

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

Contributors

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BOROUGH OF BROMLEY



Annual Report

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

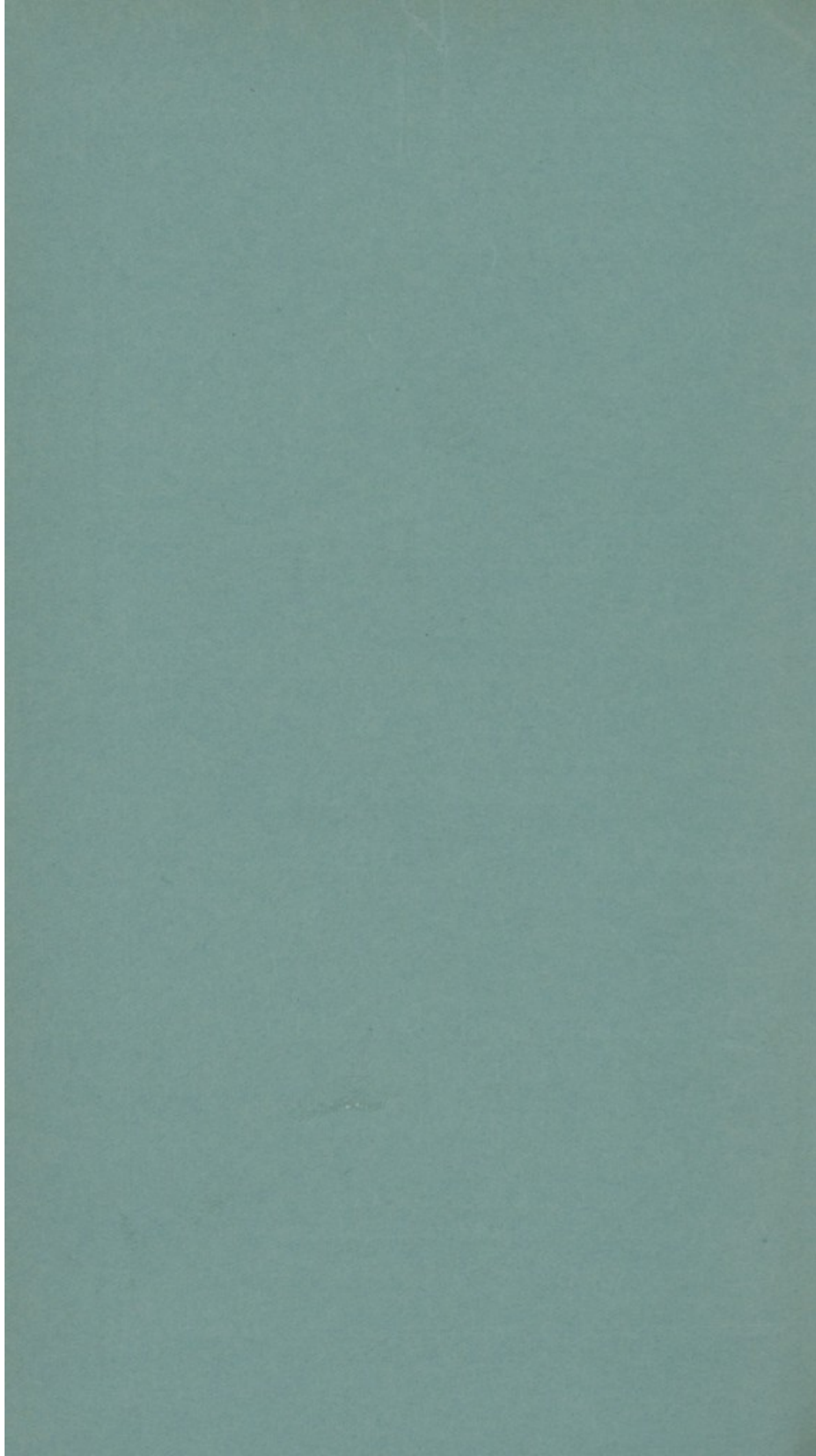
on the

HEALTH OF THE
BOROUGH OF BROMLEY

1955

INCLUDING ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

H. B. C. CARTER-LOCKE,
M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.



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MEMBERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

(as at 31.12.55)

*The Mayor (Alderman Samuel Lane, J.P.)

Aldermen :

S. G. W. Baylis	J. L. Venner, J.P.
*J. S. Marriott	F. W. Isard
(Chairman of Public Health Committee)	C. L. Smith

Councillors :

*R. N. Allen	H. F. Goodway
F. G. Austin	J. L. Hunt
C. M. Baulf	C. E. Latter
*F. W. Berringer	*F. G. V. Lovell
*S. L. Best, J.P.	*L. M. Prince (Mrs.)
G. W. Brown, M.B.E.	R. H. Roberts
*G. E. L. Chapman-Hatchett	R. S. Shillingford
*J. C. Clayton	A. A. J. Wells
*W. K. Curtis	C. W. Wilmot
*A. D. Daysh	L. C. Winterton, J.P.
M. L. Dempster (Mrs.)	

" * " denotes members of the Public Health Committee.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

H. B. C. CARTER-LOCKE, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(also Medical Officer of Health to Orpington Urban District Council and
Chislehurst and Sidcup Urban District Council.)
(Appointed 13.1.55)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

A. J. I. KELYNACK, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
(also Deputy Medical Officer of Health to Orpington Urban District Council
and Chislehurst and Sidcup Urban District Council.)
(Appointed 21.2.55)

Assistant Medical Officers :

†P. A. CURRIE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

†Mrs. C. MAXWELL, M.A., M.B., B.CH., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector, Chief Food and Drugs Act Inspector, Inspector
under the Petroleum Acts, Diseases of Animals Acts, Shops Act, Rag Flock
and Other Filling Materials Act, Pet Animals Act, and Heating Appliances
(Fireguards) Act :

G. R. WOODS, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.H. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5).

District Sanitary Inspectors, Food and Drugs Act Inspectors, and Inspectors under the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, Pet Animals Act, and Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act :

T. C. TOWERSEY, M.S.I.A. (1, 2, 3).
D. K. EVANS, M.S.I.A. (1, 2, 3, 6).
P. R. LIGHT, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.H. (1, 2, 6).
P. DRINKWATER, M.S.I.A. (1, 2).

Health Visitors and School Nurses :

†Miss E. CHENERY (7, 8, 9)	†Mrs. V. GREIG (7, 8, 9)
†Miss E. HATCH (7, 8, 9)	†Miss W. G. HEMMINGS (7, 8, 9)
†Miss K. OWENS (7, 8, 9)	†Mrs. N. M. TAYLOR (7, 8, 9)
†Miss M. E. WOOTTON (8, 9, 10)	

CLERICAL STAFF :

Chief Clerk : S. F. JUDD.

E. P. J. WYTHE.	Mrs. L. D. JOHNSON (Appointed 15.6.55)
Mrs. D. COX.	
Mrs. W. J. FOOT.	Mrs. R. BAKER. (Resigned 14.5.55)
Miss E. W. LEPPER (11)	
Miss M. N. CROXSON.	Mrs. R. C. TYE.

“†” denotes officers employed by the Kent County Council.

Other Appointments :

Assistant Rodent Officers : J. L. GOUGH, A.R.S.H.
N. W. HAMBLIN
(Appointed 10.10.55)

Outdoor Staff :

Disinfecter and Drain Tester : J. W. SEAGER.
Rodent Operative : R. B. THOMPSON (resigned Oct., 1955)
Market Superintendent : W. THRIFT (Part-time).

The figures denote:—

1. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.
2. Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate for Meat and Other Foods.
3. Royal Sanitary Institute Smoke Certificate.
4. Certificate of Examination Board of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association.
5. Diploma of the Institute of Hygiene (London).
6. Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate for Sanitary Science as applied to Public Works and Buildings.
7. State Registered Nurse.
8. State Certified Midwife.
9. Health Visitors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
10. State Registered Children's Nurse.
11. Unestablished or Temporary Staff.

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the
Borough of Bromley.**

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In an age when the majority of people have a surfeit of rather indigestible reading matter they are compelled to study, it is perhaps expecting too much to imagine that my words will be ravenously devoured by a large section of the population, but something will have been attained if those who have read as far as this, have had their interest sufficiently aroused to pursue this letter to its close.

A determined effort has been made this year to try and make the report more readable and this has involved a good deal of alteration in its composition, including a cover which it is hoped will be thought to be more eye catching and attractive than formerly.

The theme of what follows will be the ever widening scope of the field of prevention. The main preoccupations of the Public Health department of the now fairly distant past, were such things as big epidemics of infectious disease and the eradication of the grosser forms of bad environmental hygiene. To-day we are still faced with many problems but the emphasis has shifted considerably. For example, we are all familiar with the expression "An Englishman's home is his castle" which is obviously meant to indicate amongst other things, that it is a place of safety and security for the family and yet, with all the publicity given to the toll of the roads, one feels that in too many instances, the most elementary precautions against home accidents are being neglected. Accidents in the home are, of course, not notifiable to the local authority but their toll in injury and even death in any one year in a town of this size is very considerable. The pangs of remorse suffered by those for instance who have caused injury to a child through failure to provide the simple measure of a proper fire guard, are a terrible thing but one cannot help wondering how often such carelessness is perpetuated until the fatal day suddenly and unexpectedly dawns. In addition, elderly persons are peculiarly susceptible to the dangers of fire, as they are to the risk of falls due to slippery floors, loose stair carpets and bad lighting. These are but a few of the hazards of the home, and the reader having had his or her attention drawn to this aspect of prevention, will be able to think of many more, and having thought will, I hope, take suitable evasive action before it is too late.

Having referred to elderly people in the previous paragraph, it would seem that this is the appropriate time to touch on some of the many grievous problems that remain to be solved in this connection. As has been the case of recent years, the main difficulty

has been that of finding suitable accommodation for those who are no longer able to care for themselves at home and are unable to call upon the assistance of relatives or friends. Both statutory and voluntary bodies are doing their utmost to help and provide a wide range of services available for the use of the elderly, but here again, I feel that it is most important that, especially with an ageing population, the preventive aspect should not be lost sight of and that we should, one and all, live our lives to-day on the assumption that one day it may be our own turn to grow old. It may well be said that "this is all very fine, but what am I supposed to do about it," to which my short answer would be to keep your interests and hobbies throughout life however long it may be, so that when the time comes that the body is enfeebled, yet old age will be graceful and happy and as such, will still attract the younger generation, on whose help the old eventually become dependent.

The next problem to which I should like to refer is that of the viruses. Virology as a science is still in its infancy, but it is already showing signs of developing into a very bonny childhood to be followed, one hopes, by an even greater future. It is not outside the realms of possibility that in the study of virology we may have the answers to many of the outstanding problems of medical science, and indeed, even as this is being written, preparations are well under way to start the vaccination scheme against anterior poliomyelitis, which is itself, of course, one of the virus diseases. The results of this great new attack on the ravages of a most distressing condition will be awaited eagerly, but it is bound to be some considerable time before its effect can be estimated accurately. I do not propose to refer further to the incidence of anterior poliomyelitis in this Borough during 1955, as those who are interested can find a full account under the infectious diseases section.

As preventive measures have been given such prominence in this letter, I should be failing in my duty not to refer to the vexed question of smoking and cancer of the lung. That there is some association between the two seems to be fairly well established, but it is only right and proper to point out that this condition can effect non-smokers and therefore the inference is that smoking may be a contributory factor to cancer of the lung, rather than the actual cause of it. It is also interesting to note that the incidence of this disease is much higher in urban communities than in rural ones, which suggests that atmospheric pollution may be a contributory factor; but of course, this does not take into account the many other differences existing between life in the town and life in the country, which may be of paramount importance. I have placed on record the bare facts as known to me and from which each, in the present state of our knowledge, must make his own decision.

Those whose patience has not long ere this been exhausted and

who have read all the foregoing, will not be surprised to discover that my summarising is to the effect that there is an enormous field open for education in prevention, and that if this report makes any contribution in that direction, the time devoted to its compilation will certainly have not been wasted.

The stage has now been reached when reference must be made to the vital statistics; these show little change from the previous year except for an unexpected and disturbing rise in the infant mortality rate. I am unable to offer any reasoned explanation for the increase but feel that it must be just one of those unlucky years which, one hopes, will not recur.

Having disposed of the vital statistics it is my very pleasant duty to refer to the arrival, early in the year of Dr. A. J. I. Kelynack as the new deputy Medical Officer of Health. We are indeed fortunate to obtain an officer of such ability and enthusiasm and I am personally indebted to him for his great contribution to the running of the department.

This report cannot be concluded without reference to the great kindness and co-operation I have received in my first year as your Medical Officer of Health, from a very wide range of individuals and organisations. It is obviously impossible to thank everyone separately, but a few general observations would not be out of place. I acknowledge with grateful thanks, the help I have had from my colleagues in the Hospital and General Practitioner services—their willing assistance having lightened my burden enormously. I must also thank my own staff for their very material assistance throughout the year—the sanitary inspectors under the guidance of that ever faithful stalwart, Mr. Woods, under whose control Bromley Market has prospered to an extent quite beyond expectations, and the clerical staff who have worked so well under the able and efficient administration of Mr. Judd. Last but by no means least, I should like to express my gratitude to the Public Health Committee for their support and encouragement which do so much to make my task lighter and more worthwhile.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

H. B. C. CARTER-LOCKE,

Medical Officer of Health.

May, 1956.

SECTION A.

VITAL AND OTHER STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

SECTION A.

VITAL AND OTHER STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	6,519
Registrar General's estimate of total population (mid-year) 1955	64,780
Rateable Value at 31st March, 1955	£800,501
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1956	£1,292,752
Estimated product of a Penny Rate as at 1st April, 1956	£5,375
Number of Valuation assessments as at 31st March, 1955:—	

(a) Houses and Flats:—

Not exceeding £10 Rateable Value	348
£11 to £13 Rateable Value	552
£14 to £20 Rateable Value	4,991
£21 to £30 Rateable Value	7,298
£31 to £40 Rateable Value	2,737
£41 to £50 Rateable Value	1,509
£51 to £75 Rateable Value	1,337
£76 to £100 Rateable Value	412
Exceeding £100 Rateable Value	327

19,511

(b) Commercial	1,417
(c) Licensed Premises	40
(d) Entertainment and Recreational	89
(e) Public Utility	20
(f) Educational and Cultural	29
(g) Industrial	55
(h) Miscellaneous	272

Total 21,433

Mileage of Roads as at 31st March, 1955:—

County Roads, Class 1	12.26
County Roads, Class 2	6.48
County Roads, Class 3	5.16
District Roads	64.61
Unadopted Roads	15.98

Total 104.49

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.

	Total.	Male.	Female.	
Legitimate	784	393	391	Birth Rate 12.7 (crude) per 1,000 total population. (Adjusted rate for comparison with other areas 12.9.)
Illegitimate	39	18	21	
	823	411	412	

The area comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General for the purpose of determining rates for comparison with other parts of the country is 1.02.

Stillbirths.

	Total.	Male.	Female.	
Legitimate	10	4	6	<i>Stillbirth Rate 0.17 per 1,000 total population and 13.2 per 1,000 (live and still births).</i>
Illegitimate	1	1	—	
	11	5	6	

Deaths.

	Total.	Male.	Female.	
	741	336	405	<i>Death Rate 11.4 per 1,000 total population. (Adjusted rate for comparison with other areas 9.9.)</i>

The area comparability factor calculated by the Registrar General for comparison of death rates, is 0.87.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	<i>Maternal Mortality Rate Nil per 1,000 (live and still births).</i>
Other Puerperal Causes	Nil	

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

	Total.	Male.	Female.	
Legitimate	25	11	14	<i>Infant Mortality Rate 31.6 per 1,000 live births.</i>
Illegitimate	1	1	—	
	26	12	14	

All Infants per 1,000 live births	31.6
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 live legitimate births	31.9
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births	25.6

Vital Statistics of the Borough for the past ten years.

Year	Population	No. of Births (Live)	No. of Deaths	No. of Infant Deaths	No. of Maternal Deaths	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Maternal Mortality Rate
1946	60,540	1,176	656	31	1	19.4	10.8	26.3	0.82
1947	62,640	1,308	731	25	1	20.9	11.7	19.11	0.74
1948	63,360	1,042	631	21	1	16.4	9.9	20.15	0.94
1949	64,140	1,030	699	16	1	16.1	10.9	15.5	0.95
1950	64,610	892	739	19	Nil	13.8	11.4	21.3	Nil
1951	64,550	916	735	11	Nil	14.2	11.4	12.0	Nil
1952	64,350	908	720	20	Nil	14.1	11.2	22.0	Nil
1953	64,590	880	692	13	Nil	13.6	10.7	14.8	Nil
1954	64,800	824	727	17	Nil	12.7	11.2	20.6	Nil
1955	64,780	823	741	26	Nil	12.7	11.4	31.6	Nil

Statistics for England and Wales, 1955.

Birth Rate (per 1,000 total population)	15.0
Death Rate (per 1,000 total population)	11.7
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	24.9
(lowest ever recorded in the country.)	

POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate of the total population of the Borough, mid-year, 1955, was 64,780, which is a decrease of 20 over the figure for the previous year. This figure gives a density of 9.9 persons to the acre.

The natural increase of population, measured by excess of births over deaths, was 82.

It would appear that the population has now reached a steady level and it cannot be anticipated that any great changes in numbers are likely in the immediately ensuing years.

BIRTHS

The birth rate for the year is 12.7 per 1,000 total population.

There were 823 live births registered, as against 824 during 1954. Of this number, 411 were males and 412 females.

The adjusted rate, for comparison with other areas, is 12.9.

The similarity with the previous year is the outstanding feature in this instance. The birth rate for England and Wales as a whole is 15.0 so we are well below the national average.

Having considered the over all birth rate, I must now draw your attention to the illegitimate birth rate, which was 47.96 per 1,000 live and still births. There were 40 illegitimate births registered, of which 19 were males and 21 females.

Finally, reference must be made to the stillbirths, of which eleven were registered, giving a rate of 0.17 per 1,000 total population, and 13.2 per 1,000 live and still births.

Five of the stillbirths were males and six females.

DEATHS

There were 741 deaths appertaining to the Borough and registered during 1955, giving a Death Rate of 11.4 per 1,000 total population. The adjusted rate for comparison purposes is 9.9.

The rate for England and Wales is 11.7.

Of the Bromley deaths registered, 336 were males and 405 females.

An analysis of the ages at death shows that of those registered :—

	Male.	Female.
26 were under 1 year of age	12	14
3 were 1 and under 5 years of age	2	1
6 were 5 and under 15 years of age	3	3
2 were 15 and under 25 years of age	2	—
29 were 25 and under 45 years of age	20	9
142 were 45 and under 65 years of age	78	64
164 were 65 and under 75 years of age	84	80
369 were 75 years of age and over	135	234
	336	405

By comparison with the death rate of 1954, there is a small increase of 0.2, which is negligible, particularly as the increase includes the rise in infant mortality to which reference has already been made.

Full details of the causes of death will be found in Table II in the Appendix. The following table of comparative rates per 1,000 population for the last six years of certain causes of death in the Borough, may be of interest :—

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Cancer (all sites)	1.9	1.98	1.77	2.38	1.99	1.83
Congenital Causes	0.12	0.09	0.16	0.11	0.08	0.11
Heart Disease	6.31	5.56	6.31	5.34	5.88	5.94
Infectious Diseases	0.015	0.062	0.031	0.03	0.03	0.03
Influenza	0.03	0.11	0.00	0.11	0.01	0.00
Respiratory Diseases (non-T.B.)	0.68	1.27	1.17	0.91	1.09	1.49
Tuberculosis	0.26	0.31	0.17	0.14	0.12	0.08

The most encouraging feature of these figures is the continued fall in the death rate from tuberculosis, but the number of deaths attributable to this disease cannot be expected to fall much further until the disease has been eliminated from the community entirely. There is, unfortunately, a reverse tendency in the case of non-tuberculous respiratory diseases, but this is probably only to be expected with an ageing population.

There were eighteen deaths from violence, including four motor vehicle accidents, seven other accidents, and seven suicides, and although an unnecessary loss of eighteen lives is a tragedy, at least one can say that this number is one less than during the previous year.

Cancer of the Lung, to which reference has previously been made in this report, accounted for 25 deaths, which was three less than in 1954. With such comparatively small numbers this change is of no significance statistically, but it is preferable to having to record an increase.

It is pleasing to report that for the sixth year in succession there were no maternal deaths in the Borough, but, unfortunately, the infant death rate has risen from 20.6 in 1954, to 31.6 during the year under review. This compares unfavourably with the national figure which is 24.9. This large percentage increase over the year represents nine additional deaths and, as I have already said, is probably just an unfortunate incident which one trusts will not be repeated.

