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# REPORT

on the

HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITION

of the

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF SHOREDITCH

IN THE COUNTY OF LONDON.

FOR THE YEAR 1953

BY

B. BROADBENT, M.A., M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.





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To the MAYOR, ALDERMEN and COUNCILLORS of the METROPOLITAN BOROUGH of SHOREDITCH

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to be able to report that the Borough's health during 1953 has been well above the average of any previous year except the phenomenal 1951. At first sight it appears that there have been more deaths, but this is more than accounted for by the fact that all deaths occurring in St. Matthew's Hospital are now counted against Shoreditch by the Registrar General, although fewer than one-third of these patients lived in this Borough before admission to hospital. Otherwise, all the major vital statistics are lower than average, (even including the population - down by 30 - and the births - 14 fewer).

The Infantile Mortality has dropped from 23 to 18 per 1,000 births, none of these deaths being of illegitimate children; once again no woman has died as a result of childbirth; tuberculosis deaths and notifications have noticeably improved since our "best" year 1951, (though some of this may be a result of rehousing outside the Borough); the total deaths from cancer are fewer, but unfortunately cancer of the lung has increased again in both sexes; and although the total deaths from heart disease have decreased somewhat, there is evidence of more diseased arteries than before (about 30% up). Influenza had very little effect this year, and apart from an increase in suicides, other causes were less in evidence than in 1952.

The number of stillbirths has increased from 15 to 20 this year, and is now greater than the infantile mortality. Unfortunately no detailed notification of the cause of a stillbirth ever reaches this department, and I cannot help wondering if such notification would not be of value towards reducing this figure.

To return to further details of the Infantile Mortality. We had our first death from Sonne dysentery this year (a child of one month who caught it from an older brother). Premature birth did not cause a death after the age of one day, and most of the other neonates died after operations such as pyloric stenosis, and birth injury or pneumonia. After the age of one month, respiratory disease accounted for most deaths. Whereas the infant deaths were nearly all in the winter months, the stillbirths occurred largely in the June quarter.

Of notifications of infectious diseases, all showed a definite reduction on 1951 and 1952's figures except whooping cough, and I can see no reason why this should not be much reduced now that immunisation has reached such a high standard of perfection. Dysentery has raised its head again, to a figure midway between those of 1951 and 1952. Our three persons suffering from food poisoning all obtained the offending article outside the Borough, two of them having eaten cold tongue cooked at the home of relatives. Of Tuberculosis notifications, the decrease has been chiefly among those aged 45 and over, during the past 2 years.



Our services for social welfare have been even more active, the meals on wheels service having required a further van, and the Holiday Home kept well filled even during the winter months (thanks largely to the admirable liaison with King Edward's Hospital Fund and the various local Health Authorities in all parts of England). A further full-time Old People's Club is being negotiated, and we have enlisted the aid of more voluntary visitors to supplement the Council's welfare staff with evening visits to the homebound (In the body of this report, I have tried to indicate how these services reduce the pressure on hospital beds).

The Sanitary Inspectors have been more than usually occupied with clearance areas and underground rooms this year, vacant sites also giving more trouble. Their dealings with outworkers have taken more attention but verminous premises have caused less worry, although more articles have been treated by steam disinfection. The Inspectorate have already done good work under the new Fireguards Regulations, and it is hoped that this will cause a lessening of tragedies among old people and young children.

The efforts of the Rodent staff continue to reduce the rat population, complaints also having been fewer and of a less serious nature, especially in dwelling houses.

Our food hygiene campaign has even further intensified, especially by personal contact and the handing out of special leaflets to those concerned, our new abbreviated leaflet having been handed also to the food handler in each household where Sonne dysentery occurred. Results have been manifest in the absence of food poisoning, and it is hoped that the widespread health education may soon bear fruit even in the households with dysentery, by preventing recurrences. We have been able to reduce flybreeding by weekly application of gammexane to all dustbins (through the good offices of the Cleansing Department), but unfortunately the prevention of dysentery spread demands active co-operation from each individual concerned, and, in the same way that "driving a horse to the water" is not necessarily effective, so the provision of free washing facilities and constant admonition about handwashing, are slower in producing the desired barrier against spread of Sonne than of flies. In other words, as I have said so often before, if everyone thoroughly washed his (or her) hands immediately before handling food, and also after visiting the "lavatory", Sonne dysentery would soon join the list of extinct diseases, instead of being such a widespread source of discomfort and even of danger.

I wish to place on record my great appreciation of the whole-hearted efforts made by the staff again this year, and of the backing received from the whole Council (especially the Health and Welfare Committees), as well as for the financial support given so unstintingly by such bodies as the King Edward's Hospital Fund, the Sun Babies Trustees and others too numerous to mention individually.

Yours faithfully,

B. BROADBENT,

Medical Officer of Health.



PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE  
(to May 1953)

BOROUGH WELFARE COMMITTEE  
(to May 1953)

Ex-officio: Councillor W.E.VARNALS, J.P. (Mayor)

Chairman: Coun. SMITH, Mrs. E.E.

Chairman: Coun. HEBDEN, W., J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Coun. WICKS, A.E.,  
L.C.C.

Vice-Chairman: Coun. HIGGINS, Mrs.  
M.I., M.B.E.

Alderman Rev. MEREDITH DAVIES, M.B.E.  
" TOUCHARD, G.J.

Alderman KELLETT, Miss E.  
" TOUCHARD, G.J.

Councillor BAMFORD, G.H.J.

Councillor ANDERSON, J.

" HIGGINS, Mrs. M.I., M.B.E.

" COYNE, W., J.P.

" HUMPHREYS, F.

" GIRLING, Mrs. H.,  
O.B.E., J.P.

" LANDAU, S.

" HURLEY, J.J.

" LOWE, H.A.

" SMITH, Mrs. E.E.

" RUTMAN, P.

" SWALES, R.T.J.

" THURTLÉ, Mrs. D., J.P.

" WELCH, J.A.

" VARNALS, Mrs. A.E.,  
A.B.A.T.D.

" WICKS, A.E., L.C.C.

" WELCH, J.A.

" WRAY, D.

(Co-opted) Lady Cynthia COLVILLE,  
D.C.V.O., J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE  
(May 1953 to May 1954)

BOROUGH WELFARE COMMITTEE  
(May 1953 to May 1954.)

Ex-officio: Councillor Mrs. E. E. SMITH, J.P. (Mayor)

Chairman: Coun. LINALE, R.G.

Chairman: Coun. HIGGINS, Mrs. M.I.,  
M.B.E.

Vice-Chairman: Coun. WICKS, A.E.,  
L.C.C.

Vice-Chairman: Coun. HEBDEN, W., J.P.

Alderman Rev. MEREDITH DAVIES, M.B.E.  
Councillor EVERETT, A.J.

Alderman WRAY, D.  
Councillor ANDERSON, J.

" HIGGINS, Mrs. M.I., M.B.E.

" GIRLING, Mrs. H.,  
O.B.E., J.P.

" HUMPHREYS, F.

" HURLEY, J.J.

" KEEN, T.

" JONES, C.F.D.

" RUTMAN, P.

" QUICK, T.G.

" RICHARDSON, J.

" RICHARDSON, J.

" ROBERTSON, H.T.L.

" ROBERTSON, H.T.L.

" SELWOOD, G.L.

" SWALES, R.T.J.

" TOUCHARD, G.J.

" TOUCHARD, G.J.

" VARNALS, Mrs. A.E.,  
A.B.A.T.D.

" VARNALS, W.E.

(Co-opted) Lady Cynthia COLVILLE,  
D.C.V.O., D.B.E., J.P.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health	B. BROADBENT, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector and Administrative Assistant.	DAVID GRANT, F.S.I.A. (a) (b)
Food & Drugs, Food Inspector and Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector.	F.C. SHAW, F.S.I.A. (a) (b)
Sanitary Inspectors.	R. BANKS, M.S.I.A. (a) (b) (Routine Food Premises Inspections) V. CROFT, M.S.I.A. (a) (b) (Commenced 14.12.53) G.C.E. GIBBS, M.S.I.A. (a) (b) J.B. MOLLOY, M.S.I.A. (a) (b) A.W.E. PORTER, M.S.I.A. (a) (b) A.H. CHAPPELL, B.Sc., M.S.I.A. (a) (b) (Resigned 12.9.53) F.A. FREEMAN, M.S.I.A. (a) (b) (commenced 25.2.53, resigned 30.11.53)
Clerks	B.M.R. LEIGH E.A. CHRISTIAN G.A. POPE D.J. CROSS (H.M. Forces) R.J. DAVIES ( " " ) J.R. GREIG ( " " ) H.J. KEMP Miss E. REEVES J.A. HUME (temp.) J. WORKER ( " ) J.E. SCOTT ( " )
Rodent Foreman/Clerk and Disinfecting Supervisor	H. BRYANT
Mortuary Superintendent and Post-mortem Attendant.	C. HAGON
Welfare Officer and Organiser of Clubs.	Mrs. J.E. ADAMS
Assistant Welfare Officer.	Mrs. I.E. PIKE
Assistant Organiser of Clubs.	W.A. FANSHAW, M.A., B.Sc.(Econ.)
Shoreditch Holiday and Rest Home.	
Visiting Medical Officer	B.C. MORTON PALMER, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., L.M.S.S.A.
Matron	Miss F.M. STACEY, S.R.N., C.M.B.
Public Analyst (part-time)	H. AMPHLETT WILLIAMS, Ph.D., A.C.G.F.C., F.R.I.C.

