

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

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BOROUGH OF ROMFORD



HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1952

JAMES B. SAMSON, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health



BOROUGH OF ROMFORD



HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1952

JAMES B. SAMSON, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

BOROUGH OF ROMFORD

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(as at 31st December, 1952)

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR :

Alderman G. Roberts, J.P.

DEPUTY MAYOR :

Alderman A. McGonagle

ALDERMEN :

Alderman C. H. Barney,	Alderman Mrs. L. A. Irons,
A.S.A.A.	J.P.
Alderman T. W. Bradley	Alderman L. S. Webb
Alderman R. A. Forge, J.P.	Alderman R. Yeal

COUNCILLORS :

Councillor P. J. Bartaby	Councillor W. J. Hawkins,
Councillor H. A. Beck	B.A. (Com.)
Councillor F. C. Bell	Councillor A. C. Latham
Councillor P. F. Broadhead,	Councilor W. J. Martin
D.S.C.	Councillor W. R. Pike
Councillor S. C. Brown	Councilor P. D. Ridley,
Councillor F. G. Carrick	B.A. (Cantab.)
Councilor E. F. Castle,	Councillor M. J. Riordan
B.Com. ; A.S.A.A., C.C.	Councillor Mrs. O. M. J.
Councilor Mrs. M. Clark-Lewis	Roberts
Councilor G. Coulson	Councillor M. Sharp
Councillor L. F. P. Eley	Councillor S. E. C. Stevens
Councillor S. V. Ellmore	Councillor A. G. Western
Councillor W. S. Gardner	Councillor W. A. White
Councillor O. J. Hammond	

BOROUGH OF ROMFORD

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR :

Alderman G. Roberts, J.P. (ex-officio member)

CHAIRMAN :

Alderman A. McGonagle

VICE-CHAIRMAN :

Councillor W. S. Gardner

Alderman L. S. Webb

Councillor P. J. Bartaby

Councillor F. C. Bell

Councillor P. F. Broadhead,
D.S.C.

Councillor S. C. Brown

Councillor F. G. Carrick

Councillor Mrs. M. Clark-Lewis

Councilor O. J. Hammond

Councillor W. R. Pike

Councillor D. P. Ridley,
B.A. (Cantab.)

Councillor M. J. Riordan

Councillor Mrs. O. M. J.
Roberts

Councillor S. E. C. Stevens

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Public Health Staff

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J. B. Samson, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICERS

- (a) A. P. Draper, M.C., M.A., M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O.
- (b) Mrs. E. M. Haga, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
- (c) Mrs. G. A. Kolibabka, M.A., M.B., Ch.B.

SANITARY INSPECTORS

- (a) H. C. Boswell (A.B.) (Senior Sanitary Inspector).
- (b) M. J. Dove (A.B.).
- (c) T. E. R. Jones (A.).
- (d) W. Hodson (A.B.) (Commenced duties 22nd December, 1952).
- (e) H. H. Seddon (A.B.).

A. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

B. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Other Foods.

HEALTH VISITORS.

Superintendent: Miss F. K. Wells (A.B.D.).

- (a) Miss M. K. Bays (A.B.D.E.) (Resigned 11th June, 1952).
- (b) Miss B. C. Blackley (A.B.D.E.F.) (Commenced duties 18th June, 1952).
- (c) Miss O. Clements (A.B.D.).
- (d) Mrs. G. E. Engall (A.B.D.E.) (Commenced duties 28th July, 1952).
- (e) Miss D. I. A. Hall (A.B.D.E.).
- (f) Miss M. Harrison (A.C.D.E.) (Commenced duties 1st May, 1952).
- (g) Miss M. Hill (A.B.D.E.).
- (h) Miss H. E. S. Holmes (A.B.D.E.).
- (i) Miss M. A. Mander (A.C.D.E.) (Resigned 4th August, 1952).
- (j) Mrs. S. Pratt (A.C.D.E.) (Resigned 31st August, 1952).
- (k) Mrs. Y. Stone (A.C.D.E.) (Commenced duties 24th July, 1952).
- (l) Mrs. G. Wallach (A.C.D.). Certificate of British Tuberculosis Association. Certificate of Brompton Hospital.

TUBERCULOSIS VISITOR.

Mrs. B. Alder (A.B.).

DOMICILIARY MIDWIVES.

Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives and Home Nurses:

Miss M. B. Worby (A.B.). Midwifery Teaching Diploma.
Queen's Certificate of District Nursing.

- (a) Miss I. A. Bassett (B.).
- (b) Miss C. M. Kerr (A.B.).
- (c) Miss M. Kitson (A.B.).
- (d) Miss F. L. Law (A.B.) (Commenced duties 4th February, 1952).
- (e) Mrs. M. Mylward (B.).
- (f) Mrs. E. A. Rooks (B.).
- (g) Mrs. G. E. Sexton (A.B.).
- (h) Mrs. J. Thompson (A.B.).
- (i) Miss M. R. Waddell (A.B.).
- (j) Mrs. M. B. Woodhouse (A.B.).