MORBIDITY STATISTICS

A weekly return is received from the Regional Office of the Ministry of National Insurance giving details of the number of certificates for sickness benefit received at the Local Office. These figures give some indication of the seasonal trend of illness in the area, and it will be seen that the year 1955 followed the expected trend, i.e., that the highest incidence of illness occurred during January and February and then declined to its lowest level in August, and then gradually rose again towards the end of the year.

Four weeks ending	Number of certificates of incapacity.		
	First.	Intermediate.	Final.
25th January	1,529	4,641	985
22nd February	1,575	4,876	1,292
22nd March	1,397	4,680	1,163
19th April	1,044	4,474	1,006
17th May	831	4,260	698
14th June	658	4,139	631
12th July	663	3,924	607
9th August	563	3,739	543
6th September	561	3,614	449
4th October	602	3,718	502
1st November	962	3,887	692
29th November	1,014	3,967	810
27th December	785	3,806	670

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

During the year, 40 members, or potential members, of the staff were medically examined for superannuation purposes, etc.

This number is a great increase compared with previous years, the reason being that early in the year, the policy was changed by which it had formerly, in the main, been the responsibility of the prospective employee to arrange for his or her own medical examination. The present arrangement is that all medical examinations are undertaken by this department.

UNEMPLOYMENT

I am indebted to the Manager of the Bromley Employment Exchange for the following information with regard to unemployment in the area during 1955 :—

“ The following figures illustrate the amount of unemployment in the Borough during 1955 as compared with 1954.

1955	Men.	Women.	Total.	1954	Men.	Women.	Total.
10th Jan.	75	46	121	11th Jan.	159	70	229
14th Mar.	59	47	106	15th Mar.	116	66	182
16th May	40	40	80	10th May	66	76	142
11th July	39	30	69	12th July	66	58	124
12th Sep.	44	36	80	13th Sep.	67	57	124
14th Nov.	40	47	87	15th Nov.	78	57	135
12th Dec.	50	47	97	6th Dec.	71	44	115

The figures indicate that throughout the year unemployment has steadily declined compared with the corresponding months in the previous year. From May onwards unemployment has been at its lowest level since 1945. In April, as result of a Trade dispute by maintenance men in the London National Newspaper industry, 148 men affected by the dispute registered as unemployed for 4 or 5 days only.

Employment in the area has continued at a high level throughout the year and demands for workers have been continuous. During last winter and to date during this winter, there has been less unemployment in the building industry and the problem of seasonal unemployment among Painters has been less acute.

Unemployment among men is mainly confined to the older blackcoated worker or to those affected by some degree of disability. Of the 40 registered as unemployed on 14th November, 25 were age 55 and over, 12 were between 40 and 54 and only 3 were under 40. Among women, unemployment is in the main, confined to clerical and shop workers in the higher age groups and to women who require work for restricted hours owing to domestic responsibilities.

It will be seen from the preceding paragraph that what little unemployment exists in the Borough is mainly confined to the older worker. In this connection the National Advisory Committee on the Employment of Older Men and Women issued a second report on 6th December in which they say they are encouraged by the progress already achieved in promoting the employment of older people, but are convinced that there is room for much wider adoption of the recommendations made in their first report and for further experiment and research to overcome the difficulties which remain.

In March, 1954, the Ministry of Labour and National Service opened an Industrial Rehabilitation Unit at Waddon near Croydon. The object of this Unit is to provide men and women, who have had a long spell of inactivity following illness, injury or any other cause, the means of restoring them, under expert direction, to their full working capacity and giving them professional guidance, where there is need, about the kind of work likely to be most suitable. The Unit is to a considerable extent dependent upon the medical profession and hospital staffs in recommending suitable cases for this course of industrial rehabilitation and in August of this year every medical practitioner in the Borough was reminded of the facilities available at this Unit.

During 1955, 8 men and 5 women from the Borough have undertaken the course. Of the men 4 have been satisfactorily placed in employment, one of these received vocational training in a commercial course. The remaining 4 men are still at the Unit. Three of the women have been satisfactorily placed and the other 2 are undergoing vocational training in a commercial course and shorthand-typing."

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The Borough Engineer has kindly furnished the following information from the records at the Climatological Station, Church House Gardens :—

Total rainfall: 22.03 inches.

Mean maximum daily temperature: 57.25°.

Mean minimum daily temperature: 42.17°.

Highest maximum temperature (on 22nd August): 86°.

Lowest minimum temperature recorded (12th January): 19°.

Lowest grass temperature recorded (20/1, 28/2, 31/3, 19/12): 19°.

OPEN AIR RECREATIONAL AMENITIES.

The value of Bromley's open spaces cannot be over estimated, for they provide rest and relaxation for the older members of the population and facilities for recreational activities for the younger generation, thus making a notable contribution to the general well being of the community.

Commons, Public Recreation Grounds and Gardens.

Six hundred and three acres of land have been secured or reserved for public recreational purposes, representing 9.2 per cent. of the total acreage of the Borough.

	Acres.	Roods.	Poles.
Bromley Public Golf Course	56	1	8
Church House Gardens	12	3	20
Elmstead Woods	61	1	36
Golf Course Playing Fields	41	1	5
Hayes Common (including Pickhurst Green)	213	1	32
Hollydale Open Space	6	1	0
Husseywell Open Space	2	1	30
Keston Common	55	1	24
Kings Meadow Recreation Ground	9	1	0
Library Garden	1	2	0
Martins Hill Recreation Ground	12	0	29
Oakley Road Recreation Ground	2	0	0
Pickhurst Green Recreation Ground	12	2	14
Queens Garden	2	1	4
Queens Mead Recreation Ground	10	3	15
Southborough Open Space	6	0	0
The Knoll Open Space	4	1	39
Turpington Open Space	1	3	10
Whitehall Recreation Ground	17	1	6
Widmore Open Space	3	1	28
<i>Reserved :</i>			
Hayes (Old) Rectory Grounds	2	0	25
Hillcrest Open Space	0	2	0
New Street Hill Open Space	11	2	8
Norman Park	56	0	0
	603	1	13

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

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GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

NURSING HOMES.

(Public Health Act, 1936. Sections 187/194.)

There are six Nursing Homes on the register at the present time, with provision for a total of 98 beds for medical and surgical cases. There are no maternity beds provided in these Homes.

The majority of the beds are occupied by aged sick or aged infirm patients and the Nursing Homes are fulfilling a very useful purpose in that they are providing accommodation for a type of case which in many instances it is extremely difficult to get into hospital.

The Homes were inspected by the Deputy Medical Officer of Health at frequent intervals during the year and at no time were any contraventions found which called for action on the part of the Local Authority.

Details of the Homes registered are :—

Address	No. of Beds	Number of new patients received during 1955	
		Surgical	Medical and Chronic
18, Blyth Road	25	—	73
42, Cambridge Road	8	—	8
17, Edward Road	12	—	31
24, Elmfield Road	10	—	2
47, Park Avenue	22	—	55
" St. Cecilia's" Sundridge Avenue	21	—	38

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

Eighteen bodies were taken to the public mortuary during the year, all of which were received from hospitals. Inquests were held in six cases.

The comparatively little use that is made of the mortuary is probably due to the lack of facilities for refrigeration.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47

Under this section of the Act (as amended by the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951) powers are given to the local authority for the compulsory removal of persons suffering from

grave chronic disease, or who are aged, infirm or physically handicapped and who are living in insanitary conditions and unable to devote to themselves and not receiving from other persons proper care and attention.

Although several cases were visited and investigated during the year it was not necessary to apply to the court for an order for compulsory removal.

Section 50

This section of the Act places a duty on the local authority to arrange for the burial or cremation of the body of any person who has died or been found dead in their area if it appears that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body have or are being made. Expenses incurred by the local authority may be recovered from the estate of the deceased person or from any person liable to maintain the deceased person immediately prior to his death.

During the year the Council arranged for the burial of one person under this section of the Act.

LABORATORY SERVICE.

Food and Drugs samples are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Maidstone. This service ceased to be the responsibility of the County Council towards the end of 1955, and was taken over by the Public Health Laboratory Service (Directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health).

Swabs and other routine medical specimens are sent to the laboratory at Bromley Hospital, and I should like to take this opportunity of thanking Dr. Keall and his staff for the valuable assistance they have rendered.

Details of swabs, specimens, etc., sent to these laboratories are given below :—

Swabs (for Haemolytic Streptococci)	120
Swabs (for Diphtheria)	1
Faeces	35
Food Samples, etc.	497
Rag Flock Samples	15
Water Samples	66
Miscellaneous	19
	753

DISINFECTION.

Details of the work carried out during 1955 at the disinfecting station, Waldo Road Depot, are as follow :—

DISINFECTIONS :

Premises visited	....	....	....	....	....	....	120
Rooms disinfected	....	....	....	....	....	....	100
Articles disinfected	....	....	....	....	....	....	565

DISINFESTATIONS :

Premises visited	....	....	....	....	....	....	14
Rooms disinfested	....	....	....	....	....	....	32
Articles disinfested	....	....	....	....	....	....	18

	ARTICLES TREATED.				ARTICLES DESTROYED.			
Beds				3	....	....	....	1
Mattresses				84	....	....	....	8
Bolsters				8	....	....	....	—
Pillows				160	....	....	....	—
Cushions				9	....	....	....	4
Blankets				127	....	....	....	—
Sheets				39	....	....	....	—
Eiderdowns				18	....	....	....	—
Bedspreads				12	....	....	....	—
Carpets				—				—
Garments				108	....	....	....	—
Miscellaneous				15	....	....	....	—
				583				13

In the case of disinfections, rooms and furniture are sprayed with Formalin and Formalin candles are also burned.

Articles are steam treated with a pressure of 5 lbs. per square inch.

In the case of disinfestation of premises, rooms and furniture are sprayed with Zaldecide solution. Bedding and other articles are steam treated.

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY— MEDICAL LOAN SERVICE.

A medical loan service is provided by the British Red Cross Society at 34A, Market Square, Bromley. A full range of nursing requisites is kept at this depot. A small charge is normally made for the article hired, but in cases of distress and for most Old Age Pensioners, no charge is made.

The depot is open on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday each week, between the hours of 10.30 - 12.30 and 2.30 - 4.0 p.m.

WELFARE OF OLD PEOPLE.

Reports received on the various homes run by voluntary associations and public authorities are as follow :—

"The Vane" and "Town Court," Bickley.

These homes are run by the Welfare Department of the London County Council and the following details have been furnished by the Chief Officer of that Department :—

	"Town Court"	"The Vane"
Total number of beds	32	29
Residents on 31st December, 1954	30	29
Admissions during 1955	23	11
Discharges during 1955	22	18
Residents on 31st December, 1955	31	22

A new house, "Boscobel," Denbridge Road, Bickley, which is adjacent to "The Vane," will be opened shortly and will accommodate 23 residents.

"Merevale," Bickley Park Road, Bickley.

The North West Kent Housing Society, Limited (Homes for the Aged), run this home and the Secretary has kindly furnished the following information :—

There is nothing new to report for the year 1955. The Home has fulfilled its task and provided accommodation for thirty-six old people, including one married couple and ten other men throughout the year. It is of interest to note that six of the residents are now over ninety ; one attains her century in April next year.

"Greenhill," Oaklands Road, Bromley.

This report has been furnished by the General Secretary, Brook Lane Medical Mission :—

The number of beds available in the home is twenty-two. During 1955, we have lost two residents by death, and one who became more infirm, was moved to another home. Three old ladies, living alone and in need of some care and attention, have been admitted during the year.

Miss Flora Miller, one of the residents who has been with us for a long time, reached the age of one hundred years in September, and spent a very happy birthday in the home with relations and friends. She was thrilled to receive a message from Her Majesty the Queen, also from the Rt. Hon. Sir Winston Churchill.

In October, the residents went to Brighton for two weeks, to a home there, while the Greenhill kitchen was made larger, and other improvements made. The balcony is being re-built and enlarged,

so that when the better weather comes, more of the old folk will be able to sit out in the sunshine. There are quite a number who cannot go farther than the balcony.

We are hoping to go ahead, in 1956, with the building of an annexe to the home, as we need more ground floor accommodation.

"Southwood Residential Club," Bickley.

This year, W.V.S. have adopted a new policy for their residential clubs for elderly people, and it is now planned to look after the old people when they become feeble up to the point when they are actually in need of medical care and skilled nursing.

In the past, when the residents have needed more care and attention, they have been transferred to Sharnbrook, the W.V.S. Half-way House, but now this extra care is to be given at Southwood as in the other residential clubs, and so the Committee have spent some time in making preparations for this extra care, and setting aside extra care rooms.

By making one of our very large rooms into a 4-bedded room, and by using a little used staff sitting room, we have been able to set aside two rooms as extra care rooms.

Plans are going ahead to decorate these rooms in bright and cheerful colours, as it is felt that this will be helpful to the happiness and recuperation of the old people who will be occupying the beds.

The health of the residents over the year has been good, and our changes have been few.

Although two women left us, one to go to relatives and the other to a nursing home, we did not take in any more women residents, owing to re-organisation of the rooms.

Two men residents died, and we took in a further three.

The residents still continue to do handicrafts each week, and enjoy working for the next exhibition. They have also made toys again for the Children's Wards at Farnborough Hospital, for Christmas.

"Armstrong House," 1, Southlands Grove, Bickley.

This Home is run by the S.O.S. Society, and I am indebted to the General Secretary for the following report:—

ACCOMMODATION.

Capacity	....	....	....	....	28
Weekly average	....	....	....	....	27.5
Admitted during the year	....	....	....	....	6
Present residents:					
Women	....	....	....	....	11
Men	....	....	....	....	17
Average age	....	....	....	....	82 years.

Only six vacancies arose during the year, as compared with nine in 1954.

The increasing frailty of many of the residents is very noticeable.

Medical attention remains on a very satisfactory basis, although admission to hospital has been very difficult to obtain except in cases of emergency.

Somewhat contrary to expectations, the installation of a television set in the Home has been greatly appreciated by the residents. The usual coach outing, kindly arranged by the Ladies' Circle of Bromley, took place during the year and, as always, was much enjoyed. Local residents are most kind in inviting old people from the Home to tea.

The Home continues to have the kind offices of the Rev. R. P. Appleton who also serves as a member of the House Committee.

The staff position remains as in the 1954 report. It must, however, be noted that it is becoming increasingly difficult to find suitable women for the post of Assistant Matron.

During the financial year ended 24th September, 1955, the total cost of maintaining the Home amounted to £4,399 against a total income of £4,967, leaving a surplus of income over expenditure of £568. This unusually satisfactory state of affairs is due almost entirely to the increased contribution towards maintenance from the Kent County Council.

"Dunoran Home," Park Farm Road, Bickley.

This Home is run by the Bermondsey and Southwark Group Hospital Management Committee, and I am indebted to the Medical Superintendent for the following information :—

During 1955, fifty-five patients were admitted, thirty-nine discharged, and eighteen died.

Many of the permanent younger patients were again able to go for a seaside holiday through the kindness of the Group Management Committee. Their places were occupied by patients from their homes, whose relatives needed a rest.

The car which has been bought by some of the W.V.S. and their friends was a great boon, and there were many trips for shopping and sight seeing, which made a welcome break in the patient's routine.

The patients now have their own entertainments committee and would welcome any offers from Bromley residents to lecture or entertain.

"Homefield" and "Elmwood," Southborough Road, Bickley.

These Homes are run by the Bermondsey Medical Mission, and the Warden has kindly furnished the following report :—

The past year has been marked by few changes. A new Sanitary Annexe was added to the ground floor at "Homefield."

Several outings were arranged during the summer and also one to London during Christmas week.

The health of the patients has been reasonably good and the fine summer made it possible for greater use to be made of the gardens.

Regular services continue to be held each Sunday and are very much appreciated as few of the patients are able to attend Church.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES

Over 60's Clubs.

These Clubs meet once a week and old people have the opportunity of meeting others, making friends, playing games, doing handicrafts, reading, etc., and having a cup of tea together.

Sick visitors take tea to those unable to attend.

The Members have been working for a Handicraft Exhibition to be held in April, 1956.

Club leaders arrange outings to the sea in the summer, and half-day outings to the country in the spring and autumn.

A Men's Inter-Club Darts League gives the members an opportunity of visiting the various clubs.

Several of the clubs have their own concert party and entertain the other clubs in Bromley.

A Darts Shield has now been given for the Ladies.

Meals on Wheels and Luncheon Club.

An average of 70 to 80 meals are cooked by voluntary workers and about 60 of these are taken out in insulated containers, in two W.V.S. vans.

A luncheon club is run at the Meals Kitchen at St. Mary's Church House, College Road, Bromley, for mobile old people. These two services operate on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Over 14,500 meals were cooked last year, and the service fills a very great need, especially so in the winter months.

Welfare Work and Trolley Shops.

W.V.S. members visit the two London County Council Homes, and "Dunoran," "Homefield," "St. Cecilia's," Lennard Hospital and Hayes Grove Nursing Home, and a trolley shop service is given where needed.

Wheel chairs are loaned to those in need.

W.V.S. members now have a converted van fitted with a winch, known as the "Bickley Bus," which enables them to take chronic sick in wheel chairs shopping and to visit the Over 60 Clubs. This has been a great joy to those who have been housebound for so long.

MORAL WELFARE.

Church Army Home, Wells Road, Bickley.

The Sister-in-charge has kindly furnished the following report :—

"There were thirteen mothers with their babies in the House at the beginning of the year. Eighteen mothers have since been admitted, making thirty-one in the House during the year.

Of these, five mothers have returned to their relatives with the children; the other members of the families having accepted the situation and taken the children into the families.

One girl we were unable to keep and she went into Part III accommodation and the child was taken into care.

One mother was incapable of ever caring properly for her child, and the child was accepted by Dr. Barnardos; the mother going into lodgings.

One girl has a resident job with her child. This is proving very satisfactory.

Three girls went into lodgings.

Two girls have married the putative father and three have married other men, who have been prepared to accept the children.

Fifteen mothers with their babies are still resident in the Home.

Unfortunately, for a long period during the summer the House was in quarantine for measles. Other than this the household has kept extremely fit.

Denbridge House does meet a very real need for the mother who, anxious to keep her child and unable to return to her family or friends with the child, is seeking for a place where she can live, keeping the child with her and earning her own living, and the fee charged is reasonably within her income.

We are most grateful to the doctors for the regular weekly visits they make and for the interest and consideration they have given to all who are in our care. We are also most grateful to the Health Visitor for the help and advice she has always so readily given and for the personal interest which she takes in the mothers and babies who are in our care."

Rochester Diocesan Association for Moral Welfare Home, Blyth Road.

The following report has been furnished by the Superintendent :—

"During the year 110 girls, women and children were admitted to the Home. Forty-four of the girls were maternity cases, and of this number, 27 were admitted to Farnborough Hospital, 7 to Bromley Hospital, 1 to Beckenham Hospital, 1 returned home before the baby was born, 2 were transferred to other Homes and the remainder were still in the Home at the end of the year.

Thirty-five were Kent cases, 1 from Sussex, and 8 were self paid.

Shelter Cases.—During the year 26 cases were admitted for varying periods of time.

At the end of the year the number in the Home was :— Six mothers and 6 babies, 2 shelter cases and 3 ante-natal cases. Total—11 girls and 6 babies."

Report of Sister Papps, Outdoor Worker :—

"Two hundred and three cases have been referred and dealt with and there were 47 cases in hand at the end of the year.

Of the new cases, 80 were maternity, 81 were preventive cases concerning young people, 19 were matrimonial, 2 were rescue cases, and 21 miscellaneous.

Of the maternity cases, 65 were single girls, 9 were married women having illegitimate children, 5 were divorcees and 1 was a widow.

Ninety-one of the above cases were from Bromley and district.

During the year 601 home visits have been paid, 1,437 interviews given and 28 meetings addressed."

HOSPITAL SERVICES.

The following hospitals are within the area, and under the control of the Bromley Group Hospital Management Committee, whose offices are at Farnborough Hospital, Farnborough, Kent.

- (a) **Bromley Hospital, Cromwell Avenue.** General hospital with 133 beds.

BROMLEY HOSPITAL MATERNITY UNITS :

20, Masons Hill, Bromley. Provision for 34 beds.

118, Widmore Road, Bromley. Provision for 20 beds.

CHEST CLINIC. Situate at the rear of the main Bromley Hospital buildings, with entrance from Tiger Lane.