Notes:-

- (a) Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate.
- (b) Food Inspectors' Certificate.



# I. - STATISTICS AND GENERAL INFORMATION.

Area of Borough	...	...	...	662 acres
Population, Census 1951	...	...	...	44,871
Population, Registrar-General's estimate, mid-1953	...	...	...	45,770
Number of houses, including separately rated flats (end of 1953) according to rate books..	...	...	...	12,026
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£640,325
Sum represented by penny rate	...	...	...	£2,540

A great variety of industries is carried on in the borough's 1,295 factories. Furniture-making is one of the most common of these, and one which is by tradition firmly established in the borough. The number of home workers notified under the Factories Act who are resident in the borough is approximately 350.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1953.

		Male	Female	Total
Live births - Legitimate	...	382	394	776
Illegitimate	...	20	19	39
Birth rate (crude rate)	...	...	...	17.80
" " (adjusted for Area Comparability Factor 0.88)	...	...	...	15.66
Still births - 20. rate per 1,000 total births.	...	...	...	23.95
Deaths - Males 325, Females 290	-			615
Death rate (crude rate)	...	...	...	13.43
" " (adjusted for Area Comparability Factor 1.04)	...	...	...	13.96
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth -	...	...	...	Nil
Infant deaths - Legitimate	...	18		
Illegitimate	...	Nil		
" " (Rate per 1,000 live births)...	...	...	...	22.08
Neo-natal death rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	12.27
Deaths from measles (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil
" " whooping cough (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil
" " diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)...	...	...	...	1
" " pulmonary tuberculosis.	...	...	...	11
" " all forms of tuberculosis	...	...	...	13
Death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis	...	...	...	0.24
" " " all forms of tuberculosis	...	...	...	0.28



Comparative vital statistics of the Borough during recent years are given in the following table :-

Year	Popu- lation estimated to middle of each year	Births			Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable deaths		Nett deaths belonging to the District			
		Un- corrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate	of Non- residents regis- tered in the District	Of residents not regis- tered in the District	Under 1 year of age		At all ages	
			Number	Rate					Num- ber	Rate per 1,000 nett Births	Num- ber	Rate
1942	34900	255	642	18.4	447	12.8	119	283	33	50	611	17.5
1943	35460	262	671	18.9	548	15.5	283	218	31	46	556	15.7
1944	35390	241	663	18.7	599	16.9	210	195	24	36	584	16.5
1945	36760	262	697	19.0	722	19.6	156	193	27	39	603	16.4
1946	42600	486	995	23.4	624	14.6	174	164	32	32	614	14.4
1947	44610	471	1044	23.2	610	13.7	169	220	43	41	661	14.8
1948	44960	385	853	19.0	511	11.4	158	177	21	25	530	11.8
1949	45200	351	864	19.1	552	12.2	171	212	33	38	593	13.1
1950	44800	285	791	17.7	565	12.6	178	168	24	30	555	12.4
1951	45010	278	830	18.4	586	13.0	179	195	13	16	602	13.4
1952	45800	246	829	18.1	517	11.3	172	214	23	28	559	12.2
1953	45770	213	815	15.7	500	10.9	78	193	18	22	615	13.9

#### GENERAL INFORMATION.

Shoreditch is a district of irregular shape, of which the two longest diameters measure approximately one-and-a-half miles. Its boundaries are as follows :- Hackney, N. and N.E.; Bethnal Green, E.; Stepney, S.E.; City, S.; Finsbury, W.; Islington, N. and N.W. The average height of the Borough above sea-level is 60 feet.

The subsoil of the Borough is London clay with many pockets of gravel. Some areas are covered to a depth of three feet with a good quality sandy gravel on this subsoil.

House Refuse. - The removal of house refuse is under the administrative control of the Cleansing and Transport Superintendent.

Hospitals. - Within the Borough:

St. Matthew's Hospital, Shepherdess Walk, N.1.

St. Leonard's Hospital, Nuttall Street, N.1.

Royal Chest Hospital, City Road, E.C.1.

Ambulance Facilities. - Ambulances are provided by the London County Council.

Venereal Diseases. - Posters and notices are displayed at the conveniences in the Borough, drawing attention to the facilities available at local Hospitals.

Public Mortuary. - The arrangement with Bethnal Green Borough Council, whose mortuary is staffed by a mortuary keeper employed by this Council serving both boroughs was continued. During the year 314 bodies were deposited and 302 post-mortem examinations were made.



## CAUSES OF DEATH, WITH AGE DISTRIBUTION.

CAUSES OF DEATH	A G E S								S E X		Total deaths due to each cause.
	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	Over 75	Males	Females	
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-	2	2	3	3	1	6	5	11
2. Tuberculosis, other forms	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	2
3. Syphilitic disease ...	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	3	-	3
4. Diphtheria ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Measles ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	-	-	-	1	3	7	4	12	3	15
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	-	-	-	-	1	19	7	5	25	7	32
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	5	1	12	13
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	4	4
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	-	-	-	2	1	15	13	11	25	17	42
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
16. Diabetes ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	3	4
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system..	-	-	-	-	-	10	27	40	36	41	77
18. Coronary disease, angina.	-	-	-	-	1	14	26	23	40	24	64
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	-	-	-	-	1	4	5	18	7	21	28
20. Other heart disease ...	-	-	-	-	3	8	11	58	37	43	80
21. Other circulatory disease.	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	18	11	15	26
22. Influenza ...	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	2	3	5
23. Pneumonia ...	4	1	-	-	2	5	10	13	22	13	35
24. Bronchitis ...	2	-	-	-	-	9	21	34	39	27	66
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	2	7	2	9
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	5	7	2	9
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis..	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	3	4	3	7
29. Hyperplasia of prostate..	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	7	-	7
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations.	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
32. Other defined and ill- defined diseases ...	8	2	-	-	1	8	9	20	18	30	48
33. Motor Vehicle accidents..	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
34. All other accidents ...	-	-	2	-	2	3	-	4	6	5	11
35. Suicide ...	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	4	4	8
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Deaths (all causes)	18	3	2	7	21	123	164	277	325	290	615

## II. - POPULATION, BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

The Registrar-General's estimate for the mid-year 1953 population was 45,770, a decrease of 30 on the previous year. This figure is used for statistical purposes throughout the report. The density of the population is 69 persons per acre.

The Area Comparability factors for the borough are Births 0.88 and Deaths 1.04, and the rates shown in this report have been adjusted accordingly.

### BIRTHS.

The numbers of registered live births allocated to the borough during the calendar year 1953 were as follows

Total live births - (legitimate and illegitimate)

Males	...	...	...	402
Females	...	...	...	<u>413</u>
			Total	815

Illegitimate live births -

Males	...	...	...	20
Females	...	...	...	<u>19</u>
			Total	39

The birth rate for the borough was 15.66. For England and Wales the birth rate was 15.5 and for London 17.5. The illegitimate births represented 4.78 per cent of all births in the borough, the figure for England and Wales being 4.6 per cent.

### STILLBIRTHS.

The number of registered stillbirths allocated to the borough was 20 or 2.4 per cent of all births.

### MARRIAGES.

The number of marriages during the year was 457 and the marriage rate was 20.0 per 1,000 population. The marriage rate for the Metropolis was 19.7 and that for England and Wales 15.6.



DEATHS.

During 1953 the gross number of deaths registered in the borough was 500.

The number of transferable deaths was as follows :-

Deaths of non-residents registered in Shoreditch, 78

Deaths of Shoreditch residents registered elsewhere, 193.

The number of deaths which must be debited to Shoreditch is accordingly 615 which gives a nett death rate of 13.96 per 1,000 population. In connection with these deaths 23 inquests were held. The death rate for England & Wales was 11.4 and for London 12.5. Altogether 434 or 70.5 per cent of the people belonging to Shoreditch who died during the year, died in public institutions.

The table on page 8 showing causes of deaths at all ages has been supplied by the Registrar-General.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The deaths of infants under one year numbered 18 of which 11 were males. These deaths amounted to 2.92 per cent of the total net Shoreditch deaths from all causes as compared with 4.11 per cent in 1952. The infantile mortality rate (death rate of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births) for Shoreditch was 22.08, the rate for England & Wales being 26.8 and for London 24.8. No illegitimate infants died.

The number of deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age registered during the year was 10, which gives a neo-natal mortality rate of 12.27.

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN THE BOROUGH DURING 1953.

CAUSE OF DEATH	A G E S										SEX		Total deaths under 1 year
	Under 1 day	1 day to 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9-12 months	Male	Female	
Dysentery ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pneumonia ... ..	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	-	3	1	4
Bronchitis ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	2
Congenital Malformation..	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Prematurity ... ..	4	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	2	2	4
Other defined diseases...	3	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	1	-	3	2	5
	8	3	-	-	-	11	3	2	2	-	11	7	18

MATERNAL MORTALITY, 1953.

No maternal death was recorded during the year.

The maternal mortality rates in England and Wales and in Shoreditch during the past seven years are given below :-

	Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births						
	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947
England and Wales	0.76	0.72	0.79	0.86	0.98	1.02	1.17
Shoreditch	Nil	Nil	1.18	Nil	1.13	1.17	Nil

CANCER.

The deaths from cancer in the Borough during the year numbered 106 as compared with 104 in 1952.

BURIAL OF THE DEAD.

Under Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948 the Borough Council is responsible for arranging for the burial or cremation of any person who has died or been found dead in their area, and where no other suitable arrangements for burial have been made or are being made. During the year 5 burials were carried out.

III. INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

During the year the number of notifications received (excluding tuberculosis and food poisoning) was 840. Of these cases 23 were found not to be suffering from the disease stated on the certificate, which gives a corrected number of 817 cases for the year.

SMALLPOX AND VACCINATION.

No case of smallpox occurred in the Borough during the year and no vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.



CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1953.  
(confirmed diagnosis).

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	Total number of confirmed cases	A G E S							Deaths
		Under 1 year	1 - 5 years	5 - 15 years	15 - 25 years	25 - 45 years	45 - 65 years	65 years (plus)	
Scarlet fever ... ..	67	1	24	40	1	1	-	-	-
Diphtheria ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid ... ..	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia. ...	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Acute primary and influenzal pneumonia ... ..	33	1	6	7	3	7	1	8	-
Erysipelas ... ..	5	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	-
Meningococcal infection...	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum ...	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis - paralytic	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
- non-paralytic	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery. ... ..	91	9	34	35	3	8	1	1	1
Measles... ..	394	22	267	105	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping cough ... ..	212	22	123	67	-	-	-	-	-
Scabies... ..	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria... ..	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Totals ... ..	817	61	455	259	9	18	5	10	1
Tuberculosis - pulmonary..	55	-	3	5	14	22	8	3	11
- non-pulmonary..	5	-	-	1	2	1	1	-	2
Food Poisoning ... ..	3	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-

The following diseases are notifiable in this Borough:

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Authority for notification</u>
Acute encephalitis	Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 143) Reg.No.2259 made by Minister of Health, 1949 (1.1.50)
Acute primary or influenzal pneumonia	Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 143) Reg.No.299 made by Minister of Health, 1953 (1.4.53)
Acute poliomyelitis	Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 143) Reg.No.2259 made by Minister of Health, 1949 (1.1.50)
Anthrax	Public Health (London) Act, 1936 (Section 192 and 305)
Cholera	Public Health (London) Act, 1936 (Section 192 and 304)
Continued fever	Do.
Diphtheria	Do.
Dysentery	Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 143) Reg.No.299 made by Minister of Health, 1953 (1.4.53)

DiseaseAuthority for Notification.

Enteric fever (including typhoid and para-typhoid)	Public Health (London) Act, 1936 (Section 192 and 304)
Erysipelas	Reg.No.299 made by Minister of Health 1953 (1.4.53) Public Health (London) Act, 1936 (Section 192 and 304)
Food Poisoning	Food & Drugs Act, 1938 (Section 17 as amended by National Health Service Act, 1946)
Glanders	Public Health (London) Act, 1936 (Section 192 and 305)
Hydrophobia	Do.
Leprosy	Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 143) Reg.No.1036 made by Minister of Health, 1951 (22.6.51)
Malaria	Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 143) Reg.No. 299 made by Minister of Health, 1953 (1.4.53)
Measles	Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 143) Regs.Nos.1100 205 and 420 made by Minister of Health, 1938, 1940 and 1948.
Membranous croup	Public Health (London) Act, 1936 (Section 192 and 304)
Meningococcal infection	Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 143) Reg.No.2259 made by Minister of Health, 1949 (1.1.50)
Ophthalmia neonatorum	Public Health (London) Act, 1936 (Section 192 and 305) and Reg.No.971 made by Minister of Health, 1926 (1.10.26) amended by S.R.O. 1928 No.419 and 1937, No.35.
Plague	Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 143). Regulations of Local Government Board, 1900.
Puerperal pyrexia	Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 143). Regulations made by Minister of Health, 1951. No.1081
Relapsing fever	Public Health (London) Act, 1936 (Section 192 and 304)
Scabies (first case in house within 4 weeks)	Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 143). Reg.No.1016 made by Minister of Health, 1943 (1.8.43)
Scarlatina or scarlet fever	Public Health (London) Act, 1936 (Section 192 and 304)
Smallpox	Do.
Tuberculosis	Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 143). Reg.No.704 made by Minister of Health, 1952 (1.5.52)
Typhus fever	Public Health (London) Act, 1936 (Section 192 and 304)
Whooping cough	Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 143). Regs.Nos.1100, 205 and 420 made by Minister of Health, 1938, 1940 and 1948.



BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The Laboratory at the Mile End Hospital continued to carry out examinations of swabs and specimens on behalf of this Council until the beginning of December when it was arranged that these examinations should be undertaken by the Bacteriological Laboratory of the Medical Research Council which is accommodated at County Hall.

Records of examinations carried out during the year are as follows :-

Mile End Laboratory.

## Nose and Throat Swabs:

Diphtheria Bacilli present	...	...	-	
Haemolytic Streptococci present.	...	...	14	
Organisms of Vincent's Angina present..	...	...	-	
Negative results	...	...	25	
Total..				39

## Faeces specimens:

Shigella Sonnei isolated	...	...	105	
Negative results	...	...	282	
Total..				387

Bacteriological Laboratory  
of the M.R.C.

## Nose and Throat Swabs:

Negative results	...	...	...	2
------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

## Faeces specimens:

Shigella Sonnei isolated	...	...	78	
Negative results	...	...	90	
Total..				168

Ice Cream samples	...	...	...	6
-------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

Swimming bath water	...	...	...	17
---------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

FOOD POISONING.

No outbreak of food poisoning occurred in this borough during the year, the only individual cases being as follows :-

- (1) A girl aged 7 years was notified by the hospital to which she had been taken as a bacteriologically confirmed case of salmonella typhi murium. On enquiry it was found that the only article of food she had, different from the other members of the family who had no ill effects, was a "toffee lollie" purchased from a shop in an adjoining borough. This information was passed to the local authority concerned.
- (2) A man aged 32 years and a woman aged 66 years, were guests at a wedding reception at Acton where an outbreak occurred. Bacteriological examination of tongue which had been cooked privately and which was eaten at the meal revealed staphylococcus aureus. Both patients were admitted to hospital, the man recovering after 4 days and the woman being discharged after 11 days.

IV. - TUBERCULOSIS.

Notifications - Fifty-five new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and five of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1953 compared with 56 pulmonary and 6 non-pulmonary notifications in 1952. The following table gives the age grouping of new cases notified.

AGE PERIODS	FORMAL NOTIFICATIONS. Number of primary notifications of new cases.													
	0 - 1	1 - 2	2 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 25	25 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 55	55 - 65	65 - 75	75 and upwards	Total (all ages)
Pulmonary, Males	-	-	1	2	-	3	2	7	2	2	5	2	1	27
" Females	-	-	2	3	-	3	6	8	5	-	1	-	-	28
Non-pulmonary, Males	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
" Females	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Total	-	-	3	5	1	6	10	15	8	3	6	2	1	60

The following table gives the number of cases which came to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health otherwise than by formal notification, and the source from which information was obtained.

Source of information					Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
					M	F	M	F
Death Returns	...	...	...	...	-	-	-	-
Transfers from other areas.			...	...	17	17	3	1
Other sources	...	...	...	...	-	-	-	-
Total					17	17	3	1



## Details of cases removed from Register during the year -

Reason for removal	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Withdrawal of notification ... ..	1	-	-	-
Recovery from disease ... ..	7	11	2	2
Death ... ..	10	6	2	2
Otherwise (e.g. removal from district) ..	19	16	2	1
Total ...	37	33	6	5

## Revision of Notification Register -

	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		TOTAL
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
No. of cases on Register at 31st December, 1952 ...	402	328	123	94	947
No. added during year ...	44	45	6	3	98
No. removed during year ...	37	33	6	5	81
No. of cases on Register at 31st December, 1953 ...	409	340	123	92	964

The following table shows the incidence of cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from that disease for the last twelve years :-

Year	Notification rate per 1,000 population			Death rate per 1,000 population		
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	All Forms	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	All Forms
1942 ...	1.66	0.57	2.23	1.34	0.06	1.40
1943 ...	2.31	0.39	2.71	1.30	0.17	1.47
1944 ...	2.12	0.23	2.35	0.76	0.09	0.85
1945 ...	1.74	0.38	2.12	0.95	0.14	1.09
1946 ...	1.83	0.24	2.07	0.92	0.09	1.01
1947 ...	1.55	0.22	1.77	0.67	0.07	0.74
1948 ...	1.62	0.18	1.80	0.77	0.07	0.84
1949 ...	1.28	0.29	1.57	0.73	0.11	0.84
1950 ...	1.36	0.18	1.54	0.38	0.07	0.45
1951 ...	1.48	0.16	1.64	0.35	0.00	0.35
1952 ...	1.22	0.13	1.35	0.28	0.02	0.30
1953 ...	1.20	0.11	1.31	0.24	0.04	0.28



The following table gives the age grouping of deaths from tuberculosis:-

Age periods	0 - 1	1 - 5	5 - 15	15 - 25	25 - 45	45 - 65	65 - 75	75 and upwards	Total
Pulmonary, Males ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	1	6
" Females ... ..	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	-	5
Non-pulmonary, Males ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
" Females... ..	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1

During the year Sanitary Inspectors visited all new cases of tuberculosis notified and also inspected the homes of all persons discharged from hospital or removing from another area into this borough.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

These regulations prohibit a person suffering from tuberculosis, and who is in an infectious condition, from following any employment or occupation in connection with a dairy which would involve the milking of cows, the treatment of milk, or the handling of vessels used for containing milk. No formal action was necessary during the year.

