

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

Contributors

Wembley (London, England). Municipal Borough.

Publication/Creation

[1949]

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/habaa9qq>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution, Non-commercial license.

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

CU39(1) WEMBLEY
LIBRARY

WEM 29



BOROUGH OF WEMBLEY



REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

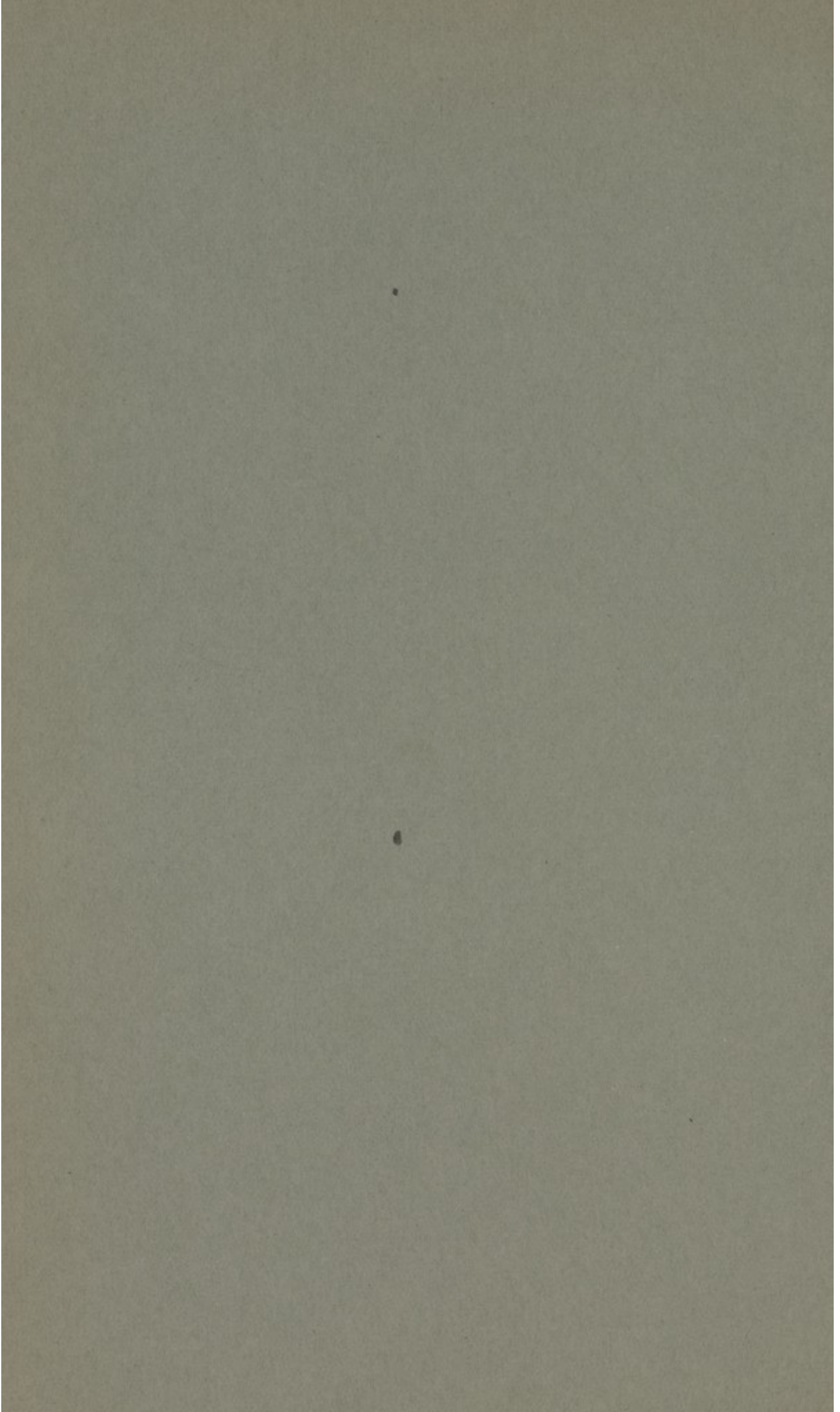
FOR THE YEAR

1948



E. GRUNDY, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health





BOROUGH OF WEMBLEY



REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

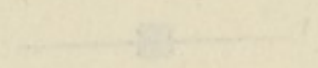
1948



E. GRUNDY, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health

REPORT OF THE



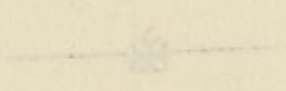
REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1948



BOROUGH OF WEMBLEY



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1948



To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for 1948. This Report has been compiled in the following seven chapters, six with a statistical appendix, in which the figures relating to the functions of the Public Health Department have been collected together according to the relevant services.

Chapter	I	VITAL STATISTICS, Page 4, Statistical Appendix A, Pages 5—11.
"	II	GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES, Pages 12—13, Statistical Appendix B, Pages 14—15.
"	III	MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES, Pages 16—20, Statistical Appendix C, Pages 21—31.
"	IV	SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES, Pages 32—34, Statistical Appendix D, Pages 35—40.
"	V	INFECTIOUS DISEASES, Pages 41—43, Statistical Appendix E, Pages 44—51.
"	VI	ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE, FOOD AND WATER, HOUSING, FACTORIES, ETC., Pages 52—55, Statistical Appendix F, Pages 56—68.
"	VII	ADMINISTRATION OF THE DEPARTMENT, STAFF AND SUMMARY, Page 69.

CHAPTER I.

VITAL STATISTICS.

1. The population of the Borough mid-1948 was estimated by the Registrar-General to be 131,700. In 1931 (the last census date) the population of the two districts, Wembley and Kingsbury, was 65,197; in 1937 the population had become 114,700, while the last (December, 1948) estimate of the Registrar-General is that the population is 132,600. Wembley is the fifth largest County district in Middlesex, those of greater population being according to size — Harrow, Ealing, Willesden and Hendon.

2. In 1948, 1,821 live births were recorded, giving a birth rate of 13.83 per thousand. The number of deaths was 1,042 giving a crude death rate of 7.92 per thousand estimated population. The infantile mortality rate was exceedingly low, the death rate of infants per thousand live births being the record one of 21.97, the previously lowest figure having been 23.26 in 1947.

3. Prematurity of birth was again the main cause of the deaths in very young infants. Regarding the figures submitted in the statistics on infantile mortality and on survival of premature infants, it has to be pointed out that the figures in the former table are those regarding births to Wembley residents whether the birth took place in Wembley or elsewhere, whereas the figures relating to survival of premature infants at the end of 24 hours and at the end of a month are only of births taking place within the Borough boundary. Much consideration is being given to the problem of prematurity and the possibility of saving premature births at the present time, and from the Wembley figures it is obvious that attack on this problem is now practically the only way one may expect a decrease in infant mortality rates in the Borough.

STATISTICAL APPENDIX A.

CERTAIN VITAL STATISTICS, 1948, from figures supplied by Registrar-General.

(Some comparative 1947 figures within brackets.)

Live Births.

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Live birth rate per 1,000 esti- mated popula- tion
Legitimate	889	875	1,764 (2,190)	13.83 (17.15)
Illegitimate	27	30	57 (89)	

Stillbirths.

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Legitimate	17	23	40 (30)	21.49 (14.27)
Illegitimate	—	—	— (3)	Stillbirth rate per 1,000 esti- mated popula- tion 0.30 (0.25)

Deaths	Male.	Female.	Total.	Death rate per 1,000 estimated population — Crude rate
	526	516	1,042 (1,124)	7.92 (8.46)

Infantile Mortality.

Deaths of infants under one year of age:—

	Male.	Female.	Total.	
Legitimate	20	19	39 (50)	40 (53)
Illegitimate	1	—	1 (3)	

Death rate of infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	21.97	(23.26)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live-births	22.11	(22.83)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births	17.54	(33.71)

Deaths from: Cancer (all ages)	237	(213)
Measles (all ages)	—	(2)
Whooping cough (all ages)	3	(2)
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	2	(3)

Maternal Mortality.

Deaths from puerperal sepsis	1	(—)
Other puerperal causes	1	(3)
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	1.09	(1.32)
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	1.07	(1.30)

			Per 1,000 total					
			Per 1,000 population.		Per 1,000 Live Births.			births (live and still).
			Birth rate.	Still Birth rate.	Death rate.	Infantile mor- tality.	Maternal mor- tality.	Maternal mortality.
Wembley	.....	.....	13.83	0.30	7.92	21.97	1.09	1.07
England and Wales	.....	.....	17.90	0.42	10.80	34.00	—	1.02
London	.....	.....	20.10	0.39	11.60	31.00	—	—
126 County Boroughs, etc.			20.00	0.52	11.60	39.00	—	—
148 Smaller towns, etc.			19.20	0.43	10.70	32.00	—	—

Causes of Deaths during the Year.

1947. Total.	Causes of Death.	Male.	Female.	1948. Total.
1,124	All causes	526	516	1,042
—	Typhoid and para-typhoid fevers.....	—	1	1
—	Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—
—	Scarlet fever	—	—	—
2	Whooping cough	2	1	3
—	Diphtheria	—	—	—
49	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	26	13	39
10	Other forms of tuberculosis	6	—	6
2	Syphilitic diseases	2	1	3
11	Influenza	1	3	4
2	Measles	—	—	—
1	Ac: polio myel: and polio-enceph:	1	—	1
1	Acute infectious enceph:	—	—	—
5	Cancer of buc: cav: and œsoph:(M)	5	—	5
16	„ uterus (F)	—	15	15
30	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	16	11	27
27	Cancer of breast	—	37	37
135	Cancer of all other sites	98	55	153
8	Diabetes	4	5	9
117	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	47	66	113
253	Heart disease	135	136	271
64	Other dis: of circ: system	19	19	38
54	Bronchitis	30	24	54
52	Pneumonia	18	18	36
18	Other respiratory diseases	5	11	16
14	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	11	2	13
3	Diarrhœa under two years	2	—	2
5	Appendicitis	—	3	3
31	Other digestive diseases	14	19	33
30	Nephritis	13	9	22
—	Puerperal and post-abortion: sepsis	—	1	1
3	Other maternal causes	—	1	1
8	Premature birth	3	6	9
33	Congenital malf: birth injury and infant diseases	14	12	26
18	Suicide	11	4	15
12	Road traffic accidents	7	2	9
22	Other violent causes	9	6	15
88	All other causes	27	35	62

The Principal Causes of Death.