- (b) **Lennard Hospitals, Lennard Road.** Provision for 56 beds for use by infectious disease cases. This number can be doubled in an emergency.

Twenty-four beds are also provided at these hospitals for geriatric cases.

Venereal Diseases.

There is no clinic in the area which deals with these diseases. Patients are referred to the various hospitals with such clinics.

COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES.

Health Visiting.

Seven Health Visitors are employed in the area, and their time is equally divided between Health Visiting and work in connection with the School Health Services. In addition to their school work, they are responsible for Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, Immunisation and Vaccination Clinics, Home Visiting, After Care, and give advice on the care of young children, and advice to expectant and nursing mothers.

Domiciliary Midwifery.

Four full-time domiciliary midwives are employed in the area. Patients may obtain the services of a midwife on direct application or through the patient's private doctor.

Women's Welfare Clinic.

All Bromley patients are referred to the Chislehurst clinic.

Ambulance Service.

The main depot for this area is at 12, Hayes Lane, Bromley. At the present time there are 29 ambulances and 20 sitting case cars based at this depot, the majority of which are radio controlled.

Domestic Help Service.

Applications for this service should be made to the District Organiser, Municipal Offices, Bromley.

During the year 1955 this service continued to be in great demand, especially for old people and cases of illness in the home.

The following cases received assistance during the year :—

Maternity (expectant mothers)	94
Tuberculosis	9
Aged	360
Others	225
	—
Total	688
	—

Home Nursing Service.

At the present time a day service only is given, and is obtainable on medical certification.

There are 9 nurses (8 female and 1 male) working in the area.

LOCAL CLINIC SERVICES.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

North Clinic, Station Road	Thursday	p.m.
South Clinic, Princes Plain	Monday	p.m.
Hayes School Clinic, George Lane	Wednesday	p.m.

Child Welfare Centres.

North Clinic, Station Road	Wednesday	p.m.
South Clinic, Princes Plain	Tuesday	p.m.
William Morris Hall, Masons Hill	Monday & Thursday	p.m.
First Aid Post, Southlands Road	Wednesday & Friday	p.m.
Village Hall, Hayes	Tuesday	p.m.
Village Hall, Keston	First and third Thurs. in every month	p.m.
St. Andrew's Hall, Burnt Ash Lane	Wednesday	p.m.

Minor Ailment Clinics (Schools).

North Clinic, Station Road	Monday to Friday	a.m.
South Clinic, Princes Plain	Monday to Friday	a.m.
Medical Room, Hayes School, George Lane	Monday to Friday	a.m.
Medical Room, Burnt Ash School	Monday to Thursday	a.m.
Medical Room, Southborough School	Mon., Wed. & Fri.	a.m.
Medical Room, Aylesbury Rd. School	Mon., Wed. & Fri.	a.m.

Dental Clinics.

North Clinic, Station Road	Monday to Friday a.m. & p.m.
South Clinic, Princes Plain	Saturday a.m. (by appointment.)

Specialist Clinics.

North Clinic, Station Road	OPHTHALMIC (Appointments only)— Monday & Wednesday a.m. Friday p.m.
	ORTHOPÆDIC (Appointments only)— First & third Friday in every month p.m.
	ORTHOPTIC (Appointments only)— Monday p.m. Tuesday a.m. & p.m. Thursday a.m. & p.m. Friday a.m.
	PHYSIOTHERAPY (Appointments only)— Tuesday a.m. & p.m. Thursday a.m. Friday a.m.
South Clinic, Princes Plain	SPEECH (Appointments only)— Friday p.m.
	LIP READING (Appointments only)— Wednesday 5 - 6 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. - 12 noon

Immunisation and Vaccination.

North Clinic, Station Road	Thursday 11 a.m.
South Clinic, Princes Plain	Wednesday 11 a.m.
Medical Room, Hayes School	Wednesday 11 a.m.
(IMMUNISATION ONLY)	
Medical Room, Burnt Ash School	Thursday 11 a.m.
(VACCINATION ONLY)	
St. Andrew's Hall, Burnt Ash Lane	Wednesday 3 p.m.

SECTION C

SANITARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

SECTION C

SANITARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL
CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

The following is a copy of the return supplied to the Ministry of Labour and National Service, in respect of the year 1955 :—

I. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(a) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	58	39	4	—
(b) Factories not included in (a) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	231	149	8	—
(c) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	*138	61	2	—
Total	427	249	14	—

II. Cases in which Defects were found.

	No. of cases in which defects were :				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	10	16	1	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	—	1	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient	5	6	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	21	54	—	4	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	6	9	—	—	—
Total	44	87	2	5	—

2 Engineering works (Culverting, etc.)

* 1 Electrical Station (Sect. 103).

25 Building sites where more than one house erected (including five Corporation sites).

110 Private house sites.

OUTWORK: Nil.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Tables VII and VIII in the Appendix give full details of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1955.

The following are the aggregate totals under the respective headings :—

	Total No. of Inspections and Visits.	Total No. of Defects and Nuisances found.
Housing	4,451	1,134
Infectious Diseases	252	—
Food Premises	4,981	278
Factories, Outworkers, etc.	478	96
Sampling Visits	452	—
Trade Premises (Various)	614	104
Rodent Control	259	23
Miscellaneous	959	52
Total	12,446	1,687

In addition to the above, there were 1,592 interviews with owners, agents, etc., on site and at the office, in connection with the above work.

Notices issued :—

Preliminary :—

Housing	587
Food Premises	119
Factories, etc.	23
Trade Premises	48
Rodent Control	526
Miscellaneous	84
	1,387

Statutory :—

Housing	1
Total	1,388

Food Condemnation Certificates issued 1,160

WATER.

Nine samples of drinking water were taken during the year, to ascertain the toxic metal content (zinc). In all samples zinc was not detected.

The supply of water for the Borough is provided by the Metropolitan Water Board, and I am indebted to the Director of Water Examination, to that authority, for the following information on the supply during the year 1955 :—

The supply to the Borough of Bromley is from five of the Board's Kent wells, namely, Deptford, North Orpington, Orpington, Shortlands and West Wickham, together with Thames-derived filtered water.

All the water is chlorinated before it leaves the works. Contact tanks are now in operation at all these works to give opportunity for the chlorine to exert its full effect before the water is pumped into supply. Any residual chlorine in the well waters is completely removed before the water leaves the works.

Bacteriological analyses of all supplies are made at least five times a week and in the case of the river-derived supply the water is tested bacteriologically at all stages of purification. All new and repaired mains are disinfected with chlorine before being restored to use and samples of water from them are tested to establish that the quality of the water is up to the standard normally supplied.

None of the supplies is plumbo-solvent.

The closest watch is kept for any evidence of deterioration in quality whether physical, chemical, bacteriological or biological and immediate action is taken if the results of analyses are not up to standard on the works and in the distribution system.

The following tables give the average results of the chemical and bacteriological analyses of the various supplies to the area for 1955 :—

Average results of the Chemical and Bacteriological examination of the water supplied to Bromley during the year 1955. (Parts per million unless otherwise stated.)

	Shortlands Well	West Wickham Well	Orpington Well	North Orpington Well	Deptford Well	Thames- derived filtered water
Chemical						
No. of samples	10	1	4	4	4	1663
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.002	Nil	Nil	0.003	0.002	0.014
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.020	0.030	0.019	0.019	0.017	0.085
Oxidised Nitrogen—Nitrate ...	4.5	5.5	7.5	5.4	7.0	3.8
Chlorides as Cl.	17	13	15	13	35	26
Oxygen abs. from Permanganate 4 hours at 27°C.	0.08	0.06	0.08	0.07	0.20	1.04
Turbidity in terms of Silica ...	Nil	Nil	0.3	Nil	Nil	0.2
Colour m.m. brown 2 ft. Tube	Nil	Nil	3	Nil	Nil	12
Burgess's Tintometer	272	260	282	265	359	258
Hardness (Total)	70	35	50	35	126	65
Hardness (non-carbonate) ...	7.1	7.5	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.8
pH Value	0.05	—	0.06	0.06	0.09	0.50
Phosphate as P.O ₄ ^{III}	—	—	—	—	—	10
Silica as SiO ₂	41	5	13	8	94	49
Sulphates SO ₄	450	400	425	425	550	450
Conductivity						

	Shortlands Well	West Wickham Well	Orpington Well	North Orpington Well	Deptford Well	Thames- derived filtered water
Bacteriological Results						
BEFORE CHLORINATION						
No. of samples	499	186	249	226	221	7040
Plate count (Average per millilitre)						
Colonies counted on Agar:						
37°C. (20-24 hours)	0.04	0.3	5.0	5.3	2.2	—
Bact. coli test:						
Percentage samples negative in						
100 ml.	100.0	100.0	100.0	25.2	99.6	60.4
Average number per 100 ml. ...	—	—	—	6.80	0.01	3.73
AFTER CHLORINATION (WATER PASSING INTO SUPPLY).						
No. of Samples	256	208	255	230	225	3561
Plate count (Average per millilitre)						
Colonies counted on Agar:						
37°C. (20-24 hours)	—	—	—	—	—	7.8
Bact. coli test:						
Percentage samples negative in						
100 ml.	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.6	100.0	99.9
Average number per 100 ml. ...	—	—	—	0.004	—	0.002

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

A further length of the old main soil sewer was reconstructed during the year, involving approximately 470 yards southwards from Magpie Hall Lane.

Cesspools.

No new houses were erected with cesspool drainage during 1955.

Eighteen individual cesspools were emptied by the Borough Engineer's Department upon the request of the householders.

RIVERS, STREAMS AND LAKES.

The piping of a length of 185 yards of the river Ravensbourne immediately north of Hayes Lane was completed.

A contract was let for further culverting of the river at the rear of houses in Newbury Road and immediately north as far as Glassmill Lane. This work was commenced and substantial progress made on the site. The scheme includes the construction of a storage lake on the site of the former mill pond at the rear of the houses in Mill Vale, and the lowering of the invert of the existing culvert under the railway line near Newbury Road.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

The Sanitary Inspectors made a total of 279 visits of inspection to Swimming Baths and Pools in the Borough and forty samples of water were taken for examination.

Eight samples were taken from the Corporation Open Air Bath, seven of which were satisfactory and one unsatisfactory.

Thirty-two samples were taken from privately owned swimming baths and pools. Thirty-one of these were satisfactory and one unsatisfactory.

One hundred and sixty-eight routine colometric tests for checking the efficiency of purification plants were also made by the Inspectors. The chlorine content and pH value are checked by means of a Lovibond Comparator.

VERMINOUS CONDITIONS AND UNCLEANLINESS

One hundred and seventy-five visits to premises by Sanitary Inspectors related to eradication of bugs, dirty conditions and disinfestations.

Forty-six nuisances were found during the year and 30 were abated.

PUBLIC CLEANSING, REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The Borough Engineer informs me that work on modifications to the Refuse Destructor, involving the construction of a new chimney shaft and water seal dust catchers for the new and the existing chimney, was commenced during the year.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Sixty-three visits and re-inspections were made by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year. Four nuisances were confirmed and two were remedied by the end of the year.

This Local Authority continues to be a member of the Standing Conference of Co-operating Bodies for the Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution. A representative of the Council and the Chief Sanitary Inspector attend the meetings during the year. The Standing Conference was established to act as a consultative and advisory body to co-operate in the investigation and to promote the practical application in the public interest.

Each month the Bromley results of the estimation of sulphur by the lead peroxide method are communicated to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952.

Forty visits of inspection were made during the year by the Sanitary Inspectors. Nine contraventions were observed and were remedied.

This Act is designed to require fireguards to be fitted to gas fires, electric fires and oil heaters of types so designed that they are suitable for domestic use and so constructed that, without a guard, there is likelihood of injury by burning or of ignition of clothing by reason of contact with or proximity to the heating element or flame.

The standards of construction and fitting of guards and the tests to be employed in ascertaining whether guards comply with prescribed standards are controlled by regulations.

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Two hundred and sixty-nine visits of inspection were made by the Sanitary Inspectors. Eighty-three contraventions were found and 114 were remedied, which includes those outstanding at the end of the previous year. The infringements were of a minor character—principally the omission of exhibiting the statutory forms.

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.

It is noticeable that the statutory hours of employment of young persons in the shops were not, in any instances, exceeded.

The revised legislation has not yet been implemented.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

Fifteen informal samples were taken and all conformed to the standard of cleanliness laid down in the Regulations. The main object of this Act is to protect the public. It prevents unclean filling materials being used not only for bedding and upholstery, but toys and other domestic articles.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

During the year, seven premises were licensed as pet shops under the above Act.

Forty-three visits of inspection were made by the Sanitary Inspectors and three nuisances found, two of these had been abated by the end of the year.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS.

Mr. G. R. Woods is the Inspector appointed under the above Acts.

This year was, fortunately, free from Swine Fever, Foot and Mouth Disease, Anthrax and Fowl Pest being notified in the Borough. Fifty-four visits and interviews were made by the Animals Acts Inspector. One hundred and eighteen Statutory Orders were received. Three Movement Licences were issued and 84 received.

The Statutory Orders were published in accordance with Article 7 of the Animals (Miscellaneous) Provisions (Order), 1927.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Excellent work continues to be performed by the two Assistant Rodent Officers.

A free service is now offered to private dwelling houses, but a statutory charge has to be made for rodent work at business premises.

There was a change of one personnel during the year.

The following tabulation gives details of the work carried out by the rodent control staff during the year ending 31st March, 1956. In addition, six monthly maintenance treatments of the sewers in the area are made.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Local Authority	Non-Agricultural			Agricultural
		Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)	All other (including business premises)	Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	18	19,577	2,241	21,836	29
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of: (a) Notification, (b) Survey under the Act, (c) Otherwise, (e.g., when visited for some other purpose)	(a) 6	623	113	742	4
	(b) —	1,940	103	2,043	13
	(c) —	46	126	172	6
III. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections)	31	6,664	691	7,386	35

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Local Authority	Non-Agricultural			Agricultural
		Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)	All other (including business premises)	Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
IV. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. II) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) RATS { Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	6	436	57	499	4
(b) MICE { Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	61	45	106	—
V. Number of infested properties (in Sect. IV.) treated by Local Authority	6	497	102	605	4
VI. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments	6	553	102	661	4
VII. Number of "Block Control" Schemes carried out	—	284	19	303	—

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 AND 1936.

Mr. G. R. Woods is the Inspector appointed under the above Acts.

One hundred and twenty-six visits were made in connection with this work. Only a few minor contraventions were found and these were remedied.

Ninety-four licences were issued to store Petroleum Spirit and Petroleum Mixtures, and one for Carbide of Calcium.

The total storage capacity licensed during the year ending 31st March, 1956, was :—

Bulk Storage	126,220 gallons.
Can Storage	1,419 gallons.
Carbide of Calcium	300 lbs.

New flame proof electrically operated pumps are being gradually installed to replace the old pattern pumps. The electrical wiring is then carried out in accordance with the Home Office Regulations.

REGISTRIES FOR FEMALE DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

Only two premises are registered in connection with the existing legislation.

General observations are made with a view to ascertaining any premises displaying notices of any kind showing that a registry office is carried on at any premises, and if it is found that the proprietor is not registered, the necessary report is made. There are many shops with window advertisement boards which have to be continuously watched for the purpose mentioned.

RETAIL MARKET.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. G. R. Woods, assumed control of the market at the end of January, 1955. It was then evident that the market could be improved and better supervised to the financial benefit of the Local Authority.

Mr. Woods made various recommendations to the Health Committee which were adopted as follow :— the roof and louvre back to the open shelter were made watertight, new stall boards and trestles were provided, the area was re-surfaced, additional dustbin accommodation was made available and the layout of the stalls improved to allow for additional stallholders. Constant hot water, liquid soap and paper towels were provided in the lavatories. The takings were doubled within three months, and have been steadily rising since.

The Borough Treasurer reported that for the first six years after the war, there was an annual loss on the market which varied from £20 in 1948/1949 to £225 in 1950/1951. Since then there has been an annual surplus, and the balance in hand at the end of March, 1956, was about £375. Each year since the war, the income has steadily increased from £75 in 1945/1946 to £1,149 in the year ended 31st March, 1956.

Further improvements which will be suggested are the provision of a further shelter cover for the protection of the public and stallholders during inclement weather, and also the adaptation of a room in the hut for the sale of refreshments.

The results of the first year's working under the new administrative arrangements can only be described as startling, and I am most grateful to Mr. Woods whose energy, drive and initiative have contributed so materially to this great success.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

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HOUSING.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954.

Part II of the Act, 1954, allows a landlord to increase the rent of a controlled property providing it is in good repair, and makes further provision for all rents to be increased. This was new in principle and was found rather complicated in application.

In last year's report a paragraph stated: "It is not certain whether this part of the Act, referring to the application by tenants for a certificate of disrepair, will be used to the extent originally anticipated." The doubt, therefore, concerning the lack of use by tenants applying for certificates of disrepair is confirmed. Only 10 applications were received in 1955. Six certificates were granted and 4 refused. In addition, of the 8 applications outstanding at the end of 1954, 5 certificates were granted and 3 refused. Eleven applications for revocation of certificates of disrepair were received. Ten were granted and 1 was still under investigation at the end of the year. Three hundred and eleven inspections were made by the Sanitary Inspectors, and 49 nuisances were found.

It is hoped that many more owners will afford themselves the advantages of the statutory grant to enable their properties to be improved within the standard envisaged by the Act.

HOUSING INSPECTIONS AND ABATEMENTS.

During the year, the Sanitary Inspectors made a total of 4,451 inspections relating to housing matters. One thousand one hundred and thirty-four nuisances and defects were found and 1,571 abated (this figure includes those found in 1954 and remedied during 1955).

Detailed information will be found in Tables VII and VIII in the Appendix.

Housing Statistics for the year 1955.

Total number of valuation assessments, houses and flats at 31st March, 1955	21,433
1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	498
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	3,725
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	—
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	—

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	336
2. 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	568
CLEARANCE AREAS—(Housing Act 1936 and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954)—	
Number of dwelling-houses demolished during the year	Nil
HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS— (Housing Act, 1936)—	
(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section II)	3
(b) Parts of building closed (Section 12)	2

Rehousing.

I am indebted to the Property Manager for the following information which gives the position as at 1st January, 1956 :—

PERMANENT HOUSING:

<i>Completed and occupied :—</i>	Units.
Princes Plain	50
Coppice Estate	532
London Road Flats	66
Longfield Flats	27
Tylney Road Flats	54
Bourne Way Flats	66
Hayes Place Estate	339
Hayes Place Estate (O.A.P.)	48
Blackbrook Estate	64
Blackbrook Estate (O.A.P.)	10
Nichol Lane	6
Purchased Properties	55
Havelock Road (O.A.P.)	18
	1,335

Under construction :—

Bromley Park (O.A.P.)	78
Blyth Road Flats	66

Schemes being prepared :—

Martins Road (Re-development)	60
Palace Road (Re-development)	6
Wharton Road (Re-development)	21
Nichol Lane (Re-development)	15
Weston Grove & Weston Road (Re-development)	28
Springfield Site	28
Clarence Road	16

TEMPORARY HOUSING:

	Properties.	Units.	Occupied.
Prefabricated bungalows	321	321	321
Requisitioned properties available for occupation	226	512	512
Half-way houses and camps	6	59	59
	553	892	892

Lettings during 1955.

1. (a) No. of permanent houses occupied during 1955:—			
Re-let			73
New Properties			38
			111
(b) No. of families accommodated in permanent houses during 1955			111
(c) No. of persons accommodated in permanent houses during 1955			309
2. No. of premises de-requisitioned during 1955			50
3. No. of families on waiting list as at 31st December, 1955:—			
Medical category			9
General category			711
O.A.P.			215
			935
		Total on waiting list	935

In addition to the above 245 housing units were erected by private enterprise during the year 1955.

Moveable Dwellings.

During the year the Council granted 3 licences, embracing a total of 26 caravans.

The Sanitary Inspectors made a total of 110 visits of inspection to the sites and no nuisances were found.

SECTION E

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

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INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

This service continued to receive the special attention of the Department during the year and in addition to the 452 visits made in connection with food sampling, the Sanitary Inspectors made 4,981 inspections and re-inspections of food premises. Two hundred and seventy-eight defects were noted and a total of 350 defects remedied during the year—this includes those noted in 1954 and remedied during 1955.

Talks were given during the year to various organisations and associations and to people engaged in the handling of food on clean food practices. The co-operation of the shopkeepers, restaurant owners, etc., and the personnel engaged in the preparation and handling of food has been all that could be desired.