#### MASS MINIATURE RADIOGRAPHY.

I am indebted to the Director of Mass Radiography Unit 6D (Dr. Thompson) for the following information -

Introduction. During 1953 the Unit examined 33,913 males and 26,312 females, making a total of 60,225 persons. Active tuberculosis has been found in 85 cases which represents 1.4 per thousand examined.

The Unit operated at the Mass Radiography Centre, 20, Golden Lane, London, E.C.1. for about 9 months during the year, viz., from January to April inclusive, and from August to December inclusive. The main proportion of examinees attending the Centre are employed in the City of London, although firms in the Metropolitan Boroughs of Finsbury and Shoreditch also sent their staff, as the Centre is favourably situated for these Boroughs.

During the remaining period of the year Surveys were carried out at a number of firms, etc. Special attention might be drawn to the Survey carried out at Shoreditch (26th June to 9th July). The Unit operated in the News Room of the Central Library, 236, Kingsland Road, E.2 by kind permission of the Libraries Committee.

Prior to the Survey, firms in Shoreditch were circulated by the Public Health Department; the Medical Officer of Health emphasising in his letter the value and importance of the Mass Radiography Service. Detailed programmes of appointments were prepared by the Unit and sent to the firms concerned. Where appointments were not kept, efforts were made to provide alternative dates. Neighbouring hospitals were informed and doctors in the vicinity of the Central Library were invited to send their patients.

Nearly 200 firms as well as all the hospitals participated in the Survey, 14 cases were referred to Chest Clinics, of which 4 (all men) were found to be suffering from active tuberculosis. 2,437 Patients were examined in this particular survey (1,586 males and 851 females).

Method of operation. While the Unit functioned at the Mass Radiography Centre, the sessions were as hereunder :-

Morning Sessions - 9.15 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Afternoon Sessions - 2.0 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Miniature film sessions were held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, of which half were allocated to men and half to women, although it has been found necessary, owing to a preponderance of men to increase the number of men's sessions per week, and decrease the women's sessions. Tuesdays and Thursdays were devoted to reading miniature films, taking and reading large films and interviews by the Medical Director. This procedure enabled results to be quickly available, which has been greatly appreciated by examinees.

Examinees have been asked to bring to the Unit a stamped (2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d) envelope bearing his (or her) name and private address in order to receive the result of their examination, and no adverse comments have been received from the



adoption of this procedure. Examinees are also asked to complete before arrival at the Unit a form (sample of which is supplied to the firm) on which personal details are requested. By completing this form and the questionnaire before arrival at the Unit much time is saved, and certain information is forthcoming on the first visit which in the past has often not been discovered until subsequent visits.

When the Unit has been mobile the sessions may have had to be slightly modified to those cited above in order to suit working conditions of the firm concerned. Where firms have an internal postal system, this has been greatly used for the distribution of examination results, and by its means results are more quickly distributed.

The Unit has also continued its practice of X-raying over the clothes for the miniature film, although examinees strip to the waist for the second (large) film. Men have been asked to remove coat and waistcoat on arrival in the X-ray room, while women have been requested to avoid wearing, on the day of the examination, - clothing that has trimmings, buttons, clips, etc., above the waistline. As experience has shown that dresses made from painted materials occasionally threw up shadows, ladies were also advised not to wear such dresses on the day of the examination. These instructions have been embodied in the communication issued to firms and individuals when sending their programme of appointments. From the outset the Unit adopted an appointments system at the Mass Radiography Centre, and this method has been particularly appreciated by firms who realise the considerable saving thereby, in examinees' time. Some of the larger organisations examined by the Unit have provided their own transport, in order to reduce the time of absence from work.

Medical procedure. The Unit has continued its practice of referring abnormal cases (after an interview with the Medical Director) to the appropriate Chest Clinic, through the examinee's own doctor. A form for the ultimate diagnosis is sent to the Chest Clinic for completion and return to the Unit, and this information is entered upon the examinee's card. We are grateful to the doctors and Chest Clinics for their helpful co-operation.

The Unit has classified its abnormal miniatures, and in cases of old lesion scars or abnormal hearts, etc., special letters have been issued instead of the usual notification card, as it was felt the latter was not appropriate.

Where any investigation is outside the purview of a Chest Clinic, the case was referred to St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Appreciation of this valuable co-operation by Dr. N.C. Oswald and his colleagues is gratefully acknowledged.

All clinics and hospitals have recorded the findings of the sputum if available.

The sputum positive results are as follows:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Domiciled in the County of London	5	3
Domiciled extra Metropolitan	7	Nil



Small these figures may seem, and no doubt from the character of some of the lesions a subsequent examination will probably give a positive result, the fact is that at least 150 persons every day are expectorating live virulent bacilli in the square mile of the City of London. About eleven per cent of the working population were examined in the twelve months, from which these figures have been deduced.

These undetected people are habitually travelling in crowded trains and buses, eating in congested restaurants, perhaps working in overcrowded offices, and the sufferer, his family, and the general public are not aware of the peril to which they are subjected.

I am indebted to the Secretary, Miss E.B. Guest, for the following report of

SHOREDITCH TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE.

Report of Care Work for the year ended

31st December, 1953.

"During 1953 the work of the Shoreditch Tuberculosis Care Committee continued along familiar lines and the Care Fund, which was as usual obtained mostly through the Christmas Seal Sale, was used to provide extra necessities unobtainable through other channels.

£283. nett was added to the fund through this medium. In addition, the United Charities of St. Leonard gave £17.10.0., and £20. came from the London County Council Sunday Cinema Entertainments Fund.

Now that the Chest Clinic is housed in more attractive premises, the Handicraft Class has been revived and an average of thirteen patients meet at the Clinic on Wednesday afternoons to make leather goods, lampshades, etc., and to do weaving and embroidery and learn all sorts of other interesting crafts. The London County Council pays the fees of an Occupational Therapist and the tools and materials are provided through the Tuberculosis Care Fund. Tea and biscuits also are given and a very happy and useful afternoon is spent. Patients are enabled, if they so desire, to buy the articles they make at cost price, paying by instalments, or, if the goods are taken into stock and subsequently sold elsewhere, the maker is paid for the work done. The patients' interests appear to be very varied and everyone seems to be able to do the kind of work in which they are most interested. At Christmas time a party was given to the members of the class, at which the Mayor of Shoreditch and the Chairman of the Tuberculosis Care Committee were present. We hope that more patients will join the class as time goes on.

Another special inroad into the fund was made in 1953 when it was found that certain patients who were in receipt of National Assistance could not continue to receive from the London County Council two pints of milk daily, free, and 1 lb. Horlicks or other patent food per month, as heretofore, as it



was found that their official assistance grant already included an allowance for extra nourishment. After full consideration and as these patients were still below the L.C.C. scale for free extra nourishment, the Care Committee agreed to provide  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint milk free daily to the ten patients concerned, together with 1 lb, patent food per month. It was regretted that the fund could not allow a larger quantity of milk to be provided free, but the cost of this would have been altogether prohibitive for such a small fund.

Other purposes to which the fund has been put by way of an endeavour to fit patients for a return to earning capacity include the following :-

Payment for driving lessons to enable a young man to pass his driving test. He has since obtained a job as a driver.

A young girl, who was not considered suitable to stand up to L.C.C. evening classes, was enabled to take on a correspondence course in typing through the British Council for rehabilitation. The hire of the necessary typewriter was arranged through the Care Fund. This patient has made steady progress as a copy typist and it is hoped that she also will soon be placed in suitable employment.

Arrangements were made for a good many patients to take advantage of the London County Council's recuperative holiday scheme and they all enjoyed some happy weeks at one of the Spero Holiday Homes at the Isle of Wight, Ramsgate, or Alton. In most cases the Care Fund was called upon to provide patients with necessary extra clothing.

We find that some of the old ways of assisting are still essential - in particular, the payment of fares to relatives wishing to visit patients in Sanatorium. Also, help with wireless expenses is still given when required.

Christmas gifts of 10/- each were given from the fund to 20 elderly patients, and cigarettes for the ward for tuberculous men in St. Leonard's Hospital were provided for Christmas.

Some patients have, as on many past occasions, received help from other voluntary societies, such as the Forces Help Society, and the Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmen's Families' Association and for this and for all other help in money or kind we express our grateful thanks.

A Statement of Receipts and Payments for the financial year to 31st March, 1954, is attached, and given below are the figures for care work for the year 1953 :-

Number of cases assisted by Shoreditch Tuberculosis Fund :-

Clothing.	44.
Fares.	108.
Pocket Money.	3.
Loans.	12.
Rent Arrears.	4.
Removal Expenses.	3.
Money grants.	9.
Help with wireless expenses.	7.
Other help.	9.



## Cases referred for extra help to :-

National Assistance Board.	14.
London County Council (Clothing)	3.
S.S.A.F.A.	1.
Wireless for the Bedridden.	1.
Sherriff's Fund.	1.
Forces Help Society.	5.
Shaftesbury Society.	6.
Visits to the home.	232.
Interviews at Clinic.	611.
Letters in.	339.
Letters out (including milk forms).	682."

V. - SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICE.

I propose this year to summarise this service under headings which illustrate this Borough's methods adopted:-

Towards Conserving Hospital Beds.

