

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

Contributors

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BOROUGH OF WEMBLEY.

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1943

INTERIM REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 10/44 the Annual Report on the Health Services of the Borough for 1943 is again an Interim one, is mainly statistical in form. To comply with the instructions of the Circular, however, some essential figures are omitted. Matters only presented in detail to the various committees if mentioned again in this report are dealt with only shortly.

CERTAIN VITAL STATISTICS 1943, from

figures supplied by Registrar General.

(as comparative 1942 figures within brackets).

Births.

Male Female Total

Legitimate 1,027 967 (1,994) Live

(1,915) Birth

Illegitimate

A.G. MORISON, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.,

(73) (-)

Deaths.

Medical Officer of Health.

Legitimate

28 25 53 Rate per

(42) 1,000

1944. Illegitimate

1 3 4 total

(4) (live and

still-births

25.7 (22.1)

INTERIM REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1943

to the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular No. 10/44 the Annual Report on the Health Services of the Borough for 1943 is again an Interim one, and is mainly statistical in form. To comply with the instructions of the Circular, however, certain essential figures are omitted. Matters already presented in detail to the various committees if mentioned again in this Report are referred to only shortly.

CERTAIN VITAL STATISTICS 1943, from figures supplied by Registrar General.
(Some comparative 1942 figures within brackets).

Live Births.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>		
Legitimate	1,027	967	1,994	) Live	
			(1,915)	) Birth	
Illegitimate	46	31	77	) Rate	-
			(73))	(-)

All Births.

Legitimate	28	25	53	Rate per	
			(62)	1,000	
Illegitimate	1	3	4	total	
			(4)	(Live and	
				still) births	
				26.79 (32.13).	

INTERIM REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1943

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 10/44 the Annual Report on the Health Services of the Borough for 1943 is again an interim one, and is mainly statistical in form. To comply with the instructions of the Circular, however, in essential figures are omitted. Matters are presented in detail to the various sections mentioned again in this report are dealt with only shortly.

CERTAIN VITAL STATISTICS 1943, 1942

Figures supplied by Registrar General. Comparative 1942 figures within brackets.

	1943	1942
Estimated	1,027	967
Estimated	46	31
Estimated	(1,915)	(1,915)
Estimated	77	(72)
Estimated	58	58
Estimated	1	2
Estimated	(2)	(2)
Estimated	58	58
Estimated	(52)	(52)
Estimated	4	4
Estimated	(4)	(4)
Estimated	56.75	56.75
Estimated	(52.13)	(52.13)

Infantile Mortality.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	47	25	72 (66)
Illegitimate	3	2	5 (2)

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births	37.18	(34.16)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	36.11	(34.46)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births	65.00	(27.40)
Deaths from - Cancer (all ages)	183	
" " Measles (all ages)	1	
" " Whooping cough (all ages)	Nil	
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	14	

Maternal Mortality.

Deaths from puerperal sepsis	3	(2)
Other puerperal causes	2	(3)
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	2.41	(2.52)
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) births.. .. .	2.35	(2.43)

Causes of Deaths during the year.

1942	<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Total</u>				
1,041	All causes	511	505	1,016
-	Typhoid & para-typhoid fevers	-	-	-
3	Cerebro-spinal fever	-	2	2
-	Scarlet fever	-	1	1
2	Whooping cough	-	-	-
3	Diphtheria	-	-	-
51	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	32	26	58
12	Other forms of tuberculosis	1	6	7
3	Syphilitic diseases	6	4	10
8	Influenza	11	17	28
2	Measles	1	-	1
-	Ac. polio-myel: & polio-enceph:	-	-	-
-	Acute infectious enceph:	-	-	-
-	Cancer of buc: cav: & œsoph (M)	-	-	-
27	uterus (F)	2	11	13
23	Cancer of stomach & duodenum	20	8	28
18	Cancer of breast	-	21	21
111	Cancer of all other sites	68	53	121
9	Diabetes	4	7	11
89	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	36	64	100
249	Heart disease	106	98	204
42	Other dis: of circ: system	21	23	44
56	Bronchitis	24	18	42
54	Pneumonia	36	27	63
15	Other resp: diseases	9	4	13
16	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	6	3	9
12	Diarrhoea under 2 years	10	4	14
13	Appendicitis	3	1	4
29	Other digestive diseases	11	11	22
20	Nephritis	9	10	19
2	Puerperal & post-abortion: sepsis	-	3	3
3	Other maternal causes	-	2	2
15	Prem: birth	13	8	21
32	Congenital malf: birth injury & infant diseases	16	9	25
6	Suicide	7	8	15
7	Road traffic accidents	5	5	10
27	Other violent causes	17	10	27
82	All other causes	37	41	78

Of the 1,016 deaths 535 (that is 52.66%) occurred elsewhere than within the Borough boundary and 531 took place in hospital (that is 52.17%).

The principal causes of Death.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total number of deaths.</u>	
1. Heart disease and other diseases of circ: system	248	
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	<u>100</u>	348
2. Cancer		183
3. Respiratory diseases:-		
(a) Bronchitis	42	
(b) Pneumonia	63	
(c) Other respiratory diseases	<u>13</u>	118
4. Tuberculosis:-		
(a) Respiratory system	58	
(b) Other forms	<u>7</u>	65
5. Violent deaths:-		
(a) Suicide	15	
(b) Road traffic	10	
(c) Other violent causes	<u>27</u>	52
6. Premature births	21	
Congenital malf: birth injury & infant diseases	<u>25</u>	46
7. Digestive diseases:-		
(a) Appendicitis	4	
(b) Other digestive diseases	22	
(c) Ulcer	<u>9</u>	35
8. Acute infectious diseases:-		
(a) Cerebro-spinal fever	2	
(b) Scarlet fever	1	
(c) Influenza	28	
(d) Measles	<u>1</u>	32

The four main causes of death remained as in the previous year; but afterwards in order came violent deaths, premature births, congenital malformations etc., and digestive diseases, instead of, as in 1942, digestive diseases, premature births, and violent deaths.

	Percentage of total deaths under 1 year.	Percentage of total deaths under 50 years.	Percentage of deaths taking place in <u>Hospitals.</u>
1939	7.96	31.73	33.56
1940	7.00	33.61	35.37
1941	6.45	30.14	43.00
1942	6.40	26.55	48.71
1943	7.61	25.59	52.17

B. CERTAIN OTHER ESSENTIAL LOCAL STATISTICS.

Birth Notifications.

<u>Notified by.</u>	<u>At home.</u>	<u>In Hospital.</u>	<u>In Nursing Home.</u>	<u>Totals.</u>
Doctors	87	800	297	1,184
Midwives	564	234	49	847
Parents	6	-	-	6
Totals	657	1,034	346	2,037
Percentages	32.25	50.76	16.99	100

Live births - 1,987. Stillbirths - 50.

Infantile Mortality.

Deaths from stated causes at various ages
under 1 year of age.

Cause of Death (extracted from weekly returns of local Registrars, and from inward transfers of Registrar General).	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under one month	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
	Prematurity	17	3	3	1	24	2	-	-	-
Congenital defects	6	1	-	-	7	-	2	-	-	9
Atelectasis	5	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	6
Asphyxia neonatorum	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Gastro-enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	2	1	8
Neonatal diarrhoea	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	1	1	2	2	2	3	1	10
Bronchitis	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Pulmonary abscesses	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Intra-cranial haemorrhage	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
Cerebral do.	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Convulsions	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Marasmus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Intussusception	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Septicaemia	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Hydrocephalus	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Violence (criminal)	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
	34	5	7	4	50	8	8	8	3	77

Of the 77 deaths which occurred in children who never celebrated their first birthday, 34 (i.e. 44%) occurred within the first week of life while 50 (i.e. 65%) occurred within the first four weeks of life.

