

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

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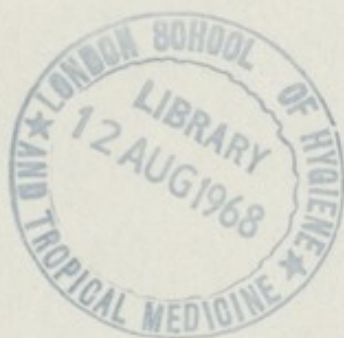
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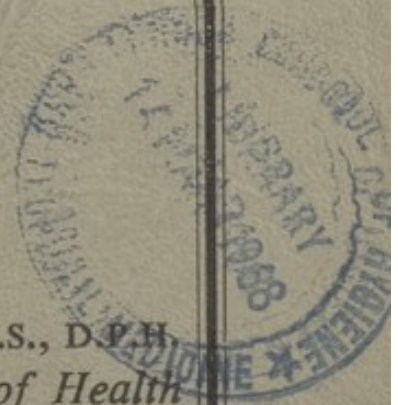
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Borough of Finchley

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ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH
for the year 1957



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

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1957

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

as at 31st December, 1957

Chairman : Councillor Miss E. M. KILLIP

Vice-Chairman : Councillor C. J. HARTIGAN (Deputy Mayor)

THE MAYOR (Councillor G. W. REED, J.P.)

Alderman P. LAWRENCE

„ Mrs. M. E. LEGGE, M.B.E.

„ L. G. SNELLING

Councillor N. BIRCH

„ A. D. COHEN, M.A.

„ F. D. GIBSON

„ E. GRANT

„ F. H. LUSH

„ R. J. N. NORMAN

„ F. L. PIKE (died 30/12/57)

„ A. PURVIS, B.Sc.(Econ.), C.C.

„ E. J. SCOTT, M.C.

„ G. H. T. WATSON

„ R. YORKE

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL APPOINTED TO VARIOUS BODIES CONCERNED WITH PUBLIC HEALTH WORK

(as at 31st December, 1957)

Middlesex County Council Local Area (Health) Committee

Alderman L. G. SNELLING

Councillor C. J. HARTIGAN

„ Miss E. M. KILLIP

„ G. H. T. WATSON

„ Mrs. G. I. WILSON, M.A.

Barnet Group (No. 5) Hospital Management Committee

Councillor Mrs. G. I. WILSON, M.A.

Napsbury Hospital Management Committee

Councillor G. W. REED

Finchley Hospital Committee

Councillor E. GRANT

The Council of the National Smoke Abatement Society

Councillor Miss E. M. KILLIP

London and Home Counties Smoke Abatement Advisory Council

Councillor R. YORKE

Middlesex Old People's Welfare Committee

Alderman H. H. WILMOT

„ Mrs. M. E. LEGGE, M.B.E. (Deputy)

Finchley Old People's Welfare Committee

THE MAYOR (Councillor G. W. REED, J.P.)

Alderman Mrs. M. E. LEGGE, M.B.E.

„ L. G. SNELLING

„ H. H. WILMOT

Councillor W. G. HART

Finchley Guild of Social Service

THE MAYOR (Councillor G. W. REED, J.P.)

Alderman Mrs. M. E. LEGGE, M.B.E.

„ L. G. SNELLING

Councillor E. GRANT

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health :

A. W. HAY, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

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

Chief Public Health Inspector :

J. GRAY, M.B.E., F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

J. YATES, Cert.R.S.H.

District Public Health Inspectors :

W. H. NICHOLLS, Cert.R.S.H., K. J. MILLEN, Cert.R.S.H.,
E. A. SELLAR, Cert.R.S.H., J. P. DAVIES, Cert.R.S.H.

Each of the Public Health Inspectors holds the special diploma of the Royal Society of Health for the inspection of meat and other foods.

Chief Clerk :

D. J. LEGGE

Clerks :

Miss K. M. NICHOL

A. G. FORSYTH

Mrs. B. COSTELLO (née Henegan)

Miss E. J. STANLEY

Miss C. A. BURGE

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

December, 1958.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1957. The health of the community continues to be satisfactory. The infantile mortality which indicates the deaths of children under one year of age was 17.3 per thousand live births, which compares very favourably with the national figure for England and Wales of 23 per thousand. On analysing the causes of death in other age groups it is gratifying to notice that there were no deaths in the school group (5 to 15 years). Coronary thrombosis is the main single cause of death which predominates in the age groups above 45 years of age, and it may be surprising to some to note that coronary thrombosis now shares with malignant neoplasm the position of chief cause of death in the 25 to 45 age group.

Infectious diseases continue to decline, new cases of Tuberculosis being the lowest ever recorded. With the exception of Poliomyelitis none of the common notifiable infectious diseases was listed as a cause of death, and it is anticipated that the increase in the number of children being vaccinated against poliomyelitis will make it only a matter of time before this disease is also brought under control. At the beginning of October there was an outbreak of Influenza which became widespread but was mild in type and in the majority of cases lasted only a few days with a quick recovery. With the help of the Colindale Public Health Laboratory the virus was typed and found to be of Asian strain. The work of business and industry was seriously hampered by the incapacity of a large number of people at the same time—an example of this is shown in the fact that at the beginning of October there were 60 cases of Influenza among the staff of the Barnet Hospital Group. During the month that the epidemic continued there were three deaths from Influenzal Pneumonia—two being aged persons and one a child under three months of age.

During the year the Public Health Committee decided to introduce a laundry service for incontinent aged persons. This was done

to avoid the necessity which frequently arises to admit such persons to hospital. A twice weekly collection of soiled laundry and delivery of clean laundry was instituted. This service is entirely free and will be made available to any patient on the application of the family Doctor or relative.

Work on Food Hygiene continues and the statistics in the body of this report will show the work done by Public Health Inspectors to ensure that the provisions of the Food Hygiene regulations were carried out in shops in the Borough. In one case it was necessary to prosecute the owner of a shop for failing to provide facilities for washing equipment, and a fine was subsequently imposed. However, the vast majority of Food Traders accepted the fact that the regulations were designed to protect the public from food infections and willingly complied with the regulations.

I would like to end by giving my sincere thanks to the Staff of the Health Department for their loyal and cheerful assistance throughout the year and to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued encouragement and support.

A. W. HAY,

Medical Officer of Health
(until 30th April, 1958).

STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	3,478
Population, 1957 (Registrar-General's Estimate)	69,380
Number of Inhabited Houses (at 1st April, 1957)	20,115
Rateable Value (at 1st April, 1957)	£1,371,658
Product of a Penny Rate, year 1957/58	£5,610
Total Live Births	925
Birth Rate per 1,000 home population	13.3
Birth Rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	16.1
Total Stillbirths	14
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	14.9
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births (England and Wales)	22.4
Total Deaths	781
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 home population	11.3
Standardised Death Rate	10.3
Death Rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	11.5
Infant Deaths	16
Infant Mortality Rate	17.3
Infant Mortality Rate (England and Wales)	23.0
Neo-Natal Deaths	14
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	15.1
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (England and Wales)	16.5
Maternal Deaths	1
Maternal Mortality Rate	1.06
Maternal Mortality Rate (England and Wales)	0.47

Live Births :

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	468	421	889
Illegitimate	14	22	36
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	482	443	925
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Birth rate 13.3 per 1,000 estimated home population.

	Males	Females	Total
Stillbirths	5	9	14
Rate 14.9 per 1,000 (live and still) births.			

			Males	Females	Total
Deaths	.....	.....	362	419	781
Rate 11.3 per 1,000 estimated population.					

Deaths from disease and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth :

From Sepsis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Other maternal causes	.....	.....	.....	.....	1

Death Rate of infants under one year of age :

All infants per 1,000 live births	.....	.....	.....	17.3
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	.....	.....	.....	18.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.....	.....	.....	.....	—

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	.....	.....	.....	.....	168
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 69,380 which is 420 less than in 1956.

Births

There were 925 registered live births in 1957 as compared with 910 in the previous year while the birth rate was 13.3 as compared with 13.0. The rate for England and Wales was 16.1.