1. A comprehensive register of old age pensioners is kept up-to-date. This contains on an average 4,000 names (8 $\frac{3}{4}$ % of total population) although names are removed at once when they appear on our weekly death returns, whereas new pensioners are slower in coming to our notice.
2. Two visitors are employed most of their time in keeping touch with pensioners, and other bodies, to ensure optimum health, e.g:-
  - (a) They ensure that every pensioner is on a medical practitioner's list, and contact him immediately on finding anything amiss,
  - (b) Home Help is secured from L.C.C. wherever needed,
  - (c) Home Nursing is ensured where essential, by certificate either from a general practitioner, or from M.O.H.
  - (d) Meals on Wheels are distributed to homebound in Council transport by W.V.S., B.R.C.S., and our staff,
  - (e) The National Assistance Board is regularly contacted for cash, bedding, fireguards, etc.,
  - (f) Medical Practitioners, relatives, neighbours, etc., are kept alert for each one in difficulty,
  - (g) Free secondhand furniture is provided where essential (a pool is kept ready disinfected),
  - (h) Bathing, under supervision, and followed by a hot drink in warm quarters (with transport provided),
  - (i) Disinfection and cleaning by Town Hall staff,
  - (j) Sanitary Inspectors, Housing staff, etc., have very close liaison,
  - (k) A pool of bathchairs, bedpans, etc., is kept for free issue.



3. Full-time and part-time Clubs keep hands and minds occupied (with handicrafts, games, papers etc.), as well as providing meals (two course lunch 10d, tea 1d, cakes 1d, etc.), outings to sea and pantomimes, etc
4. A Holiday Home in Sussex where every pensioner is encouraged to spend a fortnight once or twice a year for 10/- to 15/- a week.
5. Library books are regularly taken to and collected from the homebound.
6. S.O.S. Cards (containing all particulars of the individual) are given to each one living alone.
7. If the above aids fail to keep the old person well enough to remain at home, the visitors contact the Almoner at St. Matthew's Hospital, giving details of home conditions, ailments, etc., and if she is in doubt as to urgency of admission, Dr. Stern visits from the hospital, thus deciding degree of priority.

The Almoner keeps our Welfare staff informed of all -

- (a) put on waiting list,
- (b) admitted to hospital,
- (c) discharged from hospital, - sometimes even before discharge, so that Welfare staff can lay on Home Help, District Nurse, etc., and ensure cleanliness and dryness of home (discharge is thus effected with more confidence at an earlier stage). If in need of a recuperative holiday, this is timed to coincide with the discharge, and the patient taken direct to our Holiday Home in our own coach kept for the purpose.
- (d) deaths, - the remaining partner then receives extra attention from the Welfare staff, while if the deceased had lived alone, disposal of his goods is arranged and the accommodation rapidly re-let after disinfection.

The numbers of persons attending the Holiday Home at Copthorne during 1953 were as follows:-

Adults	...	...	...	206
10-18 years	...	...	...	18
5-10 years	...	...	...	54
9 months - 5 years	...	...	...	131
Under 9 months	...	...	...	52
Old people	...	...	...	212
Conference members	...	...	...	16



The following table shows the average attendances at the Old People's Clubs during the year.

(1) Old People's Clubs.	(2) Average number of attendances						(3) Av. weekly No. of	
	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	Dinners	Teas
Hoxton Hall ... M. (2.30 - 4.30 p.m.) ... F.	8 24				8 88			131
Bell ... M. (10.30 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.) F.	34 12	37 17	39 18	38 16	40 22		103	286
Haggerston ... M. (2.30 - 4.30 p.m.) ... F.			8 46	8 51			7	112
Moorfields ... M. (10.30 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.) F.	7 2	8 8	10 8	8 2	8 3		42	73

#### VI.- SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

The following tables summarize the visits of inspection and the work of the Sanitary Inspectors during 1953.

##### INSPECTIONS.

Housing Act, 1936, Section 5	...	...	...	1,451
Housing Act, 1936, Section 9	...	...	...	1
Housing Act, 1936, Section 12	...	...	...	95
Clearance Areas ...	...	...	...	133
Other Dwellings ...	...	...	...	2,621
Premises not specified below	...	...	...	1,839
Factories - mechanical ...	...	...	...	963
Factories - non-mechanical.	...	...	...	135
Rag Flock Act, 1951 ...	...	...	...	54
Pet Animals Act 1951 ...	...	...	...	32
Outworkers ...	...	...	...	409
Hairdressers ..	...	...	...	109
Bakehouses ...	...	...	...	36
Milkshops ...	...	...	...	116
Cookshops ...	...	...	...	185
Fried Fish shops	...	...	...	29
Ice Cream shops	...	...	...	181
Butcher's shops, stalls, stores, etc.	...	...	...	86
Rag & Bone dealers ...	...	...	...	17
Food stalls ...	...	...	...	234
Registered Food shops or premises..	...	...	...	702
Fish curers' premises ...	...	...	...	10
Fur skin dresser's premises.	...	...	...	4
Stables ...	...	...	...	21
Shops Act, 1950 ...	...	...	...	1,333

INSPECTIONS (Contd.)

Smoke observations	...	...	...	263
Pharmacy & Poisons Act, 1933	...	...	...	40
Markets	...	...	...	52
Canteens	...	...	...	210
Vacant sites..	...	...	...	175
Dangerous buildings	...	...	...	76
Infectious disease visits.	...	...	...	1,083
Rodent Infestations	...	...	...	242
Food Inspector's calls, visits, etc.	...	...	...	246

RE-INSPECTIONS.

Housing Act 1936, Section 5.	...	...	...	32
Housing Act, 1936, Section 9.	...	...	...	5
Housing Act, 1936, Section 12.	...	...	...	11
Clearance Areas	...	...	...	53
Other Dwellings	...	...	...	7,332
Factories	...	...	...	410
Rag Flock Act, 1951.	...	...	...	2
Outworkers...	...	...	...	24
Hairdressers.	...	...	...	5
Bakehouses...	...	...	...	41
Milkshops	...	...	...	26
Cookshops	...	...	...	130
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	37
Ice Cream Shops	...	...	...	90
Butchers shops, stores, etc.	...	...	...	29
Rag & Bone dealers..	...	...	...	-
Food stalls..	...	...	...	9
Food shops and premises	...	...	...	614
Fish curers..	...	...	...	5
Shops Act 1950	...	...	...	768
Smoke observations..	...	...	...	1
Canteens	...	...	...	44
Vacant sites.	...	...	...	26
Infectious disease visits..	...	...	...	325
Rodent Infestations.	...	...	...	16
Non-effective visits.	...	...	...	3,616

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS FOUND.

Premises requiring cleansing throughout	...	...	...	18
Premises requiring partial cleansing	...	...	...	597
Premises - total rooms	...	...	...	1,016
Verminous premises..	...	...	...	31
Verminous rooms	...	...	...	86
Premises requiring general repair.	...	...	...	919
Light & ventilation requiring remedying	...	...	...	73
Roofs, gutters, rainwater pipes defective.	...	...	...	552
Premises damp	...	...	...	321



SUMMARY OF DEFECTS FOUND (Contd.)

Windows requiring repair or adjustment	...	...	515
Premises overcrowded	...	...	33
Water reinstated...	...	...	7
Water supply required to upper floors ..	...	...	10
Drains, new	...	...	215
Drains requiring reconstruction .	...	...	8
Drains requiring improvement or repair..	...	...	70
Drains requiring obstructions removed...	...	...	112
Drains tested	...	...	212
Old drains sealed off from sewer.	...	...	39
Soil vent pipes requiring repair or renewal	...	...	61
W.C's new	...	...	110
W.C's requiring improvement or repair...	...	...	142
W.C's requiring obstructions removed	...	...	53
Sinks new	...	...	100
Sinks requiring improvement	...	...	20
Sinks requiring traps to be provided	...	...	6
Waste pipes requiring repair or renewal.	...	...	30
Other items not specified.	...	...	144

Outdoor Premises.

Floors or paving requiring repair	...	...	34
Requiring cleansing or limewashing	...	...	3
Dustbins requiring renewal	...	...	33
Ashpits requiring abolition	...	...	4
Accumulations requiring removal .	...	...	53
Urinals requiring cleansing or repair...	...	...	14
Animals improperly kept	...	...	2

NOTICES SERVED.

Public Health (London) Act, 1936 -					
Intimation Notices...	...	...	...	...	1,924
Nuisance Notices	...	...	...	...	238
Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	-
Factories Act, 1937	...	...	...	...	75
Shops Act, 1950	...	...	...	...	8
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.	...	...	...	...	-
Food & Drugs Act, 1938	...	...	...	...	58

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED ... .. 2,722

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

It was necessary to take measures on account of the presence of vermin in 31 houses, and in connection with these 86 rooms were dealt with, sanitary notices being served where necessary.

PERSONAL CLEANSING.

The arrangement with the Finsbury Borough Council whereby residents of Shoreditch requiring treatment for Scabies or Vermin are sent to that Authority's Cleansing Station at Pine Street, was continued throughout the year.

The numbers of treatments carried out are shown in the following tables :-

VERMINOUS PERSONS.

New Cases		Total new cases	Re- attendances	Total treatments
0 to 15 years	Over 15 years			
-	5	5	-	5

SCABIES.

New Cases		Total new cases	Re- attendances	Total treatments
0 to 15 years	Over 15 years			
-	4	4	2	6

(Until school-leaving age, the L.C.C. treat all affected children at their own Centre).

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

The number of disinfections of rooms after infectious disease was 173. The number of articles disinfected at the Council's steam disinfector after infectious disease was 1,350.

The number of rooms sprayed for verminous condition was 630 and the number of articles treated by steam was 12,224.

