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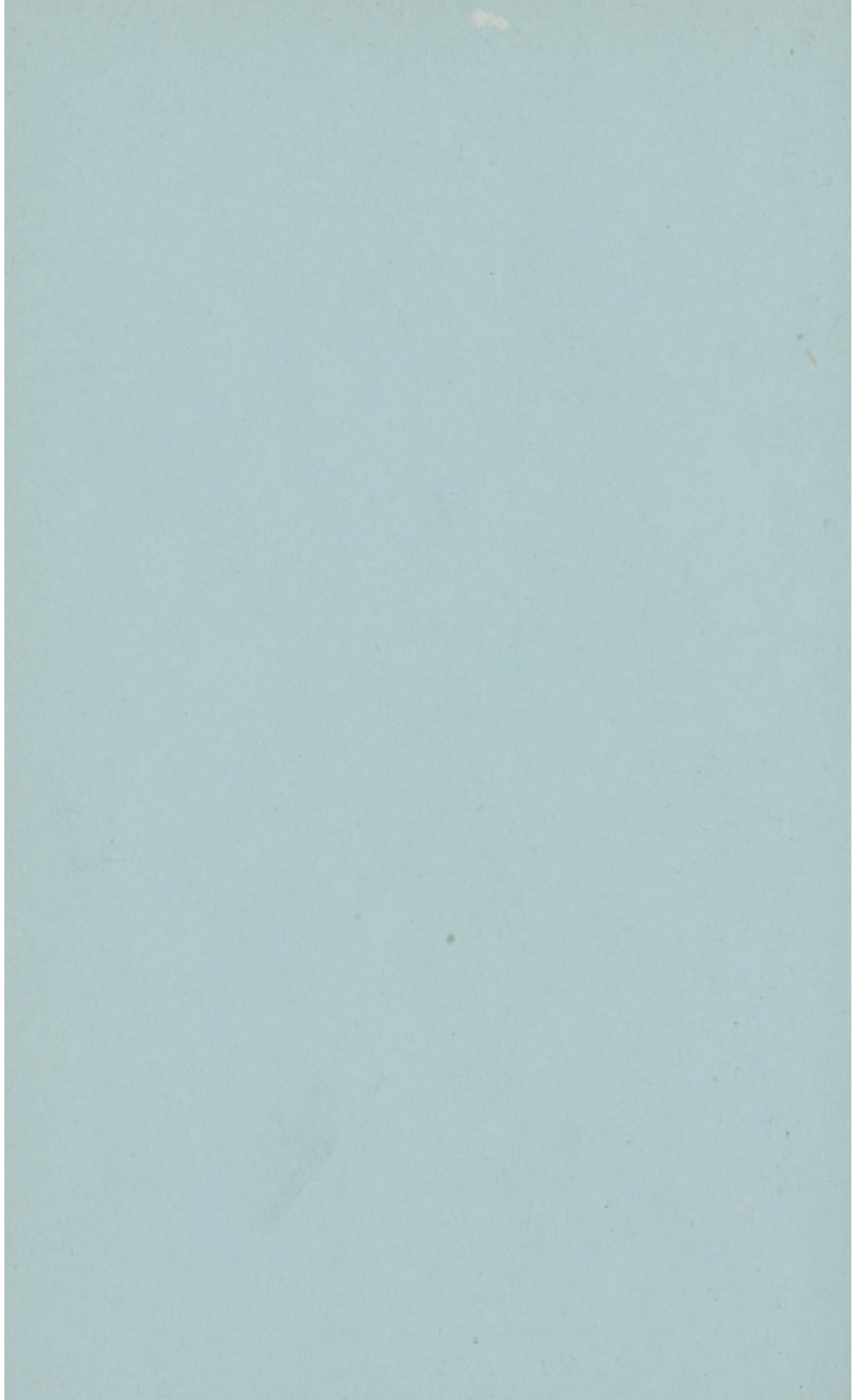
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**BOROUGH OF WEMBLEY**

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# **REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR**

**1955**

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**E. GRUNDY, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,**  
Medical Officer of Health







# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1955

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 1955. This Report has been compiled in the following five chapters, four 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—15, Statistical Appendix B, Page 16.

„ III INFECTIOUS DISEASES, Page 17, Statistical Appendix C, Pages 18—23.

IV ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE, FOOD AND WATER, HOUSING, FACTORIES, ETC., Pages 24—33, Statistical Appendix D, Pages 34—51.

„ V ADMINISTRATION OF THE DEPARTMENT AND STAFF, Page 52.

## CHAPTER I.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

1. The population of the Borough in mid-1955 was estimated by the Registrar-General to be 129,000 and whilst this is considerably below 131,384 the census figure for 1951 it probably represents the most accurate figure attainable. It is an interesting observation that the population of Wembley and Kingsbury recorded in the census of 1931 was some 65,799, an inter-census increase of 99.7%. Wembley remains the fifth largest County District in Middlesex, those greater, according to population, being Harrow, Ealing, Willesden and Hendon.

2. In 1955 there were recorded 1,397 live births, giving a birth rate of 10.83 per thousand of the estimated population. The number of deaths was 1,045 giving a crude death rate of 8.10 per thousand. When the comparability factor (1.10) is applied the standardised death rate becomes 8.91, a decrease on last year's figure and below the national rate of 11.7 per thousand of the population.

3. The infantile mortality rate of 17.18 showed a slight drop compared with the figure of 1954 and is below the national rate for England and Wales yet it demands some attention. Prematurity of birth and congenital malformation are the main causes of death in very young infants and an emergency unit is maintained at the Edgware General Hospital which can be called to the house when a premature birth occurs to give immediate and skilled attention prior to removal if necessary to hospital.

4. During the year there was one death from maternal causes.



## STATISTICAL APPENDIX A.

### CERTAIN VITAL STATISTICS, 1955

from figures supplied by Registrar-General.

(Some comparative 1954 figures within brackets.)

<b>Population</b>					Total 129,000
<b>Live Births.</b>					
	Male.	Female.	Total.		Live birth rate
Legitimate .....	695	657	1,352		per 1,000 esti-
			(1,426)		mated popula-
Illegitimate .....	20	25	45		tion ..... 10.83
			(55)		(11.44)
<b>Stillbirths.</b>					
Legitimate .....	11	17	28		Rate per 1,000
			(28)		total (live and
Illegitimate .....	—	1	1		still) births
			(1)		11.06 (11.66)
					Stillbirth rate
					per 1,000 esti-
					mated popula-
					tion ..... 0.22
					(0.22)
Deaths .....	525	520	1,045		Death rate per
			(1,118)		1,000 estimated
					population —
					Crude
					rate ..... 8.10
					(8.63)
Adjusted by Area Comparability					Standardised
Factor of Registrar-General			1.10		rate ..... 8.91
					(9.49)

#### Infantile Mortality.

Deaths of infants under one year of age :—

	Male.	Female.	Total.	
Legitimate .....	8	13	21	}
			(26)	
Illegitimate .....	—	3	3	}
			(1)	
				24
				(27)

Death rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	.....	.....	.....	17.18	(18.23)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	.....	.....	.....	15.53	(18.23)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births	.....	.....	.....	66.67	(18.18)
Deaths from : Malignant Diseases	.....	.....	.....	234	(228)
Measles (all ages)	.....	.....	.....	—	(—)
Whooping Cough (all ages)	.....	.....	.....	—	(—)

Maternal Mortality.

Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	.....	.....	.....	1	(1)
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	.....	.....	.....	0.72	(0.68)
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	.....	.....	.....	0.70	(0.66)

				Per 1,000 population.	Per 1,000 Live Births.	Per 1,000 total births (live and still).			
	Birth rate.	Still Birth rate.	Death rate.	Infan- tile mor- tality.	Mater- nal mor- tality.	Maternal mortality.			
Wembley	.....	.....	.....	10.83	0.22	8.10	17.18	0.72	0.70
England and Wales	.....	.....	.....	15.00	0.36	11.70	24.90	0.66	0.64
London	.....	.....	.....	15.10	0.31	11.50	23.20	—	—
160 County Boroughs, etc.	.....	.....	.....	14.90	0.35	11.60	25.10	—	—
160 Smaller towns, etc.	.....	.....	.....	14.90	0.36	11.60	25.20	—	—

Area in acres	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,294
Estimated number of inhabited houses at end of 1955	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38,400
Rateable Value, 31st December, 1955	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£1,614,487
Estimate of the product of a penny rate, 1955/56	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£6,600



## Causes of Deaths during the Year.

1955.

Causes of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	2	5
2. Tuberculosis, other	3	—	3
3. Syphilitic disease	2	1	3
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	1	1	2
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	16	18	34
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	35	10	45
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	20	20
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	12	12
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms	68	55	123
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	4	5
16. Diabetes	3	3	6
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	58	83	141
18. Coronary disease, angina	106	65	171
19. Hypertension with heart disease	10	15	25
20. Other heart disease	46	69	115
21. Other circulatory disease	38	38	76
22. Influenza	5	1	6
23. Pneumonia	18	19	37
24. Bronchitis	40	16	56
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	5	5	10
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	1	4	5
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	5	7	12
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	10	—	10
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1	1
31. Congenital malformations	3	1	4
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	28	43	71
33. Motor vehicle accidents	5	5	10
34. All other accidents	3	15	18
35. Suicide	10	6	16
36. Homicide	1	—	1
ALL CAUSES	525	520	1,045



## The Principal Causes of Death.

Disease.	Total Number of deaths.
1. Heart disease and other diseases of circulatory system (18—21) .....	387
Vascular lesions of nervous system (17) .....	141
	528
2. Malignant neoplasms (10—14) .....	234
3. Respiratory diseases :—	
(a) Influenza (22) .....	6
(b) Pneumonia (23) .....	37
(c) Bronchitis (24) .....	56
(d) Other respiratory diseases (25) .....	2
	101
4. Tuberculosis :—	
(a) Respiratory system (1) .....	5
(b) Other forms (2) .....	3
	8
5. Violent deaths :—	
(a) Suicide (35) .....	16
(b) Road traffic (33) .....	10
(c) Other violent causes (34) .....	18
	44
6. Congenital malformations (31) .....	4

Note : Numbers in brackets are index numbers allocated by Registrar-General for Annual Return of Causes of Deaths.

			Percentage of total deaths under 1 year.	Percentage of total deaths under 50 years.	Percentage of deaths taking place in hospitals.
1951	.....	.....	2.24	12.25	32.27
1952	.....	.....	3.16	15.03	44.19
1953	.....	.....	2.67	13.88	34.07
1954	.....	.....	2.42	14.49	50.54
1955	.....	.....	2.30	10.74	49.61

### SOME OTHER ESSENTIAL LOCAL STATISTICS.

#### Birth Notifications (as supplied by Area Medical Officer).

Notified by.		At home.	In Hospital.	In Nursing Home.	Totals.
Doctors	.....	1	448	37	486
Midwives	.....	280	696	—	976
Parents	.....	—	—	—	—
Totals	.....	281	1,144	37	1,462
Percentages	.....	19.2	78.3	2.5	100.0

Live births — 1,431

Still births — 31

## 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 year
Prematurity .....	8	1	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	9
Congenital heart disease.....	1	—	—	1	2	—	2	—	—	4
Pneumonia .....	1	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	1	4
Atelectasis .....	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Cerebral haemorrhage .....	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Intracranial injury .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Precipitate labour .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	17	1	—	2	20	—	3	—	1	24



### Infantile Mortality, 1951-1955.

Year.	Wembley.	England & Wales.
1951	22.79	29.6
1952	24.33	27.6
1953	20.13	26.8
1954	18.23	25.5
1955	17.18	24.9

Infantile mortality during last five years (7,381 live births,  
153 deaths under one year) : 20.73

### Maternal Mortality.

Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still), 1951-1955 :—

Year.	Wembley.	England & Wales.
1951	0.65	0.79
1952	0.00	0.72
1953	0.65	0.76
1954	0.66	0.69
1955	0.70	0.64

Maternal mortality during last five years (7,543 total births  
4 maternal deaths) : 0.53

## CHAPTER II.

### GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.

1. HOSPITALS. The whole of Wembley lies within the area of the North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board but hospitals accepting the sick are administered by two Hospital Management Committees, the Central Middlesex Group Hospital Management Committee and the Hendon Group Hospital Management Committee, the two major general hospitals being the Central Middlesex Hospital and the Edgware General Hospital.

The Wembley Hospital and the Kingsbury Maternity Hospital are situated in the Borough and these hospitals are under the control of the Governors of Charing Cross Hospital.

Infectious diseases are normally accepted at the Neasden Hospital or, in case of necessity, at the Hendon Isolation Hospital.

Cases of mental deficiency and mental disease are catered for at Shenley Hospital.

Arrangements are made for the admission of tuberculous patients to a variety of hospitals through the three Chest Clinics serving the area.

A list of hospitals is included :—

Central Middlesex Hospital, Acton Lane, N.W.10.  
(ELGar 5733.)

Edgware General Hospital, Edgware, Middlesex.  
(EDGware 8181.)

Wembley Hospital, Fairview Avenue, Wembley, Middlesex.  
(WEMbley 3136.)

Kingsbury Maternity Hospital, Honeyput Lane,  
Kingsbury, N.W.9. (COLindale 6309.)

Neasden Hospital, Brentfield Road, Neasden, N.W.10.  
(WILlesden 2251.)

Hendon Isolation Hospital, Goldsmith Avenue, Hendon,  
N.W.9. (COLindale 8182.)

Willesden Chest Clinic, Pound Lane, Willesden, N.W.10.  
(WILlesden 6254.)

Harrow Chest Clinic, 199, Station Road, Harrow,  
Middlesex. (HARrow 1075.)

Edgware Chest Clinic, Edgware General Hospital,  
Edgware, Middlesex. (EDGware 4467/8.)



2. **AMBULANCE SERVICE.** A service of ambulances and sitting case cars is maintained by the Middlesex County Council as Local Health Authority at :—

No. 4 Depot. (ELGar 5506.)

The accident service is obtained by dialling 999.

The authority of a medical practitioner is required for service to be given, except in emergency and accident cases.

3. **HEALTH SERVICES.** Health Services under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are provided by the County Council and relevant details in so far as they apply to the borough are included below :—

**County Medical Officer :**

A. C. T. Perkins, M.C., M.D., D.P.H.,  
3, 5 & 7, Old Queen Street, S.W.1.

Telephone : TRAfalgar 7799.

**Area Medical Officer—Area No. 6—Wembley :**

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

Area Health Office, 215, Chevening Road, N.W.6.

Telephone : LADbroke 2411.

### **Clinics for Child Health :**

College Road, Wembley.

Telephone No. : ARNold 1336.

London Road, Wembley.

Telephone No. : WEMbley 1021.

Monks Park, Wembley.

Telephone No. : WEMbley 4842.

One Tree Hill, Bridgewater Road, Alperton.

Telephone No. : WEMbley 2435.

Perrin Road, Sudbury, Wembley (Orthodontic).

Telephone No. : ARNold 2500.

Perrin Road, Sudbury, Wembley.

Telephone No. : ARNold 6164.

Kingsbury Free Church, Slough Lane, Kingsbury, N.W.9.

Telephone No. : COLindale 4315.