HOME NURSE/MIDWIVES.

- (a) Miss R. E. May (B.).
- (b) Miss D. D. K. Martin (A.B.) (Commenced duties 4th November, 1952).

HOME NURSES.

- (a) Mrs. E. M. Broome (A.).
- (b) Mrs. B. Casey (A.C.) (Commenced duties 1st February, 1952).
- (c) Miss J. Macaulay (A.B.). Queen's Certificate of District Nursing.
- (d) Mrs. A. C. Silcock (A.B.).
- (e) Miss J. D. Silcock (A.B.).
- (f) Mrs. M. Slavin (A.).
- (g) Mrs. S. A. Wotherspoon (A.).

A. State Registered Nurse.

B. State Certified Midwife.

C. Part 1 S.C.M.

D. Health Visitor's Certificate.

E. Also holds the appointment of School Nurse.

F. Certificate of Tuberculosis Nursing.

HOME HELP ORGANISER.

Mrs. L. Canham.

DAY NURSERIES—MATRONS.

"St. Mortiz"—

Mrs. I. C. Bowyer.

Collier Row—

Mrs. D. Eveling.

Rush Green—

Mrs. R. M. O'Halloran.

CLERICAL ASSISTANTS.

(a) E. W. Gowers, Chief Administrative Assistant.

(b) C. G. Humberston, Senior Administrative Assistant.

(c) S. J. Adams, Administrative Assistant.

(d) W. Norris, Administrative Assistant (Commenced duties 17th March, 1952).

(e) Miss M. E. Firmin.

(f) Miss B. Parker.

(g) Mrs. M. Barnard.

*(h) Mrs. S. Corner.

(i) Mrs. I. M. Gray.

(j) Miss R. Harvey (Commenced duties 3rd March, 1952).

(k) Mrs. M. E. Riley (Commenced duties 1st July, 1952).

(l) Miss J. V. Saggars (Commenced duties 3rd November, 1952).

The Clerical Assistants also carry out duties in connection with the School Health Service of the Essex County Council with the exception of *.

BOROUGH OF ROMFORD

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the
Borough of Romford.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour, herewith, to present to you, this, my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year 1952.

This is the Nineteenth Report in the series, since I was appointed your Medical Officer of Health, and it is drawn up in accordance with the requirements of Article 17(5) of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, as modified by Circular No. 2/53 of the Ministry of Health, dated 22nd January, 1953. This circular states that the Report should be prepared on the lines of that for 1951.

As in the case of the Reports for the last few years, it is convenient to deal also with the Health Services administered by the Essex County Council, as the Local Authority for those services, in accordance with the National Health Service Act, 1946. Under the Scheme of the County, Health Area No. 6 is coterminous with the Borough of Romford, and your Medical Officer of Health also holds the appointment of Acting Area Medical Officer. Furthermore, your Medical Officer holds the appointment of Borough School Medical Officer. Such an arrangement gives unification of the service as a whole, and there is the minimum of overlap.

The district still continues to grow, but, with the completion of the London County Council Estate at Harold Hill, a degree of stability will be reached, and we shall be in a position to consider the extent of our administrative problems, and to deal with them on a more satisfactory basis.

The statistics in the following pages, I humbly submit, are a credit to your district.

My thanks, as usual, go to all the members of my staff, to my fellow officials, and to all the members of the Council, and Health Area Sub-Committee for the assistance invariably given, and for the interest invariably taken in the betterment of health conditions in the town.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES B. SAMSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL, ROMFORD.

May, 1953.

ANNUAL REPORT

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1952

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area (in acres)	9,342
Population : Census (1951), 87,991 ; Mid. 1952 (Estd.)	99,360
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1952)	27,533
Rateable Value (end of 1952)	£724,120
Product of Penny Rate (end of 1952)	£2,721

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year

	Total	M.	F.
Live Births : Legitimate	1,862	923	939
Illegitimate	76	46	30
Birth Rate : 17.9 per 1,000 of estimated resident population			
Still Births : Legitimate	38	23	15
Illegitimate	2	1	1
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births) : 20.2			
Deaths	756	412	344
Death Rate : 9.1 per 1,000 estimated resident population.			
		Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	
Deaths from Puerperal causes		0.5	
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—			
All Infants per 1,000 live births			25.3
Legitimate Infants for 1,000 legitimate live births			24.7
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			39.5
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)			131
Deaths from Measles (all ages)			—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)			—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)			4

TABLE 1

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,
MATERNAL MORTALITY, and CASE-RATES for certain Infectious
Diseases in the year 1952.