Disease.	Total Number of deaths.
1. Heart disease and other diseases of circulatory system	309
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	113
	<u>422</u>
2. Cancer	237
3. Respiratory diseases:—	
(a) Bronchitis	54
(b) Pneumonia	36
(c) Other respiratory diseases	16
	<u>106</u>
4. Digestive Diseases:—	
(a) Appendicitis	3
(b) Other digestive diseases	33
(c) Ulcer	13
	<u>49</u>
5. Tuberculosis:—	
(a) Respiratory system.....	39
(b) Other forms	6
	<u>45</u>
6. Violent deaths:—	
(a) Suicide	15
(b) Road traffic	9
(c) Other violent causes	15
	<u>39</u>
7. Premature births	9
Congenital malf: birth injury and infant diseases	26
	<u>35</u>

			Percentage of total deaths under 1 year.	Percentage of total deaths under 50 years.	Percentage of deaths taking place in hospitals.
1944	.....	.....	7.06	29.18	45.87
1945	.....	.....	6.44	22.26	45.50
1946	.....	.....	5.22	20.60	39.19
1947	.....	.....	4.65	20.88	38.25
1948	.....	.....	3.48	19.44	37.04

SOME OTHER ESSENTIAL LOCAL STATISTICS.

Birth Notifications.

Notified by.	At home	In Hospital.	In Nursing Home.	Totals.
Doctors	14	671	261	946
Midwives	442	411	43	896
Parents	1	—	—	1
Totals	457	1,082	304	1,843
Percentages	24.8	58.7	16.5	100

Live births — 1,805.

Still births — 38.

Infantile Mortality.

Deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year.

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	9	1	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	10
Congenital defects	3	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	4
Broncho pneumonia.....	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	4
Atelectasis	3	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Gastro-enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Birth injuries	8	—	—	—	8	—	—	1	—	9
Diseases of the new Born	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Meningitis	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Acute bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Accidental death	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pertussis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
	25	3	—	1	29	1	1	4	3	38

Infantile Mortality, 1944-1948.

Year.	Wembley.	England & Wales.
1944	35.50	46
1945	36.75	46
1946	26.37	43
1947	23.26	41
1948	21.97	34

Infantile mortality during last five years (10,410 live births, 294 deaths under one year): 28.24.

Maternal Mortality.

Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still), 1944-1948:—

Year.			Wembley.	England & Wales.
1944	.....	.....	0.91	1.93
1945	.....	.....	1.08	1.79
1946	.....	.....	0.45	1.43
1947	.....	.....	1.30	1.17
1948	.....	.....	1.07	1.02

Maternal mortality during last five years (10,623 total births
—10 maternal deaths): 0.94.

CHAPTER II.

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.

1. SERVICES PROVIDED, Health education—Collation of various health services of Voluntary and Local Authorities—Ambulance service for accident and sick cases and maternity removals to hospital—Domestic Help Scheme under Ministry of Health Circular No. 179/44—Insulin—Laboratory service at Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale—Mortuary at St. John's Churchyard—Ascertainment and treatment of verminous premises and verminous people, arrangement with Royal Borough of Kensington—Massage and Special Treatment, registration of premises.

2. HEALTH SERVICES BOOKLET. For some years a booklet has been issued to the Local Medical Profession giving information regarding the various Health Services available. The services mentioned in this booklet are not all Borough Council services, rather endeavour is made to collect together information which may be helpful, reference also being made to the Ministry of Health services, Middlesex County Council services, Voluntary Hospital services and to those of other voluntary agencies. A revision and issue of an up-to-date edition of a similar booklet is contemplated by the Health Authority. A four-weekly bulletin has continued to be circulated to the Local Medical Profession giving the incidence locally of the infectious diseases, together with a note on any topical public health matter as seems appropriate.

3. The Central Public Health Laboratory at Colindale, has been conducted by the Medical Research Council on behalf of the Ministry of Health. This Laboratory has been used to the fullest extent, replacing the service given during the War at the Middlesex Hospital. The services available at this Laboratory are a most important asset to both Medical Practitioners in the treatment of individual cases and to the Public Health alike. The types and numbers of specimens examined are tabulated in Appendix E, but, in addition, the easy access to the Specialist Bacteriologists at Colindale, is of the greatest value to the health services.

4. The consistently high level of the services provided until July by the District Nursing Associations (Wembley and Kingsbury) should be mentioned as they are indeed an asset to the public health of the Borough, providing, as they do, both general

nursing services and maternity services. Since the 5th July these services have been provided by the Middlesex County Council.

5. VERMINOUS CONDITIONS. Only 4 cases, all adults, were referred to Kensington Medicinal Baths for treatment more intensive than could be given at the Clinics or in the homes. The generalisation remains true that infestation is scarcely a Public Health problem in Wembley. The response of the mothers to the advice given through the School Health Services is most gratifying.

STATISTICAL APPENDIX B.

Period up to 4th July, 1948.

Ambulance Service.

Accident or sudden illness removals	.....	429
General sickness removals	.....	4,016
Maternity removals	.....	243
Total	.....	<u>4,688</u>

Included in above:—

(a) Number of removals carried out for other Authorities	.....	37
(b) Number of removals carried out by other Authorities for Wembley	.....	85

Domestic Help Scheme—Ministry of Health Circular No. 179/44.

Period up to 4th July, 1948.

No. of families to whom service given.	Assessment <i>re</i> recovery of cost.							
	2/-d.	1/8d.	1/4d.	1/-d.	8d.	4d.	Free.	
	Full.	per	per	per	per	per	hour.	hour.
135	82	2	7	3	8	6	4	23
Full-time. Part-time.								
No. of domestic helps on Council's Panel on 4/7/48	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	1	

Provision of Insulin.

Number of persons who received free insulin in accordance with the Council's scheme until July:—37.

Total cost of insulin provided £180 5s. 3d.

Nursing in the Home—Wembley and Kingsbury District Nursing Associations.

The Associations have supplied the following figures relating to their work during the year:—

Wembley District Nursing Association.

	Cases.	Visits.
Medical and Surgical	953	18,119
Maternity	108	2,493
Midwifery	180	4,927
Ante-natal and Post-natal	320	2,676
Miscarriage	20	143
Children under 5	33	166
Children over 5	25	102
Tuberculosis	36	814

Kingsbury District Nursing Association.

	Cases.	Visits.
Medical	174	2,153
Surgical	118	2,276
Maternity	33	653
Midwifery	121	2,349
Ante-natal	155	1,358
Miscarriage	9	83
Children under five	48	309
Children over five	7	31
Tuberculosis	5	191
Casual	—	151

Mortuary.

No. of bodies deposited	104
No. of post-mortem examinations carried out	102
No. of Coroner's inquests held	25

Bodies were deposited by order:—

Coroner	86
By Police	14
Wembley Hospital	4

Establishments for Massage and Special Treatment.

(a) Members of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapists who have lodged with the Local Authority a certificate signed by two resident medical practitioners that they are suitable persons to carry on such an establishment

2

(b) Licences granted:—

New	8
Renewals	19

CHAPTER III.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

1. SERVICES PROVIDED, Notification of births—For premature infants special equipment on loan, Pædiatrician available, supply of expressed breast milk may be available at County Maternity Units, provision of Home Help, ambulances provided with heating device—Health Visitor Domiciliary Service from end of lying-in period, Borough divided into 16 Health Visitor areas—Infant Death enquiries to obtain information regarding possibilities of further reduction in infantile mortality—Child Life Protection, advice to foster parents, Health Visitor's enquiries *re* applications to keep foster-child, register of foster-parents and foster-children—Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939, responsibilities of Council limited to Section 7 and explanatory Circular Ministry of Health No. 2790, preliminary visit *re* suitability of proposed home, monthly visitation after receipt of child—Clinic Services, Routine Clinic Sessions Infant Welfare and Toddlers, Ante-Natal, Dental, Diphtheria Immunisation—Test Feeding Scales loaned for investigation of sufficiency, etc., of breast feeding—pamphlets giving general and dietary advice to Expectant Mothers—Hospitalisation for confinement arranged as appropriate and possible, and for puerperal pyrexia—*Re* home confinements coupon equivalent certificates for necessary additional sheets according to Ministry of Health arrangements, panel of consultants available for abnormal ante-natal and puerperal cases in private practice, arrangement with County Hospitals for Specialist Obstetric Medical Officer in confinement cases, Emergency Maternity Units (Flying Squads) for any case of grave emergency, *e.g.*, shock, hæmorrhage or eclampsia available from Redhill County Hospital—Examination of blood for Wassermann reaction offered to all women attending Ante-Natal Clinics—Special Scheme *re* Unmarried Mothers, arrangements with British Red Cross Society through Middlesex County Council at Pre-Natal Home, 16, The Park, Golders Green prior to confinement, and at B.R.C.S. Hostel, Marylands, Hendon, for mothers and babies for two or three months after confinement—Complete Dental Scheme, extractions, conservative treatment and artificial dentures, nitrous oxide anæsthesia available—Special foods, nutrients, drugs, dressings, etc., at Clinics, sterile dressing drums treated at Redhill County Hospital—Services available from the Clinics, Sunlight and Massage treatment at Wembley Hospital, Redhill and Central Middlesex County Hospitals, and Marlborough Hill Clinic, Harrow, Convalescent Home treatment, domiciliary nursing by arrangement with Wembley and Kingsbury District Nursing Associations, sterilised Maternity Outfits, X-ray examinations at Wembley Hospital, Redhill and Central Middlesex County

Hospitals—Home Helps—Specialist Medical Services, Gynæcological and Post-Natal Clinics, Birth Control Sessions for married women requiring birth control advice for medical reasons, ophthalmic cases, orthopædic cases, child guidance cases, speech difficulty cases referred to Special Clinics—Clinic for children showing deafness or defective speech from deafness, or allergic asthma, etc., conditions, at Metropolitan Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital—Economic Circumstances Scale according to which Milk and Accessory Foods, Artificial Dentures, Convalescent Treatment, Maternity Outfits, and Home and Domestic Helps available, scale depending on number in family and net income per head of family—Nursery Service 368 places, on the opening of Vale Farm Day Nursery, Nurseries open daily, Monday to Saturday, opening and closing times as demand requires, daily charge 1/- per child, inclusive of all food given (morning lunch, midday dinner, and tea), Medical Officers attend the Nurseries regularly and all the Services of the Clinics available for children.

2. The Gynæcological and Post-Natal Clinics were started in November, 1945, and five Clinics are held each month at four different centres in the Borough and an average of 10 patients is seen at each session. Each patient comes by appointment and the number of defaulters has been very small.