Stillbirths

There were 14 stillbirths and all took place in hospital or nursing home.

The stillbirth rate for the Borough was 0.20 per 1,000 of the home population, and for England and Wales it was 0.37.

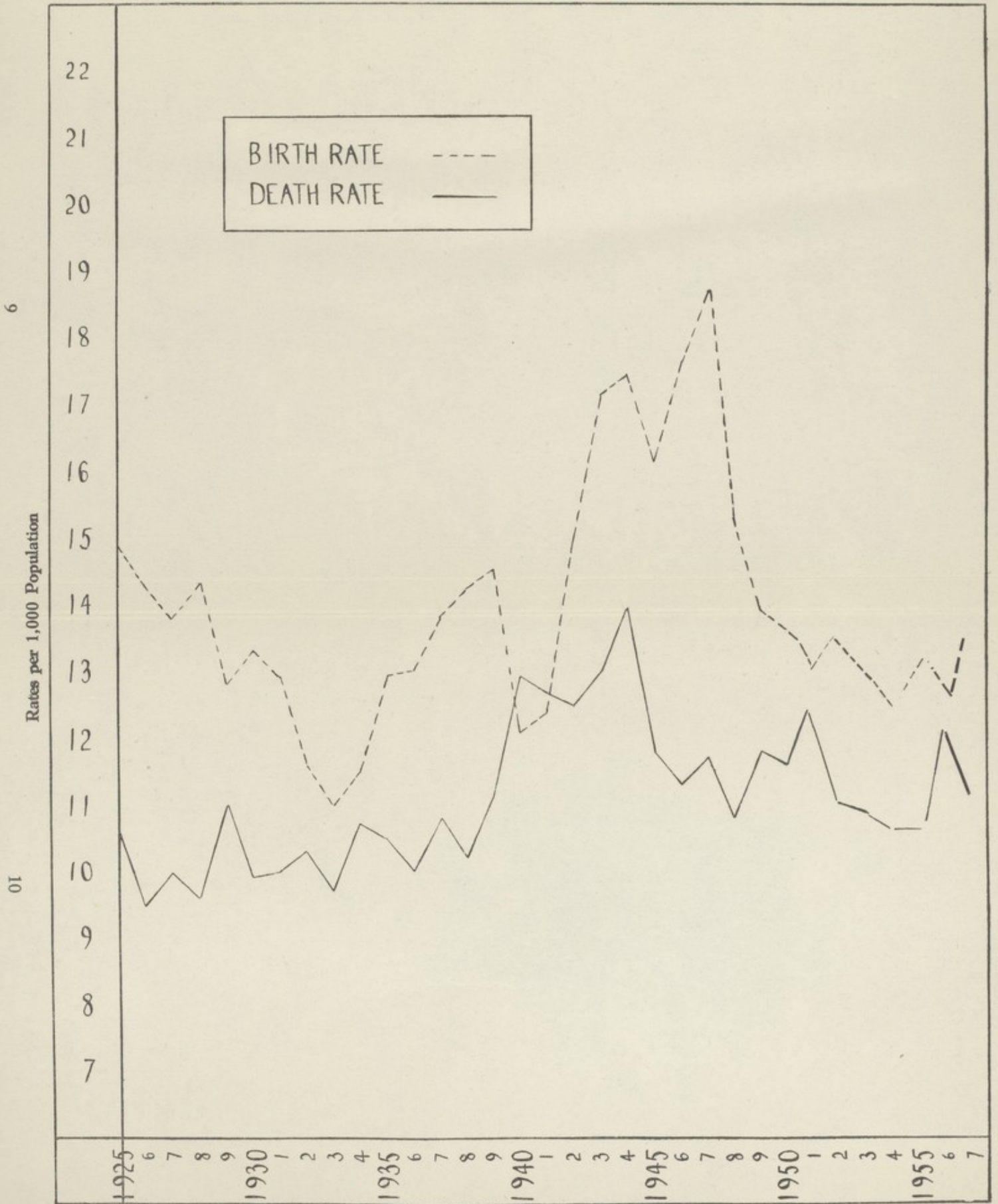
Infantile Mortality

There were sixteen deaths of infants under one year of age giving an infantile mortality rate of 17.3 per 1,000 live births. The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 23.0.

Maternal Mortality

There was one maternal death in 1957.

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES SINCE 1925



Deaths

There were 781 deaths in 1957, 50 less than in 1956. The standardised death rate was 10.3 and that for England and Wales was 11.5.

There were 31 deaths from cancer of the lung, two less than in the previous year.

Motor car accidents accounted for 6 deaths, other accidents for 14 deaths, and there were 6 suicides.

Of the total deaths, 566 were of persons over 65 years of age.

Mortuary

One hundred and sixty-six bodies were received in the Mortuary, and of these 22 were from Friern Barnet, and 31 from Potters Bar.

Post-mortem examinations were carried out in all cases.

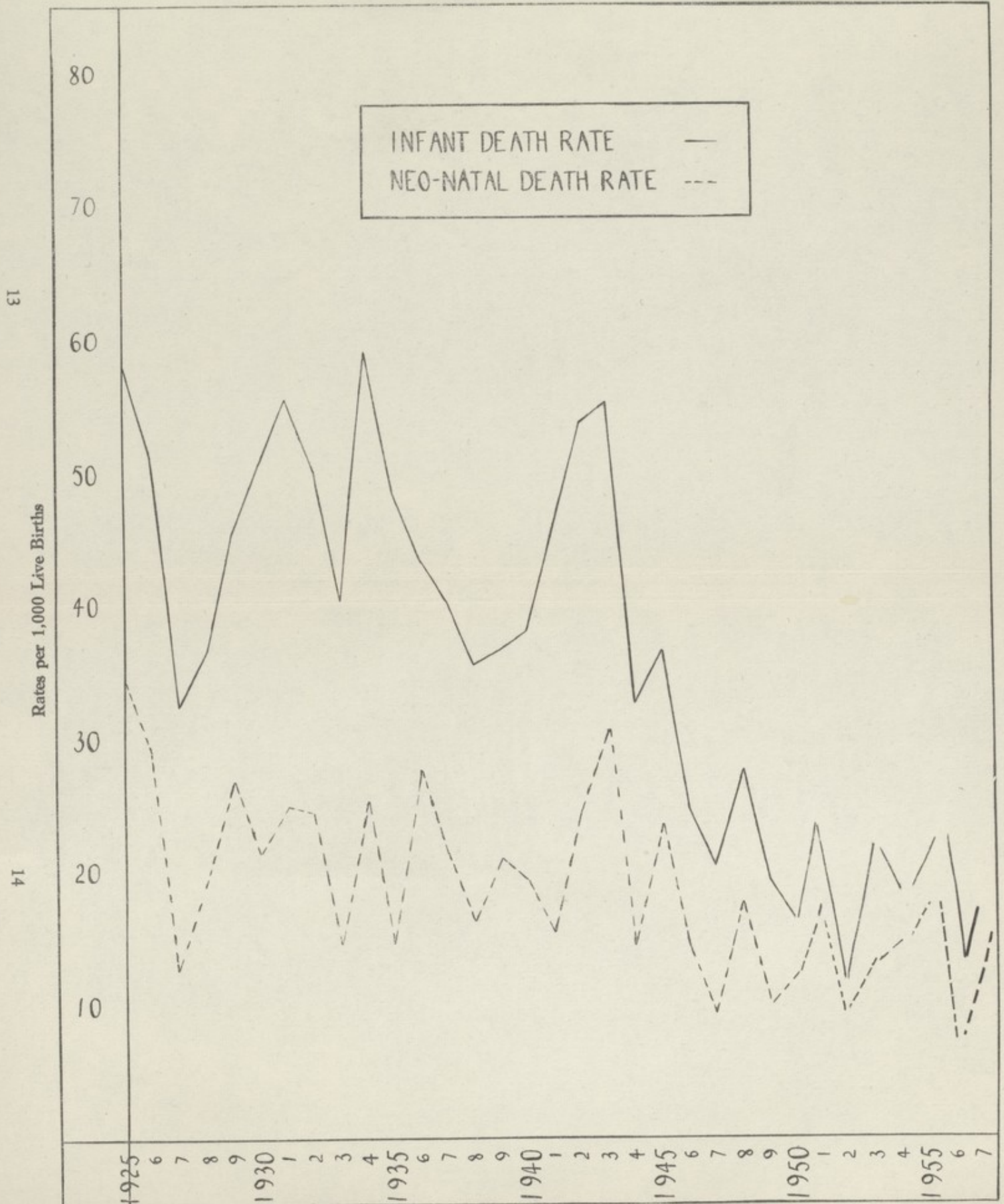
INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1957