No formal action was taken by the Council, during the year 1955, under the Byelaws adopted under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

FOOD SAMPLING—FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Article	Samples taken.			Result.		Adult- erated.	Remarks
	Formal.	Informal.	Genuine.	Superior.	Inferior.		
Apples	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Banana Whip	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Bean & Pork Sausages in tomato sauce	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Biscuits (Cheese Sandwich)	—	2	2	—	—	—	
Biscuits (Mint Cream)	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Blackcurrant flavoured cordial	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Butter	—	7	7	—	—	—	
Butter Brazils	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Butter Drops	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Butter Flakes	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Butter Mints	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Butterscotch	—	2	1	1	—	—	See (a)
Butter Toffees	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Buttered Macaroons	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Cake Flour	—	1	—	1	—	—	See (b)
Candied Peel	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Celery Seed	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Cereal (strained creamed)	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Cheese Pops	—	1	—	1	—	—	See (c)
Cheese (Processed)	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Cheese Spread	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Chocolate Drink	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Chocolate Mints	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Chocolate Mousse	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Christmas Pudding	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Coffee (Pure)	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Condiment (Non-brewed)	—	2	2	—	—	—	
Cooking Fat	—	1	1	—	—	—	

Article	Samples taken.		Result.		Adult- erated.	Remarks
	Formal.	Informal.	Genuine.	Inferior.		
Cottage Cheese	—	1	1	—	—	
Cough Candy	—	1	1	—	—	
Cream	—	2	2	—	—	
Cream (Double)	—	5	5	—	—	
Cream (Single)	—	1	1	—	—	
Cream (Pure Danish)	—	1	1	—	—	
Cream (Pure Devon)	—	1	1	—	—	
Cream (Pure Fresh)	—	1	1	—	—	
Cream (Pure Sterilized)	—	3	3	—	—	
Cream (Sterilized)	—	1	1	—	—	
Cream (Danish Sterilized)	—	1	1	—	—	
Creamed Bon Bons	—	1	1	—	—	
Creamed Rice	—	2	2	—	—	
Currants	—	4	4	—	—	
Custard Powder	—	1	1	—	—	
Dessert Powder	—	1	1	—	—	
Figs (Black-Spanish)	—	1	1	—	—	
Fish Cakes	—	1	1	—	—	
Fish Fingers	—	1	1	—	—	
Fondants	—	1	1	—	—	
Fruit Pie (Blackcurrant)	—	2	2	—	—	
Fruited Jiffi-Jelli	—	1	1	—	—	
Garden Mint in Vinegar	—	1	1	—	—	
Garden Peas (Canned)	—	1	1	—	—	
Gelatine (Granulated)	—	2	2	—	—	
Ginger (Stone Milled)	—	1	1	—	—	
Gluko Lemon Barley Powder	—	1	1	—	—	
Grape Fruit	—	4	4	—	—	
Ground Cinnamon	—	1	1	—	—	
Ground Nut Oil	—	1	1	—	—	
Holland Liqueur Flavoured Filled Chocolate Bottles	—	1	1	—	—	
Honey Cake (Dutch)	—	1	1	—	—	
Ice Cream (Loose)	—	1	1	—	—	
Ice Cream (Choc. Pre-packed)	—	2	2	—	—	
Ice Cream (Pre-packed)	—	19	15	2	—	See (d)
Ice Lolly	—	5	5	—	—	
Jam (Bramble Jelly)	—	1	1	—	—	
Jam (Cherry)	—	1	1	—	—	
Jam (Strawberry & Gooseberry)	—	1	1	—	—	
Jelly	—	1	1	—	—	
Juice of Real Lemon	—	1	1	—	—	
Lacta Choc.	—	1	1	—	—	
Lard	—	2	2	—	—	
Lemon Flavouring	—	1	1	—	—	
Lemonade Powder	—	1	1	—	—	
Lemons	—	6	6	—	—	
Liquid Paraffin	—	3	3	—	—	
Luncheon Meat	—	2	—	2	—	See (e)
Margarine	—	5	5	—	—	
Margarine (Kosher)	—	1	1	—	—	
Marzipan	—	2	2	—	—	
Marzipan Selections	—	2	1	1	—	See (f)
Meat Pudding (Canned)	—	1	1	—	—	
Meringue Powder	—	1	1	—	—	
Milk (Pasteurised)	—	12	11	1	—	See (g)
Milk (Pasteurised Homogenised)	—	3	3	—	—	

Article	Samples taken.			Result.		Adult- erated.	Remarks
	Formal.	Informal.	Genuine.	Inferior.			
Milk (Channel Islands Past.)	—	2	2	—	—		
Milk (South Devon Pasteurised)	—	2	2	—	—		
Milk (T.T. Pasteurised)	—	11	11	—	—		
Milk (Channel Islands T.T. Past.)	1	1	1	—	—	1	See (h)
Milk (Tuberculin Tested)	—	1	1	—	—		
Milk (T.T. Farm Bottled)	1	—	1	—	—		
Milk (T.T. Farm Bottled C.I.)	—	1	1	—	—		
Milk (Sterilized)	—	3	3	—	—		
Milk (Yoghourt)	—	2	2	—	—		
Milk (Condensed Full Cream)....	—	11	9	2	—	—	See (i)
Milk (Evaporated)	—	2	2	—	—		
Mustard (French)	—	1	1	—	—		
Mustard (German)	—	1	1	—	—		
Navy Brazils	—	1	1	—	—		
Oranges	—	8	8	—	—		
Orange Drink (Fresh)	—	1	—	1	—	—	See (i)
Orange Squash	—	1	1	—	—		
Orchard Fruits	—	1	1	—	—		
Pepper (Ground White)	—	1	1	—	—		
Pepper Flavoured Compound	—	1	1	—	—		
Pickling Spice	—	1	1	—	—		
Pineapple Slices	—	1	1	—	—		
Pomegranates	—	1	1	—	—		
Pork & Vegetables	—	1	1	—	—		
Potato Puffs	—	1	1	—	—		
Rainbow Cream Cups	—	1	1	—	—		
Raisins	—	2	2	—	—		
Raspberry Tines	—	1	1	—	—		
Sausage Meat (Beef)	—	1	1	—	—		
Sausages (Beef)	—	8	8	—	—		
Sausages (Beef Chipolata)	—	1	1	—	—		
Sausages (Cambridge Chipolata)	—	1	1	—	—		
Sausages (Pork)	—	21	18	3	—	—	See (k)
Sausages (Pork Chipolata)	—	5	4	1	—	—	See (l)
Sausages (Pork & Beef Mixed)	—	1	1	—	—		
Sausages (Pork & Veal Chipolata)	—	1	1	—	—		
Sherbert Fountain	—	1	1	—	—		
Shredded Suet	—	2	2	—	—		
Soft Drink Tablets	—	1	1	—	—		
Soup	—	1	1	—	—		
Soup (Clear Beef)	—	1	1	—	—		
Soup (Condensed Tomato)	—	1	1	—	—		
Soup (Cream of Celery)	—	1	1	—	—		
Soup (Cream of Chicken)	—	2	2	—	—		
Soup (Cream of Tomato)	—	2	1	1	—	—	See (m)
Soup (Dessicated Brown)	—	1	1	—	—		
Soup (Kidney)	—	1	1	—	—		
Soup (Oxtail Flavour)	—	1	1	—	—		
Spaghetti in Tomato Sauce	—	1	1	—	—		
Spreading Cheese	—	1	—	1	—	—	See (n)
Stewed Steak	—	1	1	—	—		
Stuffed Pork & Meat Roll	—	1	1	—	—		
Sultanas	—	3	3	—	—		
Sweet Lollies	—	1	1	—	—		
Tea	—	1	1	—	—		
Tea Cake Mixture	—	1	—	1	—	—	See (o)
Tenderising Salt	—	1	1	—	—		

Article	Samples taken.		Result.		Adult- erated.	Remarks
	Formal.	Informal.	Genuine.	Inferior.		
Toffees (Mix. Choc. Cream Line)	—	1	1	—	—	
Tomato Puree	—	1	1	—	—	
Tomatoes	—	1	1	—	—	
Treacle Toffee	—	1	1	—	—	
Vinegar (Malt)	—	5	5	—	—	
Totals	2	295	275	19	1	

- (a) Inferior—Sample contained Fat 11.9% (Butter 3.7%). Slightly below Code of Practice in butter fat.
- (b) Inferior—Sugar 25.5%, Avail. C.O.2 0.35. Dried Egg 2.5%. Sugar according to recent Code of Practice should be at least 30%.
- (c) Inferior—Fat 23.0% (Not more than 0.13% butter fat). Protein 11.0%. Salt 3.4%. So little cheese (probably not more than 0.5%) as not to justify the name.
- (d) Two samples not analysed due to loss in transit.
Inferior—Sample No. 723. Fat 13.8% including no material amount of butter fat. Total solids 41.25%. Sucrose 13.5%. Milk solids 13.7%. Canadian Ice Cream contains at least 10% butter fat.
Sample No. 886. Fat 10.6%. Total solids 37.1%. Sugar (Sucrose) 14.0%. N.F.M.S. 11.5%. Contained substantially no butter fat.
- (e) Inferior—Sample No. 808. Fat 23.0%, lean 45%. Total meat 68%. Low compared with the requirements of 80% in the defunct Meat Products Order.
Sample No. 876. Fat 21%, lean 41%. Total meat 62%. (Defunct Meat Products Order required 80%).
- (f) Inferior—Fat 11.5%, protein 4.98%, Almond content 21%. (Minimum of 25% Almond is expected).
- (g) Inferior—Sample No. 777. Fat 2.85%, S.N.F. 8.6%. B.U. 1.6 Group 1. Methylene Blue Test—Pass. Deficient 5% minimum amount of fat.
- (h) Adulterated—Fat 3.4%, Solids not fat 8.9%. B.U. 1.9 Group 1. Methylene Blue Test—Passed. Deficient 15% minimum amount of fat.
- (i) Inferior—Sample No. 891. Contained 6 small mould buttons and slight deposition of lactose.
Sample No. 894. Can and contents normal except for two small mould buttons.
- (j) Inferior—Total solids 11.05%. Sol. Solids 10.6%. Acidity (= Citric) 0.29%. Vitamin C. 0.88 mg/100 ml. *Not fresh*.
- (k) Inferior—Sample No. 634. Fat 27%, Lean 45%. Total meat 72%. Sulphite 75 p.p.m. (not declared).
Sample No. 756. Fat 26%, Lean 35%. Total meat 61%. S.O.2. 70 p.p.m. Below former standard.
Sample No. 831. Fat 30%, Lean 32%. Total meat 62%. Sulphite 240 p.p.m. Slightly low in meat.
- (l) Inferior—Sample No. 708. Fat 36%, Lean 28%. Total meat 64%. Fat exceeds lean. Sulphite 230 p.p.m.
- (m) Inferior—Does not comply with Code of Practice "Dried Milk" as labelled, should be "Dried Skim Milk." Fat 3.0% (containing no butter fat). Total solids 13.7%. Tomato solids 3.3%.

- (n) Inferior—Fat 25.7%. Moisture 48.5%. Salt 1.2%. Original milk about 3.0% fat. Excessive moisture.
- (o) Inferior—Sugar 40.0%. Avail. C.O.2. 0.2%. Musty and contained mites.

SPECIAL ENQUIRIES.

During the year 53 samples of the undermentioned foodstuffs were submitted for bacteriological examination as a result of routine inspections and investigations into complaints made to the department, and enquiries associated with infectious diseases and reported food upsets :—

Beef & Tongue Paste	Milk (Pasteurised)
Bovine Lungs	Milk (T.T. Pasteurised)
Calf Liver	Milk (T.T. Farm Bottled)
Chinese Egg Albumen	Milk Chocolate Cocoa-nut Squares
Condensed Milk	Mixed Vegetables
(Machine Skimmed Sweetened).	Pineapple Juice
Danish Cream	Pork Chipolatas
Egg Powder	Rolled Oats
Egg (Frozen Whole)	Solid Cream
Egg (Frozen Liquid).	Sterilized Cream
Gland of Pig	Synthetic Cream
Ice Cream (Pre-packed)	Stuffed Roast Pork
Ice Lolly	Water (Drinking)
Malt Loaf	Water (Spring)
Milk Bottles (Empty)	

Of these samples, 40 were satisfactory and 13 unsatisfactory.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Section 14.

Two hundred and sixty-five shops and food premises have been registered under the above Act, as follow :—

	Manufacture, Sale or Storage of Ice Cream.	Preparation and Manufacture of Preserved Foods etc.
Bakers and Caterers	6	—
Butchers' Shops	—	44
Cinemas	1	—
Clubs	2	—
Confectioners, Tobacconists, etc.	99	—
Dairies/Grocers	10	—
Fish Shops (Wet)	2	—
Fish Shops (Fried)	—	9
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	10	—
General Stores	6	—
Grocery and Provisions	32	17
Ice Cream Stores	2	—
Public Houses	1	—
Restaurants, Cafes, Snack Bars, etc.	24	—
	195	70

Two premises are registered for storage and distribution, 1 for the manufacture of, and 192 for the sale of ice cream.

Seventy premises are registered for the preparation or manufacture of Preserved Foods, etc.

Food Premises.

There are some 611 food premises in the area, as under :—

54	Butchers.
35	Bakers and Confectioners.
90	Confectioners.
15	Dairies.
24	Fishmongers, Wet, Dried and Fried.
50	Greengrocers.
110	Grocers.
53	Restaurants, Cafes, etc.
34	School Canteens.
33	Industrial Canteens.
21	Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Old People's Homes.
33	Public Houses.
13	Off Licences.
21	Chemists.
25	Clubs and Hotels.

611

UN SOUND FOOD.

During the year a total of 6 tons 4 cwts. 2 qtrs. 26 lbs. of varied articles of food were condemned, and 1,160 Food Condemnation Certificates issued.

The main items were :—

Fish (Canned)	....	213 lbs.
Fish (Fresh)	....	607 lbs.
Flour	....	140 lbs.
Fruit (Canned)	....	1,021 lbs.
Fruit Juice	....	71 lbs.
Jams and Marmalade	....	185 lbs.
Meat (Raw) and Bacon	....	8,059 lbs.
Meat (Canned)	....	1,370 lbs.
Milk (Canned)	....	264 lbs.
Poultry	....	380 lbs.
Poultry (Canned)	....	72 lbs.
Soups	....	98 lbs.
Vegetables (Canned)	....	1,127 lbs.
Whale Beef	....	69 lbs.

The figures for the year 1954 were 11 tons 19 lbs. of foodstuffs condemned, and 1,062 Condemnation Certificates issued.

There was no consignment of food especially examined during the year.

Unsound food is normally returned through the Trade, utilised for manufacturing purposes or animal food, or, where this is impracticable, destroyed.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS.

Fourteen Dairies have been registered under the above Regulations, and licences for the year 1955 were issued as under :—

Dealers' (Pasteurisers') Licence	....	....	....	1
Dealers' Licences :—				
" Pasteurised " Milk	....	....	....	14
" Sterilised " Milk	....	....	....	32
" Tuberculin Tested " Milk	....	....	....	14
Supplementary Licences :—				
" Pasteurised " Milk	....	....	....	14
" Sterilised " Milk	....	....	....	16
" Tuberculin Tested " Milk	....	....	....	14

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Milk.

No. of Samples taken.	Description.	Result	
		Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory
107	Designated Milk	107	—
18	Washed Bottles	18	—
—	—	—	—
125	—	125	—
—	—	—	—

Ice Cream.

No. of Samples Taken	Description	Satis. Unsatis.		Methylene Blue Group			
				I.	II.	III.	IV
12	Ice Cream (Loose)	12	—	9	1	1	1
26	Ice Cream (Pre-packed)	26	—	24	2	—	—
4	Ice Cream (Choc.)	4	—	4	—	—	—
9	Ice Lollies	8*	—	8	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
51	—	50	—	45	3	1	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* One sample unsuitable for test. More acid than pH4.

Twenty-five samples were submitted for Chemical examination, the lowest fat content being 4.15% (Ice Lolly containing Ice Cream), and the highest 18.9%.

The following tabulation shows the results obtained in respect of the 997 samples examined from 1st May, 1947, to 31st December, 1955.

The standard of ice cream remains at a high level, and in no instance have pathogenic organisms been cultivated in any sample examined since the inception of the tests in 1947.

Year	Grade I		Grade II		Grade III		Grade IV		Total
	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of
	Samples		Samples		Samples		Samples		Samples
1947	13	17.8	18	24.6	17	23.3	25	34.3	73
1948	46	40.0	24	20.9	19	16.5	26	22.6	115
1949	108	53.0	52	25.5	28	13.7	16	7.8	204
1950	97	50.5	41	21.4	39	20.3	15	7.8	192
1951	110	84.0	11	8.4	8	6.1	2	1.5	131
1952	79	77.5	14	13.7	6	5.9	3	2.9	102
1953	72	74.2	15	15.5	10	10.3	—	—	97
1954	36	94.7	2	5.3	—	—	—	—	38
1955	45	90.0	3	6.0	1	2.0	1	2.0	50

MEAT INSPECTION.

Annual licences were granted to 5 slaughtermen during 1955, and the licence of one private slaughterhouse was also renewed during the year.

The following table gives details of the ante and post-mortem inspection of animals made during 1955 :—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	74	2	52	441	170
Number inspected	74	2	52	441	170
<i>All diseases except tuberculosis:</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	28	2	1	13	12
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	37.8	100	1.9	2.9	7.1
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926.

Two hundred and forty-seven visits were made to premises and 10 contraventions were observed and remedied. No statutory action was taken. All the Sanitary Inspectors are appointed officers for the purpose of the above Act.

The main object of the Act is to ensure that certain imported foodstuffs offered or exposed for sale must bear an indication of origin in accordance with the requirements of the Order made thereunder.

The contraventions mentioned above refer to the exposure for sale of imported tomatoes not suitably marked. The Tomato and Cucumber Marketing Board have appointed area officers whose advice may be sought if there is a flagrant non-compliance with the statutory provisions concerning tomatoes.

GAME ACT, 1831.

Seventeen licences were issued during the year for dealers in Game to use premises in the district.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

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PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

GENERAL.

A total of 1,033 cases of infectious diseases (excluding tuberculosis) were notified, as against 624 during 1954, and this state of affairs was largely brought about by the considerable increase in the incidence of measles during the year under discussion. Although the number of cases of this disease was large, the vast majority of them were uncomplicated and did not give rise to any undue alarm.

Compared with some other places in the country, we must be considered fortunate to have had only 14 confirmed cases of infantile paralysis, of which only 5 were paralytic, but, unfortunately, there was 1 death. In addition, 11 further cases were notified but on investigation none of these could be confirmed. There was, therefore a total of 25 cases under suspicion during the course of the year.

One hundred and twenty-four cases of Whooping Cough, 51 of Scarlet Fever, 14 of Dysentery and 4 of Food Poisoning came to light during the year and these, in conjunction with the cases of measles and infantile paralysis, accounted for most of the infectious disease notifications received during 1955; but statistical details of notifiable infectious diseases will be found in Tables V and VI in the Appendix.

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS.

The first case of this disease to occur arose in the spring and was the only one which eventually proved fatal. No further notifications were received until July and this case was not confirmed, but towards the end of August notifications were being received fairly regularly until the end of October, after which there was a lull throughout November. In December an unexpected development was the notification of a further 4 cases, 3 of which were confirmed.

Further analysing these cases, we find that 3 of the 5 paralytic ones were of the Bulbar type, that 9 cases were non-paralytic, and that of the total of 25 notifications received during the year, 11 eventually proved to be other illnesses.

An unusually high percentage of the paralytic cases were bulbar in type, but from what I can glean from various sources, this seems to have been a fairly general experience throughout the country during the recent outbreak.

Exclusion of contacts, except in the case of school children, is not a routine automatic procedure and a number of rather difficult decisions on the necessity or otherwise for this action had to be

made during the year, especially in view of the number of cases arising which were often the subject of quite considerable delay before a definite diagnosis of acute poliomyelitis could be confirmed.

There is one other feature of this disease to which attention should be drawn, and that is, that only 6 of the 14 confirmed cases referred to children of school age. Of the remaining 8, 4 were adults and 4 under school age. This tends to confirm a national tendency for the disease to attack the adult to a greater extent and therefore to make the designation of "infantile paralysis" somewhat of a misnomer.

DIPHTHERIA.

For the fifth year in succession, no case occurred in the Borough, and the continued very low incidence of this disease in the country as a whole is one of the major triumphs of preventive medicine.

The present position with regard to immunisation against this disease is summarised in the following figures which have been supplied by the County Medical Officer.

Of the children resident in the area who were born since 1941, a total of 649 received primary inoculations and 1,046 received reinforcing inoculations during 1955.