About 70% are Post-Natal cases and much can be done to relieve them of the minor discomforts, such as backache and vaginal discharge, which so frequently follow childbirth. These symptoms are due to a variety of causes, the commonest of which is infection of the torn cervix, cured by electrical cauterisation.

After improvement of these symptoms the patient's general health often improves and all patients seem to be very grateful for the attention given to these matters.

The Gynæcological cases seen have been varied and many cases have been sent to Redhill Hospital for operation.

A considerable number of patients complaining of sterility have been investigated and many have become pregnant.

These Clinics are performing a most useful part of the Health Services of the Borough. In the future they may well need considerable expansion.

3. During the year 1948, 170 new patients attended the Birth Control Clinics, 13 sessions being held at Stag Lane and 10 at Perrin Road. There were 590 re-attendances. 11 applicants were refused advice as having no medical grounds for family limitation.

The greater proportion of patients sought advice because they had a baby of less than a year old and were anxious to space their pregnancies.

No failures of the methods advised were reported during the year.

4. HOME HELP SERVICE. At a time when social services are being extended and while many Authorities are commencing a Home Help Service, a review of the scheme working in Wembley may afford an opportunity of judging the measure of success which has been achieved since the Council set out to establish a Service in 1937.

The service provides capable "home managers" who, where necessary, take practically complete charge of the home during the fourteen days following the mother's confinement. The great majority are cases of home confinement but in exceptional circumstances Helps are provided when the confinement takes place in hospital. With the existing shortage of hospital accommodation and the high birth rate the need for such women to carry out this work is obviously great.

The work involves all the usual duties of a housewife with, in addition, the care of a patient in bed. The recently delivered mother needs special attention and the provision of well cooked meals, and her room requires daily cleaning. By careful explanation care is taken to ensure that no midwifery nursing procedure is undertaken by the Home Help. Preparation for the daily visit of the midwife, shopping, cooking and washing are all in the day's work of a Home Help, and other children in the family (if any) require attention also.

Necessary qualifications for the work include, of course, honesty, cleanliness and common sense, but such accomplishments as the ability to cook, launder and manage children happily, together with a sense of humour and a desire to help others, are more than useful attributes. Results suggest that in Wembley good progress has been made in attracting suitable women for the work.

Wembley Home Helps are Council employees, financial recovery being made according to the economic circumstances scale. In 1937 only those families who came within the Council's free scale were considered for this service; extension has now been made to include all income groups. During 1948, Home Helps were supplied in 123 maternity cases, compared with 27 in 1938 (the first complete year). The provision of white overalls to be

worn in the homes, improves the standard of hygiene and adds dignity to the work, whilst also protecting the Home Help's personal clothing. Supervision is exercised by the Health Visitors who call at the home during the time the Home Help is in attendance.

The organisation of this service is attended with considerable difficulties, some almost impossible to overcome these days. Among the latter the question of exactly when the baby will arrive, confronts all who handle maternity services. On some days "late" babies and "early" babies arrive almost together. At times the Home Helps are usefully employed in the Council's Day Nurseries whilst waiting for their services to be required. Another unavoidable difficulty causing disappointment occurs when a Home Help falls ill, but this fortunately is infrequent. Change of plans, miscarriage, admission to hospital, etc., may all occur after early application for the Home Help has been made, and if the appropriate cancellation be delayed disorganisation in the service is inevitable.

On the whole the Home Helps are warmly greeted and a high degree of satisfaction is evident from the many letters of thanks received in respect of their services.

5. INFANT DEATHS. During 1948 the total number of Wembley children who died without reaching their first birthday was 42, and, of this number, 34 did not survive the first month of life.

Despite the comparatively low infant death rate of recent years in Wembley, Dr. Morison, the late Medical Officer, suggested that an enquiry regarding the social conditions of each case of infant death might be undertaken, with a view to exploring the possibility of the existence of any factor affecting the cause of infant deaths. A special visit was therefore made by the Health Visitor for the district, to parents who had suffered the loss of a young child under twelve months of age during 1948. An attempt was thereby made to ascertain whether special care or further health education regarding personal hygiene was indicated in any case, or if greater knowledge of preventive measures should be brought to the notice of parents. The following results obtained from the Health Visitors' enquiry visits are interesting.

Total number of deaths under one year—42. Of this number 34 did not survive the first month of life and the remaining 8 died between one and nine months.

Of the total 42 babies it was possible for infant death enquiry visits to be made regarding 35 cases—34 died while still in the

care of the hospital or private medical practitioner and before the usual primary visit by the Health Visitor had been made; 2 died at home due to fatal illness, 4 in hospital and 2 deaths were caused by an accident at home. Of the 8 babies who died over one month—6 had been seen by the Medical Officer at the Child Welfare Clinic and had been visited by the Area Health Visitors.

The standard of home care in all cases was satisfactory and only in three cases were housing problems present.

Causes of Infant Deaths.

0—4 weeks:—

Prematurity and General Debility	.....	.....	21
Congenital malformations and birth injuries	.....		8
Other causes	.....	.....	5
Total			34

4 weeks—12 months:—

Pneumonia and Whooping Cough	.....	.....	4
Congenital heart	.....	.....	1
Accidents	.....	.....	2
Gastro-enteritis	.....	.....	1
Total			8

An infant mortality rate of 21 for 1948 is certainly a figure to be quoted with pride by the health visiting staff, whose work brings them daily into such close contact with parents at times of joy and of heartbreak. The work of health education can be tedious and exacting and the workers are much encouraged by evidence that their efforts are not in vain. Much remains to be done and all efforts must be continued to bring about still greater reductions in the death rate among children of all ages, and to raise the standard of understanding as well as of physical care given to every child in every home.

6. I wish to record our indebtedness to the Voluntary Helpers at the Clinics who have given such excellent services in innumerable and always so unobtrusive ways. They have continued to arrange for the distribution of the Government's vitamin accessory products, while their co-operation with all the personnel of the Department has been the fullest and of the greatest value and assistance.

STATISTICAL APPENDIX C.

Health Clinics.

(Comparative 1947 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 one year of age..... 1,777 (2,093)

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 304 (271)

Total number of children under five years of age who attended at the Clinics during the year, and who at the end of the year were:

(1) Under one year of age	1,444
(2) Over one year of age	4,461
	5,905 (6,261)

Number of attendances by children under one year of age 38,117 (41,694)

Number of attendances at all the Health Clinics by children between the ages of 1—5 years 16,288 (14,498)

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 one year of age in 1948 97.0 (92.7)

(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 9,469 (11,215)

Total number of women who attended for the first time 1,334 (1,551)

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 72.4 (68.5)

Attendances at the various Health Clinics.

Children under one year of age.

Clinic.	Total attendances.	Average attendance per session.
Stag Lane	8,386	55
Slough Lane	5,486	38
College Road	5,183	34
Ealing Road	4,224	40
Perrin Road	5,809	37
Monks Park	4,733	47
One Tree Hill	4,296	43

Children between the ages 1—5 years.

Clinic.	Total attendances.	Average attendance per session.
Stag Lane	2,004	14
Slough Lane	2,707	18
College Road	3,800	25
Ealing Road	1,197	11
Perrin Road	2,816	18
Monks Park	2,252	22
One Tree Hill	1,512	15

Domiciliary Nursing.

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

Children under one year	9
Children over one year	3
Treatments given —	
Seven or fewer attendances	8
Over seven attendances	4

Specialist Clinic Services.

Eye Clinics (Wembley Hill and Stag Lane (County) Clinics).
48 children referred.

Orthopædic Clinic (Stag Lane (County) Clinic).

74 children referred.

26 appliances supplied.

Clinic for Defective Speech.

15 cases referred.

Child Guidance Clinic.

1 case referred to Middlesex County Council Clinic,
Harrow.

Dental Clinic. See page 29.

Artificial Sunlight and Massage Treatment.

Number referred by Medical Officers: 113 (under one
year, 9; over one year, 104).

Reasons for treatment:—

Debility, anæmia, etc.	.....	.....	62
Recurrent colds	.....	.....	16
Rickets	.....	.....	12
Bowed legs	.....	.....	9
Delayed dentition	.....	.....	4
Knock knees	.....	.....	7
Flat feet	.....	.....	2
Torticollis	.....	.....	1
Total	.....	.....	113

Ante - Natal Clinics.

The months of pregnancy at which women attended for the
first time:—

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th
42	438	404	219	100	57	28	21	3

Attendances of Expectant Mothers:—

Clinic.	Total. attendances.	Average attendance per session.
Stag Lane	2,463	16
Slough Lane	966	19
College Road	832	16
Ealing Road	1,077	23
Perrin Road	1,484	14
Monks Park	1,263	12
One Tree Hill	1,384	13

Special Blood Tests at Redhill Hospital.

261 examinations.

X-Ray Ante-Natal Examinations.

Number of women referred: 37.

Supply of Sheets for Expectant Mothers: Ministry of Health
Circular No. 154/44.

Number of dockets issued: 727.

Unmarried Mothers (Ministry of Health Circular No. 2866).
7 cases dealt with.

Hospital Confinements.

641 women referred to various hospitals:—

(i) Medical reasons for reference to hospital:—

(a) Regarding current pregnancy —

Abnormality of maternal pelvis	.....	42
Elderly primipara	.....	29
Maternal ill-health	.....	25
Cardiac abnormality	.....	13
Tuberculosis	.....	5
Toxæmia	.....	4
Miscellaneous	.....	29
	——	147

(b) Regarding previous pregnancies —

Abnormal obstetric history	.....	60
Abnormal medical history	.....	15
	——	75

		222
(ii) Home conditions unsuitable	.....	279
(iii) Mothers desired hospital accommodation	.....	140
		——
Total	.....	641
		——

Wembley births taking place in hospital.

(a) Middlesex County Council Hospitals:—

Redhill	273
Central Middlesex	383
Maternity Hospital, Bushey	98
West Middlesex	1
North Middlesex	1
Hillingdon	2
	<hr/>
	758
	<hr/>

(b) London Hospitals:—

Queen Mary's	129
Queen Charlotte's	57
University College	26
St. Mary's	23
Middlesex	14
Elizabeth Garrett Anderson	10
City of London	7
St. George's	5
Royal Northern	4
Hospital of St. John and Elizabeth	3
Princess Beatrice	3
St. Thomas's	3
Royal Free	3
Hammersmith	3
Mothers	3
Paddington	2
Westminster	2
Charing Cross	1
Guy's	1
Hackney	1
King's College	1
Mile End	1
St. Barts.	1
	<hr/>
	303
	<hr/>

(c) Other Hospitals:—

Brocket Hall	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
Willesden Maternity	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Bearstead Memorial	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Perivale	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Wembley	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Queen Mary's, Stratford	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
						<hr/> 27 <hr/>
Total						<hr/> 1,088 <hr/>

Five-Year Review.