England and Wales, London, 160 County Boroughs and
Great Towns, and 160 Smaller Towns.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION		DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION										RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis	Influenza	Small-pox	Acute Polio- myelitis and Polioencepha- litis	Pneumonia	Diarrhoea and Enteri- tis (under 2 years)	Total Deaths under 1 year	
England and Wales	15.3	0.35	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.04	0.00	0.01	0.47	1.1	27.6	
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns, in- cluding London	16.9	0.43	12.1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.28	0.04	0.00	0.01	0.52	1.3	31.2	
160 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1951 Census) ...	15.5	0.36	11.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.5	25.8	
London	17.6	0.34	12.6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.31	0.05	0.00	0.01	0.58	0.7	23.8	
ROMFORD	17.9	0.40	9.1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.31	2.1	25.3	

The Maternal Mortality Rate for England and Wales is as follows: Per 1,000 Total Live Births — 0.72

The Maternal Mortality Rate for Romford is as follows: Per 1,000 Total Live Births — 0.50

TABLE 2.

Causes of Death	All Ages			Deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents, after correction for Inward and Outward transfers											
	M.	F	Total	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 & upwards	
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	7	7	14	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	4	3	1	...
2. Tuberculosis, other	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...
3. Syphilitic disease	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
4. Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Meningococcal infections	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	12	11	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	6	6	6
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	22	2	24	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	6	10	3
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	...	11	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	3	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	...	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	35	33	68	...	...	1	...	1	4	2	6	18	17	19
15. Leukaemia, aleuk- aemia	3	1	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	1	...
16. Diabetes	1	3	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	30	55	85	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6	17	25	35
18. Coronary disease, angina	65	32	97	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	25	29	34
19. Hypertension with heart disease	14	9	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	10	8
20. Other heart disease...	51	57	108	...	...	...	...	2	...	5	2	8	16	75
21. Other circulatory disease	16	24	40	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	3	7	8	20
22. Influenza ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Pneumonia	13	18	31	3	3	1	...	...	...	...	3	4	4	13
24. Bronchitis	36	10	46	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	3	10	14	17
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	7	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	1	1
26. Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	7	2	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	4	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	2	3	5	3	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	6	9	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	2	1	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	7	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	3
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
31. Congenital malformations	7	5	12	8	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	42	38	80	29	...	1	3	1	4	5	6	9	10	12	
33. Motor vehicle accidents	10	1	11	...	...	1	1	5	1	...	...	...	2	1
34. All other accidents...	13	7	20	6	2	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	7	
35. Suicide	2	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
36. Homicide and operations of war	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	412	344	756	49	8	8	6	14	17	29	57	133	168	267	

This year, the Registrar-General has given his estimate of the mid-year population of Romford as 99,360, which compares with 89,340 for last year, an increase of 10,020. The District, for statistical purposes, is now designated as a "Great Town," and, in future, comparisons will be made with the other 159 County Boroughs and Great Towns in England and Wales.

During 1952, the total number of live births registered was 1,938, and the total number of deaths registered was 756. The difference of 1,182 gives the natural increase in the population. As this number falls far short of the Registrar-General's estimated increase of 10,020, it follows that the balance of 8,838 is made up of excess of Immigration over Emigration, and this, again, is very largely accounted for by the development of the Harold Hill Estate, although this development was almost complete by the termination of the year.

For 1952, we estimate the Birth Rate to be 17.9 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. This figure is obtained by multiplying the Crude Birth Rate of 19.5 by the Comparability Factor of 0.92. For last year the Rate was 17.9.

The Rate for England and Wales for 1952 is given as 15.3, and for the 160 Great Towns, with populations over 50,000 at the 1951 Census, the Rate is 16.9.

The Death Rate is estimated as 9.1 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. This figure is obtained by multiplying the Crude Death Rate of 7.6 by the Comparability Factor of 1.2. For last year the Rate was 10.2. The comparable Rates for England and Wales, and for the 160 Great Towns, as referred to above are 11.3 and 12.1 respectively.

The chief causes of death in order of frequency were :—

- (1) Diseases of the Heart and Circulation.
- (2) Cancer.
- (3) Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and other Respiratory Diseases.
- (4) All forms of Accident.
- (5) All forms of Tuberculosis.

The order remains the same as last year.

The Maternal Mortality Rate, which is the number of Maternal Deaths, due to conditions associated with pregnancy or confinement per 1,000 total (live and still) births is 0.5. The corresponding Rate for England and Wales is 0.7.

The Infant Mortality Rate, or the Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births is 25.3, an increase of 1.0.

The corresponding figures for England and Wales, and the 160 Great Towns are 27.6 and 31.2 respectively.

1.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(i) Staff.

Particulars of the staff are set out at the beginning of the report. I would again mention that the Assistant Medical Officers, Nursing Staff, and Home Help Organiser come under the jurisdiction of the Essex County Council, in their capacity as Local Health Authority. Similarly, the majority of the Clerical staff also come under the Essex County Council, but, for convenience, 25% of the time of the Chief Administrative Assistant is given to Borough Council work.

As I have already mentioned, your Medical Officer of Health is also Acting Area Medical Officer for the Part III duties of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

(ii) Laboratory Facilities.

The facilities remain as before, and meet the necessary requirements.

(iii) Nursing in the Home.

(a) GENERAL NURSING.

There are at present 7 Home Nurses in this area and 2 Home Nurse Midwives.

Under the provision of Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, arrangements continue for the issue of sick-room equipment on loan, and there is now no charge for this service.