245, Stag Lane, Kingsbury, N.W.9.

Telephone No. : COLindale 6680.

245, Stag Lane, Kingsbury, N.W.9 (Dental).

Telephone No. : COLindale 8729.

Library Clinic, Stag Lane, Kingsbury, N.W.9.

Telephone No. : COLindale 6343.

### **Day Nurseries.**

Princes Avenue, Kingsbury, N.W.9.

Telephone No. : COLindale 4456.

Vale Farm, Watford Road, Sudbury, Wembley.

Telephone No. : ARNold 3162.

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### **Domestic Help.**

Provided on medical certificate in cases of sickness or maternity by application to the Area Health Office : 215, Chevening Rd., N.W.6.



### **Immunisation and Vaccination.**

By application to National Health Service practitioners who have entered the Scheme, or by arrangement with the Area Medical Officer : 215, Chevening Road, N.W.6.

Telephone No. : LADbroke 2411.

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### **Midwifery and Home Nursing.**

By application to the Area Medical Officer : 215, Chevening Road, N.W.6.

Telephone No. : LADbroke 2411.

Outside office hours Home Nurses may be contacted in their own homes.

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### **School Health Service.**

Clinics at all the Child Health Clinics.

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4. VERMINOUS CONDITIONS. Only 8 cases, 2 adults and 6 children were referred to a Health Centre for treatment more intensive than could be given in the home. 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.

5. MORTUARY. In previous Annual Reports attention has been drawn to the need for a new Mortuary. The old one which was built in 1903 to serve the needs of a much smaller population had become inadequate in more ways than one and the Council decided to close it. Its closure coincided with the retirement of the Mortuary Keeper who had served the Council in this capacity for nineteen years. It would be a pity to allow the opportunity to pass without paying a tribute to this employee who performed his duties in a most conscientious manner, with sympathy and understanding towards relatives of deceased persons, and with courtesy and a spirit of co-operation towards Undertakers and others whose duties required them to visit the Mortuary. Very few men are capable of and willing to take on this vocation and the Council may not find it easy to fill the vacancy when the need arises.

Plans for a new Mortuary (which will be more commodious and provided with modern fittings) to be sited at the rear of the Town Hall have been prepared by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor.

In the meanwhile bodies which need to be accommodated in a Mortuary are being taken to the Harrow Mortuary by arrangement with the Harrow Borough Council. All efforts to share Mortuary accommodation with surrounding districts on a permanent basis were unsuccessful.

During the period 1st January, 1955, to 5th April, 1955 41 bodies were deposited in the Wembley Mortuary.

During the remainder of the year 81 bodies were accommodated in the Harrow Mortuary.

## STATISTICAL APPENDIX B.

### Establishments for Massage and Special Treatment.

(a) Members of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy 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 ..... 3

(b) Licences granted :—

New	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Renewals	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18



## CHAPTER III.

### 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 Neasden Hospital or Hendon Isolation Hospital, *re* puerperal pyrexia and ophthalmia neonatorum, Emergency Bed Service, *re* smallpox as arranged by the Regional Hospital Board—Notification of tuberculosis—Authentication of travellers' inoculation state—Food poisoning notification and investigation—Scabies, arrangements with the Middlesex County Council—Complete bacteriological service available at Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale, outfits distributed from Public Health Department.

2. There is little to note in this Section for the year, as the absence of any unusual infectious disease and the lack of any major outbreak of notifiable disease have not occasioned serious concern during the year. The incidence of common infections of infancy varies slightly from time to time and the figures in the statistical appendix indicate that the experience in 1955 was not unusual or in any way adverse.

It will be seen from figures later in the chapter that there was one outbreak of food poisoning of which the Department was aware, involving 25 cases, although all of these were mild and transient. There is no doubt that a number of mild cases and outbreaks occur where the symptoms are so transient that medical attention is not called and the cases, therefore, are not notified. It would be a help in tracing the source of contamination if such cases could be brought to the notice of the Department at a very early stage when remains of the food eaten may well be available for bacteriological investigation. The result of these investigations would enable advice to be given to the kitchen staff where the outbreak had originated and would enlarge our knowledge of sources of infection and enable us to give more detailed advice to the community generally.

3. The supervision of contacts landing from ship or aeroplane called for routine surveillance of 16 persons regarding smallpox. Constant vigilance must be exercised on persons arriving from infected foreign areas and this supervision must be given with discretion and understanding.

International Certificates of vaccination and immunisation were authenticated in respect of 739 residents intending to proceed overseas.



STATISTICAL APPENDIX C.

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

Disease.	Total	Alperton	Central	Chalkhill	Fryent	The Hyde	Roe Green	Kenton	Preston	Sudbury Court	Sudbury	Wembley Park	Tokyington	Total removed to hospital	Percentage of cases removed to hospital
Scarlet fever .....	99	14	5	4	12	3	8	10	8	8	15	5	7	20	20.20
Diphtheria .....	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	00.00
Pneumonia .....	98	3	3	4	14	8	11	20	10	8	12	—	5	24	24.49
Erysipelas .....	11	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	2	3	1	1	3	27.27
Ophthalmia neonatorum.....	4	—	—	—	2	—	1*	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	25.00
Meningococcal infection.....	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	100.00
Dysentery .....	18	3	3	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	—	1	6	33.33
Measles .....	1443	59	75	72	85	165	145	212	171	29	151	67	212	14	00.97
Whooping cough .....	182	7	4	8	68	17	21	18	15	6	9	6	3	—	00.00
Poliomyelitis:—															
Paralytic .....	13	3	3	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	13	100.00
Non-Paralytic .....	22	6	2	—	1	2	2	3	2	4	—	—	—	22	100.00
Typhoid fever .....	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	00.00
Paratyphoid fever .....	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	00.00
Food Poisoning .....	22	3	2	2	3	1	—	1	3	4	1	1	1	5	22.73
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	9	—	—	—	—	—	6*	—	2	—	—	1	—	8	88.89
Encephalitis:—															
Infective .....	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	00.00
Post Infectious .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	100.00

\* Kingsbury Maternity Hospital cases.

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

Age group.	Scarlet fever.		Whooping cough.		Diphtheria.		Measles.		Poliomyelitis		Age group.	Acute Dysentery.		Acute pneumonia.		Erysipelas.		Meningococcal infection.		Encephalitis Acute infective.		Paratyphoid fever.		Food Poisoning.		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.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	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	—	—	5	5	—	—	17	6	—	—	—	—	0	3	3	2	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	1	—	—
1	2	2	14	18	—	—	122	94	—	—	—	—	5	2	2	9	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—		
3	12	8	15	21	—	—	141	145	2	—	2	1	15	2	2	15	12	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—		
5	31	31	41	53	—	—	444	436	3	—	4	1	45	1	2	17	12	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—		
10	2	3	5	—	—	—	12	5	1	—	4	3	65 & over	—	1	5	18	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
15	1	2	2	—	—	—	3	6	2	2	3	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
25 & over	1	4	2	1	—	—	4	8	—	3	—	4		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
All ages	49	50	84	98	Nil	—	743	700	8	5	13	9	All ages	8	10	48	50	6	5	2	2	Nil	—	1	1	Nil	—	12	10	Nil	—		

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## Monthly incidence of the Infectious Diseases.