Year.	Total No. of births notified.	No. of births at home.	No. of births in hospital.	No. of births in M.C.C. hos- pitals (inc. preceding column).	Births in pri- vate nursing homes and at private addresses outside Wembley.
1944	2,018	601 29.8%	1,080 53.5%	816 40.4%	337 16.7%
1945	1,909	542 28.4%	1,068 55.9%	798 41.8%	299 15.7%
1946	2,272	631 27.8%	1,205 53.0%	909 40.0%	436 19.2%
1947	2,264	686 30.3%	1,086 48.0%	802 35.4%	492 21.7%
1948	1,843	457 24.8%	1,088 59.0%	758 41.1%	298 16.2%

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Number of notifications received: 3 (excluding 13 Willesden Maternity Hospital cases—Willesden residents).

Number of women removed to hospital: 3.

Obstetric Consultant Service.

Consultant called in by private medical practitioners: 4.

Premature Infants (excluding Willesden infants born in Willesden Maternity Hospital).

(a) The total number who were born:—	
(i) at home	18
(ii) in Hospital or Nursing Home	2
(b) The number of those born at home:—	
(i) who were nursed entirely at home.....	13
(ii) who died during the first 24 hours	—
(iii) who survived at the end of one month	15
(c) The number of those born in Hospital or Nursing Home:—	
(i) who died during the first 24 hours	—
(ii) who survived at the end of one month	1

Stillbirths.

40 cases allotted to Wembley by Registrar-General. Detailed investigation made in 35 cases.

Multipara	18
Primipara	17
	<hr/>
	35
	<hr/>

Ante-natal supervision given by —

Hospital and/or Clinic	28
Private medical attendant	5
No ante-natal supervision	2
	<hr/>
	35
	<hr/>

Attendant circumstances —

Instrumental delivery	2
Breech delivery	3
Prematurity	1
Fœtal abnormality incompatible with separate existence	9
Ante-partum hæmorrhage	3
Prolapsed cord	2
Rhesus factor	2
Other	13
	<hr/>
	35
	<hr/>

Post-Natal Clinics.

Clinic.	First attendances.	Re-attendances.	Aver. att'dance per session.
Stag Lane	150	8	7
Perrin Road	42	3	4
One Tree Hill	52	8	5
Monks Park	56	6	6
Totals	300	25	—

Test feeding scales issued on loan to 250 mothers.

Special Milk Grants.

Liquid milk: Nil supplied. Grants of dried milk and other accessory foods amounting to £7 12s. 7d. made during the period 1st January to 4th July, 1948.

Maternity Outfits.

Number of maternity outfits supplied: 455.

Gynæcology Clinics.

Clinic.	First attendances.	Re-attendances.	Aver. att'dance per session.
Stag Lane	45	60	4
Perrin Road	36	3	3
One Tree Hill	18	24	4
Monks Park	29	11	4
Totals	128	98	—

Birth Control Sessions.

Clinic.	First attendances.	Re-attendances.	Aver. att'dance per session.
Stag Lane	105	367	36
Perrin Road	65	223	29
Totals	170	590	—

Home Helps.

Number of Families Attended.

By full-time personnel.		By personnel on approved panel.		Economic circumstances scale of families.							
Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Free	10/-	20/-	30/-	40/-	60/-	70/-	84/-
96	3	22	2	4	2	7	15	16	9	4	18
With effect from 5/7/48 (M.C.C. assessment)											
48											
99		24		123							

Domiciliary Nursing.

Mothers referred for treatment to the Wembley and Kingsbury Nursing Associations: 2.

Dental Services—Mothers and Children.

	Expectant and Nursing mothers.	Children under 5 years.
Numbers who received treatment	607	511
Numbers of treatments:—		
(a) Fillings:—		
(i) in temporary teeth	—	1,280
(ii) in permanent teeth	1,961	—
(b) Number of teeth extracted	1,170	499
(c) Number of administrations of general anaesthesia (nitrous oxide)	233	206
(d) Number of persons supplied with dentures	135	—
(e) Number of dentures supplied	209	—

Total attendances at Dental Clinics last five years:—

	Children.	Mothers.
1944	451	882
1945	621	1,547
1946	1,080	2,942
1947	1,326	2,680
1948	1,608	2,532

Domiciliary Visits by Health Visitors.

Home Visits.

(a) To children under one year	.....	2,154	First visits
		6,121	Revisits
(b) To children between the ages of 1—5			
years	.....	8,444	Total visits
(c) To expectant mothers	.....	1,117	First visits
		1,342	Revisits
(d) To nursing mothers	.....	1,820	First visits
		706	Revisits
(e) Other special visits	.....	2,775	

Analysis of special visits included in (e) above:—

Infectious diseases:—

Measles	.....	657
Whooping cough	.....	748
Tuberculosis	.....	27
Ophthalmia neonatorum (1) other (1)		2
Other	.....	14
Diphtheria immunisation	.....	49
Scabies	.....	11
<i>Re</i> Day nursery children	.....	764
Home Help and Domestic Help supervision	.....	137
<i>Re</i> Stillbirths	.....	36
<i>Re</i> verminous conditions	.....	6
Defaulting <i>re</i> treatment advised	.....	196
General— <i>e.g.</i> , infantile deaths, premature babies, home conditions, negligent care	.....	128

Child Life Protection.

Visits by Health Visitors:—

To foster children	.....	236
To foster parents	.....	202

At the end of the year on register:—

Foster children	.....	.....	.....	.....	17
Foster parents	.....	.....	.....	.....	14

Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939.

Number of visits to children proposed for adoption	.....	219
Number of children received for proposed adoption	.....	36

CHAPTER IV.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES.

1. SERVICES PROVIDED, Schools (22) allocated in 5 areas to Medical Officers; Health Visitors allocated to particular schools—Periodic routine and special inspections conducted at schools—Clinic Services, Minor Ailments (treatment, issue of accessory nutrients, etc.), Dental, Ophthalmic, Orthopædic, Speech Therapy, for further specialist opinion (*e.g.*, tonsils and adenoids, cardiac and chest conditions, skin conditions, ringworm), specialist examinations (*e.g.*, X-ray) pupils referred to County Hospitals (Redhill or Central Middlesex, or Chest Clinics)—Child Guidance Clinic at 2, St. John's Road, Harrow—Ascertainment of handicapped pupils, recommendation *re* special schools (boarding and day)—Advise parents of children about to leave school regarding the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944—Ascertainment and recommendation regarding children incapable of receiving education at school—Cleanliness, general scrutiny, ascertainment and advice given—Supervision of private schools regarding sanitary accommodation and avoidance of overcrowding.

2. The figures in Appendix D show a slight decrease in the number of routine medical inspections at the schools—6,492 in 1947, 6,092 in 1948. Since the commencement of the Autumn Term in September, arrangements have been made for all children to be examined at the following ages:—

5 years—on entry into school life,

7—8 years—intermediate group in the Primary Schools,

10—11 years—last year in Primary Schools,

and from then, once every two years in the Secondary Schools, these examinations to include the final examination before leaving school life.

3. The following is Miss Richnell's report on speech therapy for the year 1948:—

Eight sessions have been held weekly in the Borough throughout the year, for at Stag Lane County Clinic and four at One Tree Hill Clinic.

At the two Centres:—

68 new cases were referred, of which:—

61 attended for interviews.

7 failed to attend first or subsequent appointments.

In addition:—

32 follow-up interviews were arranged.

22 attended.

10 failed.

A total of 85 have received treatment.

Of these:—

18 were discharged, cured.

6 were discharged, much improved.

4 were discharged temporarily but are to be re-admitted for further treatment after a rest period.

2 left school, improved.

5 left the district.

1 was discharged at his parents' request.

6 failed attendance.

Of the 43 who are continuing treatment:—

16 are making very good progress.

23 are making satisfactory progress.

2 are making very little progress.

2 have attended for only a very short time.

There are 6 on the Waiting List for immediate treatment and 3 awaiting preliminary interviews.

From December 1st, time has been allocated by Middlesex County Council for school visiting. The number of sessions used for this purpose in Wembley is and will be two in every three weeks.

4. Routine hygiene examinations have been carried out during the year in every Education Authority school in the Borough. As soon as possible after the commencement of each school term, a Health Visitor visits the schools and conducts an individual examination of each child. Where facilities are available children are seen apart from their school-mates, but in several Infant Departments shortage of accommodation makes this desirable standard difficult to attain.

The purpose of the inspection is certainly not solely to ascertain the existence of verminous conditions. The children are encouraged to develop independence regarding all aspects of their personal toilet and appearance and much support is added at school to the mother's efforts at home. The general cleanliness

of teeth, nails, wrists and also ears, are points carelessly missed by the average school boy and girl. Attention must also be paid to the tidiness of clothing and to the proper fastening of boots and shoes.

Where head infestation is discovered a personal visit is made to the parent and detailed advice regarding treatment is given at once. The co-operation of parents over the matter of cleansing heads unfortunately infested, has been, with few exceptions, so good that to date it has been unnecessary to issue a notice of compulsory cleansing (Section 54, Education Act, 1944). Difficulties occur where the root cause of the trouble is a family one. Teen-age daughters who do not adequately brush and comb their permanently waved hair, are the most common of all. These offenders are usually at work and often harbour head-lice unbeknown to mother and pass on the trouble to the school-children where it is discovered at a routine examination in school.

A systematic method of following up every discovered case has been adopted and the percentage of total school-children in the district found to be in need of treatment during 1948 was 0.61. This figure is recorded with the hope that, low as it may appear, it will soon be much lower.

Thanks are due to the co-operation of Head Teachers and their staffs who have so willingly given every possible help to the two Health Assistants and thereby enabled them to carry through a comprehensive system of inspection.

5. HANDICAPPED PUPILS. A table is presented in the Appendix giving the numbers of handicapped pupils known to the department — 59 males and 55 females have been dealt with. Generally, it is pertinent to remark upon the present insufficient number of places, both in residential and in day schools, for handicapped children. Many of the children recorded as being in attendance at maintained schools are, in fact, awaiting appropriate places in special schools.

6. It is considered most important that the Medical Officers and Health Visitors on their visits to the schools and at the Clinic Sessions use every opportunity for a complete co-operation with the parents and teachers and there is evidence that this is being gradually obtained, for example, the number of pupils attending Clinic Sessions has increased considerably.