Table 3 sets out the work of the Home Nurses during the year, insofar as their general domiciliary duties are concerned.

TABLE 3

(1) Number of Visits paid ....	....	22,404
(2) Number of Cases attended ....	....	2,027

(b) DOMICILIARY MIDWIVES.

At the end of the year 9 Domiciliary Midwives were employed and, in addition, the 2 Home Nurse/Midwives, already mentioned.

The following gives a summary of the cases attended by the Domiciliary Midwives, as Midwives, and as Maternity Nurses.

TABLE 4

As Midwives ....	....	....	....	668
As Maternity Nurses ....	....	....	....	222

Table 5 gives a summary of the "Medical Aid" notices received during the year.

TABLE 5

(1) Where the medical practitioner had arranged to provide the patient with maternity services under the National Health Service ....	....	....	....	....	14
(2) Others ....	....	....	....	....	141

(iv) **Ante-natal, and Post-natal Clinics.**

There are now 6 Ante-natal sessions held each week.

Two Post-natal sessions are held per month. Mothers continue to be referred as, and when, necessary to the Consultative Clinic at Oldchurch Hospital.

During the year, 957 individual expectant mothers attended the ante-natal clinics. In addition, 44 mothers attended for post-natal advice.

In all, 283 ante-natal sessions were held. The total number of attendances of the 957 ante-natal mothers, mentioned above, was 3,715, giving an average of 3.9 attendances per patient. The average number attending at each session was 13.1. Twenty-one post-natal sessions were held, and 322 attendances were recorded. The average number attending at each session was 15.3.

(v) **Child Welfare Clinics.**

There are now 12 child welfare sessions held each week, an additional session having been commenced during the month of June, to meet the needs of the residents on the Harold Hill Estate.

Altogether 589 sessions were held, and the following table gives a summary of the attendances:—

TABLE 6

Individual children attending	....	....	....	4,749
Children attending for the first time	....	....	....	2,089
Medical consultations	....	....	....	6,225
Attendances of children under one year of age	....	....	....	22,801
Attendances of children between the ages of one and five years	....	....	....	9,926
Average attendance per session	....	....	....	55.6

(vi) **Health Visitors.**

At the end of the year there were 9 Health Visitors on the staff. There is still a great scarcity of Health Visitors throughout the County and, in fact, throughout the Country, but the scheme of training in operation in the County does enable us, periodically, to obtain new members.

Table 7 relates to Home Visits paid by the Health Visitors during the year.

TABLE 7

(a) To Expectant Mothers—

First visits	....	....	....	....	174
Total visits	....	....	....	....	254

(b) To Children under one year of age—

First visits	....	....	....	....	2,347
Total visits	....	....	....	....	5,237

(c) To Children between the ages of one and five years—

Total visits	7,580
--------------	------	------	------	------	-------

(vii) **The Care of Premature Infants.**

Two draught-proof cots are kept at one of the clinics for issue on loan, as, and when, necessary, but adequate facilities are also available for in-patient treatment at Oldchurch Hospital.

(viii) **Inspection of Nursing Homes.**

There are 4 private nursing homes in the district. Details of these were given in my report for last year. These were inspected quarterly, on behalf of the County Council, and, on each occasion, were found to be satisfactory.

(ix) **Domestic Helps.**

This service has continued as before, and has met with all demands. During the year 183 Part-time Helps were employed, and, these gave assistance in 637 individual cases.

Tuberculosis patients have again been provided with Helps, as required, and a number of Helps have volunteered for this purpose. Those particular Helps have, however, to undergo a special medical examination before they are appointed for this type of work. They also receive detailed instructions on precautionary measures to be taken.

(x) **Day Nurseries.**

Throughout the year the three Day Nurseries have been maintained. Admissions are based on a scheme of priorities. The alterations at "St. Moritz" Nursery, mentioned in my last report, were completed, and these have helped considerably in the day-to-day administration.

A recommendation for two additional Nurseries, one at Harold Hill, and one on the Gobions Estate was before the Ministry at the end of the year.

The average attendance for the year at each Nursery was as follows :—

TABLE 8

"St. Moritz" Nursery	....	....	....	30
Collier Row Nursery	....	....	....	33
Rush Green Nursery	....	....	....	36

The "St. Moritz" Nursery and the Collier Row Nursery are scheduled to take forty children each, and the Rush Green Nursery, fifty.

(xi) **Dental Service.**

My remarks of last year still apply, as the position has not altered.

The following gives particulars of the service :—

TABLE 9

(a) Numbers provided with Dental care :—

	Examined.	Needing Treatment.	Treated.	Made Dentally Fit.
Expectant and Nursing Mothers ...	30	28	50	25
Children under Five ...	69	66	66	57

(b) Forms of Dental Treatment Provided :—

	Extractions.	Anaesthetics.		Fillings.	Scalings or Scaling and Gum Treatment.	Silver Nitrate Treatment.	Dressings.	Radio-graphs.	Dentures provided.	
		Local.	General.						Complete.	Partial
Expectant and Nursing Mothers ...	8	—	7	92	8	—	—	—	1	2
Children under five ...	100	—	59	9	—	—	—	—	—	—

2.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

(i) **Water.**

Mr. H. G. Ramsay, Chief Engineer of the South Essex Waterworks Company, has kindly given me the following report with regard to the water supply to the district :—

(a) There have been no new extensions of public water supply during the year 1952.