Disease.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Scarlet fever .....	10	12	4	9	11	9	6	3	1	4	19	11	99
Diphtheria .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil
Pneumonia .....	15	15	15	10	5	7	5	3	4	2	5	12	98
Erysipelas .....	1	1	—	1	2	2	—	1	—	1	—	2	11
Dysentery .....	—	6	1	—	1	1	1	1	3	1	2	1	18
Measles .....	11	25	75	278	440	233	281	90	5	—	4	1	1443
Whooping cough	47	48	22	21	9	6	8	9	1	—	5	6	182
Paratyphoid fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil
Poliomyelitis :—													
Paralytic .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	5	3	1	13
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	8	5	2	1	1	22
Encephalitis :—													
Infective .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil
Post-Infectious	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Meningococcal infection	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
Food poisoning	—	1	—	1	2	1	—	4	5	1	5	1	21

## Winter Respiratory Diseases (October—March).

	Notifications of primary pneumonia and acute influenzal-pneumonia.	Death certificates in which respiratory diseases mentioned.
1951-52 .....	45	99
1952-53 .....	75	210
1953-54 .....	40	163
1954-55 .....	56	156
1955-56 .....	57	187



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 .....	3	3	6	17	57	22	7	—	9	35	29	12	200
Mumps .....	41	53	50	23	18	8	6	—	6	8	6	1	220
German measles	2	3	9	9	8	12	1	—	1	—	4	5	54

### Tuberculosis.

	No. of Notifications.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Under one year .....	—	—	—	—
1 to 4 years .....	1	—	—	—
5 to 14 years .....	1	—	1	1
15 to 24 years .....	6	11	2	—
25 to 34 years .....	5	9	1	2
35 to 44 years .....	4	11	1	2
45 to 54 years .....	8	4	—	—
55 to 64 years .....	8	1	—	1
65 and over .....	2	2	—	1
Totals .....	35	38	5	7

	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 .....	—	—	—	—
25 to 34 years .....	1	1	—	—
35 to 44 years .....	—	—	—	—
45 to 54 years .....	1	—	1	—
55 to 64 years .....	2	—	—	—
65 and over .....	—	1	—	—
	—	—	—	—
Totals .....	4	2	1	Nil
	—	—	—	—

This includes deaths from all causes of cases on the Tuberculosis Register.

No. admitted to hospitals  
or Sanatoria :

37

No. discharged from hospitals  
or Sanatoria :

81

During the year 164 cases removed from register. At 31st December 1,001 names remained on register — 922 pulmonary and 79 non-pulmonary.

Of 7 deaths from tuberculosis, 2 not notified during life (28.57%).

#### Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

There was one outbreak of food poisoning involving 25 cases, all of which were mild and of transient duration.



## Bacteriological Service (at Central Public Health Laboratory).

Examinations made.	Quarter ending				Total for 12 months.
	31/3/55.	30/6/55.	30/9/55.	31/12/55.	
<b>Throat and Nose Swabs.</b>					
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—
Hæmolytic Streptococci	20	25	26	68	139
Vincent's angina	11	2	8	5	26
Negative	68	77	104	132	381
<b>Fæces.</b>					
Shigella	13	—	2	3	18
Salmonella	13	2	22	17	54
Protozoa	—	—	—	2	2
Cl. Welchii	—	—	—	—	—
Occult blood	—	—	7	—	7
E. Coli	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphi B	1	—	—	—	1
Negative	95	41	78	43	257
<b>Sputum.</b>					
T.B. smear	—	—	—	—	—
Other organisms	3	2	2	—	7
Negative	52	17	19	13	101
<b>Pertussis.</b>					
Per nasal swab	5	—	—	3	8
Negative	15	7	2	5	29
<b>Blood.</b>					
Paul Bunnell:					
Positive	—	—	—	1	1
Negative	—	—	1	1	2

### Scabies.

Only 1 case of scabies, an adult, was treated during the year.

### Laundry for the Incontinent Aged

No. of cases	.....	24
Cost of Laundry	.....	£121 11s. 10d.

## CHAPTER IV.

### 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, 1950, registration of hawkers of food and premises—Registration under Milk and Dairies Acts—Supervision under Milk (Special Designations) Regulations—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—Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, ascertainment of infestations and dealing therewith, pamphlet available regarding poisoning, trapping, rat proofing—Supervision under Hydrogen Cyanide (Fumigation of Buildings) Regulations, 1951—Cleansing of verminous premises, pamphlets distributed on the protection against house flies, the destruction of ants and the destruction of wasps—Use of D.D.T. preparations—Borough bye-laws relevant to Sanitary Inspectors, Good rule and government and prevention of nuisances, Nuisances, Offensive trades, Slaughterhouses, Ventilation and lighting of stables, Building bye-laws, Public sanitary conveniences, Removal of offensive matter, etc., through the streets, Removal of house refuse.

2. HOUSING. **Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.** This Act which came into force on the 30th August, 1954, required local authorities to submit to the Minister of Local Government and Planning by 30th August, 1955, proposals for dealing with houses in their areas which appeared to be unfit for human habitation and suitable for demolition. The figures given were to be a broad estimate of the number of houses which could be dealt with in a five-year programme, and could be supplemented later as circum-



stances warranted. Wembley is a comparatively new town and consequently has not a large number of houses which should be cleared.

A Survey was carried out and 43 houses were included in the figure submitted to the Minister, 39 of which it was thought would be included in Clearance Areas and the remainder dealt with as individually unfit houses. None of the proposed Clearance Areas is large and the sites therefore do not lend themselves to extensive redevelopment. Of the 43 houses listed, 6 have already been demolished by the owners without statutory action being invoked by the Council, 4 have been included in a declared Clearance Area and in one case a demolition order has been made. Although the problem in Wembley is a small one, the rehousing of displaced persons is not easy having regard to the Council's commitments and liabilities for the rehousing of other families. Wembley has practically reached saturation point and there is virtually no land available in the Borough for the erection of more Council houses or flats.

Section 26 of the Act provides that where an owner has served notice of increase of rent the occupier may apply to the local authority for a certificate that either or both of the conditions justifying an increase of rent are not fulfilled; the conditions being that the dwelling house is in good repair and that it is reasonably suitable for occupation having regard to the matters specified in Section 9 of the Act. The local authority, if satisfied that the dwelling house fails to fulfil either or both of the conditions must issue a certificate in the prescribed form. During the year 40 applications were received from tenants and 39 certificates were issued; one was refused.

Where after the granting of a certificate the landlord has executed to the satisfaction of the local authority such work as requires to be executed, the local authority must on the application of the landlord revoke the certificate. 21 such applications were received of which 19 were allowed and 2 were refused.

When the Act became operative it was thought that quite onerous responsibilities would be placed on local authorities and their officers by large numbers of applications with consequent inspections but this has not proved to be the case. One inference which might be drawn is that the permitted increases of rent under the Act do not make it worth while for landlords to attempt to raise rents on account of the risk of being put to considerable expense.



### Legal Proceedings.

In two instances legal proceedings had to be taken in the Magistrates' Court in respect of repairs which had not been carried out by the owners following the service of statutory notices under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The Court made orders in both cases for the work to be carried out in 28 days and allowed costs of £2 2s. 0d. in one case and 8/6d. in the other. The necessary repairs were subsequently carried out by the owner in one case and by the Council in default in the other.

Details of inspections made, notices served and works carried out at dwelling houses are given in the statistical appendix.

### Overcrowding.

The number of cases of overcrowding known to the Health Department has shown a steady decrease during the past eight years, as the following figures indicate.

Year.	Number of Cases of overcrowding on Register.	Total Number of Cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.	Number of Cases of overcrowding relieved during the year by removal to unknown addresses.
1948	602	307	22
1949	558	268	86
1950	516	133	6
1951	517	52	9
1952	456	102	2
1953	424	52	3
1954	303	133	95
1955	204	108	102

It is interesting to note that during the past two years 95 and 102 cases of overcrowding have been relieved by removal of families to unknown addresses the significance of which might be that it has become easier to find alternative accommodation.