STATISTICAL APPENDIX D.

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

Return of Medical Inspections during the Year.

(a) Periodic Medical Inspections.

Number of code inspections:—

Entrants	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,034
2nd Age Group	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	883
3rd Age Group	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	747
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,664
Number of other routine inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,652
Grand Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,316

(b) Other Inspections.

Number of special inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,914
Number of re-inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,201
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,115

(c) Pupils found to Require Treatment.

Number of individual pupils found at routine medical inspection to require treatment (excluding uncleanness and dental diseases).

	For defective Vision. (Excluding squint).	For all other conditions recorded in next Table.	Total.
Prescribed groups:—			
Entrants	121	202	307
2nd Age Group	77	69	138
3rd Age Group	24	38	58
Total	222	309	503
Other routine inspections	146	159	290
Grand Total	368	468	793

Note.—Pupils requiring treatment for defective vision and for other conditions appear once only in the column headed "Total."

Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection during the Year.

Defect or Disease.	Routine Inspections.		Special Inspections.	
	No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin	39	48	404	15
Eyes:—				
Vision	368	42	106	11
Squint	26	39	9	1
Other	6	19	86	10
Ears:—				
Hearing	7	17	11	2
Otitis media	5	25	16	2
Other	13	25	88	6
Nose or Throat	71	279	132	27
Speech	23	54	8	2
Cervical glands	6	70	8	3
Heart and circulation	18	71	19	4
Lungs	25	134	64	16
Developmental:—				
Hernia	7	13	5	2
Other	6	27	3	4
Orthopædic:—				
Posture	23	29	4	3
Flat foot	23	17	11	2
Other	72	91	93	9
Nervous system:—				
Epilepsy	—	6	1	—
Other	9	55	38	28
Psychological:—				
Development	3	44	15	14
Stability	5	33	1	—
Other	81	91	382	111
Totals	836	1,229	1,504	272

**Classification of the Nutrition of Pupils Inspected during the Year
in the Routine Age Groups.**

Age-groups.	Number of Pupils Inspected.	A. (Good).		B. (Fair).		C. (Poor).	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	2,034	911	44.8	1,109	54.5	14	0.7
2nd Age Group	883	373	42.2	497	56.3	13	1.5
3rd Age Group	747	371	49.6	362	48.5	14	1.9
Other routine inspections	2,652	998	37.6	1,613	60.8	41	1.6
Totals	6,316	2,653	42.0	3,581	56.7	82	1.3

Return of Defects Treated during the Year.

(a) Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness).

Disease or Defect.	Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year.
Skin:—	
Ringworm:—	
Scalp:—	
(i) X-Ray treatment	—
(ii) Other	2
Body	1
Scabies	6
Impetigo	24
Other skin disease	316
Minor eye defects (External and other, but ex- cluding cases falling in Group II.)	76
Minor ear defects	93
Miscellaneous (<i>e.g.</i> , Minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	668
Total	1,186

(b) Defective Vision and Squint (excluding minor eye defects treated as minor ailments).

Defect or Disease.	Number of Defects dealt with under the Authority's Scheme.
Errors of refraction (including squint)	1,030
Other defect or disease of the eyes	317
	<hr/>
Total	1,347
	<hr/>

No. of pupils for whom spectacles were:—

(a) Prescribed	670
(b) Known to have been obtained	510

(c) Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

	Number of Defects.
Received other than operative treatment	30

(d) Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

Number of Pupils Treated.	Non-residential treatment at orthopædic clinics.
Under the Authority's scheme	212

Dental Inspection and Treatment.

(1) Number of pupils who were inspected by the dental surgeons:—

(a) Routine age groups:—

5	384
6	466
7	304
8	477
9	630
10	639
11	656
12	389
13	441
14	397
15	188
16 plus	122

Total	5,093
(b) Specials	2,042
	<hr/>
(c) Grand Total	7,135
	<hr/>

(2) Found to require treatment	.....	5,490
(3) Actually treated	.....	4,340
(4) Attenuances made by pupils for treatment	.....	13,548
*(5) Half-days devoted to:—		
Inspection	.....	63
Treatment	.....	1,709
		<hr/>
Total	.....	1,772
		<hr/>
(6) Fillings:—		
Permanent teeth	.....	7,633
Temporary teeth	.....	2,812
		<hr/>
Total	.....	10,445
		<hr/>
(7) Extractions:—		
Permanent teeth	.....	977
Temporary teeth	.....	5,575
		<hr/>
Total	.....	6,552
		<hr/>
(8) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions (all schools)		
	.....	2,094
(9) Other operations:—		
Permanent teeth	.....	4,974
Temporary teeth	.....	1,517
		<hr/>
Total	.....	6,491
		<hr/>

* Including Secondary Schools.

Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

(i) Total number of examinations of pupils in the schools by school nurses and all other authorised persons	.....	54,128
(ii) Number of individual pupils found unclean	.....	334
(iii) Percentage of pupils found unclean	.....	0.61

**Handicapped Pupils (March, 1949) ascertained
since July, 1945.**

Category.	At Special School.		At Maintained School.		At Independent School.		Not at School.		Totals.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
A	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
B	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	5
C	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2
D	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
E	2	14	4	2	—	—	1	—	7	16
F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
G	11	4	16	6	—	—	—	2	27	12
H	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
I	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	1
J	6	5	3	1	—	—	7	7	16	13
K	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	27	35	24	10	—	—	8	10	59	55

CHAPTER V.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

1. SERVICES PROVIDED, Notification, investigation, pamphlets issued on the various infectious diseases, exclusion from school of patients and contacts, advice *re* milk handlers—Disinfection—Hospitalisation generally at Hendon Isolation Hospital, Neasden after 4/7/49, *re* puerperal pyrexia and ophthalmia neonatorum, London County Council, *re* poliomyelitis at Royal National Orthopædic Hospital, *re* smallpox, Middlesex County Council, Emergency Bed Service after 4/7/49—Notification of tuberculosis—Compilation of tuberculosis register—Weekly and quarterly returns to Ministry of Health and County Medical Officer—Authentication of travellers' inoculation state—Preventive medicine, diphtheria immunisation, anti-typhoid inoculation, whooping cough immunisation (for children about to enter, or in, Day Nurseries), anti-smallpox vaccination—Food poisoning notification and investigation—Scabies, arrangements with Royal Borough of Kensington—Complete bacteriological service available at Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale, outfits distributed from Public Health Department—anti-toxins available diphtheria, tetanus, scarlatina—from 5/7/48, diphtheria only.

2. A circumscribed outbreak of acute Poliomyelitis occurred in the Borough during the year, when 5 cases in all were notified, 4 in August and 1 in December. No comment is felt to be necessary on this small outbreak.

3. The supervision of contacts landing from ship or aeroplane called for routine surveillance of 10 persons regarding smallpox, 5 persons regarding cholera and 2 persons regarding typhus fever. Constant vigilance must be given to persons arriving from infected foreign areas and this supervision must be given with discretion and understanding. Many such ask advice on the pertinence of vaccination for the members of their families. It is always wise to reinforce previous vaccination at intervals. Vaccination, therefore, of any member of the family who has not been successfully re-vaccinated within the last two or three years would be a wise proceeding. With regard to those who have never, so far, been vaccinated, however, the advice is given that vaccination should not be performed unless there has actually been contact with smallpox and, of course, the position generally is that the person being supervised has only been a contact or a possible contact, and is not suffering from smallpox. This advice about waiting for actual contact with smallpox before vaccination for the first time applies especially to school-children and those over school age. If there be an infant in the household under the age of twelve

months and not yet vaccinated, vaccination should immediately be considered along with the re-vaccination of those who have been vaccinated previously but not within the last two or three years.

4. It is very unusual to receive notification of a case of cholera in this country and the one notified in May calls for comment. The infection was acquired in the bacteriological laboratory of a London Hospital where cholera vaccine was under preparation and in view of the fact that the patient travelled home to Wembley in public transport to her place of residence, the Borough is fortunate that no secondary infections occurred.

5. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION. In spite of the most intensive and continual advice regarding the prevention of diphtheria by immunisation, the percentage of the child population under five considered immunised on the 31st December was no more than 64.94. One cannot accept such a figure with complacency. Diphtheria immunisation is discussed with the parents of all children who are approaching ten months, either at the Clinic or in the home, often at both opportunities, by the Health Visitors. A birthday card is sent to each individual child at the first birthday, full particulars of the local scheme being set out. The Health Visitor checks at the first visit to each child after the first birthday the position regarding diphtheria immunisation having been accepted or arranged for. Any defaulters from the sessions are referred to the Health Visitors who pay special visit to the home and again stress the importance of immunisation. It is true to remark that consents obtained only after great persuasion are generally from those families who repeatedly fail to keep their appointments. An explanatory leaflet is given to the parents after the final dose of immunisation pointing out the need for another injection just before the child enters school life, while also the teachers take the opportunity when interviewing parents of entry children to mention the importance of this reinforcing dose and an explanatory pamphlet has been provided. Routine medical examination as school entrant provides further opportunity of stressing the value of diphtheria immunisation—a full course (2 injections) if the child has never been immunised, or a reinforcing dose to carry the child through the next 5—6 years. Posters are displayed and topical slogans shown on the blackboard at all the Clinics continually. During the first six months 750 children received the additional reinforcing dose and 843 during the second six months. Much credit is due to both the Health Visitors and the School Teachers in their endeavour to obtain a fully protected child population.

6. The investigation into the value of vaccines in preventing Whooping Cough have continued in Wembley—and in other areas

—during the past year. Over 900 children have now been inoculated in Wembley and each child is being visited monthly by special investigators who keep careful notes of all coughs and colds and of any cases of Whooping Cough which occur in the vaccinated children. The investigation—the plan of which was described in the Report for 1946—continued to the end of the year and it is hoped it will be possible to present conclusive evidence of the efficacy or otherwise of the vaccines used. The Medical Research Council—who are running this investigation in collaboration with the Medical Officer of Health—have been greatly encouraged in this new method of approach to problems of preventive medicine by the interest and co-operation of the parents in Wembley, who are themselves active collaborators in the investigation, and already that collaboration has led to increased knowledge of the mode of spread and of methods of early diagnosis.

7. DAY NURSERIES. The incidence of the infectious diseases is again tabulated. Any case of Whooping Cough or Measles in a day nursery appears to offer a focus from which infection can spread, but the numbers of cases notified during the year are not so large as to cause undue apprehension.