Infantile Mortality 1939-1943.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Wembley.</u>	<u>England & Wales.</u>
1939	39.12	50
1940	57.86	55
1941	42.32	59
1942	34.16	49
1943	37.17	49

Infantile Mortality during last 5 years (9,111
live births - 379 deaths under 1 year).
41.60

Maternal Mortality.

Three deaths from puerperal sepsis were recorded in 1943, and 2 deaths occurred from other puerperal causes.

Rate per 1,000 total births
(Live and Still) 1939-1943.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Wembley.</u>	<u>England & Wales.</u>
1939	5.96	2.93
1940	2.97	2.16
1941	4.30	2.23
1942	2.43	2.01
1943	2.35	2.29

Maternal Mortality during last 5 years (9,381
total births - 33 Maternal deaths).
3.52

Marriages.

In Churches	554
At Registry Office..	220

As expansion of the Health Services took place and on the occurrence of any special public health circumstance the local medical profession was kept informed. For example, circular letters dealt with the continued prevalence of jaundice, the arrangement with Wembley Hospital for the treatment of scabies, the provision of insulin according to Ministry of Health Circular No. 2734, the transference of the Borough Council's civilian ambulance service to the Public Health Department, the medical and nursing assistance made available for influenza according to suggestions by the Ministry of Health. A booklet was compiled and circulated giving the various Health Services available and certain other medical information.

Provision of Insulin.

Number of patients who received free insulin in accordance with the Borough Council's scheme (from 9th March to 31st December) - 9.

Total cost of insulin provided - £28.16. 1.

Ambulance Service.

On 16th June the Borough civilian (non-infectious) ambulance service was transferred from the National Fire Service to the Public Health Department. The ambulances are stationed at the Civil Defence Ambulance Depots, 2 at Barham Park and 1 at Kingsbury, the vehicles being manned by the Civil Defence personnel.

(1) Infectious Diseases.

Removals carried out:-

<u>Quarters ending</u>			
<u>31.3.43</u>	<u>30.6.43</u>	<u>30.9.43</u>	<u>31.12.43</u>
108	109	151	226
Total:- 594			

(2) Non-infectious cases.

Accident removals	630
Sick removals	2,610
Maternity removals	464
	<hr/>
Total	3,704
	<hr/> <hr/>

Health Clinics.

(Some comparative 1942 figures within brackets).

Total number of children who first attended at the Clinics during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance were under 1 year of age	1,857	(1,789)
Total number of children who first attended at the Clinics during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance were between the ages of 1 - 5 years	189	
Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Clinics during the year and who at the end of the year were:-		
(1) Under 1 year of age	1,741	
(2) Over " " " "	<u>3,958</u>	
Total	5,699	(5,784)
Number of attendances by children under 1 year of age	42,833	(40,005)
Number of attendances at all the Health Clinics by children between the ages of 1 - 5 years	21,194	(21,149)
The percentage of notified live births represented by the number of children who first attended at the Clinics during the year and who on the first attendance were under 1 year of age in 1943	93.5	(93.7)
(This number is exclusive of those children who are known previously to have attended a Centre in another district prior to coming to reside in Wembley).		

Number of attendances at the ante-natal Clinics	11,328	(9,936)
Total number of women who attended for the first time	1,670	(1,686)
Percentage of total notified births (Live and Still) represented by the total number of women who attended the Clinics for the first time during the year	82.0	(86.8)

Slough Lane Clinic.

In October the Church was damaged in an air raid and since then the Clinic Sessions have had to be conducted at Stag Lane Clinic. While the distribution of special foods and the Government vitamin products was able to be continued at the Church it was impossible to hold the Ante-natal and Infant Welfare Sessions. At the time of writing (June 1944) the necessary repairs are still incompleated.

Attendances at the various Health Clinics.

Children under 1 year of age.

<u>Clinic.</u>	<u>Total Attendances.</u>	<u>Average attendance per session.</u>
Stag Lane	9,051	59.9
Slough Lane	6,387	62.0
College Road	6,060	60.6
Ealing Road	4,343	45.2
Perrin Road	6,623	42.7
Monks Park	4,742	45.6
One Tree Hill	5,842	38.7

Children between the ages 1 - 5 years.

<u>Clinic.</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Attendances.</u>	<u>Average attendance</u> <u>per session.</u>
Stag Lane	4,534	30
Slough Lane	2,981	29
College Road	3,600	36
Ealing Road	2,359	25
Perrin Road	2,636	17
Monks Park	2,538	24
One Tree Hill	2,545	17

Domiciliary Nursing.

Children referred for treatment to the
Wembley and Kingsbury District Nursing
Associations.

Infants under 1 month	21
Children " 1 year	50
" over 1 "	32

Eye Clinic.

89 children referred to Middlesex County
Council Ophthalmic Clinics.

Orthopaedic Clinic.

114 children referred to Middlesex County
Council Orthopaedic Clinic.

Child Guidance Clinic.

An arrangement was entered into with the
Middlesex County Education Committee according
to which children may be referred to the
County Child Guidance Clinic at 2 St. John's
Road, Harrow.

A report was submitted dealing with the
subject of child guidance in general, its

history, the aims of the movement, the institution of special Clinics in this country, the type of problems dealt with and methods of dealing with them.

Child guidance may be defined as a specialised investigation of those causes which disturb normal mental stability and social adjustment in children, and the application of suitable methods of prevention and treatment. Children referred to these Clinics are not congenitally nor incurably abnormal; they should be those who can be helped to adjust themselves to the community in which they live.

One child was referred in 1943.

Dental Clinic. See Page 19.

Artificial Sunlight and Massage Treatment.

Number referred by Medical Officers - 117
(under 1 year - 12, over 1 year 105)

Reasons for Treatment:-

Rickets	..	..	..	..	40
Anaemia	..	..	..	..	2
Delayed dentition	..	..	..	..	21
Recurrent bronchitis..	..	..	..	..	4
Debility	..	..	..	..	39
General hypotonia	..	..	..	..	5
Bowed legs..	..	..	..	..	4
Knock knees	..	..	..	..	2

Total 117

Convalescent Treatment.

Number of cases referred - 6
(under 1 year - 1, over 1 year - 5)

Reasons for Treatment:-

Anaemia	2
Debility following illness	2
Malnutrition	1
Congenital heart disease ..	1
	<hr/>
Total	<u>6</u>

Ante-Natal Clinics.

The months of pregnancy at which women were seen for the first time:-

<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>	<u>4th</u>	<u>5th</u>	<u>6th</u>	<u>7th</u>	<u>8th</u>	<u>9th</u>
25	363	507	308	187	71	56	24	10

Attendances of Expectant Mothers.

<u>Clinic.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Average attendance</u>
	<u>Attendances.</u>	<u>per session.</u>
Stag Lane	3,055	22)
Slough Lane	1,099	21) Individual
College Road	1,053	21) women who
Ealing Road	1,226	24) attended -
Perrin Road	1,636	16) 1,673.
Monks Park	1,348	26) (3 not
One Tree Hill	1,911	19) pregnant).