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
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria & Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Laryngitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, Overlying	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Atelectasis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malformations	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Premature Birth	9	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	9
Atrophy, Debility and	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
TOTALS	14	—	—	—	14	1	—	—	1	16

INFANT DEATH AND NEO-NATAL DEATH RATES SINCE 1925



CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1957

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					1		4	2	
2.	Tuberculosis, Other										1
3.	Syphilitic Disease	3						1		1	
4.	Diphtheria										
5.	Whooping Cough										
6.	Meningococcal Infections										
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	2						2			
8.	Measles										
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	2					1		1		
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	22							6	9	7
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	31						2	19	9	1
12.	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	18							6	7	5
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	4							2	1	1
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	93					2	5	26	30	30
15.	Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	4							2	1	1
16.	Diabetes	7							3	2	2
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	96							12	30	54
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina	130						5	32	45	48
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	24							1	5	18
20.	Other Heart Disease	100						1	5	17	77
21.	Other Circulatory Disease	45							12	12	21
22.	Influenza	8	1				1		2		4
23.	Pneumonia	32			2				7	9	14
24.	Bronchitis	35							6	15	14
25.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	4	1							2	1
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	10						1	3	2	4
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa	1									1
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	2									2
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate	10									10
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	1						1			
31.	Congenital Malformations	3	1		1		1				
32.	Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	61	12	1				2	10	13	23
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	6					2			3	1
34.	All Other Accidents	14						1	5	2	6
35.	Suicide	6						1	2	2	1
36.	Homicide and Operations of War										
	Totals	781	15	1	3		8	22	166	219	347

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE PAST 25 YEARS

Year	Total Births	Birth Rate	Total Deaths	Death Rate	Total Infant Deaths	Infantile Mortality Rate	Deaths from Measles	Deaths from Whooping Cough	Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)
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	—	—	—
1956	910	13.0	831	11.9	12	13.2	—	—	—
1957	925	13.3	781	11.3	16	17.3	—	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

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

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	69	68	59	34	71
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	1	2
Poliomyelitis	11	1	7	5	12
Pneumonia	49	38	47	37	35
Measles	857	99	1,087	172	957
Whooping Cough	165	91	18	78	119

Diphtheria

Once again I am glad to report that there were no cases of Diphtheria in Finchley in 1957.

During the year 28 children were immunised by General Practitioners and 115 by Medical Officers of the Local Health Authority. In addition, 546 children were immunised with a combined diphtheria and whooping cough prophylactic, 379 by General Practitioners and 167 by the Local Health Authority.

Three hundred and forty-six children were given "booster" doses of diphtheria prophylactic alone, and 37 children were given "booster" doses of combined diphtheria and whooping cough prophylactic.

Scarlet Fever

There were 71 cases of Scarlet Fever, 37 more 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, twelve cases of Poliomyelitis were notified to me, and of these, 11 were found to be suffering from the paralytic form. One male, aged 29 years, died. The death of a man, aged 32 years, who died outside the district was also allocated to Finchley

The Council have continued to grant to the Octopus Club the use of the Squires Lane Bath on alternate Sundays for "old" cases of Poliomyelitis, who although cured of the disease have some residual disability.

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

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

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

The vaccination of children was continued, and the offer of vaccination was extended to include children born in 1955 and 1956, as well as in the age group 1947—1954 as previously. Early in the year, local health authorities were requested by the Minister of Health to vaccinate as many children as possible, and in the light of past experience, he advised that vaccination need not be suspended during the period of the year when Poliomyelitis is prevalent.

In Area No. 4, which comprises the Boroughs of Finchley and Hendon, 5,959 children were vaccinated.

Separate figures are not available for each district.

Measles

The number of notifications was 957 compared with 172 in 1956. There were no deaths.

Whooping Cough

The notifications numbered 119 in 1957 and there were no deaths. During the year, 83 children were immunised by General Practitioners and Medical Officers of the Local Health Authority.

Pneumonia

Thirty-five cases were notified in 1957 and there were 32 deaths. Twenty-three of these were persons of 65 years of age and over.

Puerperal Pyrexia

The total number of cases notified during the year was 29, all of which occurred at the North Middlesex Hospital Annexe in The Bishops Avenue.

Food Poisoning

Two cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year. Both were single cases, and *Salmonella typhi-murium* was discovered to be the agent in each case.

Influenza

At the beginning of October, it appeared from information received from General Practitioners, Schools, chemists and local industries that an outbreak of influenza was developing in the area. The illness was mild, lasting only a few days and the symptoms were usually headache and rise in temperature to 100°F, or more frequently accompanied by muscle pains, sore throat and gastric upsets.

The outbreak reached its peak about the middle of the month, and by early November the epidemic had reached its conclusion with only the "odd case" occurring.

During the month of October there was a marked increase in the number of Influenzal Pneumonia notifications, 15 cases being notified. There was one death from this cause in a child aged 2½ months, and also two deaths from Influenzal Pneumonia in old people.

Miscellaneous

The following cases were also notified :—

Dysentery	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Erysipelas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3

Smallpox

Three cases of smallpox were notified in the nearby Borough of Tottenham. As a result, 16 contacts were visited by Public Health Inspectors and were kept under observation for 16 days. All were advised to call upon their family doctors should they, at any time

during the period, feel unwell, or should they not have been recently vaccinated.

Circular letters were despatched to all General Practitioners in Finchley, giving details of the outbreak. Such information, it was considered, would prove of value in cases in which a diagnosis of smallpox might be suspected.

Fortunately, no case occurred in the Borough.

Vaccination against Smallpox

The number of persons vaccinated for the first time by General Practitioners and Medical Officers of the Local Health Authority was eight hundred and fifty-six.

Five hundred and thirty-eight persons were re-vaccinated.

International Certificates of Vaccination

Persons travelling to certain foreign parts have to provide themselves with certificates of vaccination or inoculation which must have been completed by their own medical practitioners before proceeding. In several parts of the world certificates are not accepted unless they are endorsed by a medical officer in the Government or local authority of the country of issue. A form of authentication which has been accepted by the health authorities abroad is that given by public health authorities and identified by a rubber stamp impression placed by them on the certificate. The rubber stamp in this office bears the words "Finchley Corporation—Signature of doctor authenticated." The purpose of the authentication is to provide proof to those health authorities abroad who desire it that the signature of the person issuing the certificate is that of a registered medical practitioner.

During the year some 500 certificates were stamped for this purpose.

Bacteriological Work

The following table shows the number and nature of the specimens examined at the Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale, during 1957 :—

			Positive	Negative
Throat/Nose Swabs :				
Diphtheria Bacilli	—	277
Hæmolytic Streptococci	.....	.....	28
Vincent's Angina	.....	.....	3
Coagulase Pos. Staphylococci	.....	.....	5
Influenza A Virus	.....	.....	1

Fæces :

Sonne Dysentery	8	142
Salmonella	.....	.....	26
Clostridium Welchii	.....	.....	—
Esch. Coli	.....	.....	2

Sputum :

T.B. Smear	2	34
Other Organisms	3	

Whooping Cough :

Cough Plate	.....	.....	—	10
Post-nasal Swab	.....	.....	—
			78	463

Tuberculosis

Seven persons died from tuberculosis during 1957, giving a death rate of 0.101 per 1,000 population.

Twenty-nine new cases were notified, and this number is the lowest on record. The case rate per 10,000 population was 4.18.