A total of 10,173 children under the age of 15 years have completed a course of immunisation at some time prior to 31st December, 1955.

DYSENTERY.

This disease continues to be endemic and although generally of a mild type 3 cases out of the 14 notified were sufficiently bad to necessitate admission to hospital.

FOOD POISONING.

Only 4 cases of food poisoning were notified during the year and in 3 of them the causative organism was discovered. On paper these figures are very good, but the fact remains that one must admit there is no justification for complacency. It is inevitable that a considerable number of such cases will never come to the notice of a medical practitioner and it is, therefore, necessary to state that the actual number of cases occurring probably bears little relation to the number notified. It appears very desirable to draw attention to this point in order to encourage the highest possible standard of kitchen hygiene in all walks of life, otherwise, with so few "official" cases to report, there might be a tendency to minimise the importance of those very vital operations.

MEASLES.

The year 1955 produced a large epidemic of measles and in Bromley 760 cases were notified, but it is a commentary on the

mildness of the condition that only 2 of these cases necessitated hospital admission. In the previous year 209 cases were notified but most of these occurred at the end of the year and were part of the same epidemic. It is highly probable that the number of actual cases was greater than this, but as always occurs when an infection is mild, a certain number of cases never receive any medical attention and so miss being notified.

No death from the disease occurred in the area.

PNEUMONIA.

During the year 23 cases were notified, a drop of 8 compared with the previous year.

There were 44 deaths from pneumonia. This figure includes people who died in other areas, but who are normally resident in the Borough.

SCARLET FEVER.

Scarlet Fever continues to be a mild infection with the occasional severe case cropping up for no apparent reason. There is little doubt that, generally speaking, the disease has so lost its terrors, that there must be quite a number of missed cases. Every year there must be people who get sore throats with rashes so slight and trivial that the latter are not even noticed and it is well to remember that an attack of tonsillitis without a rash can often be a much more serious illness than the modern type of scarlet fever.

During the year, 51 cases were notified, of which only 6 had to be removed to hospital. In the previous year 60 cases were notified so the overall position differed very little between the two years.

There were no "return" cases, and no deaths notified.

SMALLPOX.

The continued absence of this disease is a cause for congratulation and thankfulness, but we have to be constantly on our guard against its importation with the ever increasing speed of travel between different parts of the world. During the course of the year several suspected contacts of cases in other parts of the world came under the supervision of the department, but in no case did anything develop.

There is also a steady call on the department to stamp and sign International Certificates of Vaccination, which are not valid until so countersigned.

Every year re-vaccination is offered to all members of the staff of the Health Department.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following figures showing the current position with regard to vaccination in Bromley.

A total of 573 residents received Primary vaccination and 106 Re-vaccination during 1955.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following are details of the recordings in the Register for the year ended 31st December, 1955 :—

	Respiratory.		Other forms.		Total number of cases.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
On Register at 1/1/55	435	359	46	58	898
New cases notified during 1955	27	19	—	2	48
Number of cases coming to knowledge after death	1	1	—	—	2
Restored to Register	—	1	—	—	1
Inward Transfers	15	23	—	—	38
	478	403	46	60	987
Deletions, deaths, removals, recoveries, etc.	24	19	—	2	45
Number of cases on Register at 31st December, 1955	454	384	46	58	942

New Cases and Mortality, 1955 :—

Age groups	New cases notified or otherwise revealed. (Not including Inward Transfers.)*				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—44 ...	16	15	—	2	—	—	—	—
45—64 ...	9	3	—	—	3	—	—	—
65 and over	3	3	—	—	1	1	—	—
	28	21	—	2	4	1	—	—
*Inward Transfers	15	23	—	—				
Totals ...	43	44	—	2				

With the ever increasing ease and certainty with which pulmonary tuberculosis is diagnosed, it is encouraging to record a fairly steady decline in the number of new cases being notified year by year.

As will be seen from the above table, newly diagnosed cases in the area during 1955 numbered 51, which compares with 48 in 1954, 69 in 1953, and 83 in 1952. That we should get such a decline over such a comparatively short period is a very healthy sign and, taking into consideration the fact that modern diagnostic facilities tend to make the disease discovered at an earlier stage than formerly, augurs well for the future. As a general rule it can be said that the earlier a case is recognised, the shorter the period of treatment, with a corresponding reduction in the period of possible infectivity to others.

MASS X-RAY.

A very close and satisfactory liaison exists between this department and Dr. J. M. Morgan, the Director of the Mass X-Ray Unit of the South Eastern Regional Hospital Board, which operates from time to time in this area, and I am very grateful to him and his staff especially for supplying me with the statistics upon which the following information is based.

During the year, 8,811 people were x-rayed, of whom 5,778 were women, and of the grand total as many as 4,170 had previously taken advantage of this service.

Of the 180 abnormalities discovered, 90 required no action, and 41 were considered tuberculous. Of this latter group, 19 required treatment, 18 needed occasional supervision only, and the remaining 4 are still under investigation. The rest of the 180 consisted of non-tuberculous chest conditions, cardiac abnormalities and a few previously known tuberculous cases.

Whilst these figures show that there would appear to be some 4,170 persons who have recognised the value of regular examination of this type, there were only 4,641 new converts, and it is safe to say that a much higher percentage of people will have to be encouraged to co-operate with this service if we are to succeed in our aim of the eventual elimination of the scourge of tuberculosis from our midst.

For information, the number x-rayed at previous visits of the unit were :—

Year.	Number.
1951	6,970
1953	5,577

CHEST CLINIC.

Dr. D. G. Madigan, Physician in charge, has kindly furnished the following details :—

New cases attending Chest Clinic for the first time during 1955 :—

	Adults.		Children.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	41	26	1	—
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	1	—	—
Non-Tuberculous	34	53	7	9

New Contacts examined during 1955.

Negative.		Positive.	
M.	F.	M.	F.
95	130	—	1

(These contact figures are not included in the first table.)

B.C.G. Vaccination of contacts : 99.

Number of patients who completed a course of sanatorium or hospital treatment during 1955 : 58.

BROMLEY TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE

I am indebted to the Secretary of the above Committee for the following report in respect of the year 1955.

During the year approximately 69 visits were made by our Liaison Officer to tuberculous patients and their families in the area. These visits were made with a view to ascertaining what assistance was urgently required.

Each month the Liaison Officer reports to the Care Committee who, after giving full consideration to the case, decide the assistance to be given not only to the tuberculous patient, but also to the household which has been exposed to the risk of tuberculosis.

Again this year help has been given in the payment of coal bills, provision of extra nourishment, clothing, blankets and bedding, fares for visits by relatives to patients in Sanatoria, holidays both in this country and, in a few instances, abroad.

Recently rehabilitation has been encouraged to provide an interest for patients and to equip them for suitable employment on their recovery.

To sum up, it is the Care Committee's earnest desire not only to provide, where possible, for the physical needs of the patients, but also to relieve their minds of any anxieties associated with their homes and families.

TYPHOID FEVER.

One solitary case of para-typhoid fever was notified during the year and this was imported by a recent arrival by air from the Far East. The case was treated in hospital and made a good recovery.

WHOOPING COUGH.

This is another of those diseases which at least temporarily, and one hopes permanently, has lost a great deal of its former virulence. Of 124 cases notified, only 1 had to be treated in hospital.

There was a large drop in the incidence of this disease compared with the previous year when 251 cases were notified but, once again, this is a condition in which one does not expect to get one hundred per cent notification as it is often so mild that it is either missed altogether or else diagnosis is so difficult that a firm decision is never reached.

No death from this disease occurred in the area during the year.

OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

In addition to those previously mentioned, notifications were received as under :—

Erysipelas 9 cases (2 were removed to hospital).

Puerperal Pyrexia 33 cases (all of these occurred in hospitals).

APPENDIX

STATISTICAL TABLES.

STATISTICAL TABLES, 1955.

TABLE I.—Summary of Statistics.

TABLE II.—Causes of Death.

TABLE III.—Infant Mortality.

TABLE IV.—Analysis of Causes of Infant Deaths.

TABLE V.—Notifiable Infectious Diseases—Ward Distribution.
Attack and Mortality Rates.

TABLE VI.—Notifiable Infectious Diseases—Seasonal Incidence.

TABLE VII.—Summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspectors.

TABLE VIII.—Nuisances, Defects and Contraventions Abated.

TABLE I.

Summary of Statistics, 1955.

Population (mid-year 1955, per Registrar General)	64,780
Birth Rate (crude)	12·7
Death Rate (crude)	11·4
Maternal Mortality Rate	Nil
Infant Mortality Rate	31·6
Number of Births (Live)	823
Number of Stillbirths	11
Number of Deaths	741
Number of Maternal Deaths	Nil
Number of Infant Deaths (under 1 year)	26
Death Rates:—Respiratory Diseases	1·5
Tuberculosis	0·08
Cancer (all forms)	1·84
Cancer of the Lung	0·39
Zymotic Diseases	0·03
Notifications of Infectious Diseases:	
Diphtheria	Nil
Dysentery	14
Erysipelas	9
Food Poisoning	4
Measles	760
Pneumonia (all forms)	23
Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	5
Poliomyelitis (non-paralytic)	9
Puerperal Pyrexia	33
Scarlet Fever	51
Tuberculosis (new cases and including inward transfers)	86
Typhoid and Para-Typhoid Fever	1
Whooping Cough ...	124
Number of Deaths from Infectious Diseases	2
" " " " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil
Number of visits made by Sanitary Inspectors	12,446

TABLE II.

Causes of Death.

		1951	1952	1953	1954	1955		
						Male	Female	Total
1.	Tuberculosis—Respiratory	18	11	8	7	4	1	5
2.	„ Other	2	—	1	1	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic diseases	6	3	1	4	1	—	1
4.	Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal Infections	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
8.	Measles	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	3	1	1	2	1	—	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	21	24	21	12	6	10	16
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	22	14	29	28	19	6	25
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	12	11	20	18	—	13	13
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	8	3	6	6	—	4	4
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	65	62	78	65	28	33	61
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	2	4	3	9	2	4	6
16.	Diabetes	6	3	7	4	1	4	5
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	84	102	86	94	43	70	113
18.	Coronary disease, angina	80	104	116	125	63	49	112
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	38	13	16	18	4	8	12
20.	Other heart disease	133	143	102	103	32	75	107
21.	Other circulatory diseases	24	44	25	41	15	26	41
22.	Influenza	7	—	7	1	—	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	31	30	22	34	16	28	44
24.	Bronchitis	40	39	30	28	25	14	39
25.	Other diseases of the respiratory system	11	6	7	9	3	3	6
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	13	9	4	11	6	2	8
27.	Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	2	1	4	3	—	4	4
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	4	5	7	4	3	2	5
29.	Hypertrophy of prostate	8	11	3	11	7	—	7
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	6	10	7	5	2	5	7
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	59	47	62	65	42	38	80
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	7	5	5	5	4	—	4
34.	All other accidents	15	8	8	7	4	3	7
35.	Suicide	6	6	5	7	5	2	7
36.	Homicide and operations of war	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
All causes		735	720	692	727	336	405	741

TABLE III. Infantile Mortality, 1955.
(Compiled locally from Registrar's Death Returns)

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under 1 Week	1 and under 2 Weeks	2 and under 3 Weeks	3 and under 4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	1 month and under 3 Months	3 months and under 6 Months	6 Months and under 9 Months	9 Months and under 12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Acute Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Broncho-Pneumonia...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	4
Gastro-enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malformation... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prematurity	8	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	8
Other Causes	9	1	2	—	12	—	1	—	—	13
Totals	17	1	2	—	20	1	3	1	1	26

TABLE IV.

Analysis of Causes of Infant Deaths.
1946-1955.

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	Total
No. of Births (live)...	1,176	1,308	1,042	1,030	892	916	908	880	824	823	9,799
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births) ...	26.3	19.11	20.15	15.5	21.3	12.0	22.0	14.8	20.6	31.6	20.3
Malformation ...	3	13	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	17
Prematurity ...	14	5	6	3	5	3	3	5	8	8	60
Respiratory Diseases	4	5	2	1	4	2	7	2	4	5	36
Infectious Diseases...	1	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	5
Gastro Enteritis ...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	5
Atelectasis ...	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	1	5	10
Congenital Heart Disease ...	—	—	—	3	4	—	5	1	—	3	16
Other Causes ...	9	2	12	4	5	3	4	2	4	5	50
Totals ...	31	25	21	16	19	11	20	13	17	26	199

TABLE V. Notifiable Infectious Diseases, 1955 Ward Distribution, Attack and Mortality Rate.

Disease	Total	WARDS							Cases removed to Hospital	Attack Rate per 1,000 population	No. of Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 population
		Plaistow	Martins Hill	Town	Sundridge	Bickley	Bromley Common	Keston and Hayes				
Scarlet Fever	51	4	2	2	5	5	20	13	6	0.79	—	—
Whooping Cough	124	9	9	3	12	16	28	47	1	1.91	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	5	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	5	0.08	1	0.015
" " (Non-Paralytic)	9	3	1	—	2	—	—	3	9	0.14	—	—
Measles	760	131	87	48	82	89	143	180	2	11.73	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	23	1	3	5	3	1	10	—	6	0.35‡	44	0.68
Dysentery	14	—	—	1	2	—	7	4	3	0.22	—	—
Erysipelas	9	—	1	—	—	2	6	—	2	0.14	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	33	—	—	32	—	—	1	—	32	39.57‡	—	—
Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fever	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	0.015	—	—
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) ...	87	18	8	10	7	8	19	17	17	1.34	5	0.08
" (Non-Pulmonary)	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	0.03	—	—
Food Poisoning	4	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	1	0.06	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	1122	167	112	101	119	122	236	265	87	17.32	50	0.77

‡ Includes Pneumonia (all forms).

§ Based on attack rate per 1,000 total births, and not population.

TABLE VI.
Notifiable Infectious Diseases, 1955—Seasonal Incidence.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mch.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever	3	4	12	6	7	8	3	—	2	3	2	1	51
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	89	156	141	216	67	54	27	7	2	—	—	1	760
Whooping Cough	30	26	22	11	11	6	4	13	—	—	—	1	124
Dysentery	1	—	—	6	1	—	4	1	—	—	—	1	14
Erysipelas	2	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	1	—	1	9
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all forms)	2	7	5	2	2	2	—	—	—	1	1	1	23
Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	8	—	—	3	14
Food Poisoning	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	1	4	2	8	1	4	—	3	1	3	3	33
Totals ...	130	196	184	244	98	73	43	23	18	6	6	12	1033

TABLE VII.

Summary of the Work of the Sanitary Inspectors for the year 1955.

TYPE OF INSPECTION.	On Com- plaint	Rou- tine	Re- Inspection	Total Visits	Nuis- ances Found
Housing—					
1. Inspection of District Regulations	1	18	10	29	2
2. For Nuisances	719	171	2,835	3,725	1,012
3. Overcrowding	20	80	24	124	4
4. Verminous Conditions	21	12	24	57	19
5. Dirty Conditions	15	12	20	47	6
6. Water Supply	2	1	1	4	1
7. Cesspools	1	2	2	5	1
8. Earth Closets	—	—	—	—	—
9. Privy Pails	—	1	—	1	1
10. Houses Let in Lodgings	1	—	1	2	3
11. Disinfestations	23	18	30	71	21
12. Noxious Accumulations	6	4	14	24	4
13. Other Accumulations	12	8	31	51	11
14. Housing Repairs & Rents Act	14	116	181	311	49
Totals ...	835	443	3,173	4,451	1,134
Infectious Diseases—					
1. Inquiry Visits (Nuisances found recorded in above table)	—	108	28	136	—
2. Disinfection Purposes	—	44	11	55	—
3. Smallpox Inquiries	—	7	10	17	—
4. Public Health (Aircraft) Regulations	—	—	—	—	—
5. Food Poisoning	5	20	19	44	—
Totals ...	5	179	68	252	—
Meat, Milk and Other Foods etc.—					
1. Butchers and Wholesale Depots	7	1,270	35	1,312	43
2. Confectionery	1	144	22	167	13
3. Dairies and Cowsheds (excl. Past. Plants)	1	52	2	55	—
4. Pasteurising Plants	—	56	—	56	—
5. Fish	3	229	7	239	1
6. Fried Fish	—	77	10	87	5
7. Food Hawkers	—	75	8	83	9
8. Fruit Greengrocery	—	241	20	261	13
9. Grocery	8	453	57	518	47
10. Ice Cream Shops	—	169	12	181	9
11. Meat Regulations (Special Visits)	—	13	—	13	—
12. Milk Examined on Highway	—	1	—	1	—
13. Retail Market	—	100	196	296	7
14. Slaughterhouses	1	107	1	109	—
15. Horseflesh Shops	—	72	—	72	—
16. Restaurants & Hotels	3	114	44	161	64
17. School Canteens & Others	5	39	9	53	9
18. Public Houses	1	12	12	25	3
19. Food Wholesaler	1	145	—	146	—
20. Clean Food Byelaws...	—	712	104	816	15
21. Hospital Food Store and Kitchen	1	2	4	7	—
22. Merchandise Marks Act	—	231	16	247	10
23. Food Preserving Premises	—	8	10	18	—
24. Bakehouses (other than Factory Act)	3	34	21	58	30
Totals ...	35	4,356	590	4,981	278
Factories, Outworkers, etc.—					
1. (i) Factories in which Sects. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Factories Act 1937 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	1	27	11	39	15
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies	6	78	65	149	42
Carried Forward ...	7	105	76	188	57

TABLE VII.

(Continued)

Type of Inspection	On Complaint	Routine	Re-Inspection	Total Visits	Nuisances Found
Brought Forward	7	105	76	188	57
Factories, Outworkers, etc. Contd.—					
(a) Subject to Local Authority (transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Others	—	4	4	8	—
2. Other Premises under the Act (excl. outworkers' premises, hotels, Restaurants, etc.)	1	37	23	61	12
3. Bakehouses (a) Mech. power	1	20	28	49	14
(b) Non-mech. power	—	—	—	—	—
4. Outworkers' premises	—	49	20	69	—
5. Smoke Abatement	8	35	20	63	4
6. Fireguards Act	—	33	7	40	9
Totals	17	283	178	478	96
Sampling of Food and Drugs, etc.—					
1. Milk : T.T. Certified	—	1	—	1	—
T.T. Pasteurised	1	26	—	27	—
Pasteurised	—	36	—	36	—
T.T. Bottled	—	4	—	4	—
Sterilised	—	5	—	5	—
Channel Islands T.T.	—	2	—	2	—
Pasteurised	—	—	—	—	—
2. Schools Milk (Pasteurised)	1	10	6	17	—
3. Pasteurising Plant:	—	16	—	16	—
T.T. Milk	—	22	—	22	—
Pasteurised	1	8	—	9	—
Washed Bottle	—	3	—	3	—
4. Tinned Milk	—	13	—	13	—
Condensed Milk	1	2	—	3	—
5. Dried Milk	—	56	—	56	—
6. Ice Cream	—	—	—	—	—
Ice Cream Mix.	1	9	—	10	—
7. Cream	14	151	19	184	—
8. Other Foods	1	3	4	8	—
9. Food Poisoning	4	20	—	24	—
10. Drinking Water	2	—	—	2	—
11. Water (Stream and Paddling Pool)	—	10	—	10	—
12. Rag Flock	—	—	—	—	—
13. Court Cases	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	26	397	29	452	—
Trade Premises—Various—					
1. Under Shops Act	15	159	95	269	93
2. Under Petroleum Acts	—	39	87	126	—
3. Registry Offices	2	34	9	45	7
4. Offices (P.H. Act 1936, Secs. 46 and 91)	—	—	—	—	—
5. Pet Animals Act	—	32	11	43	3
6. Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act	—	11	3	14	—
7. Merchandise Marks Act	—	30	3	33	2
8. Diseases of Animals Acts :	—	3	—	3	—
Movement Licences	—	—	—	—	—
Foot and Mouth Disease	—	—	—	—	—
Swine Fever	—	—	—	—	—
Fowl Pest	—	—	—	—	—
Anthrax	—	1	—	1	—
Other	—	20	—	20	—
Interviews	4	19	2	25	6
9. Piggeries, Cleansing	1	5	3	9	1
Sanitary Conditions	—	—	—	—	—
10. Stables :	—	9	1	10	—
Cleansing	—	5	1	6	—
Sanitary Conditions	4	4	2	10	2
11. Animals, Keeping of...	—	—	—	—	—
12. Poultry Farms	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	26	371	217	614	104

TABLE VII.