The Council again made application to the Minister of Health to become the Local Supervising Authority under the Midwives Acts. A full scheme was submitted at the request of the Minister but after the Mayor and Chairman of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee had attended at the Ministry the application was refused for a second time.

X-Ray Ante-Natal Examinations.

Number of Ante-natal patients referred - 61.

Clothing Coupons for Expectant Mothers.

The administration of this service was transferred to the Food Office on 24th July.

Number of cases dealt with by the Public Health Department:-

1941	....	1,190
1942	....	2,259
1943	....	<u>1,277</u>
Total		<u>4,726</u>

Hospital Confinements.

During the year 774 women were referred to various hospitals for arrangements regarding confinement:-

Medical reasons for reference to hospital:-

Abnormality of maternal pelvis	62
Age at first pregnancy - elderly	41
" " " " - youthful	3
Previous abnormal pregnancy ..	35
" " " labour or puerperium ..	33
Stillbirth previous confinement	17
Maternal ill-health (various causes)	32
Toxaemia	4
Heart disease	22
Tuberculosis	8
Other conditions	<u>17</u>
Home conditions unsuitable	287
Mothers desired hospital accommodation	215

It has continued to be impossible for all women who wish to be confined in hospital to

obtain hospital accommodation. The Council have again approached both the Ministry of Health and the County Council regarding the matter. The County Hospitals have been able to admit only those women concerning whom there are medical reasons for hospitalisation and a limited number whose home conditions were unsatisfactory.

Wembley births taking place in hospital.

(a) Middlesex County Council Hospitals:-

Redhill	318
Central Middlesex	240
Maternity Hospital, Bushey	175
West Middlesex	<u>7</u>
	<u>740</u>

(b) London Hospitals:-

Queen Mary's	68
Queen Charlotte's	56
St. Mary's.. .. .	45
University College	32
City of London	18
Middlesex	18
Charing Cross	16
Royal Free.. .. .	10
Paddington.. .. .	5
St. Bartholomew's	4
Elizabeth Garrett Anderson	4
Hammersmith	3
London	1
Mothers' Hospital	<u>1</u>
	<u>281</u>

(c) Other Hospitals:-

Bearstead Memorial	9
Willesden Maternity	2
Wembley	1
Perivale	<u>1</u>
	<u>13</u>

Total 1,034

5-Year Review.

Year.	Total No. of births notified.	No. of births at home.	No. of births in Hos- pital.	No. of births in M.C.C. Hospitals (inc. pre- ceding column).	Births in Private Nursing Homes and at Private Addresses outside Wembley.
1939	1,782	505 28.3%	960 53.9%	619 34.7%	318 17.8%
1940	1,576	578 37.3%	749 47.5%	607 35.5%	240 15.2%
1941	1,539	529 34.4%	781 50.7%	608 39.5%	229 14.9%
1942	1,942	612 31.5%	1,051 54.1%	795 40.9%	279 14.3%
1943	2,037	657 32.2%	1,034 50.8%	740 36.3%	346 17.0%

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Number of notifications received - 21
(excluding 18 Willesden Maternity
Hospital cases - Willesden residents).
Number of women removed to Hospital - 16.

Obstetric Consultant Service.

Consultant called in by private medical
practitioners - 4.

Post-Natal Clinics.

New cases	285
Subsequent attendances ..	102
Average attendance per session:-	
New cases	3.5)
Subsequent attendances ..	1.3)
	4.8

Much attention is given to the importance of breast feeding.

Test feeding scales issued on loan
to 335 Mothers.

Gynaecological Clinics.

New cases	148
Subsequent attendances ..	132
Average attendance per session:-	
New cases	2.1)
Subsequent attendances ..	1.9)
	4

Birth Control Sessions.

New cases	128
Reattendances	<u>221</u>
Total attendances	<u>349</u>

Special Milk Grants.

During the year grants of liquid milk to the value of £10.11. 6 were made to Mothers and children whose financial circumstances were within the free level of the Council's economic scale. Grants of dried milk and other accessory foods amounting to £77.12. 7½ were also made.

Maternity Outfits.

Number of Maternity Outfits supplied - 617.

Home Helps.

Ministry of Health Circular No. 2729 dealt with the difficulties now experienced in regard to the provision of domestic assistance in the home for women at the time of confinement and in accordance with the suggestion of the circular the Council resolved to employ three full-time Home Helps. Personnel for the service, however, is exceedingly difficult to provide and only for short periods have there been three Home Helps in the employment of the Council. When considering the circular the Council reviewed the payment for casual Home Helps and this has given some relief to the difficulties.

No. of cases attended:-

By full-time Home Helps	..	31
" part-time " "		
(casually engaged)	..	43

Convalescent Home Treatment.

Number of Mothers referred - 1.

Domiciliary Nursing.

Mothers referred for treatment to the Wembley and Kingsbury District Nursing Association - 15.

Dental Services - Women and Children.

Numbers referred to the Dental Clinic by
Medical Officers.

	Expectant Mothers.	Nursing Mothers.	Children under <u>5 years.</u>
Numbers referred for treatment	698	148	349
Numbers who received treatment	559	117	295
Numbers made dentally fit	522	115	284
Numbers of treatments -			
(a) Fillings			
(i) in temporary teeth	-	-	274
(ii) in permanent teeth	294	81	-
(b) Number of teeth extracted	1,495	269	253
(c) Number of administrations of general anaesthesia (nitrous oxide)	267	60	120
(d) Number of persons supplied with dentures	88	22	-
(e) Number of dentures supplied	122	33	-

The above figures may be divided as follows:-

	<u>Consultations.</u>	<u>Conservative treatment.</u>	<u>Extractions.</u>
Children	189	336	118
Mothers	329	462	512

Total attendances at Dental Clinics last 5 years.

			<u>Children.</u>	<u>Mothers.</u>
1939	..	..	1,093	1,772
1940	..	..	1,171	1,729
1941	..	..	972	1,709
1942	..	..	869	1,870
1943	..	..	643	1,303

Domiciliary Visits by Health Visitors.

Home Visits

- (a) To children under 1 year
 - 2,307 First Visits
 - 5,690 Revisits
- (b) To children between the ages of 1-5 years
 - 9,480 Total Visits
- (c) To Expectant Mothers
 - 1,196 First Visits
 - 2,080 Revisits
- (d) To Nursing Mothers
 - 705 First Visits
 - 400 Revisits
- (e) Other Special Visits 4,542

Analysis of Special Cases included in (e) above:-

Diphtheria immunisation	1,029
Infectious Diseases: Measles	1,144
Whooping Cough	335
Tuberculosis	29
Ophthalmia neonatorum (7)	
Others (18)	25
Puerperal pyrexia ..	14
Scarlet fever	6
Scabies	601
Re Day Nursery Children	834
Home Help supervision	135
Daily Minders	28
Re stillbirths.. .. .	54
Assistance re verminous conditions	42
Impetigo	29
Re adoption of children	28

Child Life Protection.

Visits by Health Visitors:-

To foster children	538
" " parents	465

At the end of the year there were on the register:-

Foster children	39
" parents	31
Number of foster children who died during the year.. .. .	1
Number on whom inquests were held	Nil

Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939.