## Household Pests.

The number of bug-infested houses has shown a marked decrease in recent years and only 19 cases were recorded during 1955. With the advent of D.D.T. and B.H.C. which with their derivatives remain toxic to insects for long periods after their application, the control of insects has become a much easier problem. Fleas which in years past were quite a common pest are now very rarely encountered. Despite this great decrease in the prevalence of insects parasitic to man the Department receives many enquiries with respect to other pests as to their identification and control. In most cases the Department is able to indentify the species but in cases of doubt the Entymologists at the National History Museum at South Kensington have readily given their advice. The commonest household pests which form the subject of enquiries nowadays are carpet beetles, silver fish, ants and furniture beetles. It is also quite common to find that insects normally found in gardens and which do no real harm indoors have invaded the house and given cause for anxious concern to occupiers. The identification of such insects, advice on control and the assurance that they are harmless afford considerable relief to house occupiers.

3. WATER SUPPLY. The water supply of the Borough, which is provided by the Colne Valley Water Co., except for a small area in the southern end of the district supplied by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Co., remained satisfactory in quality and quantity. The supply is pumped from deep wells in the chalk outside the Borough boundaries. All of the samples taken from piped supplies were reported as satisfactory.

No tendency to plumbo solvent action has been detected.

All dwelling houses in the Borough are provided with a mains water supply.

There is a number of private wells in the Borough all in connection with industrial undertakings, but in no instance is the water from these sources used for drinking.

The Council have continued to express their concern at the hardness of the public water supplies which expressed a total hardness range from 234—264 parts per million. Whilst there would not appear to be evidence of prejudicial effects to health from such hard



water its detrimental effects on boilers and hot water systems are well-known.

4. SWIMMING POOLS. The two outdoor Swimming Pools have continued to be a source of enjoyment and healthy recreation. "Breakpoint" chlorination or superchlorination which was installed just prior to the 1951 season has made it possible to maintain a sparkling clear water, together with a minimum risk of infection.

Attendances at the Pools during the year were :—

Kingsbury	.....	.....	.....	.....	135,598
Vale Farm, Wembley	.....	.....	.....	.....	106,901

5. FOOD HYGIENE. The Food and Drugs Act, 1955, came into operation on the 1st January, 1956. It is described as an Act to consolidate the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, the Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950, and the Food and Drugs Amendment Act, 1954, together with certain other enactments amending and supplementing Part V of the Act of 1938, in relation to slaughterhouses and knackers' yards. All the older Acts are repealed by the new Act.

One important feature of the Act is the power of the Minister Under Section 13 to make regulations as to food hygiene. After a good deal of consultation with representatives of both local authorities and the food trade, the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, were made and came into operation on the 1st January, 1956, except for certain regulations which do not become operative until the 1st July, 1956. These Regulations are a great advance on any powers previously possessed by local authorities relating to food hygiene, and except on a few clauses where doubts have been expressed concerning interpretation they have been generally well received up and down the Country.

The main object of the Regulations is to reduce the incidence of food poisoning and there is no doubt that the studied observance of the Regulations by all persons engaged in the food trades could attain this end.

Inspections and surveys of premises and trades affected are continuing.



6. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IN CONNECTION WITH FOOD. Legal proceedings were necessary in the following instances :—

Loaf of bread containing hessian cloth—defendants fined £2 and £2 2s. 0d. costs.

Orange juice delivered in dirty bottle (2 cases)—defendants fined £1 in each case and £3 3s. 0d. costs.

Hawker selling food from a vehicle without being registered with the local authority in accordance with Section 11 of the Middlesex County Council Act, 1950—defendant fined £1.

7. ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION. The Clean Air Bill was introduced in Parliament in 1955, but at the end of the year had not yet passed into law. The object of the Bill is to implement the principal recommendations in the Report on Air Pollution :—

- (i) To prohibit the emission of dark smoke from chimneys, railway engines and vessels, subject to certain qualifications.
- (ii) To prohibit the installation of new industrial furnaces unless they are capable, so far as practicable, of being operated without emitting smoke.
- (iii) To require that the emission of grit and dust from existing industrial furnaces shall be minimised, and that new industrial furnaces burning pulverised fuel or large quantities of other solid fuel shall be provided with grit-arresting equipment.
- (iv) To empower local authorities, subject to confirmation by the Minister concerned, to declare by order "smoke-control areas" in which the emission of smoke from chimneys will constitute an offence.

Everybody who has shown any interest in air pollution has been well aware of the shortcomings of existing legislation relating to this subject and it is to be hoped that the proposed new legislation will be workable and effective. Much progress has been made in improvements to food and water supplies and it is only fitting that the third essential to well-being, the air we breathe, should receive consideration.



The standard grit deposit gauge installed in 1952 to measure the total deposited solids per month continued in use. Expressed in tons per square mile the results were :—

January	.....	39.05	July	.....	29.21
February	.....	20.55	August	.....	27.17
March	.....	23.21	September	.....	14.49
April	.....	23.15	October	.....	36.52
May	.....	42.64	November	.....	15.47
June	.....	25.00	December	.....	15.80
		Total for year	.....	312.26	
		Average per month	.....	26.02	

An increase on the previous two years.

The Council are corporate members of the National Smoke Abatement Society and the Council's representatives on this body are Alderman C. H. Smith, O.B.E., D.L., and the Chief Sanitary Inspector. Alderman Smith was elected Chairman of the South-Eastern Division of the Society for the second year in succession and he contributed a paper under the title "Local Authorities, the Beaver Report and the Government Clean Air Bill" at the Society's Annual Conference at Bournemouth. The Conference received a better press than any previous ones, which is perhaps because Atmospheric Pollution is arousing more general interest than ever before.

8. HEALTH EDUCATION. Invitations were received from organisations within the Borough including the Education Authority, Townswomen's Guild, Toc H and other bodies, for talks on the functions of the Health Department. Many of these informal talks with slides, film strips and other pictorial material were given and they offer a useful form of health education. The two hours spent by a member of the Department on this work can give an insight into the scope and activities of the departmental staff which are not always fully appreciated by the public and therefore which the public do not fully utilise. I feel that talks of this sort, especially when given to school children about to embark upon a career, may be regarded as useful guidance in citizenship, in addition to instruction in the technical field. One member of the Sanitary Inspectorate gave



a specialised technical paper concerned with mould growth in the bottling room of a factory in the town and this was very much appreciated by the Divisional Meeting of his Professional Association.

9. INDUSTRIAL NUISANCES. The Council have continued to be faced with problems under this heading, particularly with regard to noise. Wembley can be considered fortunate in that there are none of the well-known industries characterised by noise which can be audible over a large area, but noise which is localised in comparatively small areas has been a source of annoyance and complaint in a number of instances.

Section 313 of the Middlesex County Council Act, 1944, provides that a noise nuisance shall be deemed to exist where any person makes or continues or causes to be made or continued any excessive or unreasonable or unnecessary noise which is injurious or dangerous to health. There is a defence clause which provides that it shall be a good defence for the person charged to show that he has used the best practicable means of preventing or mitigating the nuisance having regard to the cost and to other relevant circumstances. This section is framed in such a way as to make its application not easy and the Council are alive to its limitations. Nevertheless every effort is made to secure abatement of such nuisances and generally factory managements are co-operative to this end.

One particular instance of noise and vibration caused by air compressors has engaged the attention of the Council for several years but has not yet been finally resolved. The Company owning the compressors have spared no expense in obtaining the best technical advice and making alterations and improvements in an endeavour to suppress the noise and vibration. Unfortunately this is one of those cases in which residential property is contiguous with an industrial zone and it would have been far better if heavy machinery of this nature had been sited elsewhere. A further point which aggravates the situation is that the plant must run continuously day and night.