In addition to the articles disinfected after infectious disease etc., the Public Health Department carried out disinfection of articles for private firms in the Borough. Many countries insist upon an accompanying Certificate of Disinfection as a condition of import of articles such as clothing, blankets, etc. When required, these articles are disinfected at the Council's Disinfecting Station and a charge is made according to bulk or quantity of goods so treated. During the year under review various goods were disinfected for which charges amounting to £12.10.0 were made as compared with £6.12.6 for the previous year.



ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

All the families who were rehoused in the Borough Council's new flats during the year had their furniture and effects disinfested. Furniture is disinfested by the hydrogen cyanide method by a firm of private contractors under the supervision of the Health Department. Bedding and soft goods are disinfested by steam at the Disinfecting Station. The removal and disinfection are carried out on the same day. The number of families transferring into the Council's flats during the year was 418.

The Public Health Department are willing at all times to disinfest free of cost any rooms or bedding in occupied dwellings.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of the Borough is controlled by the Metropolitan Water Board and is relayed from public mains direct to houses. No complaint regarding the quality of the water was received during the year.

SWIMMING BATH WATER.

There are two Swimming Baths in the Borough, one of which is open all the year round, the other during the summer months only. During the year seventeen samples of water from the baths were sent for bacteriological examination and seventeen for analytical examination, and all were found to be satisfactory.

EXAMINATION OF WATER FROM WELLS.

Three wells were in use in Shoreditch during the year, none being used for drinking or domestic purposes.

OFFENSIVE TRADE PREMISES.

An establishment order under Section 140, Public Health (London) Act, 1936, was renewed during the year in respect of the business of a Fur Skin dresser. The number of visits made was 4.

HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS.

The number of hairdressing establishments in the Borough is 36 and these are regularly inspected by the sanitary inspectors regarding hygiene and sanitary conditions. The number of visits made was 114.

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Sub-Section (2) of Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950 requires that in every shop, not being a shop exempt from the provisions of this Sub-Section, there shall be provided and maintained suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences available for the use of persons employed in or about the shop.



Sub-Section (6) of Section 38 provides that a shop may be exempted from the provisions of Sub-Section (2) if there is in force a certificate exempting the shop therefrom granted by the authority whose duty it is to enforce those provisions. A certificate is granted if the authority are satisfied that by reason of restricted accommodation or other special circumstances it is not practicable to provide such accommodation on the premises and that alternative arrangements are conveniently available. Certificates of exemption in respect of sanitary conveniences were issued in connection with 4 shops during the year. The number of inspections and re-inspections made during the year was 2,101.

#### COMPULSORY REMOVAL OF AGED AND INFIRM PERSONS.

Under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, the Council are empowered to apply to a Court for an Order for the removal to hospital or other institution of a person who is aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, and who is living in insanitary conditions and "unable to devote to himself, and is not receiving from other persons proper care and attention".

In addition, during 1951, the National Assistance (Amendment) Act came into force. Under this Act, on certification by the Medical Officer of Health and another practitioner, emergency removals of such people for periods not exceeding three weeks may be enforced by the Courts.

No action under this Section was necessary during the year, largely due to the sustained efforts of Sanitary Inspectors and Welfare Staff.

#### RAG AND BONE DEALERS.

There are 14 premises in the Borough in which the business of Rag and Bone Dealer is carried on. 17 Visits were paid during the year.

#### RENT AND MORTGAGE (RESTRICTIONS) ACTS.

During the year 3 certificates were issued to tenants as to houses not being in a reasonable state of repair.

#### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

During the year 264 observations of non-domestic chimneys in the Borough were made by the Sanitary Inspectors.

#### HOUSING - OVERCROWDING AND PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT.

At the end of 1952 the total number of overcrowded cases on the Public Health Department register was 260, and the number on the medical preferential treatment register was 81.

During the year 33 new cases of overcrowding were found and 2 new cases which were recommended for preferential treatment on medical grounds were added to the register. 40 overcrowded cases and 6 preferential treatment cases were rehoused.

The number of overcrowded cases remaining on the register at the end of 1953 was 253, and the number on the preferential treatment register was 77.

85 visits of inspection were made during the year.



FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The number of Factories on the Register at the end of 1953 was :-

Power Factories	...	...	1,152
Non-Power Factories	...	...	143
Total	...	...	<u>1,295</u>

During the year 127 factories were added to the Register and 87 deleted, making a nett increase in the number of factories in the Borough of 40.

The particulars of inspections made during the year are as follows :-

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Power Factories	963	65	-
Non-Power Factories..	135	10	-
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including out-worker's premises)	-	-	-
Total	1,098	75	-

The defects found and dealt with were as follows :-

Particulars	Number of defects				Number of cases in which prosecution were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (Section 1)	15	17	-	6	-
Overcrowding (Section 2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (Section 3)	1	1	-	-	-
inadequate Ventilation (Section 4)	3	3	-	-	-
Ineffectual drainage of floors (Section 6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(1) Insufficient	5	5	-	2	-
(2) Unsuitable or defective.	62	55	-	30	-
(3) Not separate for sexes.	1	1	-	1	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	8	9	-	-	-
Total	95	91	-	39	-

HOME WORK.

During the year 59 lists of outworkers were received from employers in the Borough, 28 in the first half year due in February, and 31 in the second half year due in August. These lists contained the names of 1,375 outworkers, of whom 1,001 were not resident in Shoreditch. The addresses of those non-resident were forwarded to the Sanitary Authorities of the districts to which they belonged.

Lists were also received from 18 other Local Authorities containing the names of 282 outworkers living in Shoreditch and employed by firms outside the Borough. The total number of out-workers reported was therefore 1,657.

As has been pointed out in previous reports, in numerous instances names and addresses of outworkers are duplicated owing to lists being sent in twice a year, and in some cases out-workers are employed by more than one firm, so that the numbers given must not be taken as representing actual numbers of individual workers. The tables on pages 32 and 33 show the distribution of out-workers as regards trades.

During the year 433 visits of inspection were made to places where home work was being carried on, but no defect necessitating the service of a sanitary notice was found.



# HOME WORK

The following is a summary of the lists received from employers in the Borough :-

NATURE OF WORK	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 110									Outwork in unwholesome premises Section III			Outwork in infected premises		
	Lists received from Employers						Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending Lists	Prosecutions		In- stances	Notices served	Prose- cutions	In- stances	Orders made	Prose- cutions
	February			August				Fail- ing to keep or permit inspection of Lists	Fail- ing to send Lists						
	Lists	Outworkers.		Lists	Outworkers.										
		Con- trac- tors	Work- men		Con- trac- tors	Work- men									
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)
Artificial Flowers	2	-	73	2	-	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Boxes	7	-	191	6	-	137	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brushes	2	-	40	1	-	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Button Mounting	2	-	68	2	-	67	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper Bags	2	-	8	2	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed Toy Making	1	-	26	1	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wearing Apparel	12	27	235	17	49	320	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	28	27	641	31	49	658	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The following table shows the numbers of outworkers living in Shoreditch and employed by firms outside the Borough during 1953 as notified by the various sanitary authorities.

NUMBERS OF OUTWORKERS RECEIVED FROM OTHER DISTRICTS DURING 1953.

DISTRICTS	Making Wearing Apparel		Toys and Crackers		Artificial Flowers		Furniture and Upholstery		Fur Pulling		Umbrellas Etc.		Paper Bags and Boxes		Sweet Wrapping		Fancy Leather Goods		Card Mounting		TOTALS	
	Feb.	Aug.	Feb.	Aug.	Feb.	Aug.	Feb.	Aug.	Feb.	Aug.	Feb.	Aug.	Feb.	Aug.	Feb.	Aug.	Feb.	Aug.	Feb.	Aug.	Feb.	Aug.
Barking	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Bethnal Green	-	22	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
Enfield	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Finsbury	45	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	6	-	-	-	5	-	8	-	72	-
Hackney	31	9	-	-	13	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	5	5	2	-	1	-	63	24
Hampstead	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Holborn	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1
Islington	9	10	-	-	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	-	18	16
Kingston-on-Thames	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
City of London	8	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-
Poplar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
St. Pancras	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	5
Southgate	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Southwark	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Stepney	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Stoke Newington	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	8	-
Westminster	10	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	1
Totals	123	56	-	4	23	12	7	-	1	-	3	-	13	6	5	5	10	1	13	-	198	84



### HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952.

The Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations 1953, which were made in pursuance of the above-named Act, came into force on the 1st October, 1953. Briefly, the Regulations state that it is an offence under the Act to sell or hire, or to offer for sale or hire in the course of a business any heating appliances to which the Regulations apply without a guard conforming to the prescribed standard. These Regulations require fireguards to be fitted to gas fires, electric fires and oil heaters which are so designed that they are suitable for use in residential premises and are of such a type that without a guard there is a likelihood of injury by burning.

The standards of construction and fitting of guards and the tests to be applied are set out in the Regulations. There are certain exemptions under the Regulations but these cease to take effect after September 1954, when all heating appliances sold or hired must be fitted with the requisite guard.

During the year the Sanitary Inspectors were requested to make certain tests by interested persons and numerous enquiries were made from various people as to the requirements of the Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations.

### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

#### RODENT INFESTATION.

The work of this important branch of Public Health was carried out by a staff consisting of one Supervisor, one Investigator and two Operatives, under the general control of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

The main rodent infestation in the Borough is by the ship rat. A regular system of investigation is carried out by the Investigator who makes the initial inspection and assesses the degree of infestation. During the year 851 inspections of investigation were made. Business premises treated totalled 101 against 109 in 1952, and dwelling houses treated numbered 443 against 742 in 1952.