(b) Lengths of mains laid, in yards :—

	3"	4"	6"	9"
L.C.C. Harold Hill Estate	233	3,358	479	—
Romford Area	759	1,863	*2,677	615
Totals	992	5,221	3,156	615

* This figure includes 1,278 yards of main, relaid in Noak Hill Road.

(c) The water supply of the area, and of its several parts, has been satisfactory both as to quality and quantity.

(d) Bacteriological and Chemical examinations are made of the raw water, of the water in its various stages of treatment, of the water supplied from the Company's wells, and of the water going into supply.

Analyses are also made of samples obtained from consumers' taps in various parts of the Company's district; all proved to be satisfactory.

A total of over 3,500 Chemical, Bacteriological, and Biological examinations have been made.

(e) The waters are not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

(f) No contamination has arisen, therefore no action has been necessary.

In addition to the analyses carried out by the Waterworks Company samples have also been taken from consumers' taps by the sanitary inspectors, and sent for Bacteriological analyses once per month, and Chemical analyses once per six months, and the results have confirmed the findings of the Company.

(ii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector has given me the undermentioned report, as required by Article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and also the following particulars :—

TABLE 10

(a) Nature and number of Inspections during the year :—

Accumulations and Refuse Deposits	....	31
Bakehouses	....	16
Butchers' Shops and Stalls, etc.	....	81
Common Lodging Houses	....	19
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	....	53
Drainage	....	688
Diseases of Animals Act	....	6
Dustbins	....	170
Establishments for Massage and Special Treatment	....	14
Factories (Mechanical Power)	....	164
Factories (Non-Mechanical)	....	43
Food Preparing Premises	....	108
Food Inspection	....	509
Foodshops	....	204
Ice Cream	....	128
Infectious Disease including Food Poisoning		1,098
Keeping of Animals	....	44
Markets	....	79
Pet Animals Act, 1951	....	24
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	....	2,524
Public Baths	....	22
Public Conveniences	....	105
Rag Flock Act	....	10
Sale of Horse-flesh	....	10

Shop Acts	....	....	....	54
Slaughterhouses	....	....	....	466
Smoke Observations	....	....	....	18
Stables	....	....	....	1
Streams and Ponds	....	....	....	56
Tents, Vans and Sheds	....	....	....	101
Verminous Premises	....	....	....	90
Water Supplies	....	....	....	28
(b) Informal Notices (number served)	....	....	....	876
Stautory Notices (number served)	....	....	....	113
(c) As a result of the service of Notices, the necessary works were completed by the owners or occupiers in all cases except 169, the works for which were still in hand at the end of the year.				

(iii) **Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.**

A summary of the statistics, as required by the Ministry of Labour and National Service, is given below :—

TABLE 11

1. Inspections. Premises.	Number on Inspections. Register.		Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	....	17	43	—
(ii) Factories not in- cluded in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority....	214	164	16	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out- Workers premises)	13	16	—	—
Total	....	224	223	16

2. Cases in which Defects were Found.	No. of Cases in which defects were found.				No. of Cases in which prosecutions instituted.
Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	by H.M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness	4	4	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffect. drain. of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :—					
(b) Insufficient	2	1	—	3	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	1	1	—	1	—
(c) Not Separate for Sexes	1	1	—	—	—
Other Offences	7	7	—	2	—
Total	16	15	—	7	—

3. Outwork.

Nature of Work.	List of No. of Out-workers in August.	No. of Cases of default in sending List.	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply Lists.	No. of Instances of Work in Un-whole-some Premises.	Notices Served.	Prosecutions.
Wearing Apparel—						
Making, etc.	34	—	—	—	—	—
Total	34	—	—	—	—	—

(iv) Caravan Sites.

In addition to the two sites mentioned in my previous report, a further site in Walton Road received Public Health, and Planning consent. This is permitted to accommodate 8 caravans.

In my last report, I indicated that a Compulsory Purchase Order was under consideration for land in Oldchurch Road. This has now been completed. At present, there are caravans on this site, and, although the land has not been purchased for this purpose, the caravans will be permitted to remain there, until arrangements can be made for their disposal elsewhere. In the intervening period the Council will administer this site,

(v) **Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.**

During the year the Sanitary Inspectors, and Rodent Operative paid 2,524 visits, or re-visits, to premises infested by rats and mice.

Further maintenance treatment, in respect of rat disinfection of sewers, was undertaken on two occasions during the year.

(vi) **Infestation.**

The same facilities exist for the disinfection, or destruction of clothing and bedding. This refers to infestation with lice or bugs.

(vii) **Pet Animals Act, 1951.**

This Act came into operation on 1st April, 1952. During the year 13 persons were registered to keep Pet Shops.