(Continued)

TYPE OF INSPECTION					On Com- plaint	Rou- tine	Re- Inspec- tion	Total Visits	Nuis- ances Found
Rodent Control—									
1. Trade Premises	...	...	...	...	11	135	42	188	14
2. Private Premises	...	...	...	...	26	22	19	67	9
3. Agricultural Premises	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
4. Sewers	...	...	...	...	3	1	—	4	—
Totals					40	158	61	259	23
Miscellaneous—									
1. Schools	...	...	...	...	3	10	13	26	2
2. Drain Tests: Smoke	...	...	...	...	5	14	2	21	2
Water	...	...	...	...	2	45	3	50	2
Colour	...	...	...	...	5	9	6	20	5
Chemical	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	1	—
Mirror	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
3. Swimming Baths: Visited	...	...	...	...	—	69	2	71	2
Samples taken	...	...	...	...	—	40	—	40	—
Chlorine & Ph. Test	...	...	...	...	—	168	—	168	—
4. Tents, Vans, Sheds, Caravans and Fairgrounds	...	...	...	...	—	109	1	110	—
5. Accumulations (other than dwellings)	...	...	...	...	6	17	54	77	14
6. Streams, Ponds and Watercourses...	...	...	...	...	4	41	9	54	5
7. Tips	...	...	...	...	1	5	6	12	2
8. Special Visits...	...	...	...	...	26	158	38	222	4
9. Public Houses—Urinals	...	...	...	...	1	42	18	61	7
10. Exhumations...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
11. Cinemas, Theatres etc.	...	...	...	...	1	7	18	26	7
Totals					55	734	170	959	52
Grand Totals					1,039	6,921	4,486	12,446	1,687

TABLE VIII.

**Nuisances, Defects, Contraventions, etc., Abated or
Remedied in 1955.**

HOUSING**Drainage—**

Premises re-drained and connected to sewer	...	...	...	...	—
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	...	—
Earth closets abolished	...	...	...	...	—
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	1
Privy pails, etc., abolished	...	...	...	...	—
Drains relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	77
Drains unstopped	...	...	...	...	143
New Covers to Inspection Chambers	...	...	...	...	1
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	...	14
Stopper provided to Interceptor	...	...	...	...	1
W.C.'s. provided (additional or separate)	...	...	...	...	6
„ buildings reconstructed	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ repaired	...	...	...	...	14
„ pans renewed	...	...	...	...	23
„ „ cleansed	...	...	...	...	6
„ box seats removed	...	...	...	...	2
„ seats repaired	...	...	...	...	—
Soil vent pipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	16
Sink/bath waste pipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	21
Sinks renewed	...	...	...	...	8
Lavatory basins renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Baths renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	11
					353

Dampness—

Roofs repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	112
R.w.p.'s, guttering, repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	98
Vertical Plinth provided	...	...	...	...	14
Walls rendered	...	...	...	...	41
Horizontal damp-course provided	...	...	...	...	12
Solutioning	...	...	...	...	5
Earth removed from walls	...	...	...	...	14
Walls repointed	...	...	...	...	31
Weather-board walls repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Sub-floor ventilation provided or improved	...	...	...	...	24
Dry areas constructed	...	...	...	...	4
Brickwork repaired	...	...	...	...	18
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	25
					401

Water Supply—

Drinking water service supplied direct from main	...	...	...	...	—
Fittings, etc. renewed	...	...	...	...	12
Separate or additional water supply provided	...	...	...	...	—
Supply reinstated	...	...	...	...	5
Flushing cisterns renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	23
Storage tanks	...	...	...	...	3
Boilers	„	„	„	...	—
					43

TABLE VIII.

(Continued)

General Items—

Rooms cleansed ...	79
W.C. walls cleansed ...	6
Entrance hall and staircase cleansed ...	8
Bathroom cleansed ...	1
Light and ventilation improved ...	2
Plastering repaired or renewed ...	206
Floors repaired or renewed ...	52
Windows, frames, etc. repaired or renewed ...	92
Sashcords repaired or renewed ...	44
Putty pointing repaired or renewed ...	11
Doors repaired or renewed ...	19
Stoves and grates repaired or renewed ...	17
Coppers repaired or renewed ...	2
Draining Board renewed ...	—
Iron Staircase renewed ...	—
Handrails repaired or renewed ...	5
Stairtreads repaired or renewed ...	10
Dustbins provided ...	87
Dirty conditions remedied ...	7
Overcrowding abated ...	—
Chimneys repaired ...	16
External woodwork repainted ...	6
Food stores provided ...	—
Food stores ventilated ...	—
Yard paving renewed, etc. ...	14
Houses disinfested ...	23
Accumulations removed ...	34
Fencing ...	1
Miscellaneous ...	32
	774

MEAT, MILK AND OTHER FOOD PREMISES—

Yard floors, repaired, etc. ...	12
Cleansed, lime-washed shops, rooms ...	92
Lighting/Ventilation improved ...	7
Drains improved ...	5
Manure or refuse removed ...	18
Refuse bins provided ...	32
Cold store or refrigerator improved ...	11
Water supply improved ...	8
Sinks provided ...	13
Washing facilities improved ...	27
Sanitary conveniences improved ...	22
Miscellaneous ...	103
	350

FACTORIES, OUTWORKERS, Etc.—

Want of Cleanliness (Sect. 1) ...	16
Overcrowding (Sect. 2) ...	—
Unreasonable temperature (Sect. 3) ...	—
Inadequate ventilation (Sect. 4) ...	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sect. 6) ...	1
Sanitary conveniences (Sect. 7):	
(a) Insufficient ...	6
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	54
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	1
Other offences ...	9
Outworkers' premises ...	—
Smoke nuisances ...	2
	89

TABLE VIII.

(Continued)

TRADE PREMISES—

Shops Act :

Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Temperature improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sanitary conveniences improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Absence of statutory forms	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Unsatisfactory Washing facilities remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Meals rest interval contraventions remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Seats for female workers provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Other offences or defects remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Petroleum Acts contraventions	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Registry Office contraventions	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Offices (P.H. Act, 1936, Sects. 46 and 91) contraventions...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Merchandise Marks Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
							132

RODENT CONTROL—

Trade premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	110
Private premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	414
Sewers (manholes)	...	...	...	...	...	...	177
Corporation property	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
							707

MISCELLANEOUS—

Diseases of Animals Acts:

Piggeries—Cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Piggeries—Sanitary Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stables—Cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Stables—Sanitary Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Animals, Keeping of	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Poultry Farms	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Drain tests:							—
Smoke	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Colour	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Swimming Baths—visited	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tents, Vans Sheds, Caravans and Fairgrounds	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Accumulations (other than dwellings)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Streams, Ponds and Watercourses	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Public Houses—Urinals	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cinemas, Theatres etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Fireguards Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	40

Grand Total 2,879

NOTICES ISSUED—

Preliminary :

Housing	...	...	...	...	...	587
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	119
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	23
Trade Premises	...	...	...	...	...	48
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	526
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	84
						1,387
Statutory—Housing...	...	...	...	...	...	1
						1,388

BOROUGH OF BROMLEY

COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION

ANNUAL REPORT

on the

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

for

1955

H. B. C. CARTER-LOCKE,
M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

January, 1956

EXCEPTED DISTRICT OF BROMLEY.

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Councillor G. W. Brown, M.B.E.	Mr. Leighton L. Irwin, M.A., LL.B., J.P.
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Councillor W. K. Curtis	Professor E. F. D. Witchell, B.Sc., F.C.G.I., M.I.Mech.E.
*Councillor A. D. Daysh	Mr. J. Davies
*Councillor M. L. Dempster (Mrs.)	Mr. G. J. Gully, C.B.E., J.P.
*Councillor H. F. Goodway	

(* Denotes members of Welfare Sub-Committee)

Officers of the Committee.

Borough Education Officer: H. T. Smith, M.A.
 Assistant Borough Education Officer: A. C. Cleveland.
 Education Welfare Officers: S. J. Mann and L. Saysell.

School Health Service.

		Proportion of time allocated to School Health Service	
MEDICAL OFFICERS.			
<i>Whole-time.</i>			
Medical Officer of Health	Dr. H. B. C. CARTER-LOCKE	25%	
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	Dr. A. J. I. KELYNACK	50%*	
Assistant Medical Officers	Dr. P. A. CURRIE	70%	
	Dr. C. MAXWELL	44%	
<i>Part-time.</i>			
Ophthalmic Surgeon	Dr. ERIC LYLE	3 sessions per week.	
Orthopædic Surgeon	Mr. K. F. HULBERT	2 sessions per month.	
DENTAL OFFICERS.			
	Mr. A. F. KING	Whole-time.	
	Mrs. C. MCKENZIE LINDSAY	Whole-time.	
<i>Part-time.</i>	Vacant	4 sessions per week.	
Clinic Assistants	Mrs. E. BROOKS	Whole-time.	
	Mrs. D. HARRIS	Whole-time.	
<i>Part-time.</i>	Vacant	4 sessions per week.	
HEALTH VISITORS AND SCHOOL NURSES.			
	Miss W. G. HEMMINGS	} 50%	
	Miss E. CHENERY		
	Miss K. OWENS		
	Miss E. HATCH		
	Miss M. E. WOOTTON		
	Mrs. V. GREIG		
	Mrs. N. M. TAYLOR		
<i>Part-time Officers.</i>			
Physiotherapists ..	Mrs. V. NORMAN	6 sessions per week.	
	Miss H. PAKES	6 sessions per week.	
Orthoptist	Miss J. LANGMEAD, B.D.O.	6 sessions per week.	
CLERICAL STAFF.			
Chief Clerk	Mr. S. F. JUDD	$\frac{1}{8}$	
	Mr. E. P. J. WYTHE	$\frac{1}{8}$	
	Mrs. D. COX	Whole-time.	
	Mrs. W. J. FOOT	$\frac{1}{8}$	
	Mrs. R. C. TYE	Whole time.	

* Includes duties in connection with Independent Schools.

To the Chairman and Members of the Welfare Sub-Committee
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In presenting my review of the School Health Service for 1955, it is my privilege to comment on a year of change, progress and great activity. Last year I had to apologise for the brevity of my letter; this year my apology will be for the opposite reason—a change which the reader may not consider an altogether unmixed blessing!

Early in the year a new Deputy Medical Officer of Health, in the person of Dr. A. J. I. Kelynack, joined the staff and very soon made his presence felt by the quality and thoroughness of his work. He quickly endeared himself to all with whom he came in contact and is now a well established member of the staff for whose valued work I am personally most grateful.

A most gratifying feature of the year's work has been the splendid understanding and co-operation which has existed between the educational and school health service staffs. They have all pulled their weight in the finest possible team spirit and have made a real contribution towards helping the up and coming generation to enjoy a fuller and a better life to the best possible advantage. During the year, two additional private schools and the new senior section of another school decided to take advantage of the scheme by which they are enabled to partake of the benefits of the school health services. This is a most encouraging sign and shows an increasing awareness of the value of this service, but should further private schools from time to time apply for these facilities and taking into consideration the projected programme of new maintained schools, one can foresee a staffing problem arising, as the medical staff are already working at full pressure. In this connection, it is interesting to note that in 1938 the school roll was only 5,520, but that by the year now under consideration this had risen to 9,284 with the addition of 2,521 pupils at independent schools, of whom well over half are now under the regular supervision of the school health service. Further, comparing 1938 with 1955, the following "profit and loss" table may be of some interest:

	1938	1955
Periodic Medical Inspections	1777	4515
Other Inspections	9355	1972
Children found to require treatment	321	479
Minor Ailments	2647	1317
Audiometer Examinations	Nil	1999

On analysing this table, one is immediately struck by the very large increase in the number of periodic medical inspections in 1955

compared with 1938. This, of course, is due to the great increase in the school population and the addition of a considerable number of children attending independent schools. On the other hand, there is a large decrease in the percentage of "other inspections" and this can be ascribed to the low incidence of cases requiring treatment, whether it be minor or otherwise.

During the course of the year, a pure tone audiometer was acquired and thus for the first time ever the results of the ensuing examinations are recorded in this report. Before going into any details of the results of our investigations, I must record my appreciation of the way in which the staff, both medical and clerical, have shouldered this considerable extra burden. Their keenness and enthusiasm have been a pleasure to see and redound to their credit greatly. I must here, however, issue a word of warning for it so happened that circumstances conspired in the form of a long term and comparatively small numbers requiring medical inspections during the Christmas term, to enable us to undertake this task, which only commenced in September, 1955, on such a large scale. It was because I could foresee that this particular term presented such a golden opportunity, which might well not be repeated for years, that I have pressed this new service to the utmost during the last quarter of the year and there seems no prospect of being able to produce figures of this magnitude again in the foreseeable future.

Reverting to the figures themselves, it will be noticed that of the 1,999 who have undergone audiometric examination, 108 failed at the first attempt. If my mathematics are correct (which is an admittedly rare occurrence!) this gives a percentage failure of 5.4. On the surface this may appear a small number, but it is well to remember that a high percentage of the time devoted to this service has been given to the 108 and not to the 1,891 who were found to be normal. Of the 108 who came under further investigation, many were found to be normal when examined under more individual and favourable circumstances. Others were found to have conditions which could be relieved immediately, e.g., by the removal of foreign bodies from the ear, and yet another set were found to be suffering from catarrhal conditions necessitating more complicated forms of treatment including such operations as removal of tonsils and adenoids. In addition, one or two cases of children who were suspected of being backward when they were really deaf, have been discovered, and it has now become a routine part of the examination of all children who are being tested for a suspected disability of mind that they should be subjected to an audiometric survey.

A further advantage is that all children who come under this examination are seen on an additional occasion during their school career by the doctor and, although not of course subjected to a

thorough overhaul, the possibility exists that any other developing defect would be noted.

As this is an entirely new service, I have dilated upon it at fairly great length and personally feel that it has been well worth the trouble involved and that the results so far obtained, if not spectacular, will be to the future advantage of some, at least, of the children of Bromley.

The year 1955 will surely go down in history as having a memorable summer with its prolonged heat and absence of rain, but as often happens on such occasions, an extensive epidemic of infantile paralysis affected the country. In Bromley, we were comparatively fortunate especially as regards the school children, for out of a total number of fourteen confirmed notifications received during the year, only six referred to children of school age. Of these cases, three were paralytic, including two of the Bulbar type, and three were non-paralytic.

In the present state of our knowledge, I feel that it is proper for me to give as much publicity as possible to the fact that personal cleanliness is probably the greatest single factor in preventing the spread of this disease, and that particular emphasis should be laid on the importance of thorough washing of the hands. This is, of course, at all times very important, especially prior to the preparation of food, but in my opinion is doubly so when we are in the midst of an epidemic of a disease which so naturally gives rise to so much public alarm. Hand washing is a simple operation which can be so easily forgotten, but what tragedies that forgetfulness can beget.

I have dealt at some length with a few of the activities of the school health service, but there are many other valuable routine services proceeding daily, notes on which will be found in the body of this report. Taking the year as a whole, I feel justified in regarding it as one of expansion and progress, and I am glad to be able to thank each and every member of the staff for his or her contribution to this successful outcome. In conclusion, I should like to thank the Borough Education Officer for a year of happy collaboration, and the members of the Welfare Committee for their continued encouragement and interest in what I think is generally agreed to be a very rewarding task.

H. B. C. CARTER-LOCKE.

Medical Officer of Health.

SCHOOLS, FURTHER EDUCATION AND CLINICS

	Numbers on School Roll.		
	1953.	1954.	1955.
County Primary Schools	5,073	5,162	5,196
County Secondary Schools	1,987	2,044	2,196
County Grammar and Technical Schools	1,837	1,833	1,892
Independent Schools	2,216	2,265	2,521
	11,113	11,304	11,805

Further Education.

Bromley College of Arts, Tweedy Road.

Department of Building, Wharton Road.

Technical Institute.

Bromley Technical Institute, "Springhill," College Road.

Clinics.

Minor Ailments.

North Clinic, Station Road	Monday to Friday	a.m.
(Doctor in attendance)	Thursday	a.m.
South Clinic, Princes Plain	Monday to Friday	a.m.
(Doctor in attendance)	Wednesday	a.m.
Medical Room, Hayes School	Monday to Friday	a.m.
(Doctor in attendance)	Wednesday	a.m.
Medical Room, Burnt Ash School	Monday to Thursday	a.m.
(Doctor in attendance)	Thursday	a.m.
Medical Room, Southborough School	Monday, Wednesday and Friday	a.m.
Medical Room, Aylesbury Road School	Monday, Wednesday and Friday	a.m.

Dental.

North Clinic, Station Road	} Monday to Friday	a.m. & p.m.
South Clinic, Princes Plain		a.m.
	(By appointment only.)	

Specialist Clinics.

Ophthalmic.

North Clinic, Station Road	Monday & Wednesday	a.m.
	Friday	p.m.
	(By appointment only.)	

Orthoptic.

North Clinic, Station Road	....	Monday	p.m.
		Tuesday	a.m. & p.m.
		Thursday	a.m. & p.m.
		Friday	a.m.
		(By appointment only.)	

Orthopaedic.

North Clinic, Station Road	....	1st & 3rd Friday in every month	p.m.
		(By appointment only.)	

Physiotherapy.

North Clinic, Station Road	....	Tuesday	a.m. & p.m.
		Thursday and Friday	a.m.
		(By appointment only.)	

Speech.

South Clinic, Princes Plain	....	Wednesday	p.m.
		(By appointment only.)	

Lip Reading.

South Clinic, Princes Plain	....	Wednesday	5-6 p.m.
		Saturday	10 a.m. - 12 noon
		(By appointment only.)	

PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A total of 3,830 children were examined at the periodic medical inspections, necessitating the holding of 269 medical inspection sessions. The average attendance at each session was 14.2. (Figures for 1954 were 3,998 examinations, 318 sessions, and average attendance at each session 12.6.)

345 individual pupils were found to require treatment, excluding dental diseases and infestation with vermin. This gives a percentage of 9.0 compared with 7.2 for 1954.

Detailed information on the general condition of the pupils inspected will be found in Table IIB in the appendix to this report.

Comparative rates of the general condition of the pupils examined during the past five years are as under:

	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Category "A" (Good)	31.54%	33.74%	32.11%	50.08%	64.42%
Category "B" (Fair)	65.12%	64.91%	66.28%	48.90%	34.63%
Category "C" (Poor)	3.34%	1.35%	1.61%	1.02%	0.95%

It will be noted that the figures for the general condition of pupils have shown little significant alteration during the past three years, and it can be considered that all in categories "A" and "B" are satisfactory.

MINOR AILMENTS.

A total of 2,370 attendances were made at the various clinics for the treatment of minor ailments. Details of the main type of ailment treated are given below:

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Ringworm, Body	25	6	5	7	10
Scabies	—	—	3	2	—
Impetigo	26	8	21	8	29
Other Skin Diseases	457	372	276	271	185
Minor Eye Defects	463	493	455	649	404
Minor Ear Defects	240	197	105	51	33
Miscellaneous (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	2,277	1,973	1,268	1,079	656

Treatments are carried out by the School Nurses, and any cases attending minor ailment clinics and requiring medical advice are referred to the General Practitioner or to the clinic doctors at their visits.

The numbers of cases treated and total attendances at the clinics show a decrease when compared with the figures for the previous year. This continues a trend which has been apparent for some time, the reasons for which have been the subject of comment in previous reports.

SCHOOL HYGIENE AND NEW SCHOOLS.

The only improvement worthy of note which was carried out during 1955, was the provision of additional sanitary offices at the Grammar School for Girls. This was necessary in view of the pressure on the accommodation at the school.

It may also be mentioned that at the same school, the towel laundry was brought into full use for a trial period from the beginning of the autumn term, 1955. This is only an experiment for the purpose of providing data which may lead ultimately to the provision of towel laundries at all new secondary schools, and is encouraging a much greater use of the showers.

Provision of New School Buildings.

Primary Education.

The Pickhurst Junior School is now in course of erection, and will provide maximum accommodation for 480 pupils. A large number of these pupils is already accommodated in the existing Infants' School building on the same site.

When the new building is completed, the Managers and the Committee for Education may be able to extend the present restricted "catchment area" for the School so as to allow the

admission of pupils from the Beckenham area adjacent to the School site. The actual demand for places from this area is not known, but it is expected that the maximum accommodation will be fully taken up for the next four or five years, in consequence of the bulge in the post-war birth rate, but thereafter the numbers may gradually decline.

There are no other Primary School developments contemplated at present, as the emphasis is now on the provision of new Secondary School accommodation.

Secondary Education.

Hayes Mixed Secondary School.

Plans have been prepared for this school to be erected on land adjoining the "Gadsden" premises. Accommodation will be provided for 600 boys and girls of 11 plus who will take a course extending eventually for five years.