The Divisional Rodent Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has been most helpful to the officers of the Public Health Department and when required has always arranged for the necessary technical experts to co-operate in difficult cases.

It is pleasing to record that when joint action has been required where rodent treatment has had to be carried out on properties adjoining the railroads in the Borough, the Railway Executive officials have always given simultaneous treatment on their properties when required.

During the year no Notices were served under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.



The maintenance treatment of the sewers in the Borough was carried out during the period under review, the first in May, 1953 and the second commencing in December, 1953.

The following table gives a summary of work carried out in connection with rodent infestation.

	<u>Business Premises</u>	<u>Dwellings</u>	
	<u>Rats</u>	<u>Rats</u>	<u>Mice</u>
Complaints received	103	182	182
Complaints attended to	107	183	184
Inspections	378	309	307
Treatments commenced	101	203	240
Reinspections	1,142	491	612
Pre-baits laid	-	2,004	2,744
Poison baits laid	-	743	1,214
Warfarin trays laid	2,510	54	-
Traps set	441	145	235
Estimated kill	*	158	*

\* No estimate can be given.

	<u>Sewers</u>	
No. of Manholes baited	809	No takes - pre-bait 331
Complete takes - pre-bait	64	No takes - Poison
- poison bait	Nil	bait 375
Partial takes - pre-bait	414	
- poison bait	434	Estimated kill 2,711

The Agreements (H.D.R3 BP) received and charged to business premises from 1st January to 31st December, 1953 amounted to £641.10.0

#### CLEARANCE AREAS.

During the year official representation was made under Part III of the Housing Act, 1936, in respect of the following areas:-

<u>Area</u>	<u>No. of houses</u>	<u>No. of persons</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
Styman Street	17	53	Represented and declared clearance area on 24 February 1953 Confirmed by Ministry of Housing & Local Government.
Windsor Terrace	31	150	Represented and declared clearance area on 31 March 1953 Ministry of Housing & Local Government Inquiry held on 22 September 1953, but order had not been confirmed by the end of the year.
Haggerston Road	25	119	Represented and declared clearance area on 28 April 1953 Ministry of Housing & Local Government Inquiry held on 17 November 1953, but order had not been confirmed by the end of the year.



FOOD HYGIENE.

The work in connection with food hygiene was continued throughout the year, and regular inspections of all premises in the Borough where food is handled were carried out.

The total number of food-handling premises in the Borough at the end of 1953 was 1097, as follows :-

Cafes and Restaurants	174
Factory and Warehouse Canteens	106
Ice Cream Shops and Manufacturers	176
Milk Shops and Depots	87
Butchers' Shops and Stores	45
Fried Fish Shops	14
Fish Curers	7
Bakehouses	16
Food Factories	12
Food Warehouses	14
Clubs, Schools, etc.	26
Grocery and Provision Shops	117
Bakers' Shops	20
Confectioners' Shops	57
Greengrocers' Shops	47
Corn Chandlers' Shops	2
Chemist Shops	22
Public Houses	145
Off Licences	7
Other premises selling mineral waters etc.	3
	<hr/>
	1,097
	<hr/>

The two remaining underground bakehouses in the Borough were inspected from time to time during the year and certificates of suitability, as required by The Factories Act, 1937, Section 54, were issued. Building work was commenced on a new two-storey bakehouse to replace two unsatisfactory bakehouses mentioned in the previous annual report.

Further progress was made in connection with the hygienic storage of food by the installation at a number of premises of refrigerators, refrigerated display cabinets and frozen food cabinets.

Work in connection with the improvement of sanitary accommodation in public houses was continued. Alteration or reconstruction of the W.C. and urinal accommodation was carried out at 11 licensed premises. Plans were in hand at the end of the year for the improvement of the sanitary accommodation at a further 6 public houses.



Regular inspections of School kitchens and canteens were made during the year and the high standard with regard to cleanliness and equipment was maintained. No outbreaks of food poisoning or intestinal disorders occurred at schools in the borough during the year.

There now remain only two premises at which ice cream is manufactured in the Borough. Ice cream retailers now obtain ice cream from the larger manufacturers and in most cases it is wrapped or pre-packed.

The 106 factory and warehouse canteens in the Borough were inspected at regular intervals during the year. A good standard of hygiene was maintained.

A new "Notice to food-handlers and persons employing food-handlers" was compiled and brought up-to-date, giving information to the trade of the requirements of the County of London By-Laws for the Protection of Food which came into operation in November, 1952. This leaflet was distributed to all food traders in the Borough. A simplified leaflet outlining the main essentials of a safe food service was also generally distributed to the general public.

#### ANTI-FLY CAMPAIGN.

The campaign to combat the fly nuisance was continued. By arrangement, and with the co-operation of the Transport and Cleansing Superintendent, all dustbins and dust chutes were dusted during the fly-breeding season with Gammexane after the receptacles had been emptied by the Council's dustmen.

Owners of blocks of flats were again encouraged to take action against flies by purchasing insecticide supplied by the Public Health Department at cost price. Fly sprays were also sold to occupiers of food premises.

On inspection of food premises in the Borough it was noticeable that infestations by flies were very slight. Observations were kept on bombed sites and action was taken to prevent putrescible matter, which had been illegally deposited on the sites, from becoming a medium for fly breeding, and many offensive deposits, such as dead cats, dogs and other putrescible matter were disinfected and removed.

Generally the incidence of flies during the year was noticeably very low.

#### FREE WASHING FACILITIES.

Free washing facilities are installed in every public sanitary convenience in the Borough. These facilities are being made use of by an increasing number of users of the conveniences and are gradually becoming a regular feature in the use of the public conveniences.



The Shoreditch Borough Council may well be proud of the fact that they were one of the pioneers in providing free washing facilities to the public at sanitary conveniences, as it now appears that this facility is being provided more or less on a national basis by other local authorities.

The value of free facilities to wash the hands after using the water closet has been proved to be a sound preventative in the transference of infection.

#### CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF FOOD.

367 Samples were submitted to the Public Analyst during the year, giving a rate of 8.0 per 1,000 population.

These were as follows:-

Almond oil 1, Arrowroot 4, Aspirin tablets 4, Blancmange powder 6, Boric acid ointment 4, Bread 6, Butter 3, Cake and pudding mixtures 9, Castor oil 4, Cocoa 3, Coffee 1, Coffee extract 6, Chocolate 1, Cooking fats 2, Epsom salts 2, Fish paste 5, Flour 6, Fruit curd 1, Gelatine 1, Glauber salts 1, Glycerine 1, Golden raising powder 1, Gravy preparation 1, Ice cream 11, Ice lollies 7, Iodine tincture 1, Jam 11, Jelly crystals and tablets 8, Margarine 1, Marmalade 3, Meat, canned 2, Meat paste 3, Meat products 34, Milk 116, Milk, condensed 22, Milk, dried 3, Mincemeat 9, Mustard 1, Paraffin, medicinal 1, Pepper 1, Pickles 8, Sauce 15, Soda, bicarbonate 2, Soft drinks 5, Soup, canned 9, Spice 1, Tea 10, Vegetables, canned 1, Vinegar 9.

Of the 116 samples of milk taken, 2 were found to contain added water, but in each case this was only to the extent of less than 1 per cent. Warning letters were sent to the wholesalers.

Two ice lollies were found to contain excessive lead, and this information was passed to the Local Authority of the area in which they were manufactured.

The hollow interior of a chocolate "Dutch Doll" was found to be contaminated by insect webbing and droppings, and contained a small chrysalis in its cocoon. The remainder of the stock was surrendered and destroyed.

An informal sample of gelatine was found to contain excessive zinc, but a formal sample could not be obtained as no stock remained.

Informal sample of vinegar was found to be deficient in acetic acid, but formal sample taken was found to be genuine.

Warning letters were sent to manufacturers in respect of minor adulterations and irregularities in table jellies, and to vendors in respect of mincemeat.



UN SOUND FOOD.

During the year 1,282 certificates were issued in respect of food unfit for human consumption, which included the following :-

Meat 3,304 tins, 2 tons 1 cwt. 2 qtrs.; Ham 577 tins, 1 cwt. 2 qtrs. 26 lbs; Bacon 25 tons 15 cwt. 1 qtr. 4 lbs; Poultry 8 cwt. 2 qtrs. 17 lbs; Rabbits 2 cwt. 2 qtrs. 20 lbs; Sausages 2 qtrs. 17 lbs; Fish 730 tins, 1 cwt; Fish paste 3,207 jars; Cereals 2 tons 1 cwt. 14 lbs; 735 pkts; Vegetables 855 tins; Fruit 4,592 tins; Dried fruit 19 cwt. 1 qtr. 6 lbs, 371 pkts; Dried vegetables 16 cwt; Preserves 48 tins; Milk 419 tins; Soup 484 tins, 421 pkts; Mincemeat 43 jars; Cheese 161 lbs; 453 pkts; Confectionery 125 lbs; Cake and pudding mixture 391 pkts, 60 lbs; Table jellies 17 pkts; Chocolate biscuits 185 lbs; Chocolate bars 182; Baby foods 7,796 tins; Custard powder 288 pkts; Frozen foods 510 pkts; Cream 64 tins; Sugar 70 lbs; Fats 19 tins, 38 lbs; Pickles 30 jars; Salad dressing 198 bottles; Sauce 26 jars; Syrup 14 tins.