No children of school age were found to be suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs.

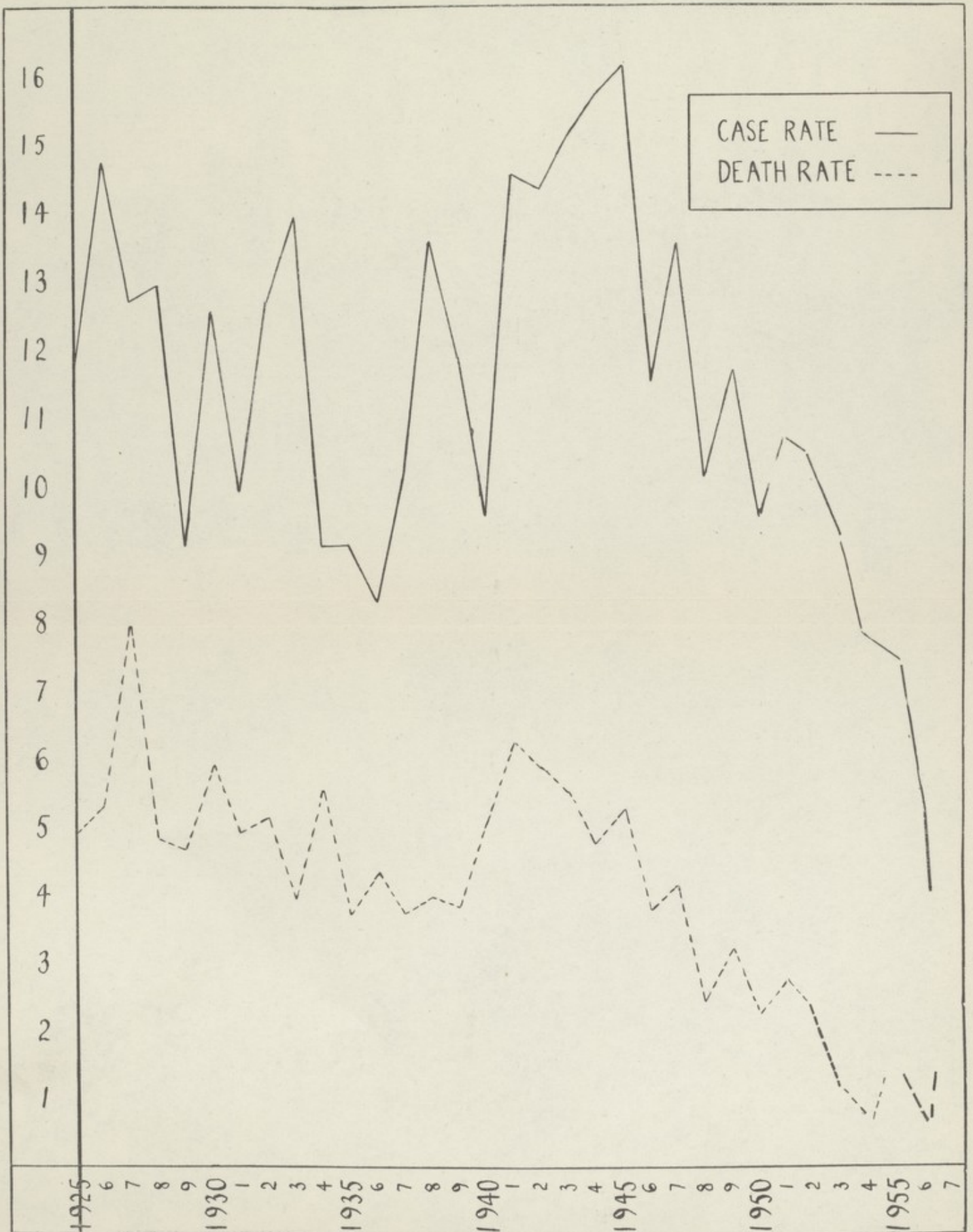
Close co-operation between the Public Health Department, the Area Health Office and the Chest Clinic in the constant search for possible sources of infection in new cases of tuberculosis continues.

TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS)

23

Rate per 10,000 Population

24



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.
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
1956	22	10	2	4	6	2	—	—
1957	15	11	1	2	5	2	—	—

Mass Radiography

During June and July, the Mass X-Ray Unit 5B visited Finchley. Arrangements had been made with the North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board for sessions to be held throughout the Borough.

The general public were encouraged to attend and sessions were available to them at three points in the district. In all, 1,514 males and 2,064 females were X-rayed.

In addition, facilities were given to members and staff of the Council, firms and shops to attend and in this group 1,259 males and 914 females took advantage of the offer.

The total number of people X-rayed during the visit of the Unit was 5,751.

It is regretted that figures showing abnormal cases found have not been submitted to me in time for inclusion in this report.

Medical Examinations

Twenty-nine persons were examined on appointment to the Council's staff and 13 workmen were examined with a view to their admission to the Council's Sickness Pay Scheme.

National Assistance Act, 1948

(a) Section 47

Cases concerning persons who were living in insanitary surroundings and who were not receiving proper care and attention continued to be brought to the notice of the Department.

On each occasion 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

One burial was carried out by the Council in accordance with the provisions of this Section.

Rainfall

The following comparative table shows the amount of rainfall recorded at Avenue House grounds during 1956 and 1957 :—

					Rainfall (in inches)	
					1956.	1957.
January	.....	.....	.....	.....	4.33	1.61
February	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.55	4.56
March	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.02	1.91
April	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.47	0.35
May	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.56	1.07
June	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.92	0.84
July	.....	.....	.....	.....	4.82	4.06
August	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.22	2.87
September	.....	.....	.....	.....	4.26	3.85
October	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.70	2.20
November	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.46	2.09
December	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.96	2.28
Totals	.....	.....	.....	.....	32.27	27.69

Housing

Throughout the year housing applications, accompanied by medical certificates, were submitted by the Borough Housing and Town Planning Officer to ascertain if additional points (up to 5) could be recommended on medical grounds. The following shows how the applications were dealt with :—

Applications					Points Awarded in each Case
5	.....	.....	.....	.....	0
1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
3	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
3	.....	.....	.....	.....	5

Total number of applications — 12.

On receipt of these applications, it was often necessary to visit the family concerned and to discuss various aspects of each case with the family doctor and with the Housing Officer. I am indebted to the doctors for their continued co-operation in this matter.

In addition, a number of applications were considered on account of overcrowding and sanitary defects. Much work is involved in investigating these cases in order to be certain that deserving cases are given full consideration.

In special cases where the medical condition of the applicant merited urgent rehousing but the award of extra "points" would not give immediate help the case was brought before the Housing Lettings Committee of the Council, for their decision, and in every instance the medical reports were taken into account.

Health Education

Reference is made elsewhere in this Report to educational activities in connection with Food Hygiene.

Apart from these, talks dealing with various aspects of the work of the Public Health Department were given by members of the staff to local organisations and Student Teachers and Student Health Visitors.

Laundry Service for the Incontinent

The problem of dealing with incontinent elderly persons when laundries would not accept soiled articles, and when no relatives or friends were available or willing to help, had been a matter of concern in this district for some time. It had often meant an approach to the Hospital Authorities for admission of the old person to a hospital bed, if one was available. In view of the difficulties involved in these cases, the Council decided to operate a Laundry Service in accordance with the provisions of Section 42 of the Middlesex County Council Act, 1956, which deals with, inter alia, the cleansing of soiled articles.

A washing machine has been installed at the Disinfecting Station and arrangements are made for the articles to be collected and delivered twice weekly. The practice is for collections to be made on Tuesdays and Fridays, and for deliveries, on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

The cost of the service is borne by the local authority. The only stipulation made is that the garments or bedding involved must not be the type which could be accepted by a normal commercial laundry.

The service was started at the beginning of July, and during the half-year period to the end of December, 42 collections of articles were made. The number of persons for whom the service was recommended and subsequently authorised by the Medical Officer of Health or by the Public Health Inspectors was eleven. Of these, two were receiving assistance at the end of the year.