In other cases greater success has been achieved. For example, one factory working day and night shifts had a dust extraction plant largely in the open air at the rear of the building which faced residential property. This plant caused considerable disturbance to the residents, particularly at night. The Company were approached



informally and they moved the entire plant to another position on the premises so that part of the building acted as a baffle.

In another instance a wood working firm using mechanical saws and planing machines moved from their existing factory, which was in close proximity to houses, to another more remote. It is an axiom that the most effective method of suppressing noise is at its source but the strident note of mechanical saws cannot be suppressed in this way and the only possible means of alleviating conditions is by lining the building with suitable acoustic material and keeping all openings to the factory closed. Lining whole buildings is a costly procedure and during hot weather doors and windows of factories are opened providing a route to the open air which offsets any interior acoustic control.

10. SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE. The Church Lane scheme prepared by the Borough Engineer for the relief of surface water and soil sewage flooding was commenced in 1955 and completed early in 1956. Two relief sewers, one soil and one surface, were constructed, which should obviate any further flooding in the area served. The soil sewer discharges into the Middlesex County Council trunk sewer and the surface water sewer discharges into the River Brent.

A similar scheme has been prepared for the relief of flooding in the Preston Park area but the work has not yet been commenced.

Two cesspools remain in the district, both of which receive only drainage from sports pavilions which are too remote from sewers for the premises to be connected.

All dwelling houses are provided with water closets connected to the Council's sewers.

11. RODENT CONTROL. The Rodent Control Service which is confined to dealing with infestations by rats and mice has continued to operate during the year under review. A staff of three "Ministry trained" assistants has performed the necessary work. No charge is made to householders in respect of treatment at private dwelling houses but in all other cases a charge is made on a time and materials basis. 759 premises were found to be infested, 744 premises were satisfactorily treated by the Council and 12 premises were treated privately.



The following details of sewer treatment have been provided by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor. In April/May, 1955, a 10% test bait of sewer manholes was carried out. 341 manholes were baited and there were 51 partial "takes." In the treatment which followed 292 manholes were baited when there were no complete "takes" but 76 partial "takes." The corresponding figures for the 19th Maintenance Treatment carried out in September/October, 1955, were — manholes baited 282, complete "takes" 1, partial "takes" 30.

No new developments in poisoning technique were introduced during the year but Warfarin which was used very extensively during 1954/55 has continued to produce good results.

12. PUBLIC CLEANSING. The Director of Public Cleansing has kindly supplied the following information:—

#### **Refuse Collection.**

House and Trade refuse is collected weekly, with the exception that refuse from certain blocks of flats is collected twice weekly.

The amount of refuse collected during the year was 27,800 tons.

The separate collection of waste paper from business premises free of charge has been maintained. The amount collected from this source during the year was 776 tons.

#### **Refuse Disposal.**

Refuse is disposed of by a Separation and Incineration Plant which has handled 28,600 tons. Salvage materials amounting to 3,212 tons were sold for £18,970.

#### **Waste Food Plant.**

The amount of kitchen waste collected in Wembley was 2,167 tons, which was processed and sold as concentrated kitchen waste for animal feeding.

#### **Street Cleansing.**

A new system of street sweeping by the use of pedestrian controlled electric trucks, each with an operator and four street orderlies, was introduced during the year. This new method has increased the frequency of sweeping to at least once every seven days.

#### **Public Conveniences.**

The use of the free washing facilities at the two staffed Conveniences in the Borough increased considerably during the year.



STATISTICAL APPENDIX D.

Number of complaints received and investigated	2,421
Visits made by Sanitary Inspectors	23,624
(a) Dwelling Houses :—	
Visits under Public Health Acts	5,471
Visits under Housing Acts	155
Visits <i>re</i> overcrowding	206
Visits to bug infested premises	32
Visits <i>re</i> other vermin (excluding rats and mice, see below)	79
Visits <i>re</i> cases of infectious disease	570
Visits to cases of food poisoning	58
(b) General Environmental Public Health :—	
Drains and sewers inspected	2,689
Drain and Sewer Test applied	200
Cesspools, etc.	7
Urinals, latrines, chemical closets	4
Stables, manure pits, etc.	53
Piggeries (number on register at end of year 4)	59
Ditches and streams	483
Open spaces, etc.	344
Yards	1,440
Public conveniences	110
Tents, vans and sheds	5
Factories—Mechanical	1,524
„ —Non-mechanical	36
Workplaces	367
Outworkers	151
Smoke observations—half hourly	327
„ „ —casual	2,113
„ „ —visits to plant	155
Cinemas, Dance Halls, Public Houses, etc.	169
Hairdressers (number of establishments on register at end of year 93)	99
Schools (number of private schools 17)	171
Markets	35
Rats and Mice	646



Swimming baths—visits	.....	.....	.....	49
"    "    —Water examination	.....	.....	.....	4
"    "    —chlorine tests	.....	.....	.....	—
<i>re</i> Certificates of disrepair	.....	.....	.....	70
Mortuary	.....	.....	.....	16
Refuse Tips	.....	.....	.....	27
(c) Food, including milk, meat, water :—				
Number of dairies registered at end of year	.....	.....	.....	13
Number of distributors of milk regis- tered, with premises in the Borough selling milk in properly closed and unopened receptacles				69
Number of distributors of milk regis- tered whose premises are out- side the Borough	.....	.....	.....	22
Number of dairies (included above) where milk is bottled	.....	.....	.....	1
Inspection visits made to :—				
Meat shops, stalls, etc. (number on register at end of year 81)	.....	.....	.....	624
Slaughterhouse	.....	.....	.....	117
Cowsheds	.....	.....	.....	9
Dairies and milk shops—visits	.....	.....	.....	143
"    "    "    "    —milk samples taken.....				29
"    "    "    "    —sediment tests	.....	.....	.....	6
Fried fish shops (number on register at end of year 17)	.....	.....	.....	146
Bakehouses (number on register at end of year 15)	.....	.....	.....	194
Ice cream premises (number on register at end of year 213)	.....	.....	.....	132
Ice cream—samples taken	.....	.....	.....	30
Fishmongers and poulterers (number on register at end of year 28)	.....	.....	.....	304
Greengrocers and fruiterers (number on register at end of year 93)	.....	.....	.....	355
Grocers, etc. (number on register at end of year 244)	.....	.....	.....	727

Restaurants, cafés, etc. (number on register at end of year 103) .....	529
Street vendors, hawkers, etc. (number on register at end of year 77) .....	57
Other food premises .....	228
Water supply—visits .....	117
"    "    —samples taken .....	3
(d) Other visits and inspections :—	
Massage establishments, etc. ....	35
Certificates lodged by Members of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy .....	3
New Licences granted .....	—
Licences renewed .....	18
Noise nuisances .....	590
Dust nuisances .....	166
Effluvia nuisances .....	87
Petroleum stores .....	578
Miscellaneous .....	494
Number of verbal notices served .....	172
"    "    "    "    complied with .....	162
Number of written notices served .....	338
"    "    "    "    complied with .....	327
Number of statutory notices served .....	48
"    "    "    "    complied with .....	43
<b>Nuisances abated and improvements effected.</b>	
(a) Dwelling Houses :—	
Roofs repaired .....	277
External walls and chimney stacks repaired .....	88
Gutters and spouts repaired or renewed .....	158
Damp-proof courses provided .....	9
Dampness remedied .....	207
Yards paved or repaired .....	37
Internal walls and ceilings repaired .....	206
Doors repaired or renewed .....	60
Windows repaired or renewed .....	136
Floors repaired or renewed .....	67
Sub floor vent. provided or improved .....	25