3.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(i) **Milk Supply.**

Samples of milk have been taken regularly as before. In particular, one sample has been taken, per supplier, per school term, for bacteriological examination, and one sample of Pasteurised Milk, per supplier, per school year, for biological examination.

At the end of the year, 30 persons or firms were licensed to retail designated milk. Of these 9 were licensed to retail Tuberculin Tested Milk, 2 were licensed to retail Accredited Milk, 15 were licensed to retail Pasteurised Milk, and 26 were licensed to retail Sterilised Milk.

(ii) **Ice Cream.**

At the end of the year 12 manufacturers, and 176 vendors were on the register. Here, also, regular sampling has been carried out.

(iii) **Meat.**

The Sanitary Inspectors have again attended regularly at the Regional Slaughterhouse, and, in fact, it is estimated that the equivalent time of one whole-time Inspector has to be devoted to this work.

In addition, visits have been paid to Meat Depôts, Butchers' Shops, Stalls, etc.

Altogether, 557 visits have been paid, and, at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse alone 22,443 carcasses were examined. No Ante-Mortem inspections are carried out, but all animals slaughtered are examined. The carcasses of 1,052 horses were also examined at a private slaughterhouse, which is used solely for the slaughter of horses.

Table 12 sets out the particulars of the carcasses inspected, and condemned.

TABLE 12.
CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

					Cattle except Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.	Total.
Number killed (if known)	...	...	...	...	4,804	1,179	2,610	7,873	4,979	1,052	23,497
Number inspected	...	...	...	...	4,804	1,179	2,610	7,873	4,979	1,052	23,497
All diseases except Tuberculosis.											
Whole Carcasses condemned	...	...	...	...	2	9	10	34	29	4	88
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	...	1,403	508	16	664	651	173	3,415
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	29.17	45.5	0.39	8.8	13.5	16.8	14.9
Tuberculosis only.											
Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	...	26	38	—	—	12	—	74
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	...	384	321	—	—	174	—	879
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	8.5	30.28	—	—	3.7	—	4.05

(iv) **Food Products in General.**

Insofar as it has been possible with shortage of staff, the Sanitary Inspectors have carried out routine inspections of premises where food is prepared or sold. All these concerned have been issued with a copy of the Byelaws, and, generally speaking, conditions are satisfactory. If not, appropriate action is taken. During the year, the Chairman of the Highways and Health Committee made it known publically that he had received messages of appreciation from several of those engaged in the trade, as to the helpful advice which we had been able to offer, and as to the co-operative spirit which prevailed.

I feel it is appropriate in this section of the report to state that, during the year, the Council decided that free cold washes with the use of paper towels be made available in the men's and women's conveniences at the Market Place, and in the women's convenience at Eastern Road. Such facilities already existed at the men's conveniences at Eastern Road. This resolution is a highly commendable one in the interests of public health, and strengthens our hands in carrying out our clean food campaign amongst the stallholders in the Market Place.

4.—HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1952

TABLE 13

Number of Houses erected during the year :—	
(1) By Local Authority	201
(2) By Private Enterprise	96
(3) By L.C.C. at Harold Hill Estate	1,757
1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the Year :—	
(1) (a) Total number of Dwelling-Houses inspected for Housing Defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	1,794
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	3,678
(2) (a) Number of Dwelling-Houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(3) Number of Dwelling-Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	5
(4) Number of Dwelling-Houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding subhead) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	876
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices :—	
Number of Dwelling-Houses rendered fit in consequence of Informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	707

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	Nil
(2) Number of Dwelling-Houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices :—	
(b) By Owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts—	
(1) Number of Dwelling-Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	113
(2) Number of Dwelling-Houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices :—	
(a) By Owners	89
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of Dwelling-Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	4
(2) Number of Dwelling-Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	5
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been made fit	Nil

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

(a) 1. Number of Dwellings overcrowded at end of year	184
2. Number of Families dwelling therein	324
3. Number of Persons dwelling therein	1,285
(b) Number of New Cases of Overcrowding reported during the year	27
(c) 1. Number of New Cases of Overcrowding relieved during the year	Nil
2. Number of Persons concerned in such cases	Nil
(d) Particulars of any cases in which Dwelling-Houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

5.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

(i) **Notifiable Diseases.**

The great majority of Infectious Diseases are now notifiable. In this section, according to custom, I have not recorded the notifications where the diagnosis has been altered after a period of observation, unless the amended diagnosis proved the condition to be one of another type of infection which is notifiable, when the case has been appropriately recorded. Amendments to notifications are sent to the Registrar-General at the end of each quarter.

(a) **Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.**

This is the condition popularly known as Infantile Paralysis, but this term is really a misnomer, as adults can also be affected, and several cases may show no evidence of paralysis. It is better then to use the technical term, cumbersome though it may be.