In addition to the above the following foodstuffs were inspected as to soundness and passed as fit for human consumption :-

Meat 75 cases, 240 tins, 6 cwt. 59 lbs; Ham 40 tins; Bacon 14 tons 17 cwt. 63 lbs; Poultry 4 cwt. 107 lbs; Rabbits 3 cwt. 44 lbs; Fish 2 cwt. 48 lbs; Cereals 1 cwt. 68 lbs; Vegetables, dried 1 ton 16 cwt. 84 lbs; Fruit 336 tins; Dried Fruit 1 cwt. 16 lbs. Sweetened fat 64 cases; Cheese 28 lbs; Miscellaneous groceries 4 tons.

DISPOSAL OF UN SOUND FOOD.

In order to prevent waste where possible, most of this unsound food was forwarded to dealers for reconditioning or other purposes.

PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD REGULATIONS.

All articles taken were in accordance with the Regulations.

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933.

33 Licences were granted during the year. 40 Inspections and visits were made, and general observation was kept of stalls and shops for unauthorised sellers, but no infringements were reported.

PHARMACY AND MEDICINES ACT, 1941.

Throughout the year a watch was kept for contraventions of the Act, but none was observed.



PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

There are seven premises licensed under the Pet Animals Act, 1951. In two cases a considerable business is carried on, mostly in birds and goldfish. Of the other five, one is a dealer in a few tame mice, two deal in dogs and the other two in pigeons. In these five cases, dealing is done on a very small scale only.

During the year 32 inspections were made of these premises, and in no case were the conditions of the licence being contravened.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

At the end of 1953 the number of registered premises where filling materials are used was 107, and during the year 12 licences were issued in respect of premises where rag flock is manufactured or stored. 56 Inspections of the premises were made.

3 Samples of filling materials were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst. All were found to comply with the prescribed standards.

FOOD & DRUGS (MILK & DAIRIES) ACT, 1944.  
MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ACT, 1949.

The details of licences issued during the year under the various regulations are given in the following tables :-

Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised & Sterilised  
Milk) Regulations, 1949.

	Pasteurised	Sterilised
Dealers' Licences ... ..	64	88
Supplementary Licences ...	23	27
Totals ... ..	87	115

Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949.

	Tuberculin Tested	Accredited
Dealers' Licences ... ..	39	18
Supplementary Licences ...	22	4
Totals ... ..	61	22

EXAMINATION OF MILK SUPPLIED TO L.C.C. SCHOOLS

AND DAY NURSERIES.

Samples of milk were taken from supplies delivered to local schools and day nurseries and submitted for chemical analysis, methylene blue and phosphatase tests. All were found to conform to the required standards.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING OF MILK.

26 Samples of pasteurised milk and 2 samples of "TT" pasteurised milk were submitted for phosphatase and methylene blue tests. All samples conformed to the prescribed standard.

2 Samples of sterilised milk submitted showed negative results to turbidity test.

CONDENSED MILK REGULATIONS.

22 Samples of condensed milk were submitted for analysis under the above regulations and all conformed with the prescribed standard.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING OF ICE CREAM.

6 Samples were submitted to the methylene blue test with results as follows :-

Grade 1    ...        ...        2

Grade 2    ...        ...        4



The following table gives particulars of the work done under the Housing Acts in the form required by the Ministry of Health :-

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) ... ..	7,616
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	15,374
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under Section 5, Housing Act, 1936.	1,451
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .	1,483
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation... ..	73

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF NUISANCE NOTICES.

Number of premises where it was found necessary to serve Intimation Notices under the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, to abate nuisances or remedy defects ... ..	1,924
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

A. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which nuisance notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	238
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of nuisance notices.	
(a) by owners ... ..	286
(b) By local authority in default of owners.	-

B. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	-
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By Owners ... ..	-
(b) By local authority in default of owners	-

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

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made or Undertaking accepted ... .. -
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... .. -

## D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... 21
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... 6

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.PUBLIC HEALTH (LONDON) ACT, 1936.

Date	Nature of Offence	Fine	Costs	Result
9th January	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 87, Britannia Walk.	-	3. 3. 0	Ordered to comply with Notice within 21 days and to pay £3.3.0 costs.
17th April	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 53, Shenfield Street.	-	3. 3. 0	Notice complied with. £3.3.0 costs paid.
13th May	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 54, Retford Street.	-	3. 3. 0	Notice complied with. £3.3.0 costs paid.
18th May	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 93, Shaftesbury Street.	-	3. 3. 0	Ordered to comply with Notice within 7 days and to pay £3.3.0 costs.
23rd November	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 7, Charles Square.	-	3. 3. 0	Work completed. Defendant ordered to pay £3.3.0 costs.
23rd November	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 46, Wenlock Road.	-	1. 1. 0	Work completed. Defendant ordered to pay £1.1.0 costs.



LEGAL PROCEEDINGS (Contd.)PUBLIC HEALTH (LONDON) ACT, 1936.

Date	Nature of Offence	Fine	Costs	Result
23rd November	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 58, Wenlock Road.	-	1. 1. 0	Work completed. Defendant ordered to pay £1.1.0 costs.
23rd November	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 60, Wenlock Road.	-	1. 1. 0	Work completed. Defendant ordered to pay £1.1.0 costs.
23rd November	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 17, Shepherdess Walk.	-	1. 1. 0	Ordered to comply with Notice within 21 days and to pay £1.1.0 costs.
23rd November	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 31, Shepherdess Walk.	-	1. 1. 0	Ordered to comply with Notice within 21 days and to pay £1.1.0 costs.
23rd November	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 33, Shepherdess Walk.	-	1. 1. 0	Ordered to comply with Notice within 21 days and to pay £1.1.0 costs.
23rd November	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 35, Shepherdess Walk.	-	1. 1. 0	Ordered to comply with Notice within 21 days and to pay £1.1.0 costs.
23rd November	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 67, Shepherdess Walk.	-	1. 1. 0	Ordered to comply with Notice within 21 days and to pay £1.1.0 costs.
23rd November	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 87, Shepherdess Walk.	-	1. 1. 0	Work completed. Defendant ordered to pay £1.1.0 costs.
23rd November	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 103, Shepherdess Walk.	-	1. 1. 0	Work completed. Defendant ordered to pay £1.1.0 costs.
23rd November	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - 15, Hows Street.	-	-	Adjourned. Sine die.
23rd November	Non-compliance with Nuisance Notice - Alexandra Buildings.	-	-	Adjourned. Sine die. Notice subsequently complied with.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.HOUSING ACT, 1936

Date	Nature of Offence	Fine	Costs	Result
11th September & 25th September	Keeping an animal contrary to London County Council Byelaws under Section 6, Housing Act, 1936.	—	—	Nuisance having been abated before adjourned hearing, defendant discharged absolutely.

STATISTICAL REPORT OF HOUSING WORK  
DONE BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS, 1953.

Overcrowding.

Number of new cases reported	...	...	33
Number of cases referred to L.C.C.	...	...	33
Number of cases relieved	...	...	40
Number of inspections and visits by Sanitary Inspectors	...	...	64

Preferential treatment on health grounds.

Number of cases investigated and reported on to L.C.C.	...	...	2
Number of cases known to have been found accommodation	...	...	6
Number of inspections and visits by Sanitary Inspectors	...	...	21

Underground rooms.

Number reported on	...	...	46
Number closed.	...	...	19
Number where undertakings received..	...	...	11
Number made to comply with regulations	...	...	6

General.

Number of letters sent to County M.O.H. and Valuer, L.C.C.	...	...	243
Number of letters sent to Shoreditch B.C. Housing Department.	...	...	140



I N D E X.

Analysis of food samples...	38	Milk (Special Designations)	40
Anti-fly campaign ...	37	Milk Sampling ...	41
Area of Borough ...	6		
Atmospheric pollution ...	29	National Assistance Act -	
		Section 47 ...	29
Bacteriological examinations	14	Section 50 ...	11
Bed bugs ...	28		
Birth rates...	9	Offensive trades...	28
Burials ...	11	Old People's Clubs ...	24
		Outworkers ...	32
Cancer ...	11	Overcrowding ...	29
Clearance Areas ...	35		
Committees -		Personal Cleansing ...	27
Public Health ...	4	Pests Act 1949 ..	34
Borough Welfare..	4	Pet Animals Act 1951 ...	40
		Pharmacy & Poisons Act...	39
Deaths, causes of ...	8	Population ...	9
Death rates ...	10	Preservatives in food regs.	39
Disinfection...	27	Prosecutions ...	43
Disinfestation. ...	27		
		Rag and bone dealers ...	29
Factories Act, 1937 ...	30	Rag Flock Act 1951 ...	40
Food hygiene ...	36	Rent Restrictions Acts...	29
Food poisoning ...	14	Rodent Infestation ...	34
Free washing facilities ...	37		
		Sanitary circumstances...	24
Hairdressing establishments	28	Shops Act, 1950 ...	28
Health propaganda ...	37	Social Welfare services..	22
Heating Appliances		Staff ...	5
(Fireguards) Act	34	Stillbirths. ...	9
Holiday Home ...	23	Swimming baths ...	28
Housing ...	29		
		Tuberculosis ...	15
Ice cream sampling...	41	Tuberculosis Care Committee	20
Infantile mortality ...	10		
Infectious diseases ...	11	Underground rooms. ...	43
		Unsound food ...	39
Legal proceedings...	43	Verminous houses..	27
		Vital statistics..	6
Marriages ...	9		
Mass Miniature Radiography.	17	Water supply ...	28
Maternal mortality. ...	11	Water from wells..	28