Rooms cleansed or redecorated .....	149
Passages and staircases redecorated .....	34
Staircases repaired .....	8
Fireplaces and flues repaired or renewed .....	50
Cooking stoves repaired or renewed .....	5
Wash coppers repaired or renewed .....	1
Sinks and washbasins provided or renewed .....	36
Waste pipes repaired or renewed .....	70
Food stores provided or improved .....	13
Dustbins provided or renewed .....	38
Water supply improved or reinstated .....	93
W.C. walls, etc., cleansed .....	16
W.C. pans cleansed .....	15
W.C. pans repaired or renewed .....	46
W.C. structures repaired or renewed .....	13
W.C. lighting and ventilation improved .....	3
W.C. flush pipe joints repaired .....	41
Additional W.C.'s provided .....	—

(b) General Environmental Public Health :—

Drains cleansed from obstruction .....	1,047
Drains repaired or renewed .....	97
New drains provided .....	27
New inspection chambers provided .....	23
Inspection chambers repaired .....	35
Soil pipes and vent. shafts repaired .....	12
W.C.'s repaired .....	13
W.C.'s cleansed .....	36
Cesspools emptied .....	2
Urinals and latrines—cleansed or emptied .....	10
"    "    "    —additional provided .....	—
Stables, manure pits—cleansed .....	18
"    "    "    —repaired .....	5
Piggeries cleansed or limewashed .....	13
Pigsties repaired .....	4
Animal nuisances abated .....	7
Offensive accumulations removed .....	37
Ditches and streams—cleansed .....	15
"    "    "    —pollution remedied .....	18

Smoke nuisances abated .....	25
Improvements in boiler plant or fuel effected.....	12
Cinemas, Dance Halls, etc. — contraventions remedied .....	1
Hairdressers—contraventions remedied .....	5
Tents, Vans and Sheds—nuisance abated .....	1
„ „ „ „ —Removed .....	1
Schools—sanitary conditions improved .....	1
„ —urinals and W.C's cleansed or repaired	1
Markets—contraventions remedied .....	2
Noise nuisances abated .....	11
Dust nuisances abated .....	7
Effluvia nuisances abated .....	8
Petroleum—contraventions remedied .....	12
(c) Eradication of bed bugs :—	
(i) Number of Council houses :—	
Found to be infested and subsequently dis- infested .....	5
(ii) Number of other houses :—	
Found to be infested and subsequently dis- infested .....	14
(i) by hydrogen cyanide .....	—
(ii) by liquid insecticides .....	14
Other vermin eradicated (not including rats and mice) .....	56
Verminous articles destroyed .....	—
(d) Meat and other Food Premises :—	
Meat shops, stalls, etc.—premises cleansed .....	41
„ „ „ „ —other contraventions remedied .....	18
Dairies—cleansed and distempered or painted .....	6
„ —premises repaired .....	4
„ —other contraventions remedied .....	3
Bakehouses — cleansed and distempered or painted .....	16
„ —sanitary conditions improved .....	5
„ —other contraventions remedied .....	2



Ice cream premises—cleansed and distempered or painted .....	2
” ” ” —sanitary conditions improved .....	2
Fried fish shops—cleansed and distempered or painted .....	5
” ” ” —sanitary conditions improved	3
” ” ” —other contraventions remedied	3
Fishmongers, etc., contraventions remedied .....	11
Grocers, etc., contraventions remedied .....	34
Greengrocers, etc., contraventions remedied .....	25
Restaurants, Cafés, etc., contraventions remedied .....	39
Street hawkers, contraventions remedied .....	4
Other food premises, contraventions remedied .....	9
	3,714

**Unsound Food Surrendered :—**

503½ lbs. Pork.	2 pkts. Fish Fingers.
1,048 lbs. Pork Back Fat.	806 tins Vegetables.
1,680 lbs. Minced Pork.	38 tins Tomato Juice.
942½ lbs. Beef.	37 tins Soup.
81 lbs. Lamb.	26 tins Tomatoes.
73¼ lbs. Liver.	52 jars Tomato Paste.
6,176 lbs. Sausages.	2,180 tins Fruit.
168 lbs. Sausage Meat.	36 tins Fruit Juice.
30 lbs. Rabbits.	318 tins Fruit Pulp.
90 lbs. Kidneys.	211 tins Evaporated Milk.
4 lbs. Ham.	8 tins Cream.
30½ stone Cod.	3 tins Condensed Milk.
12 stone Haddock.	11 pkts. Junket.
48½ stone Whiting.	279½ lbs. Cheese.
6 stone Skate Wings.	143 pkts. Cheese Spread.
18½ lbs. Hake.	31 pkts. Flour.
15 stone Dog Fish.	6 pkts. Rice.
6 stone Kippers.	37 pkts. Oats.

4 stone Plaice.	10 tins Spaghetti.
10 lbs. Prawns.	2 pkts. Cheese and
14 tins Pork.	Macaroni.
3 tins Mutton.	1 pkt. Shredded Wheat.
202 tins Ham.	8 tins Marmalade.
101 tins Beef.	60 tins Jam.
13 tins Veal.	1 tin Mincemeat.
73 tins Sausages.	1 jar Honey.
3 tins Liver.	6 jars Paste.
103 tins Stewed Steak.	3 jars Salad Cream.
19 tins Kidneys.	8 jars Pickles.
266 tins Luncheon Meat.	2 jars Pickled Onions.
252 tins Corned Beef.	1 jar Mint Sauce.
4 tins Brawn.	1 jar Horseradish Sauce.
1 tin Irish Stew.	17 jars Gherkins.
98 tins Tongue.	1 jar Gentleman's Relish.
2 tins Beefsteak.	326 tins Paste.
17 tins Pressed Beef.	9 jars Ravioli.
9 tins Chicken.	1 tin Strained Food.
33 tins Sardines.	2 Cakes.
33 tins Pilchards.	22 pkts. Frozen Vegetables.
24 tins Crab.	4 lbs. Tea.
2 tins Roes.	49 lbs. Sugar.
24 tins Salmon.	6 pkts. Biscuits.
3 tins Shrimps.	52 lbs. Margarine.
1 tin Lobster.	6 tins. Apple Pudding.
1 tin Herrings.	20 lbs. Mixed Dried Fruit.
4 tins Tunny.	9 pkts. Figs.
1 tin Crawfish.	152 pkts. Prunes.
13 tins Anchovy.	152 pkts. Raisins.
9 tins Whiting.	29 pkts. Nuts and Raisins.
13 tins Haddock.	244 Eggs.
3 tins Halibut.	4 tins Pimentoes.
5 tins Plaice.	1 tin Mustard.
3 tins Kippers.	8 tins Pepper.
1 tin Cod.	



## Slaughterhouse.

There is one private Slaughterhouse licensed in the Borough. This was discontinued during the War and was brought back into operation in 1952. Particulars of inspections, etc., are as follows :—

### Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed .....	97	—	11	374	26
Number inspected .....	97	—	11	374	26
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci :—					
Whole carcasses condemned.....	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	—	2	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci .....	3.1	—	—	.53	—
Tuberculosis only :—					
Whole carcasses condemned.....	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .....	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis :—					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration.....	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned .....	—	—	—	—	—

**Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—**

(a) (i) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .....	2,555
(ii) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	5,626
(b) (i) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925/1932 .....	11
(ii) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	32
(c) Number of dwelling-houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	1,934

**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 .....	1,919
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**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 .....	48
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(1) by owners .....	22
(2) by Local Authority in default of owners .....	21



(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 .....	1
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....	1
(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 .....	119
(b) Number of dwellings recorded as overcrowded at the end of the year .....	204
Number of families dwelling therein .....	237
Number of persons dwelling therein .....	1,004
(c) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .....	9
(d) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .....	108
(1) by removals of sub-tenants/lodgers, members of family .....	1
(2) by removal of families to other known addresses (not overcrowded) .....	6
(3) by removal to unknown addresses .....	102

(4) rehoused by Council (included also in (2) above):—

In requisitioned premises	.....	—
In Council houses	.....	5
In temporary bungalows	.....	1
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases		465

(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

.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
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### New Houses.