This Act came into force on the 1st June, 1943. It deals with the registration of Adoption Societies, the Registration Authority being the Council of any County or County Borough. The Registration Authority has to be satisfied that the Society is a charitable association and may refuse registration in certain circumstances, having similarly power to cancel registration. The Secretary of State is given power to make regulations which may ensure that parents are told in ordinary language their own legal position and the effect of the adoption order. The regulations may also require the supervision of each case by a Case Committee. No application to the Court for an adoption order shall be made until three months after the child has been delivered into the care and possession of the proposed adopter. Section 7 of the Act deals with the protection of adopted children by Welfare Authorities such as the Borough Council, making it the duty of any person other than the child's parent or guardian or the person with whom the child is placed who participates in the arrangement for the placement of the child to notify in writing the Borough Council. The adopter must also inform the Borough Council of any change of residence and in the case of death of the child notify both the Welfare Authority (the Borough Council) and the Coroner. The Welfare Authority has power to make application to the Court to remove a child on the same grounds as those contained in the Child Life Protection Sections of the Public Health Acts, namely (a) regarding environment or (b) regarding the fitness of the proposed adopter.

This Act for the most part places duties on the County Council but in addition, by Section 7, duties are imposed upon the Borough

Council in certain cases. To the end of the year no notification under Section 7 was received. Certain Adoption Societies, however, inform us of their having placed children and the children are visited systematically, while any relevant information regarding proposals to adopt are forwarded to the Secretary of the Middlesex Education Committee.

The action by the Public Health Department:-

- (1) Notifications received under Section 7(3) are reported to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.
- (2) Health Visitors visit monthly, reporting on circumstances regarding environment, suitability as to health, etc. of the proposed adopter, and advice regarding the health and wellbeing of the child.
- (3) Health Visitors seek out in their domiciliary visiting any children concerning whom it is thought that a notice should have been sent and, in addition, discreetly exercise such supervision as is possible for those children who have been placed by their parents for adoption.
- (4) The Medical Officer of Health passes relevant information to the Secretary, County Education Committee.

One of the most important duties of a Public Health Department must always be health education and the staff from time to time have taken full advantage of the opportunities the Committees offer for them to keep up to date. Health Visitors, for example, have attended the following courses during 1943:- 10 attended a refresher course on the Social Side of Tuberculosis Work for Health Visitors; 2 Health Visitors attended a course by the Women Public Health Officers Association on "How to teach"; and 1 attended the course for the Diploma in Nursing, University of London.

From another point of view, four Student Health Visitors have attended at Wembley during their course of training, 3 from the Royal College of Nursing and 1 from the National Health Society.

The Sanitary Inspectors have also kept their information up to date having attended, for example, refresher courses on food decontamination, on various points arising from the Infestation Order, 1939, and demonstrations with regard to rats and mice infestation, as well as certain courses at the London School of Hygiene on insect pests.

The Day Nursery staff have continued their lectures and training to the students in preparation for entering for the examination for the Diploma of the National Society of Children's Nurseries.

The syllabus of talks given at the Health Clinics.

Subjects dealt with.

1. Diet. How best to use the rationed foods and to choose foods on points, e.g. eggs and powdered eggs, the special Government rations of milk, cod liver oil and other vitamin preparations.

The importance of breast feeding whenever possible is always stressed. Advice regarding bottle feeding, the preparation of the feeds, care of the bottle and teat is fully explained as is the care of the baby's mouth and skin.

2. General Hygiene. The importance of fresh air, exercise, rest and sleep, particularly for the expectant Mother. Appropriate patterns for special clothing; care of the teeth, hands and care of the breasts.

At all of the clinics many specimen clothes of which patterns are available are displayed. The necessary equipment for the baby's cot is demonstrated. For the young children the importance of regular habits with rest and sleep periods, hand washing, care of teeth, the dangers of the dummy (for example, palate defects, jaw deformities, mouth breathing). The early signs of eye defects are explained, for example, squint; as of ear infections and discharge. In short a correct routine for the child's day is explained. Safety first principles for toddlers, fire guards, knives, scissors, safety straps, gas taps, etc., are emphasised.

3. Preventive Medicine. E.g. The value of inoculation treatment against diphtheria and vaccination against small-pox is emphasised; while under general hygiene and personal cleanliness, the prevention of scabies and other such infestations and skin conditions, (impetigo, etc.) are explained.

Special courses of 8 talks and demonstrations for women having their first babies were conducted at One Tree Hill Clinic. Most of these young women are working at the time they make their first attendance at the Ante-Natal Clinics so that a good deal of organisation has had to be made for the talks to suit the convenience of the expectant Mothers. The Mothers are invited to attend the Health Visitor's demonstration whether they may be due to see the doctor or not.

Syllabus.

- (a) The Expectant Mother. Explanation of menstruation. Growth and development of the coming child. Special hygiene for the pregnant woman, e.g., the care of the breasts, clothing, maternity belts, shoes, etc. Re-adjustment of daily routine, e.g. exercise and rest periods. Diet and extras necessary in pregnancy. The Government rations and various accessory nutrients advised by the doctor are explained.
- (b) The Baby. Preparation of baby's clothes, cot and other necessary equipment. Model garments shown.

The importance of baby's bath, a demonstration is conducted. Baby's daily routine and management is gone into in detail. The value of breast feeding to the baby is explained. The baby's physical development in the early months after birth is explained as is the value of preventive medicine as at present evolved, e.g. vaccination against small-pox.

The final lecture deals with the confinement, co-operation with the attendant and the necessary details of the care of the Mother during the important few weeks after the birth of the baby.

It is a pleasure to record the valuable work of Health Education performed by the Health Visitors. On the blackboards at the clinics a note on some special topical subject appears every month. ❧

E. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

For figures giving incidence of infectious diseases as notified in Wards and numbers removed to hospital see Page 29.

The incidence of ~~scarlet~~ fever was high throughout the year ~~having~~ been most prevalent in Roe Green Ward. Seventy-one

per cent of the cases were removed to hospital. Regarding hospitalisation for scarlet fever, previous reports have pointed out that where the home conditions are satisfactory to give adequate nursing, admission to hospital is neither necessary nor always best for the patient and the general standard of housing accommodation in Wembley is such that probably fewer than 71% of cases of scarlet fever in its present mild form require hospitalisation. These remarks deal only with the patient. With regard to the public health, hospitalisation becomes necessary only in unsatisfactory housing circumstances or where in the home there is a worker handling food, especially milk, and where a birth is about to take place in the family in which circumstance all possible action must be taken to prevent exposure to streptococcal infection. A letter was addressed to the local medical profession on these lines towards the end of the year when there was strain on available hospital accommodation for scarlet fever cases. In this letter, of course, the present exceptional circumstances with regard to the employment of women and to there being in most houses many more occupants than in normal times were admitted.

The continued high incidence of measles outside the usual 2-yearly periodicity since the war was again to be noted in 1943.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN WARDS, 1943, AND REMOVALS TO HOSPITAL.

Disease.	Total.	Alperton.	Central.	Chalkhill.	Fryent.	The Hyde.	Roe Green.	Kenton.	Preston.	Sudbury Court.	Sudbury.	Wembley Park.	Tokington.	Total removed to Hospital.	Percentage of cases removed to Hospital.
Scarlet Fever	541	45	17	52	47	62	103	46	59	15	31	32	32	385	71.16
Diphtheria	17	5	-	1	3	-	1	-	1	2	1	1	2	16	95.18
Enteric fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	100.00
Pneumonia	211	18	6	9	13	25	35	19	15	9	22	10	30	63	29.86
Erysipelas	53	3	2	1	4	3	3	5	4	3	6	8	11	14	26.42
Ophthalmia neonatorum	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	100.00
Cerebro-spinal fever	8	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	2	1	-	1	5	62.50
Dysentery	22	4	1	3	2	4	3	1	-	-	1	1	2	18	81.82
Measles	1,276	126	68	57	93	76	105	90	126	148	109	59	219	18	1.41
Whooping cough	340	52	12	27	50	17	21	29	45	6	23	11	47	5	1.47

Winter respiratory diseases.