8. FOOD POISONING. Nine cases of food poisoning were notified and food poisoning has shown some general increase in the last few years. This may be due to more communal feeding, to difficulties in maintaining the highest standards in personal hygiene and in the processing of food products. The intimate association between the Central Public Health Laboratory at Colindale and the Public Health Department should assist in solving some of the food poisoning problems and helping in their prevention, but co-operation at every angle is necessary. Information should be given at the earliest possible time, samples of relevantly suspected food should be preserved and submitted for examination, and even then it is not always possible to ascertain the cause.

STATISTICAL APPENDIX E.

Cases of infectious diseases notified in Wards and removals to Hospitals.

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	269	12	4	27	55	65	35	21	11	1	21	6	11	175	65.05
Diphtheria	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	100.00
Pneumonia	109	46	—	3	4	8	7	5	16	2	8	6	4	15	13.76
Erysipelas	35	3	2	2	3	8	2	1	3	3	2	1	5	8	22.86
Ophthalmia neonatorum	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	100.00
Dysentery	59	11	6	—	7	3	4	2	4	2	11	4	5	13	22.03
Measles	1,307	95	77	87	112	155	163	101	141	75	144	46	111	31	2.37
Whooping cough	648	126	53	40	28	66	44	56	47	32	60	34	62	23	3.55
Acute poliomyelitis	5	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	100.00
Acute polioencephalitis	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	100.00
Malaria	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	00.00
Typhoid fever	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid fever	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	100.00
Cholera	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	100.00
Pemphigus neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	00.00

Notifications of Selected Infectious Diseases according to sex and age as finally diagnosed.

Age group.	Scarlet fever.		Whooping cough.		Diphtheria.		Measles.		Acute polio-myelitis.		Acute polio-encephalitis.		Age group.	Dysentery.		Acute pneumonia.		Erysipelas.		Cerebro-spinal fever.		Paratyphoid fever.		Typhoid fever.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	28	38	—	—	9	15	—	—	—	—	0	19	11	24	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	14	11	81	73	—	—	157	151	—	—	—	—	5	6	9	7	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	37	28	85	104	—	—	177	163	—	1	1	—	15	5	7	18	11	6	8	—	1	—	—	—	—
5	64	75	115	103	1	—	304	294	1	—	—	—	45	1	1	18	7	6	9	—	—	—	1	—	—
10	13	11	4	3	—	—	6	13	—	—	—	—	65 & over	—	—	8	4	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	4	6	1	1	—	1	4	2	1	—	—	—	Unstated	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25. & over	3	2	4	8	—	—	3	9	2	—	—	—													
All ages	136	133	318	330	1	1	660	647	4	1	1	—	All ages	31	28	75	34	14	21	—	1	—	1	—	Nil

Monthly incidence of the Infectious Diseases.

Disease.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Scarlet fever	11	9	35	24	31	68	32	9	11	11	19	9	269
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia	20	14	18	9	5	1	7	1	—	5	15	14	109
Erysipelas	5	—	2	3	4	3	—	6	2	2	6	2	35
Pemphigus neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebro-spinal fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	7	30	11	5	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	59
Measles	56	145	380	247	212	83	33	18	5	9	39	80	1307
Whooping cough	52	67	118	90	62	69	73	47	36	12	6	16	648
Acute polio- myelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	1	5
Acute polio- encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Malaria	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cholera	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

Winter Respiratory Diseases (October—March).

	Notifications of primary pneumonia and acute influenzal-pneumonia.	Death certifi- cates in which respiratory diseases mentioned.
1944-45	93	92
1945-46	93	70
1946-47	100	116
1947-48	82	90
1948-49	97	123

Infectious Diseases—Day Nurseries.

Disease.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
(a) Children:—													
Scarlet fever	—	—	1	1	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	7
Chicken-pox	11	—	—	—	1	13	21	2	—	—	—	—	48
Mumps	5	—	1	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	10
German measles	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	8
Measles	—	6	15	21	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	64
Whooping cough	—	1	—	—	—	8	29	10	5	2	—	—	55
Dysentery	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12

(b) Staff:—

Nil

Consultations regarding infectious disease, between the Medical Officer of Health and the local Medical Profession continued whereby the considerable experience of the department is placed at the disposal of residents.

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases in School Children.

Information obtained from the head teachers:—

Disease.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Chicken-pox	27	41	24	11	28	22	13	—	1	2	16	8	193
Mumps	13	31	65	33	17	47	3	—	—	1	9	7	226
German measles	2	1	2	2	3	3	9	—	—	1	1	3	27

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Numbers treated (five years period):—

Year.	0—5	5—10	10—15	Over 15	Totals.
1944	1,314	61	29	—	1,404
1945	1,839	69	17	2	1,927
1946	1,629	133	48	3	1,813
1947	1,641	83	26	7	1,757
1948	1,859	106	31	2	1,998

The percentage of the child population considered immunised on the 31st December:—

Children under 5 years	64.94%
Children between 5 and 15 years	70.98%

Vaccination against Small-pox.

Number of infants vaccinated at Health Clinics:

To 4/7/48—252. From 5/7/48—176.

Tuberculosis.

	No. of Notifications.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Under one year	—	1	—	—
1 to 4 years	2	2	1	3
5 to 14 years	5	4	1	3
15 to 24 years	20	28	1	—
25 to 34 years	19	15	—	1
35 to 44 years	143	10	2	—
45 to 54 years	13	8	—	—
55 to 64 years	8	2	1	1
65 and over	4	—	1	—
Totals	85	70	7	8

		No. of Deaths.			
		Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.	
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Under one year	.....	—	—	—	—
1 to 4 years	.....	—	—	—	—
5 to 14 years	.....	—	—	—	—
15 to 24 years	.....	4	1	—	—
25 to 34 years	.....	4	9	—	—
35 to 44 years	.....	4	1	1	—
45 to 54 years	.....	5	—	1	—
55 to 64 years	.....	5	1	—	—
65 and over	.....	6	—	—	—
Totals	.....	28	12	2	Nil

No. admitted to hospitals
or Sanatoria:

59

No. discharged from hospitals
or Sanatoria:

120

During the year 111 cases removed from register. At 31st December 951 names remained on register—840 pulmonary and 111 non-pulmonary.

Of 42 deaths from tuberculosis, 11 not notified during life (26.19%).

Bacteriological Service (at Central Public Health Laboratory).

Examinations made.	Quarter ending				Total for 12 months.
	31/3/48.	30/6/48.	30/9/48.	31/12/48.	
Throat and Nose Swabs.					
Diphtheria	2	—	—	—	2
Hæmolytic Streptococci	49	84	48	29	210
Vincent's angina	4	2	1	—	7
Negative	109	91	94	70	364
Fæces.					
Shigella	78	29	1	1	109
Salmonella	—	3	2	12	17
Protozoa	7	7	—	1	15
Negative	475	83	29	61	648
Sputum.					
T.B. smear	5	5	4	3	17
Other organisms	5	4	—	1	10
Negative	11	22	7	6	46
Pertussis.					
Cough plate	1	—	—	—	1
Post-nasal swab	29	21	32	1	83
Negative	175	119	130	96	520

Scabies.

Treatment sessions.

No. of Cases Reported.

Imperial College of Science.

January	27	July	4
February	16	August	10
March	15	September	9
April	7	October	11
May	12	November	7
June	8	December	6
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	85		47
	<hr/>		<hr/>

Total — 132.

Numbers affected in Individual Families.

1 person in 17 families.	4 persons in 9 families.
2 persons in 11 families.	6 persons in 3 families.
3 persons in 13 families.	

7 recurrent cases—1 in 1 family, 2 in 1 family, 4 in 1 family.

CHAPTER VI.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE, FOOD AND WATER, HOUSING, FACTORIES, ETC.

1. SERVICES PROVIDED, Ascertainment, investigation and abatement of nuisances—Scrutiny *re* sewers and drains—Sanitary circumstances of special premises (Public Houses, Cinemas, Dance Halls)—Co-ordination regarding Local Land Charges, etc., registers—Supervision of food, ascertainment and condemnation of unfit food—Routine periodic examination of public water supplies—Middlesex County Council Act, 1944, registration of hawkers of meat, meat food products, fish, fruit, vegetables and premises—Registration under Milk and Dairies Acts—Supervision under Milk (Special Designations) Orders—Housing, overcrowding, disrepair, ascertainment and action thereon—Ascertainment and supervision of movable dwellings under Middlesex County Council Act—Supervision of domestic refuse bins—Factories and workplaces and outworkers, supervision regarding smoke—Noise and dust nuisances—Supervision of petroleum storage—Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, ascertainment of infestations and dealing therewith, pamphlet available regarding poisoning, trapping, rat proofing—Supervision under Hydrogen Cyanide (Fumigation of Buildings) Regulations, 1938—Cleansing of verminous premises, pamphlets distributed on the protection against house flies, the destruction of ants—Use of D.D.T. preparations—Borough byelaws relevant to Sanitary Inspectors, Good rule and government and prevention of nuisances, Nuisances, Offensive trades, Slaughterhouses, Ventilation and lighting of stables, Building byelaws, Public sanitary conveniences, Removal of offensive matter, etc., through the streets, Removal of house refuse.

2. XIVth OLYMPIAD. Whilst it is well known that many of the events were staged at the Wembley Stadium and Empire Pool, it may not be generally known that the holding of these events brought in its train considerable additional duties to the local authority and its officers, and gave rise to a certain amount of anxiety.

Several months before the Olympiad was due to take place a code of Medical Arrangements and Accommodation Standards was drawn up and adopted by the Council, and subsequently approved by the Olympiad Medical Committee.

This code set out in detail arrangements for Medical Attention, Hospitals (including Isolation Hospitals), Ambulances, Laboratory Services, Disinfection and Disinfestation and Public Cleansing.

Standards were prescribed relating to sleeping accommodation, sanitary and washing accommodation, and meals accommodation at hostels and camps; appropriate standards were also prescribed for dressing rooms used by competitors.

Three County secondary schools in the Borough were used as hostels for competitors taking part in the Olympic Games, and were occupied by contingents from various parts of the world.

At each of the schools, a resident Warden was in charge (the wardens being members of the teaching staff at the schools who acted voluntarily in this capacity), and a general practitioner was nominated to pay routine visits to examine any person reporting sick, and generally to have medical charge of each hostel. A Sanitary Inspector also visited each hostel daily to see that the prescribed sanitary formula was observed, and to advise, where necessary. Special arrangements were made by the Public Cleansing Department for dealing with the removal of refuse and salvage.