Although the number of persons who availed themselves of the service was small, it does indicate that there is a real need for it in the Borough. As the service becomes more widely known, there is little doubt that the demand will become much greater.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The following are particulars of the work of the Public Health Inspectors during the year 1957 :—

Housing Statistics

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	2,081
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	5,402
(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	2
(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	304

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

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action	211
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936, and Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.....	4
--	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :

(a) By owners	7
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	3

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	10
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936, and Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—

Housing Act, 1957

This Act, which came into operation on 1st September, 1957, consolidates the previous housing enactments with the exception of certain provisions relating to financial matters. A definition of the standard of fitness of dwelling-houses is now laid down and is more rigid than in previous acts, as no regard can now be taken to the extent to which, by reason of disrepair or sanitary defects, the house falls short of the provisions of any bye-laws or any enactment in any local Act, in operation in the district, dealing with the construction and drainage of new buildings, the laying out and construction of new streets or of the general standard of housing accommodation for working classes in the district.

Slum Clearance

The Slum Clearance Programme was resumed during the year and the following areas were dealt with :—

- (a) 306-324, Friern Barnet Lane, N.20. (10 houses).

Vine and Oak Cottages, Totteridge Lane, N.20. (2 houses).

These two areas were represented to the Council and confirmed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

- (b) 1291 and 1293, High Road, N.20; 1-8, Solomons Terrace, N.20. (10 houses).

This area was represented, but confirmation was being awaited at the end of the year, pending the result of a hearing arising from an appeal to the Minister from the occupier of 1291 High Road, N.20.

- (c) 1-10 (inclusive), Belgrave Terrace, N.12; 4-10 (even), Stanhope Road, N.12. (14 houses).

This area was inspected and represented to the Council towards the end of the year and negotiations were proceeding in an endeavour to purchase from the owner.

727 and 729, High Road, N.12

These two houses were found to be in a very dilapidated condition and incapable of being made fit for human habitation at reasonable cost. These were dealt with informally by arrangement with the owner, both premises being vacated. The owner proposes to demolish them at some future date, and to erect business premises upon the site.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

Repairs increase and Certificates of Disrepair.

The following table shows the particulars of applications received during the portion of the year in which the Act was in operation :—

Number of Applications for Certificates of Disrepair	2
Number of Certificates issued	1

Number of Certificates not issued (because work had been done)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Number of Applications for Revocation of Certificates of Disrepair	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Number of Certificates Revoked	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2

Rent Act, 1957

This Act came into operation on the 6th July, 1957, and introduced a new and much more involved procedure for obtaining Certificates of Disrepair.

Under the new procedure, the tenant must draw up his own list of defects. This is sometimes found to be unsatisfactory, as only the tenant's items can be included in the Certificate of Disrepair, when, often, defects of a more serious nature, which the Public Health Inspector may find during his inspection, cannot be included.

Since the Act came into operation, the following are particulars of applications dealt with :—

Number of Applications for Certificates of Disrepair	.....	60
Number of Certificates issued	.....	10
Number of Certificates not issued (because work had been done)	.....	5
Number of Certificates refused	.....	—
Number of Undertakings given by Landlords	.....	15
Number of Applications outstanding at end of year	.....	30
Number of Applications for Cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair	.....	—
Number of Certificates Cancelled	.....	—
Number of Applications for Certificates as to the Remedying of Defects which the Landlord had Undertaken to Remedy	.....	—
Number of Certificates issued	.....	—

Inspections

The total number of inspections made during the year was 13,657. At 323 of the houses and other premises visited, defects or nuisances to the number of 830 were discovered, and at the end of the year 1,008 including a number outstanding at the end of 1956 had been remedied or abated. The work in connection with 48 was in hand and 1,624 were outstanding. In order to ascertain that the sanitary defects were being properly remedied, 708 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	87
Other Inspections including Inspections under Public Health Act, 1936	3,985
Re-inspections	2,613
Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and Rent Act, 1957.....	176
Inspections of Works in Progress	708
Inspections of Factories and Workplaces (including Bake-houses and Restaurant Kitchens)	239
Visits to Slaughterhouses	13
Inspections of Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	6
Inspections of Ice Cream Premises	10
Inspections of Meat, Fish and Other Food Shops	724
Inspections of Shops (Shops Act)	77
Visits re Infectious Disease and Vermin	298
Visits re Rodent Control	3,599
Visits re Overcrowding	213
Visits re Hawkers	45
Visits to Hairdressers' Premises	5
Visits re Pet Animals Act, 1951	13
Visits re Heating Appliances—Fireguards	36
Visits re Clean Air Act, 1956	169
Miscellaneous	641
	<hr/>
	13,657
	<hr/>

Summary of Sanitary Improvements carried out

Drainage

Repairs or amendments to existing drains	.....	.....	.....	32
Drains or gullies unstopped or cleansed	.....	.....	.....	208
Length in yards of stoneware drains laid	.....	.....	.....	122
Length in yards of iron drains laid	.....	.....	.....	14
Manholes provided	.....	.....	.....	11
Manholes repaired	.....	.....	.....	11
Manhole covers provided	.....	.....	.....	14
Intercepting traps fixed	.....	.....	.....	6
Caps to intercepting traps provided	.....	.....	.....	28
Fresh air inlets provided or repaired	.....	.....	.....	2
New gully traps fixed	.....	.....	.....	26
Gully curbs provided or repaired	.....	.....	.....	1
New soil pipes and ventilating shafts fixed	.....	.....	.....	11
Soil pipes and ventilating shafts repaired	.....	.....	.....	8
Water tests applied	.....	.....	.....	97
Smoke tests applied	.....	.....	.....	39
Air tests applied	.....	.....	.....	9

Water Closets and Sanitary Fittings

New W.C. basins fixed	.....	.....	.....	32
W.Cs. unstopped, cleansed or repaired.....	.....	.....	.....	22
New flushing cisterns fitted to W.Cs.	.....	.....	.....	12
Existing flushing cisterns repaired	.....	.....	.....	6
New W.C. accommodation provided	.....	.....	.....	2
New W.C. apartments provided	.....	.....	.....	3
W.C. apartments altered	.....	.....	.....	3
W.C. apartments cleansed	.....	.....	.....	5
Lavatory basins provided	.....	.....	.....	30
Baths provided	.....	.....	.....	9
New impervious sinks provided	.....	.....	.....	13
New waste pipes fixed	.....	.....	.....	17
Waste pipes trapped, repaired or unstopped	.....	.....	.....	10
Ventilated lobbies provided	.....	.....	.....	2

Miscellaneous

New roofs provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Roofs repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	69
Eaves gutters renewed, cleansed or repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47
Stack pipes provided, repaired or unstopped	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
Damp walls remedied	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	58
Walls repointed, repaired or underpinned	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
Ventilation under floors provided or unstopped	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Paving of yards repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Floors of rooms relaid	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Floors of rooms repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36
Rooms cleansed, distempered or repapered	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	115
Plasterwork repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	108
Windows repaired and/or made to open	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59
New windows provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
New sashcords provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	66
Window cills provided or repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
Doors provided or repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17
Doorsteps provided or repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Staircases repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
New stoves and ranges provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Stoves and ranges repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Chimney pots renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Storage cisterns provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Storage cisterns repaired, cleansed and covered	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Water service pipes repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Hot water supplies provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36
Movable sanitary dustbins provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Nuisances from keeping of animals abated	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Smoke nuisances abated	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Accumulations of refuse removed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Various	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	51

Notices Served

Informal Notices	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	325
Statutory Notices	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21

Enquiries—Outstanding Sanitary Notices

One thousand eight hundred and seventeen 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.

Housing Act, 1949—Section 4

(Power of Local Authorities to make advances for increasing housing accommodation including the converting, altering and enlarging of houses.)

Ninety-nine enquiries were dealt with regarding premises which were the subject of applications for advances under Section 4 of the Housing Act, 1949.