When paralysis is present, it is more easy to be sure of the diagnosis, especially during an epidemic period, but when there is no paralysis, the diagnosis, to a large extent, rests on the history available, and on the result of the examination of the cerebro-spinal fluid. In the latter, if there is no clinical evidence of meningeal irritation, it is customary to diagnose the condition as "abortive", but if there is evidence of meningeal irritation, the case is diagnosed as "non-paralytic".

Altogether, there were 19 cases in the district. Two of these occurred in January, and the remainder from June onwards. Of the 19 cases, 11 had paralysis of varying degree, and 8 were diagnosed as abortive. All were removed to Hospital, as also several suspected cases, which, on further observation, were proved not to be suffering from this condition. One of the paralytic cases died in January, 1953.

This year, the epidemic throughout England and Wales commenced about the middle of May, and, after an abrupt rise, reached its peak about the middle of August, when it diminished rather slowly, but steadily. Essex, however, had a relatively few number of cases until the end of July, and the peak, with slight variation, was maintained until the beginning of October, after which there was a slow drop.

(b) **Acute Infective Hepatitis.**

This condition continues to be notifiable throughout the Eastern Region, and there were 22 notifications received in this area. Particulars continued to be forwarded to the Regional Medical Officer at Cambridge for research purposes.

(c) **Diphtheria.**

This was another year during which no case of diphtheria was reported.

Routine Diphtheria Immunisation, and the giving of "booster" doses has continued, as in the past. An endeavour is being made to get children completely immunised before they reach the age of one year.

The following statistics relate to the state of immunisation at the 31st December, 1952:—

TABLE 14

	Under 5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.
Number of children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1952, and who were born between 31st December, 1937, and 31st December, 1952	4,570	11,849

(d) **Dysentery.**

Ten cases were notified as belonging to Romford. One was Amoebic in type, and this was contacted abroad. Six were due to *Shigella Sonnei*, and three were unclassified.

(e) **Food Poisoning.**

During the year 42 cases were notified, and proved to be suffering, or possibly suffering, from food poisoning.

The following table sets out details as required by the Ministry of Health.

TABLE 15

(a) Total Number of Outbreaks	....	....	....	Nil
(b) Number of Individual Cases	....	....	....	42
(c) Number of Deaths	....	....	....	Nil
(d)				
(i) Organisms or other Agent responsible	Salmonella Typhi-Murium	Salmonella Enteritidis	Unknown	
(ii) Outbreaks attributable to above	Nil	Nil	Nil	
(iii) Individual Cases	7	3	32	
(e) Foods involved	Unknown			

(f) **Measles.**

Measles was in epidemic form during the year. Altogether, 1,364 cases were notified, but there were no deaths. Most of the cases were in the latter half of the year.

(g) **Scarlet Fever.**

388 cases were notified. The type continued to be very slight. No deaths were recorded.

(h) **Smallpox.**

No cases occurred in the district, and no contact, so that there was no call for surveillance this year.

Table 16 gives the statistics relative to vaccination, as recorded by the general practitioners of the district.

TABLE 16

Vaccinated :

Under year of age	....	....	....	432
Between the ages of 1 and 2 years	....	....	....	49
Between the ages of 2 and 5 years	....	....	....	49
Between the ages of 5 and 15 years	....	....	....	71
Over 15 years	....	....	....	100

Re-Vaccinated :

Under 1 year of age	....	....	....	—
Between the ages of 1 and 2 years	....	....	....	—
Between the ages of 2 and 5 years	....	....	....	5
Between the ages of 5 and 15 years	....	....	....	37
Over 15 years	....	....	....	198

(i) Tuberculosis.

The work of the Medical Research Council in this area in the evaluation of immunisation by the vaccine B.G.C. continues, and, in the month of September, the unit concerned visited the district, in order to re-examine by X-rays and skin-test those children who partook of the scheme whilst at school, but who had subsequently left school. The Health Visitors have willingly co-operated with the unit, and given all assistance required.

I think it is worthy of note that, during the year, there were only 14 deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis, in spite of the fact that there has, within recent years, been an increase in the number of cases, due to patients getting a priority for rehousing on the Harold Hill Estate. For the years 1947 to 1951 inclusive, the number of deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis were 29, 25, 28, 29, and 27 respectively. Too much reliance cannot, of course, be placed on figures for one particular year, but the reduction for 1952 is promising, and has, no doubt some relationship to the more modern methods of treatment.

(j) Whooping Cough.

Altogether 379 cases were notified. These were fairly evenly distributed throughout the year, and no deaths occurred.

(ii) Non-Notifiable.