The Borough Engineer and Surveyor has kindly supplied the following information :—

Number of new houses and flats erected during the year :

(a) Total, including numbers given in (b) below :

(1) by the Local Authority	.....	.....	.....	38
(2) by other bodies or persons	.....	.....	.....	104

(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts :

(1) by the Local Authority	.....	.....	.....	36
(2) by other bodies or persons	.....	.....	.....	None

In addition, 12 properties completely demolished by enemy action have been rebuilt.



Factories.

Number of factory premises — 522.

Premises.	Number of :—		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories with mech. power .....	1,524	7	—
Factories without mech. power .....	30	1	—
Other Premises .....	6	—	—
<b>Totals</b> .....	<b>1,560</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>—</b>

Defects found.

Particulars.	No. of defects :—			
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Referred by H.M. Inspector.
Want of cleanliness .....	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding .....	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature .....	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation .....	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :—				
Insufficient .....	1	1	—	—
Unsuitable or defective.....	16	18	—	11
Not separate for the sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences .....	2	2	—	—
<b>Totals</b> .....	<b>19</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>11</b>

## Outworkers.

Number on register at end of year ..... 545

Nature of work :—

Making, repairing of :—

Wearing apparel .....	378
Lace, lace curtains, nets .....	6
Furniture hangings, curtains .....	3
Brass and brass articles .....	12
Artificial flowers .....	3
Making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof, etc., of paper .....	15
Carding of buttons .....	11
Stuffed toys .....	8
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc. ....	90
Lampshades .....	16
Feather sorting .....	2
Sacks .....	1

## Offices.

Number on the register — 332.

In two instances defective sanitary accommodation was made satisfactory and in one case a W.C. was provided on request.



### Shops Act, 1950, Section 38.

The Senior Shops Inspector has supplied the following statistics relating to the arrangements for the health and comfort of shop workers, made in accordance with the provisions of the Shops Act :—

Number of inspection visits	.....	.....	.....	1,850
Section 38 (1) (b)—temperature :—				
Number of shops in which a reasonable temperature was not maintained	.....	.....	.....	73
Section 38 (2)—sanitary conveniences :—				
Number of shops in which sanitary conveniences were not suitable and sufficient	.....	.....	.....	23
Number of certificates of exemption granted	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Section 38 (4)—washing facilities :—				
Number of shops in which washing facilities were not suitable and sufficient	.....	.....	.....	7
Number of certificates of exemption granted	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Section 38 (5)—facilities for meals :—				
Number of shops in which facilities provided were not suitable and sufficient	.....	.....	.....	11

### Disinfection of Premises and Articles.

Disinfections for :—

Infectious diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	118
Cancer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
Vermin (routine protection from)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31
Miscellaneous	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	66
						228
						228

Articles disinfected or destroyed :—

		Disinfected.	Destroyed.
Bedding and bedclothing	.....	1,296	171
Wearing apparel (including articles for abroad)	633	759	22
Carpets, rugs, cushions, curtains	.....	47	17
Others	.....	85	25
		2,187	235
		2,187	235

## The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Work carried out 1/4/55 to 31/3/56 :—

	Rats.	Mice.
(1) Number of premises visited .....	2,996	189
(2) Number of visits by Sanitary Inspectors .....	646	
(3) Number of visits by Rodent Control Assistants .....	7,122	802
(4) Number of premises found to be infested .....	604	155
(5) Number of premises which received treatment by Rodent Control Assistants .....	588	156
(6) Number of premises satisfactorily treated privately .....	11	1
(7) Number of Council premises (included in (5) ) .....	2	1

### Milk (Special Designations) Orders.

#### Licences issued.

	Dealers.	Supplementary.
Tuberculin tested .....	29	19
Pasteurised .....	29	19
Sterilised .....	41	20

#### Samples of designated milk taken.

	No. of samples taken.	No. not satisfactory.
Pasteurised .....	20	—
Tuberculin tested .....	—	—
T.T. (Pasteurised) .....	4	—
Sterilised .....	5	—
	—————	—————
	29	—
	—————	—————



## Laboratory Examinations re Food, Milk and Water.

Examinations made	Quarter ending				Total for 12 months
	31.3.55	30.6.55	30.9.55	31.12.55	
Water .....	—	3	—	—	3
Milk .....	9	10	—	10	29
Ice Cream .....	—	4	26	—	30
Other Foods .....	2	4	—	2	8

### Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The Middlesex County Council are the Authority for the administration of this Act, and the Chief Officer of the Public Control Department has supplied the following particulars of sampling in Wembley during 1955 :—

Article.	No. taken.	Unsatis- factory.
Milk, various .....	174	3
Acetic Acid .....	1	—
Arrowroot .....	5	—
Bread .....	1	—
Butter .....	20	—
Cakes .....	20	—
Cake Mix .....	1	—
Cheese .....	5	1
Coffee .....	1	—
Cooked Meats.....	21	—
Crab Meat .....	1	—
Cream .....	19	—
Creamed Rice.....	1	—

Article.	No. taken.	Unsatis- factory.
Curry Powder.....	1	—
Drugs, various.....	42	1
Fish .....	7	—
Fish Cake .....	3	—
Fish Paste .....	1	—
Fruit Squash .....	3	—
Grapefruit .....	1	—
Ground Almonds .....	3	—
Ice Cream .....	21	—
Jelly .....	1	—
Lard .....	1	—
Lemon Mousse .....	1	—
Liver .....	4	—
Margarine .....	6	—
Mayonnaise .....	1	—
Meat Paste .....	3	—
Meat Pie .....	22	—
Minced Meat .....	26	—
Milky Shake .....	2	1
Non-brewed Condiment .....	1	—
Pepper .....	1	—
Preserves .....	6	—
Sausages .....	19	—
Sausage Meat.....	2	—
Smoked Salmon Mayonnaise .....	1	—
Soya Flour .....	1	—
Sweets .....	7	1
Tomato Ketchup .....	1	—
Vinegar .....	30	2
Wines and Spirits .....	19	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	507	10
	<hr/>	<hr/>



Bye-laws in force throughout the Borough—December, 1955

Relating to the following matters :—

Offensive Trades.

Hairdressers' Premises.

New Streets.

Slaughterhouses.

Licensed Establishments for Massage and Special Treatment.

Removal through Streets of Offensive Matter.

Removal of House Refuse.

Public Conveniences.

Nuisances.

Good Rule and Government.

Ventilation and Lighting of Stables.

Pleasure Grounds.

Sale of Contraceptives in Slot Machines.

Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food.

Cycling on Footpaths.

Buildings.

Emission of Smoke.

Sale of Coal and Coke (M.C.C.).

Employment Agencies (M.C.C.).

Employment of Children (M.C.C.).

## CHAPTER V.

### ADMINISTRATION, STAFF.

During the year your medical officers have acted professionally for the Council, performing 45 clinical medical examinations of actual or potential staff and have provided a number of special reports to the various Committees of the Council. This activity helps in the provision of a medically sound personnel for all activities of the Council and enables special consideration to be given to any unusual case of sickness, thereby maintaining a standard of efficiency impossible without such a service.

I am proud to record the loyalty and diligence displayed in the work of the Department, and I take this opportunity of thanking the whole staff for another year of conscientious effort.

I would conclude by an expression of appreciation to all members of the Council, especially those who serve on the Health Committee and particularly the Chairman, for the admirable way in which they have directed the policy of the Department during the year.

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

Your obedient servant,

**E. GRUNDY,**

Medical Officer of Health.