Winter period considered to begin week ending first Saturday in October and to end week ending last Saturday in March.

	<u>Notifications of primary pneumonia and acute influenzal- pneumonia.</u>	<u>Death certifi- cates in which respiratory diseases mentioned.</u>
1939-40	61	106
1940-41	82	107
1941-42	101	135
1942-43	92	105
1943-44	151	170

Influenza.

In December communication was received from the Ministry of Health with regard to the increase in influenza throughout the country. As a matter of fact, however, the local epidemic of influenza in Wembley had passed towards the end of November. The experience was that of a mild influenza, most of the victims being fit for work again in a matter of seven or eight days. According to the advice of the Ministry of Health a scheme was immediately arranged which fortunately was not required but will be ready at any time if perchance influenza becomes epidemic in proportion again. The Divisional Secretary of the British Red Cross Society and the Divisional Superintendent of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade along with the Centre Organiser of the W.V.S. arranged to give the following assistance:-

- (a) If nursing assistance were required the joint Associations would endeavour to provide such assistance.

- (b) If assistance in the manner of light domestic assistance or helping in the family shopping for example were required, the W.V.S. would consider their ability to so assist through their District Leaders.

With regard to the medical personnel of the Services giving assistance to civilian doctors an arrangement was made whereby assistance might be made available by communicating the circumstances to the Secretary of the Local Medical War Committee, the Secretary of the Local Medical War Committee keeping himself in touch with the medical services of the Army and the Royal Air Force.

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Information regarding these was obtained throughout the year from the head teachers of the schools in the Borough.

Disease.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Chicken-pox	94	87	119	138	173	90	84	-	14	6	2	4	811
Mumps	8	2	6	45	20	6	4	-	2	8	6	6	113
German measles	1	1	5	59	89	23	33	-	3	-	-	-	214
Infective jaundice	91	35	7	49	22	12	7	8	25	16	8	4	284

Consultations regarding infectious disease,
between the Medical Officer of Health and the
local medical profession - 12.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The Medical Research Council published a special report on the epidemiology of diphtheria during the last 40 years by W.T. Russell, D.Sc., from which certain paragraphs were presented to the Public Health Committee in September. The conclusions of Dr. Russell's report are irrefutable statistically. There is very strong evidence that immunisation, particularly since the inclusion of the pre-school children, has reduced the morbidity and the mortality from diphtheria in New York City and in Toronto. The statistical incidence of diphtheria in these cities in the best immunisation period is significantly better than might have been expected from the trend of morbidity and mortality in the pre-immunisation period. According to past experience the disease had a periodicity of 6 years in New York and of 4 years in Toronto. On this basis there should have been epidemics in both cities between 1930 and 1940 but none has occurred. The best explanation of this absence is that the Health Authorities in both cities by artificially immunising the school and pre-school children have prevented the occurrence of the epidemics.

While the number of children who have received immunisation treatment in Wembley has been considerably increased in the last few years, it is to be emphasised that there is still a number of children not protected from diphtheria, a serious but assuredly preventible disease.

Numbers treated:-

<u>Year.</u>	<u>0 - 5.</u>	<u>5 - 10.</u>	<u>10 - 15.</u>	<u>Over 15.</u>	<u>Totals.</u>
1939	181	214	63	4	462
1940	249	152	44	5	450
1941	2,454	2,102	998	32	5,586
1942	987	489	272	10	1,758
1943	1,722	431	254	4	2,411

The percentage of the child population considered immunised on the 31st December, was -

Children under 5 years	54.58%
" between 5 and 15 years	60.68%

In the last annual report details were given of the various ways in which surely almost every family in the Borough must have been advised regarding the importance of diphtheria immunisation. All the methods of approach mentioned regarding that year were continued throughout 1943. Health Visitors made some 3,000 special visits in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular No. 2,713 in endeavour to explain the importance of diphtheria immunisation in those children concerning whom so far there was no record of their having been immunised.

Vaccination against small-pox.

War-time difficulties - part-time work of the Mothers, shopping queues and so on - might be responsible for a number of infants not being vaccinated against small-pox and an arrangement was made whereby Dr. Dyson, Public Vaccinator, attends the Health Clinics in rotation, his first attendance being at One Tree Hill Clinic in November. To the end of the year 34 infants were vaccinated at the Clinics (since 1st January

1944 to end of May, 232 children have been vaccinated). Such a co-operative arrangement has been very helpful to the Mothers in the present abnormal war-time circumstances and it is a real practical public health service against a real war-time possibility - the introduction of small-pox into the Country - at any time.

Tuberculosis.

	<u>No. of Notifications.</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	
	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Under 1	1	-	-	1
1 - 4	3	1	1	1
5 - 14	3	1	1	2
15 - 24	11	28	-	3
25 - 34	14	16	1	2
35 - 44	15	6	1	2
45 - 54	7	6	-	3
55 - 64	13	6	1	-
65 & over	-	2	-	-
Totals	67	66	5	14

	<u>No. of Deaths.</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	
	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Under 1	-	1	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	1
5 - 14	-	2	-	-
15 - 24	6	5	1	1
25 - 34	1	7	-	-
35 - 44	12	5	-	-
45 - 54	6	4	-	-
55 - 64	9	2	-	2
65 & over	2	2	-	-
Totals	36	28	1	4

No. admitted to Hospitals
or Sanatoria.

127

No. discharged from
Hospitals or Sanatoria.

105

During the year 124 cases were removed from register and at 31st December, 698 names remained on register - 600 Pulmonary and 98 Non-Pulmonary.

Of the 69 deaths from tuberculosis during the year, 7 had not been notified during life (that is 10.14%).

Notifications and Deaths from tuberculosis in
5-year period.

	<u>Notification.</u>		<u>Deaths.</u>	
	<u>Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>
1939	100	22	48	9
1940	100	25	56	7
1941	142	19	64	3
1942	150	34	60	10
1943	133	19	64	5

Dr. Lewis-Faning has analysed the statistics of Middlesex with regard to pulmonary tuberculosis (British Medical Journal 27th November, 1943) and his conclusion is that there is no evidence, from the experience of the tuberculosis service of the County of Middlesex, of a lowered resistance to the disease to the point at which duration of the illness was shortened, and hence no evidence that lowered resistance was a causative factor in the increase of tuberculosis mortality which occurred 1940-1.

Bacteriological Service (at Middlesex Hospital).

Examinations made.	Quarter ending				Total for 12 months.
	31.3.43	30.6.43	30.9.43	31.12.43	
Throat swabs:- Diphtheria	86 (of which 1 was positive)	80 (of which 3 were positive)	75 (of which 3 were positive)	108 (of which 1 was positive)	349 (of which 8 - 2.28% were positive)
Haemolytic) Streptococci)	31 (of which 18 were positive)	25 (of which 12 were positive)	24 (of which 8 were positive)	45 (of which 22 were positive)	125 (of which 60 - 48% were positive)
Vincent's) Angina)	21 (of which 4 were positive)	14 (of which 1 was positive)	20 (of which 2 were positive)	18 (of which 1 was positive)	73 (of which 8 - 11% were positive)

36

37.

