,435	2,412	8,409	—
Number inspected	298	22	1,435	2,412	8,409	—
<b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :</b>						
Whole carcases con- demned	—	—	6	2	2	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	58	2	3	163	401	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tubercu- losis and cysticerci	19.46	9.09	0.63	6.84	4.79	—
<b>Tuberculosis only :</b>						
Whole carcases con- demned	—	—	1	—	2	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	48	1	4	—	131	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis	16.11	4.55	0.35	—	1.58	—
<b>Cysticercosis :</b>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by re- frigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—



# UNSOUND FOOD CONDEMNED, 1955

## TUBERCULOSIS

### Cattle

Forequarter	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Heads and Tongues	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
Livers	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Lungs	.....	.....	.....	.....	19 sets
Mesenteries	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Spleens	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Omenta	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Kidneys	.....	.....	.....	.....	2

### Calves

Carcase	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Livers	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Plucks	.....	.....	.....	.....	3

### Pigs

Carcases	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Heads	.....	.....	.....	.....	114
Lungs	.....	.....	.....	.....	7 sets
Mesenteries	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Plucks	.....	.....	.....	.....	11

## OTHER DISEASES

### Cattle

Livers	.....	.....	53	(Abscess 7, Cirrhosis 2, Flukes 42, Adhesions 2)
Lungs	.....	.....	3 sets	(Abscess 2, Pleurisy 1)

### Calves

Carcases	.....	.....	6	(Dropsy 1, Fevered 1, Moribund 4)
Liver	.....	.....	1	(Flukes)
Lungs	.....	.....	1 set	(Pneumonia)
Pluck	.....	.....	1	(Abscesses)

## Pigs

Carcases	.....	.....	2	(Moribund 1, Septicaemia 1)
Hearts	.....	.....	51	(Pericarditis)
Kidneys	.....	.....	2	(Nephritis)
Livers	.....	.....	61	(Cirrhosis 27, Abscesses 5, Parasitic 17, Hepatitis 10, Necrosis 1, Milk Spot 1)
Lungs	.....	.....	186 sets	(Congestion 40, Pleurisy 14, Pneumonia 132)

## Sheep and Lambs

Carcases	.....	.....	2	(Emaciation 1, Moribund 1)
Heart	.....	.....	1	(Pleurisy and Pericarditis)
Livers	.....	.....	139	(Abscess 1, Cysts 1, Cirrhosis 1, Flukes 114, Parasitic 21, Melanosis 1)
Lungs	.....	.....	22	(Abscess 1, Parasitic 2, Pleurisy 1, Pneumonia 14, Strongylosis 4)
Kidney	.....	.....	1	(Abscess)

## UNSOUND

### Cattle

Beef	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,246½ lbs.
Ox Liver	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8 lbs.
Ox Kidney	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5½ lbs.

### Sheep and Lambs

Hindquarters	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Lamb	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	72 lbs.
Livers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20 lbs.
Mutton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	109 lbs.
Sheep's Plucks	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17½ lbs.

## TINNED ARTICLES

			Tins				Tins
Apples	.....	.....	9	Asparagus	.....	.....	2
Apricots	.....	.....	91	Baked Beans	.....	.....	9



	Tins		Tins
Beans .....	101	Milk .....	529
Beef Loaf (12 ozs.) .....	40	Mixed Vegetables .....	2
Beetroot .....	21	Orange Juice .....	65
Bilberries .....	6	Oranges .....	158
Blackberries .....	4	Ox Tongue .....	4
Blackcurrants .....	3	Peaches .....	107
Brisling .....	3	Pears .....	140
Butter Beans .....	2	Peas .....	173
Carrots .....	16	Pease Pudding .....	1
Cherries .....	61	Pilchards .....	28
Chicken Spread .....	1	Pineapple .....	372
Corned Beef (12 ozs.) .....	10	Pineapple Juice .....	9
Corned Beef (6 lbs.) .....	25	Plums .....	84
Crab .....	12	Pork Kidneys .....	1
Crab Paste .....	2	Potato .....	3
Crawfish .....	2	Prunes .....	23
Cream .....	98	Raspberries .....	10
Damsons .....	1	Ravioli .....	2
Fruit Salad .....	68	Rice Pudding .....	26
Gammon (8 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.) .....	1	Roes .....	1
Gooseberries .....	14	Salmon .....	11
Grapefruit .....	158	Sardines .....	11
Grapefruit Juice .....	17	Sausages .....	5
Grapes .....	16	Shrimps .....	1
Greengages .....	1	Sild .....	1
Guavas .....	5	Soup .....	74
Ham (183 lbs. 8 ozs.) .....	20	Spinach .....	21
Herring Roes .....	2	Steak and Kidney Pudding	3
Herrings .....	2	Stewed Steak .....	57
Jam .....	39	Strawberries .....	59
Lambs Tongues .....	3	Sweet Corn .....	2
Luncheon Meat .....	98	Tomato Juice .....	59
Macaroni .....	1	Tomatoes .....	437
Macedoine .....	4	Tongue .....	4
Mangoes .....	21	Veal (6 lbs.) .....	1
Marmalade .....	50	Veal (jellied) (6 lbs.) .....	2
Meat Loaf (12 ozs.) .....	2	Vegetable Salad .....	2
Meat Pudding (8 ozs.) .....	1		

# MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES

Apricots (dried)	35½ lbs.
Blackcurrant Jam	1 jar
Butter	1 lb.
Cakeoma	1 packet
Camembert Cheese	5 cartons
Camembert Cheese	5 x ½ lb. cartons
Cheese	14 cwt. 3 qtrs. 16 lbs.
Cheese	2 portions
Cheese Spread (4½ ozs.)	99 cartons
Cheese Spread	24 doz. boxes
Cheese Trimmings	4 cwt. 15 lbs.
Chinese Egg Albumen	6½ lbs.
Cod Fillets	2 stone
Coley	16 stone
Confectionery	14 cwt. 28 lbs.
Currants	60 lbs.
Dates	9 ozs.
Essences	130 bottles
Figs	13 ozs.
Flour	21 lbs.
Ground Almonds	3 lbs. 12 ozs.
Ham	9¼ lbs.
Herring Roes	15 boxes
Jelly	4 packets
Jelly Crystals	2 packets
Marmalade (2 lbs.)	5 jars
Mayonnaise	54 bottles
Milk Pudding	1 packet
Miscellaneous Foods (Damaged by fire)	1 cwt. 3 qtrs.
Mixed Fruit	12 packets
Mixed Vegetables	6 lbs.
Nougat	31 bars
Pineapple Glacé Fruit (1 lb.)	3 cartons
Plaice	2 stone
Pork Sausages	15½ lbs.
Prunes	30 lbs.
Raisins	15 packets
Skate	1 stone



Skate Wings	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	stone
Sultanas	.....	.....	.....	.....	90	lbs.
Tomato Ketchup	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	bottles
Turkey	.....	.....	.....	.....	23	lbs.
Walnuts	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	packet
Whiting	.....	.....	.....	.....	4½	stone

### **Humane Slaughter of Animals**

In accordance with the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, and the Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954, all animals, including sheep, slaughtered in a slaughterhouse within the district must be stunned by means of a mechanically operated instrument kept in good repair.

This method of slaughter continues to prove satisfactory.

### **Licensed Slaughtermen**

The Acts also provide that no animal shall be slaughtered or stunned by any person who is not the holder of a licence granted by the local authority. The licences granted by the Council have to be renewed annually. Four persons were licensed during 1955.

### **Butchers' Shops**

There are 47 butchers' shops in the Borough.

All the shops are provided with glass fronts.

All these premises have been visited and the provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations which provide for the cleanliness of the premises, apparatus, utensils and vehicles, the precautions to be taken against the contamination of meat, the storage and removal of refuse, etc., have generally been well observed.

### **Bakehouses**

The number of bakehouses in the Borough is 24.

At 21 bakehouses motive power is used.

The bakehouses have been visited by the inspectors and steps have been taken to cause them to be maintained in a proper sanitary condition. The periodical cleansing of these premises, as required by statute, has generally been carried out.

### Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops

There are 9 registered premises within the district, and all have been inspected from time to time.

### Milk (Special Designation) Regulations

Licences were granted by the Council in respect of designated milk for the year ended 31st December, 1955, as follows :—

Dealers' Licences to sell milk as Tuberculin Tested	.....	19
Dealers' Licences to sell milk as Pasteurised	.....	18
Dealers' Licences to sell milk as Sterilised	.....	24
Supplementary Licences to sell milk as Tuberculin Tested	.....	7
Supplementary Licences to sell milk as Pasteurised	.....	8
Supplementary Licences to sell milk as Sterilised	.....	8

### Ice Cream Premises

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947, control the method by which ice cream should be manufactured.

Only one person makes ice cream within the Borough, and employs the method known as "complete cold mix" which only requires the addition of water.

Most of the ice cream sold is manufactured outside the Borough.

There are 155 premises registered for the sale of ice cream.

Fourteen samples were taken during the year.

### Coffee Stalls

At the end of the year there was only one remaining in the district.

### Fish Friers

There were eight premises in the district where the business of fish frying was carried out.

### Game Licences

Twenty applications were received under Section 27 of the Local Government Act, 1894, from tradesmen in the Borough for licences to deal in game. A licence was granted in each instance.



## **Shops Act, 1950**

Inspection of shops in the Borough has been carried out and complaints and contraventions dealt with.

Particulars in regard to shops on the Register are as follows :—

Number on Register at beginning of 1955	.....	940
Number closed	.....	11
New shops	.....	13
Number on Register at end of 1955	.....	942
Changes of occupancy	.....	62

The number of persons observing the Jewish Sabbath and registered in accordance with the provisions of Section 53 of the Act was eleven.