The secondary schools proved to be very adaptable as hostels as they are provided with ample modern sanitary accommodation, washing facilities including shower baths, gymnasiums, fully equipped kitchens, and dining halls. Rooms were set apart for use as writing rooms, rest rooms and recreation rooms. Classrooms were used as dormitories, and the beds were arranged so that there should be not less than three feet between the beds, and that there should be not less than 55 square feet of floor space per person.

A large tented camp was sited at Northwick Park, which was operated by the Y.M.C.A. for the reception of visitors, both from this country and abroad, and provided accommodation for 500 visitors. A sanitary code was drawn up well in advance of the camp being erected, and discussions took place with the Y.M.C.A. authorities with regard to the code and the disposition of necessary sanitary services.

This camp site was on land which had previously been used as a golf course, with a slight slope running from N.W. to S.E., the sanitary and ablution accommodation being placed on the S.E. side. Special marquees were provided for these latter purposes and chemical closets which were emptied daily by a contractor were separately screened to give privacy. A dry ditch, the bottom of which was forked over, provided adequate means of disposal for waste water from ablution tents without giving rise to any nuisance. A piped water supply was temporarily laid on from the Colne Valley Water Company's supply. Refuse was collected daily by the Public Cleansing Department. Marquees containing

24 beds spaced at well over 3 feet apart were provided for sleeping, whilst separate marquees were also provided for cooking, recreation, writing, etc.

A resident Camp Commandant was in charge of the camp during the whole of the time, and very cordial relations were maintained between the Commandant and the Council's officers whose duties brought them into daily contact. The same remarks apply equally to the wardens of the hostels, and the Stadium and Empire Pool authorities. In short, every endeavour was made to cater for the comfort of visitors and to maintain as high a sanitary standard as the circumstances would permit. It is pleasing to be able to record that no untoward incidents arose such, for example, as outbreaks of infectious disease, and it seems reasonable to assume that this freedom from incidents may, in some measure at least, be ascribed to the careful planning before, and the constant watchfulness of all concerned during the occupation of the hostels and camp.

3. WATER SUPPLY. The Colne Valley Water Co. supply with water the major part of the borough and the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Water Co. supply a very small area in the southern end of the district. These supplies are sampled bacteriologically at frequent intervals at various points and copies of the bacteriological reports forwarded to the Water Companies, while also the Water Companies submit periodically their results. The water supply remained bacteriologically satisfactory and generally sufficient in quantity. Concern has, however, been expressed by the Council on more than one occasion relating to the hardness of the water supplied by the Colne Valley Water Co. This hardness during the war and since has been of the order of 20—22 parts per 100,000, whereas before the war it was in the region of 14 parts per 100,000. Approaches were made to the supply company who have pointed out that whilst the water is softened it has not been possible to reduce the hardness to its pre-war state, for a number of technical reasons. At the present time the Council, together with other local authorities within the same supply area, are pursuing the matter.

4. HOUSING. The housing situation still remains a serious one but is fully appreciated by the Council. During the year under review, however, 307 cases of overcrowding were relieved, of which 248 were provided with accommodation by the Council. At the end of the year overcrowding cases in accordance with the Housing Act standard numbered 602.

1,665 visits were paid by Sanitary Inspectors in connection with investigations into overcrowding.

5. FACTORIES ACT, 1937. No material change has taken place in the types of industries in the borough, which were given in some detail in the previous annual report. The particulars relating to inspections and the defects found and remedied are set out in the statistical appendix.

Outworkers.

246 visits to outworkers' premises were made during the year.

6. SMOKE ABATEMENT. The position with regard to smoke remained much the same as in the previous year. It cannot be said that atmospheric pollution is heavy in Wembley, by comparison with a good many industrial towns, but nevertheless action by the Public Health Department was from time to time necessary. The managers of industrial establishments are generally quite co-operative in their efforts to overcome smoke emissions but the technical difficulties with which they are sometimes faced have to be appreciated and it is sometimes not possible to effect remedies at a moment's notice; this latter reservation applies more particularly to instances in which alterations or repairs to plant become necessary.

7. RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919. The Department continued to carry out rodent control on the lines formulated in previous years. A free service was provided to householders in respect of treatment at private dwellinghouses but in all other cases a charge is made, the charge having relation to the amount of labour and materials used. Three Rodent Control Assistants, all of whom have been trained at the Infestation Branch of the Ministry of Food, are employed on this work. Details of work done are given in the statistical appendix. Two maintenance treatments of the sewers were carried out by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department during the year, in accordance with Ministry of Food Circular N.S. 11.

STATISTICAL APPENDIX F.

Number of complaints received and investigated	3,297
Visits made by Sanitary Inspectors	29,175

(a) Dwelling Houses:—

Visits under Public Health Acts	9,375
Visits under Housing Acts	16
Visits <i>re</i> overcrowding	1,665
Visits to bug infested premises	72
Visits <i>re</i> other vermin (excluding rats and mice, see below)	85
Visits <i>re</i> cases of infectious disease	1,035
Visits to cases of food poisoning	34

(b) General Environmental Public Health:—

Drains and sewers inspected	2,754
Drain and Sewer Test applied.....	591
Cesspools, etc.	11
Urinals, latrines, chemical closets	124
Stables, manure pits, etc.	56
Piggeries (number on register at end of year 12)	49
Ditches and streams	174
Open spaces, etc.	268
Yards	2,218
Public conveniences	199
Tents, vans and sheds	134
Factories—Mechanical	955
Non-mechanical	36
Workplaces	277
Outworkers	246
Smoke observations—half hourly	73
“ “ casual	888
“ “ visits to plant.....	71
Cinemas, Dance Halls, etc. (number on register at end of year 27)	143
Hairdressers (number of establishments on register at end of year 90)	91
Schools (number of private schools 18)	107
Markets	78
Rats and Mice	269
Swimming baths—visits	76
“ “ water examination	10
“ “ chlorine tests	35
Mortuary	13
Olympic Hostels	20
Refuse Tips	27

(c) Food, including milk, meat, water:—

Number of dairies registered at end of year	26
--	----

Number of purveyors of milk registered, with premises in the Borough selling milk in properly closed and unopened receptacles	3
---	---

Number of purveyors of milk registered whose premises are outside the Borough	18
---	----

Number of dairies (included above) where milk bottled, etc.	5
---	---

Inspection visits made to:—

Meat shops, stalls, etc. (number on register at end of year 78)	766
--	-----

Cowsheds	5
----------------	---

Dairies and milk shops—visits	263
-------------------------------------	-----

” ” ” ” milk samples taken	139
----------------------------------	-----

” ” ” ” sediment tests	2
------------------------------	---

Fried fish shops (number on register at end of year 18)	194
--	-----

Bakehouses (number on register at end of year 20)	180
--	-----

Ice cream premises (number on register at end of year 104)	585
---	-----

Ice cream—samples taken	268
-------------------------------	-----

Fishmongers and poulterers (number on register at end of year 26)	498
--	-----

Greengrocers and fruiterers (number on register at end of year 93)	527
---	-----

Grocers (number on register at end of year 228)	1,055
--	-------

Restaurants, cafés, etc. (number on register at end of year 130)	823
---	-----

Street vendors, hawkers, etc. (number on register at end of year 48)	164
---	-----

Other food premises	60
Water supply—visits	77
„ „ samples taken	39

(d) Other visits and inspections:—

Massage establishments, etc.	30
Certificates lodged by Members of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapists	2
New Licences granted	8
Licences renewed	19
Noise nuisances	312
Dust nuisances	78
Effluvia nuisances	38
Petroleum stores	248
Miscellaneous	549
Number of verbal notices served	238
Number of verbal notices complied with	210*
Number of written notices served	646
Number of written notices complied with	611*
Number of statutory notices served	189
Number of statutory notices complied with	191*

* Includes a number of notices served in 1947
and completed in 1948.

Legal Proceedings.

In 2 cases legal proceedings were instituted for failure to comply with nuisance abatement notices served under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, in connection with essential repairs to houses. The Magistrates in each case made nuisance orders and in 1 case awarded the Council costs.

Nuisances abated and improvements effected.

(a) Dwelling Houses:—

Roofs repaired	321
External walls and chimney stacks repaired	139
Gutters and spouts repaired or renewed	221
Damp-proof courses provided	38
Dampness remedied	275
Yards paved or repaired	67
Internal walls and ceilings repaired	569
Doors repaired or renewed	101
Windows repaired or renewed	269
Floors repaired or renewed	157

Sub floor vent. provided or improved	71
Rooms cleansed or redecorated	453
Passages and staircases redecorated	76
Staircases repaired	35
Fireplaces and flues repaired or renewed	119
Cooking stoves repaired or renewed	20
Wash coppers repaired or renewed	1
Sinks and washbasins provided or renewed	75
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	69
Food stores, provided or improved	6
Dustbins provided or renewed	367
Water supply improved or reinstated	118
W.C. walls, etc., cleansed	37
W.C. pans cleansed	21
W.C. pans repaired or renewed	69
W.C. structures repaired or renewed	25
W.C. lighting and ventilation improved	6
W.C. flush pipe joints repaired	57
Additional W.C's. provided	19
W.C. cistern repaired	1

(b) General Environmental Public Health:—

Drains cleansed from obstruction	781
Drains repaired or renewed	143
New drains provided	30
New inspection chambers provided	27
Inspection chambers repaired	76
Soil pipes and vent. shafts repaired	42
W.C's. repaired	16
W.C's. cleansed	24
Urinals and latrines cleansed or emptied	22
" " " additional ones provided	1
Stables, manure pits, cleansed	8
" " " repaired or renewed	3
Piggeries cleansed or limewashed	6
Pigsties repaired	1
Animals nuisances abated	12
Offensive accumulations removed	53
Ditches and streams cleansed	5
" " " pollution remedied	7
Yards cleansed or repaired	57
Tents, vans and sheds—nuisances abated	62
Smoke nuisances abated	1
Improvements in boiler plant or fuel effected	5
Cinemas, Dance Halls, etc.—contraventions remedied	6
Hairdressers—contraventions remedied	6

Markets—contraventions remedied	2
Schools—sanitary conditions improved	8
„ urinals and W.C's. cleansed or re- paired	7
„ additional W.C's. or urinals pro- vided	5
Noise nuisances abated	2
Effluvia nuisances abated	1
Water tanks covered	1
(c) Eradication of bed bugs:—	
(i) Number of Council houses:—	
Found to be infested and subsequently disinfested	19
(ii) Number of other houses:—	
Found to be infested and subsequently disinfested	25
(i) by hydrogen cyanide	—
(ii) by sulphur	—
(iii) by liquid insecticides	25
Other vermin eradicated	26
Verminous articles destroyed	4
(d) Meat and other Food Premises:—	
Meat shops, stalls, etc.—premises cleansed.....	53
„ „ „ „ other contraventions remedied.....	18
Dairies—cleansed and limewashed	9
„ premises repaired	3
„ other contraventions remedied	2
Bakehouses cleansed and limewashed	28
„ sanitary conditions improved	7
„ other contraventions remedied	6
Ice cream premises cleansed and limewashed	23
„ „ „ sanitary conditions im- proved	5
Fried fish shops cleansed and limewashed	12
„ „ „ sanitary conditions improved	5
„ „ „ other contraventions remedied	5
Fishmongers, etc., contraventions remedied	41
Grocers, etc., contraventions remedied	59
Greengrocers, etc., contraventions remedied.....	37
Restaurants, Cafés, etc., contraventions remedied	71
Street hawkers, contraventions remedied	5
Other food premises, contraventions remedied	1

5,686

(e) Unsound food surrendered:—

Fish:

52 jars and 107 tins Herrings.
123 tins Hake, Cod, Snoek, Whiting.
209 tins Pilchards.
188 tins Sardines.
21 tins Crab, Lobster.
279 tins Salmon.
7 tins Shell Fish.
20 tins Miscellaneous Fish.
44 tins Fish Roes and 17 jars.
239 tins Mussels.
1 jar and 8 tins Anchovies.
88½ stone Round Fish (Cod, Hake, etc.).
241 stone Fillets and Smoked Fish.
125 stone Flat Fish.
3½ stone Herrings.
32¼ stone Kippers.