The pupils will include admissions from the Biggin Hill and Cudham area, who at present attend Burnt Ash Secondary School for Girls and Quernmore Secondary School for Boys.

It is expected that the first instalment of the new building will be ready for occupation at the beginning of the educational year 1958-9, when girls will be admitted. In the meantime, as from September, 1956, the nucleus of the boys' side will be accommodated in the "Gadsden" premises.

Technical School for Boys.

Work is now proceeding on the erection of this School on the Oakley Playing Field site. Accommodation will be provided for 660 boys of 11 plus who will take a course extending for at least five years.

The boys will be drawn from the Beckenham and Bromley area. At present Bromley boys attend the Technical Schools in the Beckenham and Chislehurst Divisions, but when the new School is ready, all transfers to Technical Schools from Bromley and from Beckenham will be made to the new Bromley School.

It is not expected that the School will be ready for occupation until the educational year 1957-58.

Technical School for Girls.

Plans have been prepared for the extension of the existing School buildings to provide a total accommodation of 600 places. The existing buildings accommodate 425 girls.

The School will continue to accommodate girls from the Beckenham and Bromley areas and the increased numbers will come

from the alteration of the promotion age from 13 to 11 years. It is not expected that the additional accommodation will be available until late in the educational year 1957-58 or early in 1958-59.

Further Education.

The Kent Education Committee are now considering plans for the first instalment of the Regional College of Technology to be erected on the Rookery site, Bromley Common.

It is proposed to begin with the erection of the first instalment in the course of the financial year 1956-57. This does not affect, at this stage, the existing College of Art.

Details of the number of pupils to be accommodated in the first instalment are not yet available.

SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS.

In addition to the periodic medical inspections, a further 1,492 cases came under medical supervision during 1955, involving 1,944 medical examinations. (Figures for 1954 were 1,414 cases and 1,932 examinations.)

54 cases requiring special investigation were examined at the Municipal Offices, and of these 31 had their intelligence quotients investigated—a task of no small magnitude in itself.

141 cases were referred to the various hospitals for specialists' advice and treatment, of which 86 were ear, nose and throat cases.

AUDIOMETRY.

A programme of hearing tests, using the pure tone audiometer, was inaugurated during the autumn term, and has now become an established feature of the School Health Service in Bromley.

This scheme aims to ensure the recognition of children with defects of hearing, which, though often not amounting to obvious deafness, can, if unnoticed, substantially handicap the child during his or her school career. There are two main aspects to the work, namely, preliminary "screening" tests at the schools for the discovery of children with hearing defects and the subsequent individual examination and treatment of these children, to which a considerable proportion of the time available is devoted.

With the type of audiometer used, the initial screening test, although simple enough to enable a child to co-operate fully, will detect any significant impairment of hearing over the range of tones used in normal speech. The test can be carried out rapidly and although each child is examined individually, and each ear is tested separately, substantial numbers, such as a complete class can be examined at a single session.

By the end of the year a total of 1,999 children had been examined. Of these, 754 were between 9 and 11 years of age; a larger group, 1,226 were between 7 and 9 years old, and the small remaining number were slightly younger children.

Although the programme this year was devoted largely to the examination of pupils attending the Junior Schools in the Borough, it is intended, as time and circumstances permit, to extend the service to the other age groups.

Of the children examined, 108 failed the initial test, but approximately 40% of these have subsequently proved to have normal hearing when re-examined under more favourable conditions. Of the others, many are still under investigation so that the figures available are necessarily incomplete and it is not possible, for example, to say what proportion of the defects will prove to be remediable. In the great majority of cases so far discovered, the deafness has been due to catarrhal conditions affecting the middle ear. The cause next in order of frequency being recurrent acute otitis media. A smaller number of defects were found to be due to wax or foreign bodies in the meatus. So far, fifteen cases have been referred to consultants for opinion, and a further three to their family doctor for treatment. Of those referred to consultants, eight were recommended for operative or other treatment, and the remainder for further observation by the specialist concerned.

Another group of cases, where the defect is slight and probably of a temporary nature, is remaining under observation by the school doctors, in some cases with treatment at the school clinics. Those with wax or foreign bodies in the ear have been treated, often with dramatic results.

With only incomplete figures available, it is perhaps too soon for the merits of the scheme to be fully assessed. It has become clear that a number of children with hearing defects can be cured or greatly helped by suitable treatment and, at least, further damage to the ear will have been prevented. In other cases, where the ear has been seriously damaged by previous disease and treatment proves disappointing, measures such as the use of hearing aids, attendance at lip reading classes, and education at Special Schools, may be necessary. In every case, however, awareness of the child's difficulty will enable appropriate steps to be taken to meet his particular needs, and even where this is nothing more spectacular than suitable placing in the classroom, a valuable service will have been performed.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS.

During the year, medical inspections were carried out at nine independent schools, two of which were taking advantage of this scheme for the first time. In all, at the 65 sessions held, 685 pupils

in various age groups were examined; statistical details of these examinations will be found in Table VIII at the end of this report.

The full measure of support which parents have continued to give to this voluntary scheme has been a gratifying feature, worthy of special comment at a time when the present system of periodic medical inspections is the subject of so much discussion. The fact that approximately 90% of parents accepted this facility where it was available indicates that parental opinion, at least, is very much in favour of this service. Their support, in turn, adds to the value of the examination, particularly when treatment is recommended.

OTHER EXAMINATIONS.

In addition to the examination of school children, the Medical Officers examined 30 students and 10 teachers. 30 other employees of the Committee were also examined for superannuation purposes, etc.

DENTAL SERVICE.

A year of satisfactory work can be recorded, for even without the assistance of a part-time dental surgeon at the North Clinic, the total number of children inspected has risen from 4,704 in 1954, to 7,427 in 1955. In addition, during the same period, the number treated has risen from 2,140 to 2,632. A glance at Table IV in the appendix will indicate the volume of work undertaken by the dental officers, who are both worthy of the highest praise for their enthusiasm and keenness in this highly important task.

Great concern is still felt, both locally and at national level, at the lack of sufficient numbers of recruits entering the dental profession, and until such time as this shortage of dental surgeons can be overcome, a great burden is placed on the shoulders of those at present practising dentistry. If the position cannot be remedied, the time will come when the obtaining of necessary treatment will become progressively more difficult with dire results to the dental health of the population.

Mr. King reports on the North Clinic: "During 1955 more time has been devoted to the inspection of periodic age groups at school, the result being that over 750 more children were examined than last year.

The number of children referred by the Assistant Medical Officers and accident cases and emergency treatments have also greatly increased.

It has not been possible to replace the part-time Dental Surgeon who resigned in November, 1954, and the lack of adequate pro-

fessional personnel necessarily affects the amount of work which can be undertaken at the Clinic.

Orthodontic treatment is still in great demand, and thanks to the willing co-operation of both parents and children valuable assistance has been rendered in this very rewarding branch of dentistry. My thanks are due to Mr. N. K. Thorne, the County Orthodontist for his valuable assistance.

All Maternity and Child Welfare patients presenting themselves for treatment have been restored to dental fitness.

I also take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the staff of the Radiological Department at Bromley Hospital for the assistance they have rendered during the past year."

Mrs. Lindsay reports on the South Clinic :— "I have pleasure in reporting a considerable improvement in the dental condition of the children's mouths in this area. As a consequence it has enabled me to undertake more frequent inspections than in past years.

The number of new orthodontic cases is on the increase and with the ready co-operation of parents and children, some very satisfactory results have been achieved.

Conservative and other treatment has been maintained at a fairly high level—over 3,000 permanent and temporary teeth have been filled in the past year—and there has been approximately 650 maternity and child welfare attendances for treatment.

It is hoped, in view of the improved progress reported above, that in the near future time will be available for more specialised work, i.e., crowns and inlays."

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC.

The position with regard to new cases is most satisfactory, but there is still considerable delay in the call up of cases for re-inspection. In an endeavour to reduce the arrears at this clinic, provision has been made in next year's estimates for an additional session to be held each week. Dr. Lyle has continued his very valuable work throughout the year, both for the children of Bromley and also for a considerable number of out district children, and Table III (Group II) in the Appendix, bears testimony to the extent of his efforts.

Dr. Eric Lyle reports :— "The work of the eye clinic has been carried out steadily during the past year. There are no alterations of any kind to report.

The total number of new cases examined was 317, and the total number of attendances by old patients for continued supervision and treatment was 1,234, thus making a grand total of 1,551. New cases are able to be dealt with almost as soon as they are referred from the School Medical Examinations.

I should like to thank the Health Visitors for their consistent co-operation and help in all matters relating to the Eye Clinic. My thanks are also due to the Clerical Staff for the smooth running of the present appointment system, and for dealing with the many enquiries and requests."

ORTHOPTICS.

Attendances of patients have been good on the whole, although there are still a number of children who live too far away to attend frequently for treatment.

Unfortunately the clinic had to be closed for two months during the summer owing to a change of Orthoptist, but many of the parents co-operated by continuing with exercises at home where applicable. Few children have been discharged during the last four months of the year, but there are several satisfactory cases in which the child is being kept under observation until older. This prevents a recurrence of symptoms in later years, which sometimes occurs if a patient is completely discharged when very young.

Full details of the work of this clinic will be found in the Appendix to this report.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

One hundred and twenty-two children received operative treatment in hospitals for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis. This number shows a considerable decrease over that for the previous year, and is undoubtedly due to the fact that tonsil and adenoid operations were held in abeyance for some time during the summer months owing to the prevalence of poliomyelitis. One child received operative treatment for mastoid, and one for sinus trouble.

In addition to the above, forty-eight children received other forms of treatment at the school clinics and as out-patients at the hospitals.

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

This service has continued to function well throughout the year under the able control of Mr. Hulbert. Details of the work undertaken will be found in the Appendix at the end of this report.

Mr. K. F. Hulbert reports:—"The Orthopaedic Clinic has continued on the first and third Friday of the month throughout the year. During the year under review, the number of patients attending has been slightly less than in other years, but the kind of cases being sent up is still very largely the same. Towards the end of the year, Mr. Taylor, the Physiotherapist, left us after several years of very excellent service, and his place has been taken by Miss Pakes, who is being assisted by Mrs. Norman.

As in other years, the problem of the spastic child still occupies a lot of our attention, and all schemes for helping the education and rehabilitation of these children should be pressed as hard as possible.

We have been pleased to see further evidence of co-operation and interest between our department and the physical education section of the schools, and we would like this to continue and to extend."

PHYSIOTHERAPY AND SUNLIGHT.

Mrs. Norman reports :—" Both these clinics have continued to be varied and interesting. Every co-operation has been obtained from the schools, both in attendance at the clinic, and in continuance of special exercises for certain postural cases by the Physical Training staff of the schools. This is much appreciated.

The remedial classes have been well attended by boys and girls. The number of attendances being about the same as last year. These are mainly cases of faulty posture, which benefit by corrective exercises, especially in the case of the older age group 11 - 16 years.

At present, there is only one spastic child on treatment, and he is also attending a special school. All the other spastic cases have settled down and are getting on well in their various special schools.

Mr. Taylor left the clinic in August to take up work with spastics, under the Wilfred Pickles scheme.

The Sunlight clinic has had a good year, a total of 816 treatments being given. The majority of children benefit greatly from a course of general sunlight when correctly treated. There have been a number of cases of acne treated with sunlight with good results "

SPEECH CLINIC.

Mrs. Swan has continued to attend at the Bromley Speech Clinic for one session per week. At the end of December her resignation was received, and it will take effect at the end of March, 1956. Steps are being taken to appoint a successor.

Nine cases were closed during the year. Of these, six were closed in view of the improvement made following treatment. Of the remaining three cases, two were reported to have improved prior to appointments being offered, and one was reported to have improved when appointments were offered. Nine cases were in contact with the clinic at the end of 1955, and will continue to attend at the clinic into 1956. At the end of 1955, 107 cases were on the waiting list.

VERMIN AND UNCLEANLINESS.

Seventeen thousand three hundred and seventy-one inspections were carried out by the School Nurses at Primary and Secondary Schools. It was not found necessary for any inspections to be made at the Grammar and Technical Schools. Six pupils were found to be infested, with a further forty showing minor evidence of infestation. These figures show a very high standard of cleanliness which is a tribute to the care that parents devote to their children, and is worthy of the highest praise.

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

During the year, 54 special cases were examined at the special clinics held at the Municipal Offices on Saturday mornings. Of this number, 20 have been certified as handicapped and not suitable for education in ordinary schools. At the present time, there are 72 known educationally sub-normal and physically handicapped children in the area. Details of these children are given below :—

		Waiting admission.
In Residential Schools for E.S.N. children	4	—
Attending Day Schools for E.S.N. children	19	4
In Residential Schools for Blind and Partially Sighted children	3	—
In Day Schools for Blind and Partially Sighted children	2	—
In Residential Schools for Deaf and Partially Deaf children	—	—
Attending Day Schools for Deaf and Partially Deaf children	5	—
In Ordinary Schools (Physically Handicapped children)	7	—
In Residential premises for Physically Handicapped children	6	1
In Day Schools for Physically Handicapped children	9	—
In Residential premises for Epileptic children	—	—
In Residential premises for Delicate children	3	—
Attending Day Schools for Delicate children	—	—
In Residential premises for Mal-adjusted children	7	1
Receiving Home Tuition	1	—

As will be seen from the foregoing table, there are now only six handicapped children awaiting admission to special schools, and of these, four are educationally sub-normal.

There are 31 known ineducable children whose homes are in the area, 11 of these being in institutions, and 20 at home.

SCHOOL MEALS AND MILK IN SCHOOLS.

Further progress was made during the year on the provision for school meals in the Borough, and the new kitchen at St. George's

Bickley School, equipped to serve 150 meals daily, was opened at the beginning of the Spring Term.

During the summer holidays, the kitchen at Pickhurst Primary School was enlarged to enable the output to be increased from 250 to 500 meals daily to cater for the additional numbers of meals likely to be required when the erection of the Junior School is completed.

As part of the new Technical School for Boys being erected in Oakley Road, a kitchen to serve 550 meals is being provided, and work on the construction started towards the end of the year. In addition, plans have been approved for a kitchen to serve 450 meals daily for the new Hayes Mixed Secondary School, on which it is hoped construction will start next year.

It is of interest to note that for the first time since the School Meals Service started in the Borough in 1941, a Ministry of Education inspection of the Service was carried out in November, 1955, as part of a General Survey taking place in the North West Kent area. The report on the local survey had not been received from the Ministry by the close of the year.

At the beginning of the Autumn Term the daily average number of meals being served amounted to 6,806, which showed a daily increase of approximately 430 meals over the corresponding period last year. A return to the Ministry of Education showed that on a single day in September/October 67.39% of the pupils in attendance at Primary and Secondary Schools received a mid-day meal.

The school canteens are under regular supervision by the Sanitary Inspectors, and a very high standard of hygiene has been maintained throughout the year. At the end of the year, arrangements were being completed for instructional classes to be given to the canteen staffs with a view to further improving the standard of food handling.

A return to the Ministry of Education showed that on a single day in September/October, 1955, 87.54% of the pupils in attendance at Primary and Secondary Schools received milk.

EMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG CHILDREN.

The number of children examined by the Medical Officers in respect of fitness for employment out of school hours showed a considerable increase over the number for the previous year. Two hundred and two examinations were carried out and in every instance but one, fit certificates were issued. The figures for the year 1954 were 146—all of whom were fit for employment.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN SCHOOLS.

There was a large increase in the number of cases of notifiable infectious diseases in children of school age in 1955, when compared with the previous year. A total of 535 notifications being received, as against 299 for 1954. This increase was to be expected and is accounted for by the rise in the number of cases of measles. Outbreaks of this disease usually occur in alternate years, that is to say, when a large number of non-immune children are congregated at school. In other words, in the year following an epidemic, there are normally too few susceptibles left in the schools to allow of an outbreak, as one attack of measles usually confers a life-long immunity. Four hundred and thirty-three cases of measles were notified (123 in 1954), and six of these were admitted to hospital.

Thirty-eight cases of Scarlet Fever were notified as against forty-six during the previous year. The infection continued to be mild in character and only three of these cases were admitted to hospital.

Notifications of Whooping Cough showed a sharp decline, 49 cases occurring as against 118 during 1954. Two of these cases were admitted to hospital.

Six cases of Poliomyelitis occurred in children of school age. Three were paralytic and three non-paralytic, and all cases were isolated in hospital. There were no child deaths from this disease.

In addition to the above, 3 cases of Dysentery, 4 of Pneumonia and 2 cases of Food Poisoning were notified.

No case of Diphtheria occurred in the area during 1955, nor were any new cases of Tuberculosis in children of school age notified.

The following table gives details of incidence and number of cases of the various diseases notified :—

Disease	Total No. of cases	No. admitted to Hospital	Seasonal incidence											
			Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Scarlet Fever ...	38	3	1	4	11	3	6	5	2	—	1	3	1	1
Measles ...	433	6	47	105	82	123	20	32	20	2	1	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	49	2	13	12	7	1	2	5	3	6	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	4	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	535	20	61	122	100	129	29	42	28	9	6	3	1	5

PHYSICAL EDUCATION, 1955.

The following is the report of the Area Advisers of Physical Education :—

“ During recent years a period of experiment and investigation has been in progress in the Bromley area, through which it is hoped to determine the most effective type of Physical Education for building strong, healthy members of the community. It is now time to take stock to see whether our present schemes are on the right lines and whether we are achieving our aims in relation to the understanding and development of the individual child.

The realisation that the child has need of many and varied outlets for development, makes it more than ever necessary for the teacher to study the education of the child as a whole, thus widening his knowledge and understanding of the scope of Physical Education. Those interested in the subject understand that a need exists to formulate provision during the full school course for a wider range of physical activities than formerly, which will be fully developmental and which may be usefully continued as recreation in adolescence and adult life. If we are to enable an individual to reach his full capacity, we must not apply standard formula or mass production methods to large groups of children with their differing backgrounds and personalities, taught under widely varying conditions. But this freedom from standardised lessons does imply greater responsibility ; it demands more detailed understanding of the individual pupil and of the fundamental principles underlying schemes of work. These fundamental principles must still remain the central guiding factor in any general scheme of Physical Education and must not be lost sight of in the widening programmes ahead.

The misguided idea, current in some quarters, that discipline in schools now sanctions unbridled self expression must be discouraged. The child best develops a sense of self-discipline in a school community where both ‘ rights ’ and ‘ duties ’ go together. Within such a community a tradition of service is fostered, and no child is allowed to drift without control or regard for others. In a good physical training lesson a sense of responsibility, service and self-discipline are an essential part of modern training.

During this period of experimentation, in spite of teething troubles and natural feeling of indecision, the standard of effort at all age levels has shown marked improvement and is still progressing favourably. The physical education in schools in the Borough is generally alive, interesting and progressive, though we could still wish for greater effort in a few cases. Games once again seem to have suffered most from the vagaries of inclement weather, though the normal lessons in physical education suffered rather badly during the early months of the year. This particularly

applies to schools where the halls have been taken over as classrooms, thus leaving no indoor accommodation for this type of emergency which adversely affects the work of the school as a whole. The return of the halls to normal use will be welcomed and would be of great benefit to the schools.

Gymnastics

The freedom of the teacher to plan his lesson away from set patterns and published syllabuses or schemes of work has produced some interesting and stimulating results in gymnastics in Secondary Schools.

In Girls' Secondary Schools, the tremendous growth of interest in educational dance has again strongly influenced the type and the presentation of indoor work. Girls continue to receive opportunities and scope for experimenting and developing their own activities, and the results observed during 1955 support the view that movement training appeals to the adolescent girl, giving her a feeling of confidence and achievement as well as grace and ease of movement and a sense of poise.

On the Boys' side, gymnastics have remained the primary means of physical education, but increased attention has been given to some non-gymnastic activities popular in the boys' post-school life. During the year under review, indoor work in boys' schools has developed along two distinct lines, and opportunities have been afforded to assess the relative merits of each : (1) GENERAL SCHEMES in which individual lessons were devoted to developmental work of a gymnastic nature, together with a number of separate skills from various sports and games. (2) BLOCKED SCHEMES in which one particular facet of physical education was allocated a number of consecutive periods, the various branches of Physical Education being given due attention throughout the academic year.

In Boys' Secondary Schools 'circuit training' has been introduced as a means of developing strength and of providing challenge in older boys. It is hoped that this method of training will give a new incentive to the less skilful performer, since it relates an individual's performance to his physical ability.