## **Water Supply**

During the year the water supply of the Borough has been satisfactory in quality and in quantity. The bulk of the water is supplied by the Barnet District Water Company and copies of reports on 12 samples which were taken by the Company during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Counties Public Health Laboratory were forwarded to me. In all cases the results were satisfactory.

All dwelling-houses in the Borough are supplied with water from public water mains direct to the houses with the exception of 4 houses serving a population of 10 which are served by standpipes.

## **Pollution of Streams and Watercourses**

Further investigations have been carried out regarding the pollution of streams in and adjoining the district and in connection therewith, a number of soil fittings were found to be connected to the surface water sewers and appropriate action was taken for these to be made to discharge into the soil sewers.

## **Smoke Abatement**

The factory chimneys in the area have been kept under observation and generally little nuisance from smoke or grit has occurred.

Twenty-seven complaints were received during the year, a number of them relating to burning of garden and other refuse. In one instance, investigations revealed that the mechanical stoker of a factory boiler plant was defective and upon representations being made to the occupier the necessary repairs were carried out.

A considerable number of installations, both industrial and domestic, are being converted or installed for oil burning. In two factories, three boilers have been converted from solid fuel to oil burning and in one case where periodical trouble was experienced through the emission of smoke and grit, this nuisance has completely disappeared.

Many enquiries are received by the Petroleum Inspector from persons desirous of installing oil fired plant and for the safe storage of the oil and whilst advice is freely given it is sometimes refused in the absence of the necessary legislation to control this matter.

#### **Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951**

There are two traders whose premises come within the definition of the Act and are registered.

#### **Pet Animals Act, 1951**

One person previously registered under the above Act did not renew his licence. The number of persons remaining on the register was 5.

All the premises have been inspected.

#### **Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952**

Eleven visits have been made to premises to ascertain that the provisions of the Act were being complied with. In one shop, a number of electric fires were found which did not comply with the Act. A warning was issued to the proprietor and the fires were withdrawn from sale until fitted with proper guards.

#### **Burial Act, 1857**

Licences for the removal of human remains under the above Act state, inter alia, "It is considered advisable that the Medical Officer of Health should be notified whenever such a licence is granted in order that he may be in a position to take (under his



general powers) any action that may appear to him to be necessary in the interests of public health." Nine copies of licences for such removals were received from the Home Office during the year.

The exhumations were carried out in the early hours of the morning and were visited when necessary by one of the sanitary inspectors, in order to ascertain that the conditions of the licences were complied with.

### Legal Proceedings

Legal proceedings were taken in the following instances :—

A firm of bakers was summoned with regard to dirt found in a loaf of bread. This summons was dismissed, but a summons against the manufacturers of the loaf resulted in a fine of £5 0s. 0d. being imposed, and an order to pay £3 3s. 0d. costs.

The owner of some houses appealed in the County Court against notices served upon him by the Council to carry out repairs under the Housing Acts, 1936-1954. The appeal was lost, and particulars of the case appear on page 28.

## RODENT CONTROL

### Complaints and Infestations

	Premises from which complaints have been received		Premises where infestation was confirmed		Premises where infestation was not confirmed	
	1955/56	1954/55	1955/56	1954/55	1955/56	1954/55
Rats .....	354	278	213	185	114	98
Mice .....	121	125	114	102	7	18
Total .....	475	403	327	287	121	116

T. Barlow, the Rodent Operator, left the Department in September, 1955, and his place has been taken by G. Christie who commenced duties on 31st October, 1955. In January, 1956, he attended a three-day course for operators organised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and he is now a very diligent worker.

The number of rate complaints has increased, but I am satisfied that all the infestations are minor.

Arising from these complaints, 36 additional premises were found to be infested with rats and 11 infested with mice.

At 58 premises infested with rats, poultry was being kept which represented 23.29% of the infestations.

Smoke tests were applied to rat runs, and in cases where defects in sewers or drains were revealed the necessary remedial work has been carried out.



## Summary of Work carried out from 1/4/1955 to 31/3/1956

					Rats	Mice
Visits in connection with infestations	.....	.....			2,718	863
Number of confirmed infestations	.....	.....			249	113
Prebait	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,047	—
Zinc Phosphide	}		.....	.....	468	—
Arsenic			.....	.....	12	—
Red Squill		POISONS	.....	.....	—	—
A.N.T.U.			.....	.....	77	—
Warfarin			.....	.....	2,167	1,053

## Treatment of Sewers

Number of Manholes baited	.....	.....	435
Number of Poison takes	.....	.....	51

Only one maintenance treatment was carried out in May when the poison takes represented 11.7% of the number of manholes baited.

The shortage of labour prevented the twentieth maintenance treatment being carried out in October but it is hoped that the manholes in this area will be added to the maintenance treatments to be carried out in 1956/7 financial year.





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**Hendon Printing Works Limited,**

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