Disinfection and Disinfestation

Number of rooms disinfected after infectious disease	58
Number of articles disinfected	1,574

Two hundred and ninety-eight 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.

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

	Premises
Bugs	1
Fleas	1
Lice	1
Cockroaches	6
Ants	2
Wasps	72
Moths	4
Miscellaneous	14

The number of verminous rooms which were dealt with was 10, compared with 14 in 1956.

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, premises have been found to be damaged by wood beetles and their larvæ (woodworm), and the inspectors have assisted in giving advice and supervising the remedial work.

Sanitary Conveniences

There are 31 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 three hundred and fifty-three complaints were received with reference to the following matters, viz. :—

Absence of, or defective condition of, dustbins	12
Accumulations of refuse and manure	28
Blocked or defective drains	249
Defective roofs	40
Defective W.Cs.	23
Defective or dirty storage cisterns	3
Flooding	19
Foreign matter in food	6
Insanitary or defective condition of houses	143
Noise	5
Non-removal of refuse	5
Nuisances from dampness	60
Nuisances from the burning of refuse	19
Nuisances from the keeping of animals or poultry	6
Pollution of brook	1
Premises infested with insects	58
Premises infested with rats or mice	514
Smells from public sewers	3
Smoke nuisances	20
Unsatisfactory Housing Conditions, including Over-crowding	21
Unsound food	13
Verminous condition of houses	3
Wasps' nests	58

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 the 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. Twenty-one premises were inspected and a 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	136	35	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	223	218	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	359	253	3	—

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)	4	4	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	11	11	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	17	17	—	—	—

The total number of Factories and Workplaces on the Register is 359, made up as follows :—

Bakehouses	22
Boot Repairers	23
Builders' Workshops	18
Cycle Makers and Repairers	2
Farriers and Blacksmiths	3
General Engineers and Motor Engineers	64
Glass Blowers	1
Laundry	1

Monumental Masons	4
Plant Propagation	1
Plastic Manufacturers	3
Prepared Meat Factories	7
Printers and Printers' Accessories	12
Restaurant Kitchens	92
Shopfitters	1
Sports Accessory Manufacturers	1
Tailors and Dressmakers	18
Temperature Recording Instrument Manufacturers	1
Timber Merchants and Sawyers	9
Tyre re-treading	3
Upholsterers	10
Watch and Clock Repairers	4
X-Ray Apparatus	1
Other Trades	58

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	1
New W.C. pans provided	2
W.Cs. cleansed or repaired	9
Joints between flush pipe and W.C. pan repaired	1
New sinks or lavatory basins provided	6
New sink wastepipes provided	4
Drains unstopped or repaired	2
Smoke nuisance abated	1
Premises cleansed	3
Yards cleansed or repaired	1
Floors repaired	1
Accumulations of refuse removed	1
Miscellaneous	4

Outworkers

Visits have been made by the Public Health Inspectors to the homes of persons notified as outworkers to the department from other 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	35
Artificial flowers	1
Lampshades	10
Handbags	1

FOOD

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

Food Hygiene Regulations

The food hygiene regulations lay down requirements in respect of the cleanliness of food premises and stalls, and of apparatus and equipment, the hygienic handling of food, the cleanliness of persons engaged in the handling of food and of their clothing, and the action to be taken where they suffer from or are carriers of certain infections; the construction of food premises, their repair and maintenance and the facilities including sinks and wash basins to be provided ; and the temperature at which certain foods are to be kept.

In one instance a road-side café which could not be brought up to the standard of the Regulations was closed and demolished.

The occupiers of two food premises, namely, a butcher's shop and a grocer's shop, failed to provide sufficient sinks or other facilities for washing food and equipment used in the food business. Particulars of these offences will be found under the heading, "Legal Proceedings."

1. Number of Inspections :

The Public Health Inspectors continued a survey of food premises which was commenced in the previous year and, by the end of the year, 738 visits had been made to shops and other premises in order to ascertain compliance with the Regulations, and arising therefrom 216 contraventions were found, and 43 letters sent and 21 verbal notices given in connection therewith.

The following is a summary of the works done during the year :—

Accumulation of refuse removed	2
Bowl (washing equipment) provided	1
Ceilings repaired	2
Cloakrooms built	1
Clothing Lockers provided	11
Cold water supplied	7

Doors repaired	2
Drainage improved	1
Draining boards provided	2
Dustbins provided	1
Electric fan repaired	2
Equipment removed	1
First Aid kits provided	6
Floors renewed or repaired	6
Food cabinets provided	1
Hot water installed	36
Impervious tabletops provided	6
Lavatory basins provided	28
Light provided or improved	2
Lino laid	1
Manhole covers sealed	1
Nailbrushes provided	11
Premises cleansed	8
Premises closed by owner	2
Prover provided	1
Redecorations carried out	47
Refrigerators installed or repaired	3
Roof light provided	1
Sash-cords repaired	1
Sinks provided	18
Sinks re-sited	2
Sneeze screens provided	2
Towels and soap provided.....	3
Vegetable tank provided	1
Ventilated lobbies provided	4
Ventilation improved generally	1
Walls repaired	3
Wash-room installed	1

Waste pipes and traps provided	3
Water heater repaired	1
W.C. notices provided	6
W.C. pan provided	1
W.C. provided	2
W.C. seat fixed	3
Windows cleaned	1
Windows repaired	4
Yard paving renewed or repaired	3

2. The number and type of food premises :—

(a) Bakers, etc.	31
(b) Butchers	49
(c) Confectioners	92
(d) Fishmongers	17
(e) Greengrocers	58
(f) Grocers and Provisions	121
(g) Restaurants, Cafés, etc.	79
Total	447

3. (i) The number and type of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 : —

(a) Sale of Ice Cream	149
(b) Manufacture of Sausages	35
(c) Cooking of Hams	6
(d) Pickling of Meat	5
(e) Preparation of pickled and preserved food	7
Total	202

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

8

4. 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.

5. School Kitchens :

All school kitchens in Finchley were visited by the Public Health Inspectors and the Staffs are to be commended on the high standard of cleanliness attained.

6. Educational Activities :

During the early part of the year, the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector addressed some fifty members of the Finchley Rotary Club.

7. 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.

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

Slaughterhouses

At the beginning of the year, there was only one slaughterhouse in the district which has been regularly inspected.

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)	60	—	4	84	204	—
Number inspected	60	—	4	84	204	—
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :						
Whole carcases con- demned	—	—	—	—	2	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	—	—	—	8	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tubercu- losis and cysticerci	3.33	—	—	—	4.90	—
Tuberculosis only :						
Whole carcases con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis	1.66	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis :						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by re- frigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

UNSOUND FOOD CONDEMNED, 1957

(1) In Slaughterhouses

TUBERCULOSIS

Cattle

Mesenteries	1
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OTHER DISEASES

Cattle

Livers	1	(Flukes).
Lungs	1 set	(Pneumonia).

Pigs

Carcases	2	(Septicæmia 1, Swine Fever 1).
Hearts	.....	1	(Pericarditis).
Livers	.....	5	(Cirrhosis).
Legs	.....	2	(Trauma).

(2) In Shops

Cattle

Beef	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	250 lbs.
Ox Tongue	4 lbs.

Sheep and Lambs

Lamb	8 lbs.
Livers	20 lbs.
Plucks	34 lbs.