Other swabs	2	1	-	6	9
Nasal swabs:-					
Diphtheria	4	7	6 (of which 1 was positive)	17 (of which 1 was positive)	34 (of which 2 - 5.88% were positive)
Haemolytic) Streptococci)	-	-	-	1 (positive)	1
Sputum (Tubercle Bacilli)	36 (of which 2 were positive)	25 (of which 3 were positive)	29	31 (of which 2 were positive)	121 (of which 7 - 5.78% were positive)
Faeces and Urine	18	19	35	53	125
Blood	5	3	5	13	26
Films and swabs for Special Bacteria	7	1	-	2	10
Other specimens	7	2	5	-	14

Jaundice (infective hepatitis).

Through the courtesy of the local medical profession the incidence of jaundice in the Borough has continued to be recorded. Since June 1942, 436 cases have occurred, the monthly incidence having been as follows.

1942 June	1	1943 June	12
July	4	July	7
August	2	August	8
September	4	September	25
October	22	October	16
November	19	November	8
December	34	December	4
1943 January	91	1944 January	6
February	46	February	-
March	19	March	11
April	61	April	6
May	22	May	8

Total - 436

The above figures indicate an epidemic curve with its peak in January 1943, the greater incidence having arisen between October 1942 and May 1943. In September 1943 it looked as if Wembley was about to have another epidemic peak but fortunately this did not materialise and for some time now the number of cases has shown definite fall. Our figures continue to be submitted to a special Sub-Committee of the Medical Research Council which is investigating this major war medical problem.

The age incidence for the 2 years is indicated by the following figures:-

0 - 5 years	16
5 - 10 "	161
10 - 15 "	137
Over 15 "	112
Age unknown	10

The relative escape of the child under 5 and the greater incidence among school children than amongst adults have been marked, and both are in accord with the experience of other areas in the Country.

With regard to the Day Nurseries, for example, where the children are all of tender years and contact is intimate regarding the children both one with another and with the staff; the experience again indicates this relative immunity amongst young children. In 1943, 3 cases occurred amongst Nursery children, 1 in May and another in July at Carlyon Road and one other at Harrowdene Road Nursery. At both these Nurseries the attendance of children is generally over 40 and still no spread occurred. At Harrowdene Road Nursery in September, 2 members of the staff developed jaundice without any further spread amongst the children.

Scabies.

The request of the Ministry^m of Health in Circular No. 2,831 was answered fully in the Interim Report for 1942.

No. of Cases of Scabies reported during the year.

January	...	48	July	...	71
February	...	41	August	...	37
March	...	71	September	...	84
April	...	55	October	...	70
May	...	103	November	...	78
June	...	57	December	...	76

Total - 791

Numbers affected in individual families.

1	person	in	243	families.
2	persons	"	98	"
3	"	"	42	"
4	"	"	29	"
5	"	"	6	"
6	"	"	9	"
8	"	"	1	family.
9	"	"	2	families.

That only 14 recurrent cases occurred in three families (2 in 1 family and 6 in 2 families) indicates that our deliberate omission to disinfect clothing by the Borough Council's steam disinfector has been justified. The careful domestic washing according to the advice given has proved sufficient.

In March Wembley Hospital opened a Scabies Clinic in the Gas Cleansing rooms attached to the First Aid Post at the Hospital. This has proved to be a considerable convenience to the families in Wembley when so many women are now in employment.

A film produced by the Ministry of Information on behalf of the Ministry of Health dealing with the diagnosis and treatment of scabies was shown on 7th July at Wembley Hospital to an audience of 125 persons including members of the local medical profession, midwives, the District Nursing Associations, Civil Defence personnel and the staff of the Public Health Department.

Verminous Conditions.

Twenty cases of verminous heads required special advice and treatment during the year - 7 were referred by factory Medical Officers, 5 by school Medical Officers, 3 by private

Medical Practitioners, 3 from the Health Clinics, and 2 by the Citizens' Advice Bureau. Nineteen of these cases received treatment at Kensington Medicinal Baths, and the other was treated at one of the Council's Health Clinics. Some other cases of early accidental occurrence have been met from time to time and advised but infestation in Wembley is not a Public Health problem.

Disinfection of Premises and Articles.

Disinfections for:-

Infectious diseases	645
Cancer	13
Vermin (routine protection from)	235
Miscellaneous.. .. .	79

Articles disinfected or destroyed:-

	<u>Disinfected.</u>	<u>Destroyed.</u>
Beds	182	4
Bolsters	371	3
Blankets	2,237	-
Counterpanes	642	1
Covers	46	-
Curtains	8	-
Cushions	117	-
Mattresses	848	12
Palliasses	34	-
Pillows	1,914	8
Rugs and mats.. .. .	65	-
Sheets	1,010	2
Wearing apparel	469	1
Sundries	195	-
Towels etc. from) Wembley Hospital) re Scabies) Scheme)	75 lots	

F. ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE, FOOD AND WATER.

Number of verbal notices given	290
" " " " complied with	376 x
" " written notices served.. ..	465
" " " " complied with	456
" " statutory notices served	36
" " " " complied with	48 x

x Includes a number of notices served in 1942, and completed in 1943.

Number of complaints received and investigated.. 2,193

General sanitation inspections (including 784 visits to Air Raid Shelters).. 11,217

Nuisances abated and improvements effected (including Air Raid Shelters - 2) 1,301

Some Housing Details.

Visits to dwelling houses 8,198

Nuisances abated and improvements effected 1,545

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .. 2,541

Number of inspections made for the purpose 5,581

Number of dwelling houses (included in above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925/1932 .. 2

Number of inspections made for the purpose 19

Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 1,496

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action 1,468

Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which statutory notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	33
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices -	
(a) By owners	21 ∅
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	17 *
∅ Includes compliance in 1943 of 5 Notices served in 1942.	
* Includes compliance in 1943 of 12 Notices served in 1942.	

Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
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Overcrowding.

Number of certificates issued giving the number of persons who may occupy a house	48
Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	114
" " families dwelling therein	115
" " persons " "	615
" " new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	43
" " overcrowded families relieved during the year	14
(1) by removal of members of family	3
(2) " " " families to other known address	4
(3) " " to unknown addresses	7
(4) " " " Council houses (included also in 2)	-
(5) " " " requisitioned premises (also included in 2)	4
(6) " " of sub-tenants and lodgers	-
(7) Number of persons included in such relieved cases	75

The Council have been very sensitive of the increased overcrowding occurring in the Borough and have made representation on the matter to the Minister of Health. The figures in the Public Health Department indicate that the larger number of families requiring alternative accommodation because of overcrowding is in the main amongst those families for whom the "equivalent numbers" are $3\frac{1}{2}$ and 4 (child 0 - 1 year = no equivalent unit, child 1 year - 10 years = $\frac{1}{2}$ unit, child over 10 years = 1 unit). Such families require always 2 bedrooms and generally 3. These facts were presented in a report to a joint meeting of the Public Health and the Housing and Works Committees in April, when the Joint Committee was considering the possible lay-outs for the adaptation of shops into flats. The opinion was there expressed that the vacant shop premises such as the Joint Committee had in mind might quite properly be a valuable temporary expedient providing housing accommodation for people much less well housed at the present time. Each individual shop premises, however, requires individual planning and sometimes the superficial area might suggest more rooms than are really appropriately possible because of these shop premises being in the main of narrow frontage and of comparatively large depth from front to back.

Disinfestation.