Some experiments have been made in Secondary Schools during 1955 to allow a certain amount of choice of physical activity to older boys and girls. In doing so, recognition has been given to the wide range over which human physique can vary and to the fact that successful performance in the different fields of physical education is often closely related to physique. Where there is adequate accommodation and sufficiently qualified physical education staff, this development has proved most successful and appears worthy of closer attention in the future.

Outdoor Games and Sports

Training in the basic skills of the major games, sports and athletics has continued as part of the normal curriculum, and facilities have on the whole been well used. More attention has been paid to increasing the number of track and field events in athletics and to choosing more than one major game during winter and summer. With the increase in the number of outdoor activities covered there remains, in some cases, much to be done to improve teaching methods and teaching techniques, if the playing field activities are to be taught with the precision which has been accorded in the past to indoor gymnastics. In some cases it is anticipated that, in the future, more time will need to be given in games lessons to training individual and team skills if the different outdoor games and sports are to be grounded effectively, and the limited time available is to be used to the best advantage.

An account of the physical education scheme in Secondary Schools would be incomplete without reference to its full expression in competitions and tournaments outside school hours. To this end numerous teachers have given freely of their time and energy in organising and conducting inter-house, inter-school and inter-district matches in a variety of activities, thus enabling a host of children in the Borough to get a weekly game at their appropriate level in the seasonal sports.

Games Results

As a result of enquiries from schools, the following information should prove of interest.

One school in the area has an excellent annual programme providing for :— (1) 5 Hockey teams, (2) 5 Netball teams, (3) 2 Cricket teams, (4) a large Tennis Section, with the following very creditable results :—

HOCKEY

Kent Schools Team—Two girls chosen.

West Kent Schools Team—Four girls chosen and one reserve.

East Kent Junior Team—One girl chosen as reserve.

Schools Tournament—1st XI came second in Tournament.

Under 15's XI came third in Tournament.

NETBALL

Kent Schools Tournament—The under 14's VII reached the final round but were defeated in the final match.

CRICKET

Kent Schools Team—Three girls chosen for team and one as a reserve.

TENNIS

North West Kent Tournament—Two girls won the under-15 doubles. One girl second in the singles. Two girls second in the under-18 doubles. One girl second in the under-18 singles.

Kent Junior Tournament—One girl with partner won the under-15's mixed doubles. One girl with partner won the girls' doubles.

Bexley Tournament—One girl won the semi-final but lost in finals.

Basket Ball has established itself as a popular game in Boys' Secondary Schools, and an improving standard of play is already evident. There does, however, appear to be a need for some form of local association within the Borough, comparable to the local Football Association, which will foster this particular sport during the immediate post-school years of a boy's life.

A new type of lecture-demonstration was arranged at one of the schools in the Borough to illustrate the various outdoor activities and the facilities and opportunities which are available for boys and girls when they leave school. This demonstration was well supported by parties of school leavers from most of the schools in the area, and it is hoped that permanent interest has been aroused in the more individual activities of hill walking, mobile camping, rock climbing, canoeing and sailing.

Swimming

It is encouraging to find an increasing awareness of the value of the teaching of swimming in schools, especially in this area where facilities are so limited. We have in use at present the Public Open Air Bath, available for half sessions only during the summer months, one privately owned Swimming Bath for nine half-day sessions each week, and an indoor Bath which is open throughout the year with only limited periods available. At present no further facilities are available to allow an extension of the swimming programme.

A comparatively cheap and practical method of increasing facilities could be the introduction of small, shallow school baths, approximately 50 ft. x 15 ft., costing between £250 and £300 to build, which could be included for schools in areas where facilities are at present meagre or non-existent. In most cases provision has been made for whole classes of pupils to attend the Baths as units, and it is understood that no child should be excluded unless medically unfit.

Programme

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

SUMMER TERM—53 classes. Approximately 1,590 children per week.

*AUTUMN TERM—19 classes. Approximately 570 children per week.

*WINTER TERM—4 classes. Approximately 120 children per week.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

SUMMER TERM—37 classes. Approximately 1,110 children per week.

*AUTUMN TERM—2 classes. Approximately 60 children per week.

* Arrangements for these terms are limited by the financial provisions approved.

Achievement Tests

The following achievement tests have been gained by the schools during the past year, and 513 children have been taught to swim for the first time.

Distances—

20 yards — 338 pupils.

50 yards — 222 pupils.

100 yards — 73 pupils.

200 yards — 61 pupils.

440 yards — 156 pupils.

E.S.S.A. Efficiency Test — 14 pupils.

Once older pupils have become confident and competent swimmers, it is now thought that, whenever possible, they should be instructed in the elements of Life Saving and Diving in preference to further stroke efficiency, thus making them more valuable members of the community.

Competitive Swimming

Competitive swimming has its place in the swimming programme, and this is chiefly catered for by :—

(a) Inter-house competitions.

(b) Inter-school competitions.

(c) County Galas.

(d) The English Schools Swimming Association Gala.

These are mostly organised and conducted by teachers' associations outside school hours, and as an outcome of these activities two Boys' Schools gained very creditable results.

Older pupils seem to need an incentive to further effort, and competitive swimming appears to meet this demand. In addition it provides a great stimulus and is a means of assessing the relative efforts of individual schools of equal standing and opportunity.

Individual School Galas

Most schools arranged small Galas as House Competitions during the summer months, and a challenge to neighbouring schools was often issued for one or two specific events.

BROMLEY SCHOOLS GALA. A most successful Gala was held on July 2nd, 1955, at Downham Baths. It is encouraging to note that eight Primary Schools and seven Secondary Schools took an active part in the programme. The number of schools included each year is steadily increasing, and the possibility of having two Galas—one for Primary Schools and one for Secondary Schools—might be a matter for future consideration.

KENT COUNTY SCHOOLS GALA was held in the neighbouring borough of Beckenham during the Summer term. In the final results, Bromley Schools Association gained second place, providing great encouragement and no little enthusiasm for the greater challenge of the National Championships to be held later in the year.

Places gained at the Kent County Schools Gala were :—

First place — 5 girls.

Second place — 2 boys, 4 girls.

Third place — 1 boy, 1 girl.

ALL ENGLAND SCHOOLS GALA. The choice of venue for the All England Schools Gala was allocated this year to Division II (Kent and Surrey). Downham Swimming Bath was selected for the main swimming events, as it was not possible to find other suitable accommodation within the County. The Lewisham Borough Council acted as hosts, but the main organisation of these Championships was in the hands of staffs of local schools. Special mention should be made of those Bromley residents who provided billets and hospitality to hundreds of competitors and their team managers from Thursday to Sunday during the Championships. In addition a generous tribute should be paid to the numerous teachers and members of administrative staffs who gave so freely of their time and energy to ease the flow at transit points, reception and rest centres, and canteens used for the service of meals.

Included in the representatives from Area II (Kent and Surrey). Bromley Schools Association was fortunate to have five competitors—4 girls and 1 boy and 1 reserve. Only one of these competitors gained a final placing, and to her we offer congratulations.

Further Training of Teachers

Opportunities to attend the following training and refresher courses have been made available to teachers throughout the year. Most of these classes were well attended.

- (1) PHYSICAL EDUCATION for teachers in Infant Schools.
- (2) PHYSICAL EDUCATION for men and women teachers in Junior Schools (2 courses).
- (3) SIMPLE NATIONAL DANCES for men and women teachers (2 courses).
- (4) GYMNASTICS for men teachers in Secondary Schools.
- (5) ATHLETICS for women teachers in Secondary Schools.
- (6) CAMPCRAFT for men and women teachers in Secondary Schools.
- (7) TENNIS for men and women teachers in Secondary Schools.
- (8) REMEDIAL COURSE for men and women teachers.
- (9) MOVEMENT TRAINING for women teachers in Primary Schools.

Youth Activities and Adult Classes

The programme of activities connected with Youth Service has, of necessity, followed the pattern of previous years. The demand from local teams for facilities for football, cricket, netball and tennis has been consistent. Alternatively, smaller groups and individuals have maintained their interest in clubs catering for walking, cycling, camping and youth hostelling. Owing to limited financial provision only two Keep Fit classes for adults, one for men and the other for women, have been possible throughout the year.

Conclusion

If wisely used, the excellent equipment and facilities so consistently supplied by the Committee provide a wide range of opportunity for the future; regular use together with sound training, should produce a valuable contribution to the development in the growing generation of a well balanced physique accompanied by strength of character.

The introduction of Television was generally thought to be disadvantageous to practical activities and conducive to an age of physical comfort and inactivity. Instead, however, it seems as though the development of sports programmes, competitions of varying physical activities and good technical training series, have provided additional interest in techniques and generally stimulated effort in the right direction.

Once again many visitors connected with Physical Education under other local authorities, in training colleges and from overseas, have visited the schools during the year.

In conclusion, we wish to express our thanks to the Borough Education Officer and his staff for their valuable support, as well as our appreciation of the good work done by the Head and Assistant Teachers in the schools."

F. M. BENTLEY,

J. M. PELL,

Area Advisers of Physical Education.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

STATISTICAL TABLES, 1955.

TABLE I.—Medical Inspection of Pupils Attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools.

- A. Periodic Medical Inspections.
- B. Other Inspections.
- C. Pupils Found to Require Treatment.

TABLE II.—A. Return of Defects Found by Medical Inspection in the Year 1955.

- B. Classification of the General Condition of Pupils Inspected During the Year, in Age Groups.

TABLE III.—Group I. Diseases of the Skin.

Group II. Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint.

Group III. Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat.

Group IV. Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

Group V. Minor Ailments.

TABLE IV.—Dental Inspection, Treatment and Orthodontics.

TABLE V.—Infestation with Vermin.

TABLE VI.—Orthoptic Clinic.

TABLE VII.—Handicapped Pupils.

TABLE VIII.—Independent Schools.

Child Guidance.

Juvenile Delinquency.

Boat Club.

Provision of Clothing.

TABLE I.

Medical Inspection of Pupils Attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools.

A. Periodic Medical Inspections.

Number of Inspections in the Prescribed Groups:—

Entrants	652
Second Age Group	1,887
Third Age Group	407

Total 2,946

Number of other Periodic Inspections* 884*

Grand Total 3,830

* Children aged 8 years.

Children in their 13th year, at County Grammar and Technical Schools.

B. Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections	1,492
Number of Re-inspections	452

Total 1,944

C. Pupils Found to Require Treatment.

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspections to require treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

Group	For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table II.A.	Total individual pupils
Entrants	25	79	104
Second Age Group	49	90	139
Third Age Group	5	24	29
Total (prescribed groups)	79	193	272
Other Periodic Inspections	43	30	73
Grand Total	122	223	345

TABLE II.

A. Return of Defects Found by Medical Inspection.

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	Periodic Inspections. No. of Defects.		Special Inspections. 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)
4	Skin	12	6	67	4
5	Eyes—(a) Vision	122	208	81	47
	(b) Squint	8	5	3	—
	(c) Other	15	9	45	7
6	Ears—(a) Hearing	2	10	6	4
	(b) Otitis Media	2	2	3	2
	(c) Other	1	7	16	4
7	Nose or Throat	32	50	60	22
8	Speech... ..	12	13	5	8
9	Cervical Glands	—	—	2	—
10	Heart and Circulation	5	7	2	2
11	Lungs	12	12	17	12
12	Developmental—				
	(a) Hernia	3	—	—	1
	(b) Other	20	119	30	72
13	Orthopaedic—				
	(a) Posture	36	123	26	21
	(b) Flat Foot	9	53	20	22
	(c) Other	33	22	57	24
14	Nervous System—				
	(a) Epilepsy... ..	1	1	2	—
	(b) Other	—	7	6	10
15	Psychological—				
	(a) Development	1	7	2	11
	(b) Stability... ..	1	9	4	4
16	Other	35	91	128	55
	Totals	362	761	582	332

B. Classification of the General Condition of Pupils Inspected During the Year in the Age Groups.

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	A—Good		B—Fair		C—Poor	
(1)	(2)	No. (3)	% of Col. 2 (4)	No. (5)	% of Col. 2 (6)	No. (7)	% of Col. 2 (8)
Entrants	652	149	22·85	438	67·18	65	9·97
Second Age Group	1,887	562	29·78	1,291	68·42	34	1·80
Third Age Group	407	154	37·84	249	61·18	4	0·98
Other periodic inspections	884	343	38·80	516	58·37	25	2·83
Total	3,830	1,208	31·54	2,494	65·12	128	3·34

TABLE III.

TREATMENT TABLES.

Group I.—Diseases of the Skin.

Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year:--					By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Ringworm—(i) Scalp	....	....	....	....	—	—
(ii) Body	....	....	....	....	10	—
Scabies	....	....	....	....	—	—
Impetigo	....	....	....	....	29	—
Other Skin Diseases	....	....	....	....	185	—
Total					224	—

Group II.—Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint.

Number of cases dealt with:					By the Authority.	Otherwise.
External and other excluding errors of refraction and squint	....	....	....	....	426	No information available.
Errors of refraction (including squint)	....	....	....	....	1,382	—
Total					1,808	—

Number of pupils for whom spectacles were:

(a) Prescribed	....	....	....	....	778	No information available.
(b) Obtained	....	....	....	....	703*	—

* Including spectacles prescribed in 1954 and obtained in 1955.

Group III.—Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat.

Number of cases treated:					By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Received operative treatment:						
(a) for diseases of the ear	....	....	....	....	—	1
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	....	....	....	....	—	122
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	....	....	....	....	—	1
Received other forms of treatment	....	....	....	....	33	15
Total					33	139

Group IV.—Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	....	....	....	....	12	—
					By the Authority.	Otherwise.
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or out-patient departments	....	....	....	....	117 (new cases)	No information available.
					330 (re-inspections)	—

Group V.—Minor Ailments.

Number of cases treated:					By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Miscellaneous minor ailments	....	....	....	....	656	No information available.

TABLE IV.

Dental Inspection, Treatment and Orthodontics.

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers:—	
(a) Periodic age groups	4,632
(b) Specials	2,795
Total (1)	7,427
(2) Number found to require treatment	5,887
(3) Number referred for treatment	4,758
(4) Number actually treated	2,632*
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	8,414*
(6) Half-days devoted to: Inspection	28
Treatment	938
Total (6)	966
(7) Fillings:	
Permanent Teeth	3,357
Temporary Teeth	1,258
Total (7)	4,615
(8) Number of teeth filled:	
Permanent Teeth	3,335
Temporary Teeth	1,238
Total (8)	4,573
(9) Extractions:	
Permanent Teeth	698
Temporary Teeth	2,867
Total (9)	3,565
(10) Administration of general anæsthetics for extraction	1,608
(11) Other operations:	
Permanent Teeth	2,236
Temporary Teeth	1,357
Total (11)	3,593*

* These figures include orthodontic work.

Orthodontics.

Number of children referred for Orthodontics	208
Number of Orthodontic appliances ordered	175
Number of Orthodontic appliances fitted	138
Attendances for Orthodontic treatment	1,564
Scaling and Polishing	348
X-Rays	120

TABLE V.

Infestation with Vermin.

Primary and Secondary Schools.

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons	17,371
(ii) Total number of pupils on roll of schools visited	7,394
(iii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	6*
* In addition, 40 pupils showed minor evidence of infestation.	
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	Nil.
(v) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	Nil.

Grammar and Technical Schools.

No examinations were found necessary at these schools.

TABLE VI.

Orthoptic Clinic.

Total number of treatments given	671
Number of new cases	63
Number of cases on occlusion alone	34
Number of cases found unsuitable	12
Number of cases postponed	431
Number of cases failed to attend	71
Number of cases put down for operation	26
Number of cures—with operation	36
without operation	23
Number of sessions, 1955	219
Number of attendances	1,253
Number of patients discharged (various reasons)	116

TABLE VII.

Year 1955. Handicapped Pupils Requiring Education at Special Schools (other than Hospital Schools) or Boarding in Boarding Homes.

	1. Blind	2. Partially Sighted	3. Deaf	4. Partially Deaf	5. Delicate	6. Physically Handicapped	7. Educationally Sub-normal	8. Maladjusted	9. Epileptic	TOTAL 1-9
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
<i>In the calendar year ended 31st Dec., 1955:</i>										
A. Handicapped Pupils newly placed in Special Schools or Boarding Homes	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
B. Handicapped Pupils newly ascertained as requiring education at Special Schools or Boarding in Homes	—	3	—	—	—	2	4	3	—	—

Number of children reported during the year:—

(a) under Section 57 (3) (excluding any returned under (b))	6
(b) under Section 57 (3) relying on Section 57 (4)	Nil.
(c) under Section 57 (5)	1
of the Education Act, 1944.	

	1. Blind	2. Partially Sighted	3. Deaf	4. Partially Deaf	5. Delicate	6. Physically Handicapped	7. Educationally Sub-normal	8. Maladjusted	9. Epileptic	TOTAL
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
<i>On or about December 1st, 1955:</i>										
C. Number of Handicapped Pupils from the area:										
(i) Attending Special Schools as:										
(a) Day Pupils	—	2	3	—	—	9	19	1	—	—
(b) Boarding Pupils	2	1	1	—	4	5	4	6	—	—
(ii) Attending Independent Schools under arrangements made by the Authority	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) Boarded in Homes and not already included under (i) or (ii)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2	3	5	—	4	14	23	7	—	—
D. Number of Handicapped Pupils being educated under arrangements made under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944:										
(i) in hospitals	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
(ii) elsewhere	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) at home	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
E. Number of Handicapped Pupils from the area requiring places in Special Schools (incl. any such unplaced children who are temporarily receiving home tuition)										
	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—

Amount spent on arrangements under SECTION 56 of the Education Act, 1944, for the education of handicapped pupils otherwise than at school, in the financial year ended 31st March, 1955 £5, 7s. 6d.

TABLE VIII.

Independent Schools.

Number of schools visited	8
Number of Medical Inspection Sessions	65
Number of children examined (various age groups)	685
Number of Re-inspections	28

Nutrition Table.

Classification " A " (Good)	281 pupils or 41.02%
" " B " (Fair)	402 pupils or 58.68%
" " C " (Poor)	2 pupils or 0.29%

Table of Defects found by Medical Inspection.

Defect or Disease.	Number of Defects:—	
	Requiring treatment.	Requiring observation
Skin	6	6
Eyes, Vision	29	46
Eyes, Squint	2	2
Eyes, Other	—	—
Ears, Hearing	3	2
Ears, Other	4	—
Nose and Throat	8	10
Speech	1	—
Cervical Glands	1	2
Heart and Circulation	—	1
Lungs	7	7
Developmental, Hernia	—	2
Developmental, Other	5	5
Orthopædic, Posture	18	2
Flat Feet	44	4
Other	7	7
Nervous System, Epilepsy	1	—
Psychological Development	—	1
Stability	1	2
Other	4	3
Total	141	102

CHILD GUIDANCE.

Six cases were referred for examination and treatment at the Psychiatric Departments of various hospitals.

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY.

During the year 66 children and young persons appeared before the Local Court. The types of offences were :—

Larceny and attempted larceny	46
Wilful damage	1
Breaking and entering	4
Road Traffic Act	12
Receiving	1
Insulting words and behaviour	1
Assault	2
Indecent exposure	1
Riding cycle to the common danger	5
Riding cycle on footpath	5
Riding cycle with no brakes	1
Riding cycle with no lights	2
Setting off fireworks in thoroughfare	1
Being a passenger on a Public Service vehicle failed to declare journey	1
Breach of probation	2

BOOT CLUB.

The outstanding feature of the Boot Club during 1955 was the reduction of the rate of bonus to 2½% on the 14th September. There were 327 members on the 31st December, and trading during the year may be summarised as follows :—

Deposits from members	£369
Number of vouchers issued	335
Value of vouchers issued	£375

WELFARE—PROVISION OF CLOTHING.

Fourteen applications were received during the year, as a result of which fifteen children were provided with clothing at a total cost of £149 3s. 7d.

CHILD CONSUMPTION

For cases were referred for examination and treatment in the Psychiatric Department of various hospitals.

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

During the year no children and young persons appeared before the Local Court. The types of offences were:

Carrying and receiving stolen property.

White slavery.

Receiving and concealing stolen goods.

Going to the theatre.

Stealing.

Receiving stolen goods and harboring.

Sexual offences.

Violating the provisions of the Licensing Act.

Violating the provisions of the Contagious Diseases Act.

Violating the provisions of the Public Health Act.

Violating the provisions of the Education Act.

Violating the provisions of the Criminal Justice Act.

Violating the provisions of the Criminal Law Act.

Violating the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Act.

Violating the provisions of the Criminal Evidence Act.

Violating the provisions of the Criminal Law Amendment Act.

Violating the provisions of the Criminal Justice (Children) Act.

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