Pigs

Spleen	70 lbs.
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TINNED ARTICLES

Commodity.	Tins.	Total Weight.	
		lbs.	ozs.
Anchovies	1		2
Apricots	136	179	11
Asparagus	12	6	14
Beans	77	50	1½
Beetroot	6	3	5½
Berries, Golden	2	2	0
Blackberries	2	1	7½
Blackcurrant Purée	7	3	15
Brisling	52	9	13¼
Carrots	12	8	11¼
Celery	1		15
Cheese	4		14
Cheese Spread	4		15½
Cherries	346	229	9¼
Chicken Spread	1		1¾
Corned Beef	89	227	2
Crab	26	5	10½
Crab Paste	5	1	0½
Crawfish	4	1	7
Cream	192	67	13
Creamed Rice	2	1	5½
Fruit Cocktail	3	2	9¼
Fruit Salad	92	85	7
Grapefruit	57	69	14
Grapefruit Juice	73	87	6
Grapes	5	5	0
Gooseberries	2	1	11½
Guavas	9	9	0
Ham	20	58	4
Herrings	2	1	12
Jam	102	193	8
Jellied Veal	1	6	0
Kidneys	1		12
Lamb Chops	3	1	7
Lambs' Livers	8	80	0

Commodity.	Tins.	Total Weight.	
		lbs.	ozs.
Lambs' Tongues	2	1	4
Lemon Juice	7	2	10
Lobster	1		3
Loganberries	5	4	8
Luncheon Meat	153	128	7
Mangoes	5	5	0
Marmalade	60	107	0
Meat	35	46	6
Meat Paste	120	—	—
Meat Pudding	2	1	2
Milk	426	645	7
		101 $\frac{7}{8}$	pints
Mixed Vegetables	22	26	9
Morfat Whipping	1		11
Orange Juice	91	108	1
Oranges	498	253	6
Peaches	156	219	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pears	120	187	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Peas	247	213	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pease Pudding	1		11
Pilchards	75	57	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pineapple	421	451	14
Pineapple Juice	33	42	2
Plums	94	107	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork	3	2	4
Potato Salad	1		7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Prunes	1		10
Raspberries	6	5	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
Raspberries and Redcurrants	1	1	3
Ravioli	6	5	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Rhubarb	3	3	9
Rice Pudding	114	92	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Roes	15	7	8
Salmon	19	8	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sardines	52	13	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Sauerkraut	2	1	14
Sausages	19	7	13

Commodity.	Tins.	Total Weight. lbs. ozs.
Shrimps	18	3 11
Sild	3	7½
Soup	9	7 5½
Spaghetti	1	8
Spinach	3	1 3½
Steak	36	14 7½
Steak and Kidney Pudding	5	5 0
Strawberries	28	18 9½
Sweet Corn	10	7 3
Tomatoes	210	163 5½
Tomato Juice	24	18 6
Tomato Paste	1	3¼
Tomato Purée	23	4 14
Tongue	5	4 2
Tongue Spread	1	1¾
Tuna	4	1 13
Two-Fruits	2	3 10

Miscellaneous

Weight.

Apricots		5 lbs.
Batter Flour (packets)	5	5 lbs.
Boiling Fowls		40 lbs.
Cake Mix (packets)	26	16 lbs. 12 ozs.
Cheese		22 cwt. 24 lbs.
Cheese Slices (packets)	11	7 lbs. 4 ozs.
Cheese Spread (packets)	11	4 lbs. 3½ ozs.
Dates (boxes)	33	17 lbs. 10 ozs.
Desiccated Coconut		10 lbs.
Figs (packets)	6	3 lbs.
Flavouring Essence (bottles)	21	
Fruit, Mixed (packets)	2	1 lb. 12 ozs.
Fruit Salad (packets)	9	4 lbs. 8 ozs.
Glacé Cherries		8 lbs. 8 ozs.
Herrings		2 stone
Jellies	3	14¼ ozs.
Lemco (jars)	1	4 ozs.

Commodity.	Weight.
*Meat Paste (jars)	12,000
Oatmeal	14 lbs.
Peaches	25 lbs.
Peanut Butter (jars)	1 8 ozs.
Prunes (boxes)	2 65 lbs.
Raisins (packets)	5 32 lbs. 4 ozs.
Rice	1 lb.
Skate Wings	4 stone
Soup Mix (packets)	1 8 ozs.
Spinach (boxes)	7
Suet	10 lbs. 6 ozs.
Walnuts (boxes)	1 21 lbs.
Whiting Fillets	14 lbs.
Vermicelli (packets)	7 7 lbs.

* This large amount of meat paste was condemned at the request of the firm concerned. The condition arose through the introduction of harmful bacteria in the processing plant, and the assistance of the Department was sought to rectify the trouble.

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. Two persons were licensed during 1957.

Butchers' Shops

Two new butchers' shops were opened during 1957, making the total at the end of the year, 49.

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 22.

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 8 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, 1957, as follows :—

Dealers' Licences to sell milk as Tuberculin Tested	.....	20
Dealers' Licences to sell milk as Pasteurised	.....	22
Dealers' Licences to sell milk as Sterilised	.....	30
Supplementary Licences to sell milk as Tuberculin Tested.....		9
Supplementary Licences to sell milk as Pasteurised	.....	9
Supplementary Licences to sell milk as Sterilised	.....	9

Food Sampling

The following information has been furnished by the Middlesex County Council Public Control Department relative to samples taken in accordance with the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :—

List of Samples procured in the Borough
during the year

Article	Total Samples procured.	Unsatisfactory.
Milk (new)	305	22
Milk (various)	43	—
Butter	18	—
Cakes	12	—
Cooked Meat	8	—
Cheese	17	1
Cream	11	—
Drugs	11	—
Fish—fresh, canned, etc.	11	1
Fruit—fresh and canned	3	—
Fruit squash	10	8
Ice cream	5	—
Meat	12	—
Sausages, etc.	2	—
Spirits	2	—
Vinegar	15	—
Miscellaneous	20	2
Totals	505	34

Regarding the samples noted as unsatisfactory, the following comments are added :—

Milk (New). It will be seen that a considerable number of samples of new milk were taken during the year in question. These were all from churns of milk delivered by dairy farmers to milk processing depots in the area. The total of 22 samples which are shown as unsatisfactory were taken from 8 different dairy farmers and were slightly below the presumptive standard for composition, some having a slight deficiency of milk fat, some of milk solids not fat, and some deficient in both respects. With regard to the unsatisfactory samples from 7 of these farmers they were confined to just a few churns among many, the remaining churns of milk forming the whole consignment being satisfactory. In the case of the eighth

farmer, all the 7 churns of milk which he consigned at one time were found to be slightly deficient; a letter was sent to the farmer concerned drawing his attention to the results of analysis and full information was also given to the Milk Marketing Board in order that the farmer might have the benefit of that Board's Advisory Service.

Cheese. A sample of Camembert cheese purchased from a retailer was found to be contaminated with live maggots of the house fly. A full investigation was made but no fault or omission could be found which would have led directly to the contamination. An official caution was addressed to the retailer concerned.

Fish—Fresh and Canned, etc. A sample of salmon and potato salad was obtained and the label on the tin of this food bore a pictorial representation which was misleading as to the true nature of the contents in the tin. A letter of caution was sent to the retail company concerned.

Fruit Squash. 8 samples of fruit squashes were purchased from a retailer, all the product of one manufacturer. Some were found to be deficient in fruit juice and/or added sugar, and some were contaminated with mould hyphæ and spores. Proceedings were instituted against the manufacturer concerned in respect of the four samples which were most seriously at fault and he was fined a total of £8 8s. 0d.

Miscellaneous. A sample of Swiss Milk Bars was found to be labelled by the manufacturers with a misleading description of the food. This sample was taken as part of the enquiries into an earlier sample of the same product. The enquiries began at the end of 1956 and were completed early in 1957.

A retailer's assistant received an official caution for selling Guernsey tomatoes when English tomatoes were requested.

The Public Control Department also reported upon the following matters :—

Merchandise Marks Acts, 1887-1953. 143 inspections of shops were undertaken to ensure that the Marking Orders relating to certain imported foodstuffs made under the Merchandise Marks Act, 1926,

were complied with. 552 separate displays of meat, apples, tomatoes, poultry and dried fruit were examined, and in addition a number of test purchases were made. 19 summonses were issued against a firm of butchers for exposing for sale imported meat and offal not marked with a prescribed indication of origin. The company was fined a total of £19 and ordered to pay £5 5s. 0d. costs. Another firm of butchers received an official caution for selling frozen beef under the false trade description "chilled," and a fruiterer was cautioned for failing to mark with an indication of origin imported tomatoes exposed for sale.