Meat:

1,622 lbs. Beef.
95 lbs. Mutton.
49 lbs. Liver, Kidneys.
1,051 lbs. Rabbits.
117 Rabbits.
12 lbs. Pork.
2 Ducks.
38½ lbs. Bacon.
67 lbs. Sausages.
12 Fowls.
72 Meat Pies.
142 tins Luncheon Meat, Tongue, Brawn, etc.
31 tins Stewed Steak.
46 tins Bacon.
4 tins Meat and Vegetables.
8 tins Sausages.
8 tins Chickens, Rabbits, etc.
13—2 lb. tins Corned Mutton.
17—6 lb. tins Corned Mutton.
662—12 oz. tins Corned Beef.
494—6 lb. tins Corned Beef.

Fruit and Vegetables:

508 tins various Fruits.
39 bottles various Fruits.
26 tins Fruit Salads.

75 tins Fruit Juices.
 7 lbs. Apples.
 66 lbs. Lemons.
 79 lbs. Prunes.
 200 lbs. Oranges.
 96 cases Grapefruit.
 31½ lbs. Dates.
 248 lbs. Dried Peas.
 865 tins Vegetables
 37 tins Spaghetti.
 14 bottles Cabbage.
 12 tins Hors D'Œuvres.
 14 tins and 34 bottles Gherkins.

Milk:

868 tins Evaporated Milk.
 396 tins Full Cream Milk.
 30 tins Condensed Milk.
 157 tins Skimmed Milk.
 3 tins Household Milk.
 12 quarts Liquid Milk.
 2 cwts. Milk Powder.

Miscellaneous:

99 tins and 6 jars Jams.
 7 tins Lemon Curd.
 178 tins and 2 jars Marmalade.
 15 tins Syrup.
 45 tins Grapefruit Marmalade.
 9 tins Miscellaneous, Apple Jelly, etc.
 932 jars Piccalilli.
 2 tins Olives.
 185 jars Pickles.
 390 jars Ketchups and Sauces.
 11 bottles Vinegar.
 11—1 gallon tins Tomato Purée.
 14 lbs. Gravy Browning.
 40 tins Meat Paste.
 120 jars Fish Paste.
 2 tins Sandwich Spread.
 269 tins Soup.
 17 lbs. Biscuits.
 135 lbs. Cake.
 100 Bread Rolls.
 36 Sausage Rolls.
 180 Mars Bars.
 69 packets Semolina.
 7 lbs. Chocolate Spread.

20 lbs. Marzipan.
45 lbs. Cereals.
18 tins Puddings.
127 packets Sponge Mixtures, Puddings, etc.
90 lbs. Tea.
120 lbs. Cheese.
109 boxes Cheese.
11 lbs. Butter.
7 lbs. Margarine.
49 lbs. Sugar.
118 lbs. Dried Eggs.
1,867 Shell Eggs.
72 lbs. Flour.
116 bottles Gravy Salt.
14 bottles Flavouring.
21 lbs. Almonds.
28 lbs. Cream of Tartar.
3 tins Mustard.
80 bottles Coffee Essence.
13 jars Marmite.
4 bottles Cordials.
3 lbs. Cocoa.
14 lbs. Salt.
1 jar Ginger.

Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—

(a) (i) Total number of dwelling - houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	4,422
(ii) Number of inspections made for the purpose	11,213
(b) (i) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925/1932	2
(ii) Number of inspections made for the purpose	7
(c) Number of dwelling-houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	2,194

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	2,329
---	-------

Action under statutory powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	None
---	------

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

(1) by owners	} None
(2) by Local Authority in default of owners	

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	177
--	-----

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(1) by owners	110*
(2) by Local Authority in default of owners	63†

* Includes compliance in 1948 with 45 notices served in 1947.

† Includes compliance in 1948 with 12 notices served in 1947.

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	} None
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	}	None
(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit		

Overcrowding.

(a) Certificates issued to landlords, giving the permitted number of persons who may occupy a house	26
(b) Number of dwellings recorded as overcrowded at the end of the year	602
Number of families dwelling therein	704
Number of persons dwelling therein	2,998
(c) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	446
(d) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	Total 307
(1) by removals of sub-tenants/lodgers, members of family	32
(2) by removal of families to other known addresses (not overcrowded)	253
(3) by removal to unknown addresses	22
(4) rehoused by Council (included also in (2) above):—	
In requisitioned premises	25
In Council houses	206
In temporary bungalows	17
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	1,654
(e) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	3

Factories.

Number of factory premises — 509.

Premises.	Number of:—		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
*Factories with mech. power	1,128	12	—
Factories without mech. power	43	—	—
Other premises	5	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	1,176	12	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

* Includes 160 inspections of bakehouses with mech. power.

Defects found.

Particulars.	No. of defects:—			
	Found.	Referred Remedied. by H.M. Inspector.	Prose- cutions.	
Want of cleanliness	5	7	2	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	1	1	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors.....	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Convenience:—				
Insufficient	5	5	1	—
Unsuitable or defective	25	25	3	—
Not separate for the sexes	1	2	1	—
Other offences	18	20	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	55	60	7	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Outworkers.

Number on register at end of year..... 168

Nature of work:—**Making, repairing of:—**

Wearing apparel	125
Household linen	7
Umbrellas	1
Cardboard boxes	5
Carding of buttons	7
Toys	9

Lace	4
Curtains, etc.	3
Furniture and upholstery	2
Brass articles	1
Feather sorting	2
Christmas cards, crackers	2

Offices.

Number on the register — 301.

Defects.	Found.	Remedied.
Want of cleanliness	1	1
Want of ventilation	—	—
Overcrowding	1	2
Sanitary accommodation:—		
Insufficient	1	3
Unsuitable or defective	5	2
Not separate sexes	—	—
Obnoxious effluvia	—	—
Other nuisances	—	—
Totals	8	8

Disinfection of Premises and Articles.

Disinfections for:—

Infectious diseases	459
Cancer	27
Vermin (routine protection from)	32
Miscellaneous	40

Articles disinfected or destroyed:—

	Disinfected.	Destroyed.
Bedding and bedclothing	2,364	45
Wearing apparel	53	12
Carpets, rugs, cushions	52	Nil
Others	14	Nil

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

Work carried out during the year:—

(1) Number of premises visited	1,898
(2) Number of visits by Sanitary Inspectors	211

(3) Number of visits by Rodent Control Assistants	9,823
(4) Number of premises found to be infested	721
(5) Number of premises which received treatment by Rodent Control Assistants	716
(6) Number of premises satisfactorily treated privately	41
(7) Number of Council premises (included in (5))	17

Milk (Special Designations) Orders.

Licences issued.

	Dealers.	Supple- mentary.	To Bottle.	To Pasteurise.
Tuberculin tested	15	9	1	—
Accredited	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised	27	10	—	1

Samples of designated milk taken.

	No. of samples taken.	No. not satisfactory.
Pasteurised	69	—
Tuberculin tested	13	2
T.T. (Pasteurised)	21	1
	103	3

Laboratory Examinations re Food, Milk and Water.

Examinations made.	31.3.48	30.6.48	30.9.48	31.12.48	Total for 12 months
Water	12	11	16	10	49
Milk	24	39	38	38	139
Food	2	4	6	1	13
Ice Cream	36	90	92	50	268

Chemical tests for chlorine content of Swimming Pool water made by inspectors, 35.

CHAPTER VII.

ADMINISTRATION, STAFF, SUMMARY.

1. The tremendous spate of social legislation which became operative in the year has changed the scope of local government more perhaps than in any period of the past. The Health Department was affected more in this re-arrangement than other departments of the Council.

The National Health Service Act of 1946, the National Assistance Act of 1948, and the Children Act of 1948, removed from the Council of the Borough and its Health Department very many duties which had been so thoroughly performed in the past. Most of the functions became the responsibility of the Middlesex County Council, the new Local Health Authority on the 5th July, and indeed all the property and all the staff relating to certain parts of the health service were on this day transferred to the County Council.

So far as possible the preceding report has recorded the work performed by the department during twelve difficult months and it may well be the final year in which the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health takes its present form.

2. The Area Health Administration proposed by the County Council combined the County Districts of Wembley and Willesden to form Area No. 6 and whilst there has been little time to assess the advantages which might accrue from the alteration one can at least say that the services available to the public have been maintained at a level which, in all the circumstances, must reflect credit on all workers in this field of social endeavour.

3. During the year, and from many causes, staff, particularly professional staff, have been very difficult to obtain, and one hopes the inducements to enter the health services of local authorities will become more stabilised and sufficiently attractive to enlist the finest quality of personnel.

4. Finally, I should be failing in my duty if I did not express my most sincere thanks to all members of the department who have worked unremittingly to ensure smooth and effective operation during the period of transfer and for their constant application and loyalty during a very anxious time.

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

Your obedient servant,

E. GRUNDY,

Medical Officer of Health.

HENDON PRINTING WORKS
LIMITED,

44, VICTORIA ROAD,
LONDON, N.W. 4

(14418)