Visits paid re vermin or suspicion of -		
for bed bugs	178)	
" other vermin	<u>152)</u>	330
Verminous premises disinfested -		
for bugs	69)	
" other vermin	<u>22)</u>	91
Council houses disinfested		9
(Method employed - liquid insecticides)		
Hydrogen cyanide (Fumigation of Buildings)		
Regulations, 1938		
Notices of Intention to Fumigate		
received		6
In one case on the advice given the Intention was withdrawn		

Outworkers.

Number on the register 31.12.1943	..	138
" of visits paid to premises	..	67

Offices.

Number on the register	.. .. .	244
" of visits paid..	.. .. .	200
Defects found, 2.	Defects remedied 2.	

Meat and other Food Premises.

Number of inspections made - 3,079

Nuisances abated and improvements effected:-

Meat Shops, Stalls &c.	Premises	
" " " "	cleansed	44
" " " "	Other con-	
	traventions	
	remedied	12
Cowsheds -	contraventions remedied	-
Dairies -	cleansed and limewashed	11
"	premises repaired	6
"	other contraventions	
	remedied	12
Bakehouses	cleansed and limewashed	11
"	sanitary conditions	
	improved	2
"	other contraventions	
	remedied	3
Fried Fish Shops	cleansed and	
	limewashed ..	10
" " "	sanitary conditions	
	improved ..	2
" " "	other contra-	
	ventions remedied	2
Fishmongers &c.,	contraventions "	22
Grocers	" "	87
Greengrocers &c.	" "	51
Restaurants, Cafes &c.	" "	34
Other Food premises	" "	3
		<u>312</u>

Dairies and Milk Shops.

Number of Dairies registered	28
" " purveyors of milk registered with premises in the Borough, selling milk in properly closed and unopened receptacles	48
" " purveyors of milk registered whose premises are outside the Borough	24
" " Dairies (included above) where milk is bottled etc.	5

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936 to 1942.

<u>Designation</u> <u>of Milk.</u>	<u>Licences</u> <u>issued.</u>	<u>Samples</u> <u>taken.</u>	<u>Samples not</u> <u>satisfactory.</u>
Pasteurised	36	34	2
Tuberculin Tested	22	5	1
T.T. (Pasteurised)	-	10	-
T.T. (Certified)	-	-	-
Accredited	2	6	1
	<u>60</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>4</u>

The Government's White Paper on measures to improve the quality of the Nation's milk supply was presented to Parliament in July and its main arguments were reported to the Public Health Committee.

The policy of the Government was outlined thus. All possible steps will be taken to improve the quality of milk as it leaves the farm. To this end the health of the animals in all dairy herds will be brought under State supervision, special attention being paid to those herds the milk from which is not heat

treated before sale to the consumer; the production and consumption of T.T. milk will be further encouraged. Concurrently with these measures arrangements will be made to subject to heat treatment as high a proportion of milk other than T.T. and some accredited milk as is practicable. Every effort will be made to provide all schools with heat treated milk, T.T. milk or milk exclusively from single accredited herds.

This White Paper marks definite progress but some gaps would still remain. Accredited milk, for example, does not ensure safety for the consumer even in respect of tuberculosis. The bacteriological examination of accredited milk is restricted to tests for cleanliness and there is no guarantee against the presence of tubercle and certain other pathogenic organisms. It is to be pointed out also that in the present state of the milk industry T.T. milk has only some guarantee regarding the absence of tubercle bacilli but none regarding the absence of certain other pathogenic germs. At the present time T.T. milk would be all the safer if it were heat-treated as well.

Food Poisoning.

Eleven notifications were received regarding food poisoning, one person being admitted to hospital.

Laboratory Examinations re Food, Milk and Water (at Middlesex Hospital)

Examina- tions made.	Quarter ending				Total for 12 months.
	31.3.43	30.6.43	30.9.43	31.12.43	
Food	-	7	8	3	18
Milk	12	14	25	10	61
Water	25	12	13	18	68

Chemical tests for chlorine content of
Swimming Pool water made by Inspectors -
78.

Throughout the war period fortnightly samples of the public water supplies have been submitted for bacteriological examination and the results passed to the respective Water Companies, while also the Water Companies submit periodically their results to the Medical Officer of Health. The water supply has remained bacteriologically satisfactory and sufficient in quantity although there has been call for economy from time to time, a call which in the present circumstances is to be understood, and which is due also in part to the persistently low rainfall.

G. DAY NURSERIES.

The 8 Day Nurseries with 348 places have been well used and given good service throughout the year. The Council have lately made representation to the Ministry of Health suggesting 2 other Nurseries, 1 in North Kingsbury, the other in Tokyngton, but the Minister so far has not consented to these additional Nurseries. Also the Day Nurseries Sub-Committee has had in mind the possible call for another Nursery in the Kenton area.

Since March, 1944, the Carlyon Road Nursery has been out of action the premises having been badly damaged by air raid. At the time of writing (June 1944) the Nursery is still under repair and arrangements continue whereby the children assemble at One Tree Hill Clinic each morning and are dispersed in charge

of nurses by Civil Defence ambulances to the other Wembley Nurseries. The children are brought back to One Tree Hill Clinic each evening in time for the Mothers to call for them.

The daily cost (pence) per child-in-attendance of all foods (as purchased uncooked) provided at the Nurseries is shown in the following details (all food provided for staff reckoned as part of the cost of feeding the children):-

						d.
Ealing Road Nursery	Oct.1942	to	Sept.1943			12.95
Neeld Crescent	"	"	"	"	"	10.77
Princes Avenue	"	May 1943	"	"	"	11.77
Carlyon Road	"	"	"	"	"	11.05
Old Kenton Lane	"	June	"	"	"	12.48
Harrowdene Road	"	"	"	"	"	13.18
Woodstock Road	"	Sept.	"	Jan. 1944		12.00
District Road	"	Aug.	"	"	"	11.45

From January 1943 figures include full price for all milk used at Nursery, instead of specially reduced price of 1/- per gallon for milk for drinking purposes - the Ministry of Health now reimbursing Local Authorities direct, instead of as formerly Milk suppliers through the Ministry of Food.

The incidence of infectious disease amongst both the children and the staff has continued to be watched and the figures from the opening of Ealing Road Nursery have been submitted to the National Society of Children's Nurseries to be collated with the observations of other representative authorities in the Country.

With regard to the gastro-intestinal infections which are the most serious in young children, the following are the rules in endeavour

to prevent the spread of any infection which may inadvertently be introduced.

1. Whatever may be the duties of a member of the nursing staff she washes her hands thoroughly before preparing food, before giving food, after changing an infant. All staff pay strict attention to the fundamentals of personal hygiene themselves, e.g. thorough hand washing after being at closet. Tweenies and toddlers all have their hands washed before food. No child of any age is fed in any room which is used for "potting".

2. The personnel whose duty it is for the week to attend to children's napkins and to "pottie" routine do not have duties which require a "clean" member of the staff, for example the preparation and distribution of food. (Food, of course, includes the bottle feeds of bottle-fed infants, as well as the food of the tweenies and toddlers).
 "Clean" personnel for the week do not give napkin or "pottie" attention to any child. If circumstances have demanded such attention from a "clean" person she is considered immediately to have joined the "unclean" personnel for the week. Changes from "clean" to "unclean" or "unclean" to "clean" are made on resumption of the opening of the Nursery after the week-end break. This rule is made in order to take advantage of the break period available because of the week-end closure of the Nurseries.

3. | Boiling of napkins. Every used napkin is boiled in the special copper provided.