During the year test purchases were made of quantities of paraffin and 4 offences for giving a false trade description of measure in connection with such sales were detected. One trader, who made two such sales, was prosecuted and fined, the fines and costs amounting to £3 2s. 0d. A second trader who committed two offences of a similar nature received an official caution.

Labelling of Food Order, 1953. At 184 premises 890 articles of pre-packed food were examined to see that they bore a label which gave a clear statement of the designation of the food and, in the case of compound foods, the ingredients, and also the name and address of the packer or labeller. No infringement of this Order was detected.

False or Misleading Descriptions. As in previous years a considerable amount of work has been done in the detailed scrutiny of advertisements and the labels on pre-packed foods, and taking suitable action in those cases where a label or advertisement contains a false or misleading description of the food to which it relates. This work is of benefit to the whole County irrespective of where within the County offences may be detected. During the year under review corrective action has been secured in respect of salmon with potato salad, crystallized jelly, pineapple slices, pure egg mundelect, cherry juice, lime juice, imitation cream, cream filled biscuits, cream filled Easter eggs and cheese. In every case the person responsible agreed to make necessary suitable amendments to labels as a result of representations. In no case was it necessary to institute proceedings.

Special Designated Milk. During the year in question three licences were issued in respect of the use of a special designation for

milk processed within the area; two dealer/pasteurisers were licensed in respect of the use of the designation "pasteurised" and one dealer/steriliser in respect of the designation "sterilised." 54 samples of designated milk were taken, all of which were certified as being satisfactory.

Safe Milk. In addition to the foregoing, 51 samples of raw milk were procured within the Borough and submitted to test for the presence of tubercle bacilli. None was found contaminated.

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 149 premises registered for the sale of ice cream.

Coffee Stalls

Early in the year, the one remaining coffee stall in the district was closed.

Fish Friers

At the end of 1957, there were seven premises in the district where the business of fish frying was carried out, one having been closed during the year.

Game Licences

Fifteen 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 1957	946
Number closed	9
New Shops	20
Number on Register at end of 1957	957
Changes of Occupancy	12

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

Swimming Pools

In co-operation with the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, samples of the water at the Adult and Children's Open Air Pools were taken during the summer months and all were satisfactory.

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.

In addition, a complaint was received from the occupier of a house regarding the quality of the water supply, and in co-operation with the Chief Chemist and Bacteriologist of the Barnet District Water Company, four samples were taken and found to be satisfactory.

All dwelling-houses in the Borough are supplied with water from public water mains direct to the houses with the exception of 4 serving a population of 9 which are served by a standpipe. These houses are in a Clearance Area which had been represented to the Council and are being dealt with.

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.

Clean Air Act, 1956

The above Act deals with the control of dark smoke, smoke from furnaces, smoke control areas and special cases of smoke emission, which include special processes to be dealt with under the Alkali Act, colliery spoil-banks, railway engines, vessels and Crown premises.

It also make provision for the establishment of a Clean Air Council for England and Wales.

Certain sections of the Act came into operation on the 31st December, 1956, including those relating to the height of chimneys and smoke control areas.

With regard to the latter, any local authority may make an order, which must be confirmed by the Minister, declaring the whole or any part of its district as a smoke control area. Subject to any stated exceptions and limitations, the emission of chimney smoke in such an area, on any day, is an offence unless the emission was caused only by the burning of an authorised fuel.

If the owner or occupier of a private dwelling which is in, or will be in, a smoke control area, has to incur expenditure in adapting his heating arrangements, the local authority shall repay him seven-tenths of the cost.

A survey was made of approximately 10% of the 1,400 premises in the southern portion of the Hampstead Garden Suburb, the area being about 435 acres in extent. Particulars with regard to this proposed area and the estimated costs were submitted to the Public Health Committee, but the Council decided to take no action for the time being.

Smoke Abatement

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

Twenty complaints were received during the year, a number of them relating to burning of garden and other refuse.

A considerable number of installations, both industrial and domestic, are being converted or installed for oil burning.

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

The number of persons licensed at the end of the year was 7.

All the premises have been inspected.

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952

Thirty-six visits have been made to premises to ascertain that the provisions of the Act were being complied with. In one shop, an electric fire was found which did not comply with the regulations made under the Act. Legal proceedings were instituted, particulars of which will be seen under the heading, "Legal Proceedings."

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." Ten 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 public health 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 butcher was summonsed for various offences under the Food Hygiene Regulations, as follows :—

- (a) For failure to provide and maintain suitable and sufficient sinks or other facilities for washing food and equipment, a fine of £5 on each of 3 summonses was imposed.
- (b) Three further summonses for failure to provide an adequate supply of either hot and cold water, or of hot water at a suitably controlled temperature. These summonses were dismissed.
- (c) There were two further summonses for failing to keep clean all sinks and other facilities; one was dismissed and there was a fine of £5 in connection with the other.

The proprietor of a provision store was also summonsed for failure to provide and maintain a suitable sink, hot water supply, etc., but on the day of the hearing, the work in connection with these items had been commenced and an undertaking given by the defendant's solicitor that the owner would carry out all the work required by the Council, and it was agreed that the summons be withdrawn.

An owner of some flats was summonsed under the Public Health Act for failure to comply with Statutory Notices with regard to the carrying out of certain repairs. On the 3 summonses, he was fined a total of £9 with 6 guineas' costs and was ordered to carry out the necessary works under the threat of a daily penalty, in default.

For failing to notify the Local Authority of his intention to convert a building into flats, submitting plans, and for failing to notify alterations and additions to drains, and contraventions of the building byelaws, an owner was fined a total of £40 and 19 guineas' costs.

The proprietor of a shop was summonsed for offering for sale an electric fire with a guard not of the standard prescribed by the Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations. The defendant was fined £10 with 10 guineas' costs.

RODENT CONTROL

Complaints and Infestations

	Premises from which complaints have been received		Premises where infestation was confirmed		Premises where infestation was not confirmed	
	1957/8	1956/7	1957/8	1956/7	1957/8	1956/7
Rats	380	313	218	224	162	89
Mice	134	132	106	127	28	5
Total	514	445	324	351	190	94

It is difficult to know the reason for the increased number of complaints of both rats and mice which were not confirmed. Taking these figures into consideration it does appear that the increased number of complaints received is satisfactory.

Arising from Surveys, block treatment and complaints, 28 additional premises were found to be infested with rats or mice, three being at business premises and the remaining 25 being at dwelling houses.

Thirty-four smoke tests were applied to rat runs which revealed defects in drains and/or sewers in 15 cases. Three of these cases had not been remedied on the 31st March, 1958, but the work was in hand.

One of the defects found and which caused a considerable amount of work in the surrounding area was caused by the Electricity Board employees breaking a drain while laying a new supply cable into the premises. The premises concerned are occupied by a Baker.

The number of people keeping poultry is now very much reduced in the district, and at 15 premises where poultry is kept, rats were discovered, representing 4.62% of the total complaints.

Summary of Work carried out from 1/4/1957 to 31/3/1958

	Rats	Mice
Visits in connection with infestations and surveys	2,761	838
Number of confirmed infestations	218	106
Prebait	378	—
Zinc Phosphide	98	—
Arsenic	—	—
Red Squill	5	—
A.N.T.U.	19	—
Warfarin	2,351	359
Gassings	2	—

Treatment of Sewers

It was impossible owing to labour shortage to carry out a maintenance treatment in May.

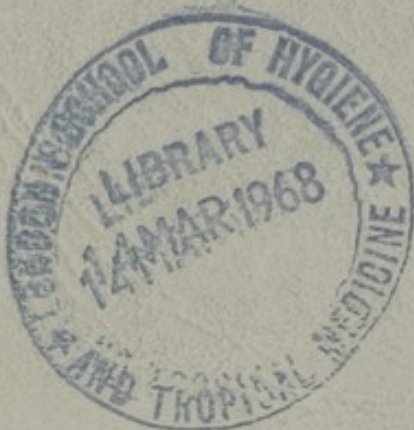
In October, however, two areas were treated, when 668 manholes were tested. Only 8 poison takes were recorded which was 1.19% of all manholes treated.

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