The prevalence of these is set out below, and, as the figures are compiled from the school returns only, they are, of course, an underestimate :—

TABLE 17

Mumps	....	....	....	73
Rubella	....	....	....	21

6.—SUPPLEMENTARY**Section 47, National Assistance Act, 1948.**

It was not found necessary to take any action during the year under this section of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

TABLE 18
MONTHLY NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Month	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Dysentery	Encephallitis Poli- Infectious	Erysipelas	Malaria contracted abroad	Measles	Mening- ococcal Infection	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Polio-myelitis Paralytic	Polio-myelitis Non- Paralytic	Whooping Cough	Infective Hepatitis	Food Poisoning	Tuberculosis		Total
																		Resp.	Non- Resp.	
January	12	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	3	—	—	2	—	19	—	3	17	4	64
February	14	—	—	1	3	—	—	3	1	4	1	—	—	—	8	2	2	26	1	66
March	19	—	—	1	4	—	—	1	—	21	—	—	—	—	23	1	5	20	2	97
April	12	—	—	2	3	1	—	1	—	8	2	—	—	—	40	3	6	12	5	95
May	20	—	—	—	4	2	2	1	—	9	3	—	—	—	55	2	3	20	3	124
June	16	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	—	52	—	—	1	—	40	4	6	12	1	138
July	29	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	139	—	—	—	2	38	1	6	24	2	242
August	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	186	—	1	1	—	46	—	4	26	2	282
September	27	—	—	1	3	2	—	3	—	69	—	1	1	2	36	—	2	19	1	167
October	77	—	—	3	2	1	—	1	—	170	—	—	1	—	18	1	3	25	1	303
November	86	—	—	—	3	1	—	2	—	208	—	—	5	3	26	2	1	34	2	372
December	60	—	—	1	12	—	1	3	—	495	1	—	—	2	30	6	2	11	—	624
Total	388	—	—	9	40	10	3	17	1	1,364	7	2	11	9	379	22	42	246	24	2,574

TABLE 19
DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, DIVIDED INTO AGE GROUPS.

Disease	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65	Total
Scarlet Fever	1	12	21	33	42	235	33	6	3	2	—	—	388
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	—	—	—	9
Pneumonia	7	3	2	1	—	7	2	—	4	4	4	6	40
Dysentery	—	—	1	1	—	2	2	—	2	1	1	—	10
Encephalitis—Post Infectious ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	3
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	8	6	17
Malaria contracted abroad	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Measles	34	105	148	194	163	703	5	4	7	1	—	—	1,364
Meningococcal Infection	1	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	7
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Poliomyelitis Paralytic	—	4	—	1	—	3	—	—	2	1	—	—	11
Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic	—	—	1	—	—	3	3	—	2	—	—	—	9
Whooping Cough	29	38	58	35	52	160	5	—	1	—	—	1	379
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	—	—	1	5	4	3	4	3	2	—	22
Food Poisoning	1	5	1	2	3	5	2	3	5	7	4	4	42
Total	75	169	232	267	261	1,126	57	18	40	22	20	17	2,304

TABLE 20
DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, DIVIDED INTO WARDS.

Disease	Bedfords Ward.	Central Ward.	Collier Row Ward.	Gidea Park Ward.	Harold Hill Ward.	Heath Park Ward.	Mawney Ward.	Oldchurch Ward.	Total.
Scarlet Fever	45	23	23	28	184	36	24	25	388
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	3	1	2	3	9
Pneumonia	7	4	9	5	7	3	2	3	40
Dysentery	—	1	4	—	2	1	1	1	10
Encephalitis—Post Infectious	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	3
Erysipelas	3	1	3	—	2	1	7	—	17
Malaria contracted abroad	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	124	42	246	132	608	59	118	35	1,364
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	1	2	—	2	1	—	—	7
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Poliomyelitis Paralytic ...	—	—	3	2	3	1	2	—	11
Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic	1	—	—	—	4	3	—	1	9
Whooping Cough	52	1	41	38	164	28	36	19	379
Infective Hepatitis	2	—	5	2	10	1	—	2	22
Food Poisoning	2	2	32	1	1	1	3	—	42
Tuberculosis—Respiratory...	8	9	17	11	174	5	12	10	246
Tuberculosis—Non-Respira- tory	—	—	1	2	17	1	1	2	24
Total	245	84	386	224	1,182	142	208	103	2,574

TABLE 21
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING
YEAR 1952, and HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

Disease	Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	388	28	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	9	1	—
Pneumonia	40	23	31
Dysentery	10	1	—
Encephalitis—Post Infectious ...	3	1	—
Erysipelas	17	1	—
Malaria contracted abroad	1	—	—
Measles	1,364	7	—
Meningococcal Infection	7	7	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	1	—
Poliomyelitis Paralytic	11	11	—
Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic	9	8	—
Whooping Cough	379	8	—
Infective Hepatitis	22	4	—
Food Poisoning	42	4	—
Total	2,304	104	32

TABLE 22
TUBERCULOSIS: NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1952

AGE PERIODS.				NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
				Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	...	...	9	3	2	—	—	—	—	—
5	...	...	...	8	6	5	3	—	—	—	—
15	...	...	...	26	37	2	2	—	—	—	—
25	...	...	...	42	47	3	3	—	2	1	—
35	...	...	...	22	15	3	1	2	2	—	—
45	...	...	...	13	8	1	—	2	2	1	—
55	...	...	...	7	1	—	—	2	1	1	—
65 and upwards	...	...	...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total	...	...	...	129	117	15	9	7	7	3	—

TABLE 23.
OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES			Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified.	Treated					
	At Home	In Hospital				
2	1	1	2	—	—	—



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