4. Every child in the Nursery has always a "napkin area" covering (napkin or drawers).

5. Re bottle feeds.

- (a) Milk Kitchen is kept for milk feeds only. No washing up of any kind is done except of bottles and teats and weaning cups and plates, in the Milk Kitchen.
- (b) Careful attention to feeding at the correct time at the correct intervals.
- (c) Care and preparation of the bottle (cleaning, scalding etc.) and of teat. Covering with glass-cloth. Teats are kept in a jar covered by a lid; both jar and lid are boiled daily. Bottles, teats, spoons, weaning cups, bowls are boiled daily and kept covered. Bottle feeds are measured by glass measure provided only. (Bottle markings are not reliable).

Immunisation treatment against diphtheria and whooping cough has continued and the value of vaccination against small-pox is also stressed, it being pointed out that the best age for vaccination is about three months. The Mothers of all children under 12 months as they enter the Nurseries are told of the advisability of universal infant vaccination in the absence of medical contra-indication.

Infectious Diseases - Day Nurseries, 1943.

Disease.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
(a) Children:-													
Chicken-pox	5	12	9	-	2	20	4	-	4	1	1	2	60
Measles	1	9	6	4	12	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	36
Scarlet fever	3	-	1	-	2	3	2	2	4	6	2	3	28
Whooping cough	9	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	14
Mumps	-	-	2	1	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
German measles	-	-	-	1	2	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	6
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	-	-	6
Jaundice	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	3
(b) Staff	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	4
			Rubella.	Chicken-					Jaundice.				
				pox.									

Student Nurses.

Miss Belding, Ealing Road Nursery, was our first student to obtain the Diploma of the National Society of Children's Nurseries. Two students now await the results of their examinations and it is hoped to present 3 candidates in August and 8 in December for the Diploma.

The London County Council with regard to their Child Care Reserve course of study have sent us 7 students to take practical training. Two school teachers have had a practical course in the Nurseries at the request of the Lecturer of Education, Diocesan Training College, Salisbury, and 2 Superintendent Matrons (Watford and Ipswich) attended for a week's practical course at the request of the Royal College of Nursing. One student from Vicars Green Nursery classes is taking her course of lectures with our students at the request of the Middlesex County Council.

Two students have attended Wembley Hospital for a 3 weeks' course.

On Saturdays the local Girl Guides give much assistance in the Nurseries.

In the Summer Miss Simmons, Warden, District Road Nursery, attended 2 weeks' Summer School course of the Nursery Schools Association at Nottingham.

It is a pleasant duty to record the assistance always so readily received from the Voluntary Helpers Association. In particular, mention may be made of the loan of pianos made by this Association to the various Nurseries.

Daily Minder Scheme.

At the request of the Ministry of Labour the Council adopted the Daily Minder Scheme in April 1943. The scheme, however, has not proved very acceptable in this area.

Number of approved foster mothers ..	11
" " children placed	12
3 of whom have become of school age.	

H. CIVIL DEFENCE.

Number of Circulars from Ministry of Health, Ministry of Home Security, London Region, Middlesex County Council and miscellaneous received in Health Department..	417
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Number of letters sent to Doctors in charge of First Aid Posts re medical matters	16
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Number of instructions sent to Depot Superintendents	111
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Number of letters sent to Sisters-in-Charge of First Aid Posts	105
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Personnel.

Various reductions in the personnel have taken place from time to time. The present authorised full-time establishment is:-

Ambulance Depots ..	72
First Aid Posts ..	64

As from the 1st March, 1943, Wembley Hospital undertook the treatment of walking wounded air raid casualties as part of their normal functions under the Emergency Hospital Scheme.

For some time the National Fire Service had been finding difficulty in arranging personnel to man the civil ambulances during the whole 24 hours and at the request of the Column Officer an agreement was made according to which during the break periods of the National Fire Service personnel allocated to the ambulances, relief was provided from the staffs on duty at the Ambulance Depots. This afforded a useful introduction of the Civil Defence personnel to the duties of the Ambulance Service which on 16th June, 1943 was transferred from the Wembley and Kingsbury Fire Stations to the 2 Civil Defence Ambulance Depots, the Civil Defence personnel manning the ambulances and the Service becoming one administered by the Public Health Department.

With the continued reduction in ambulance personnel suitable ambulance attendants have been taught to drive so that in an emergency the greatest possible number of vehicles may be made available immediately. The role to be played by the part-time personnel at Ambulance Depots has continued to increase in importance and training has been given at the Depots over a period of 28 weeks according to -

The Syllabus.

Organisation of Civil Defence local
and regional action

- (1) On Alert.
- (2) On receipt of call up to
and including arrival at
loading bay.
- (3) Disposal of casualties.
- (4) Replacement of equipment.
- (5) Action when any individual
hospital unable to accept
cases.

(6) Crash Raiding.

Organisation of E.M.S. Hospital Scheme
and First Aid as applied to Ambulance
Service.

Visit to First Aid Post to see service
in operation.

Visit to Control Centre.

Topographical training.

Safe driving and traffic control.

Anti-gas revision course - 6 lectures.

First Aid " " - 7 "

Home Nursing full course - 7 "

SUMMARY.

These eight short paragraphs are proof enough of the continued extension of the Borough's Health Services and, more important still, of their full acceptance by the public. The War has made a call for more public health activity which in Wembley has been fully answered. A.R.P. became a first priority after "Munich" as long ago as 1938, and Civil Defence has remained so ever since. It may well be claimed that the Public Health Services have played an ever increasingly important part in the lives of the citizens these last six years.

Paragraphs A and B (Pages 1 - 7) have dealt with the statistics regarding births and mortality. Comparative figures are given for the previous year, while regarding some headings a 5-year review is presented. The number of births in Wembley during 1943 was the largest which has so far taken place (2,071). The deaths of young infants from prematurity was referred to in the interim report for 1941 and the figures for 1943 point again to this problem. In fact the subject has recently been considered by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee according to Circular No. 20/44 of the Ministry of Health. The subject is one for further study and action.

Paragraph C (Pages 8 - 23) dealt with the various Health Services provided by the Borough Council together with the Hospital Services provided by the County Council and Voluntary Authorities in London and around. A review of the work of the Health Visitors is also presented.

Paragraph D (Pages 24 - 27) gave some summary of the attention paid to health education.

In Paragraph E (Pages 27 - 41) the incidence of infectious diseases was considered and observations made regarding scarlet fever, measles, influenza, and upon the Council's activities in preventive medicine, particularly diphtheria immunisation. A short review of the incidence of jaundice during two years is presented and the Council's scheme for treatment of scabies is reviewed.

In Paragraph F (Pages 42 - 48) the year's work in environmental hygiene, food and water was detailed. Short observation is made regarding housing including overcrowding, food premises and milk.

In Paragraph G (Pages 48 - 54) some observations were made regarding the successful work at the Day Nurseries.

In Paragraph H (Pages 54 - 56) the notes indicated that continuous adaptation and adjustment is required in the Casualty Medical Services. But Civil Defence filters continuously into all the sections of the Department (Administration, Infectious Diseases, Maternity and Child Welfare, Environmental Hygiene, and Civil Defence).

This review of the achievement in 1945 could not have been recorded had not the staff of the Public Health Department all individually worked very hard throughout, and as a team worked as a co-operative whole in complete harmony.

It is a very pleasant duty to point
to the day to day assistance received from
the voluntary helpers at the Clinics.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A.G. MORISON.

Medical Officer of Health.

23rd June, 1944.