

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

Contributors

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O'Shiel, F. R.

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Metropolitan Borough of Stepney.



ANNUAL REPORT

for the year

1949

of the

Medical Officer of Health,
F.R.O'SHIEL, L.R.C.P.I., L.M., D.P.H.

Together with a
Summary of the Report
of the
Public Analyst.

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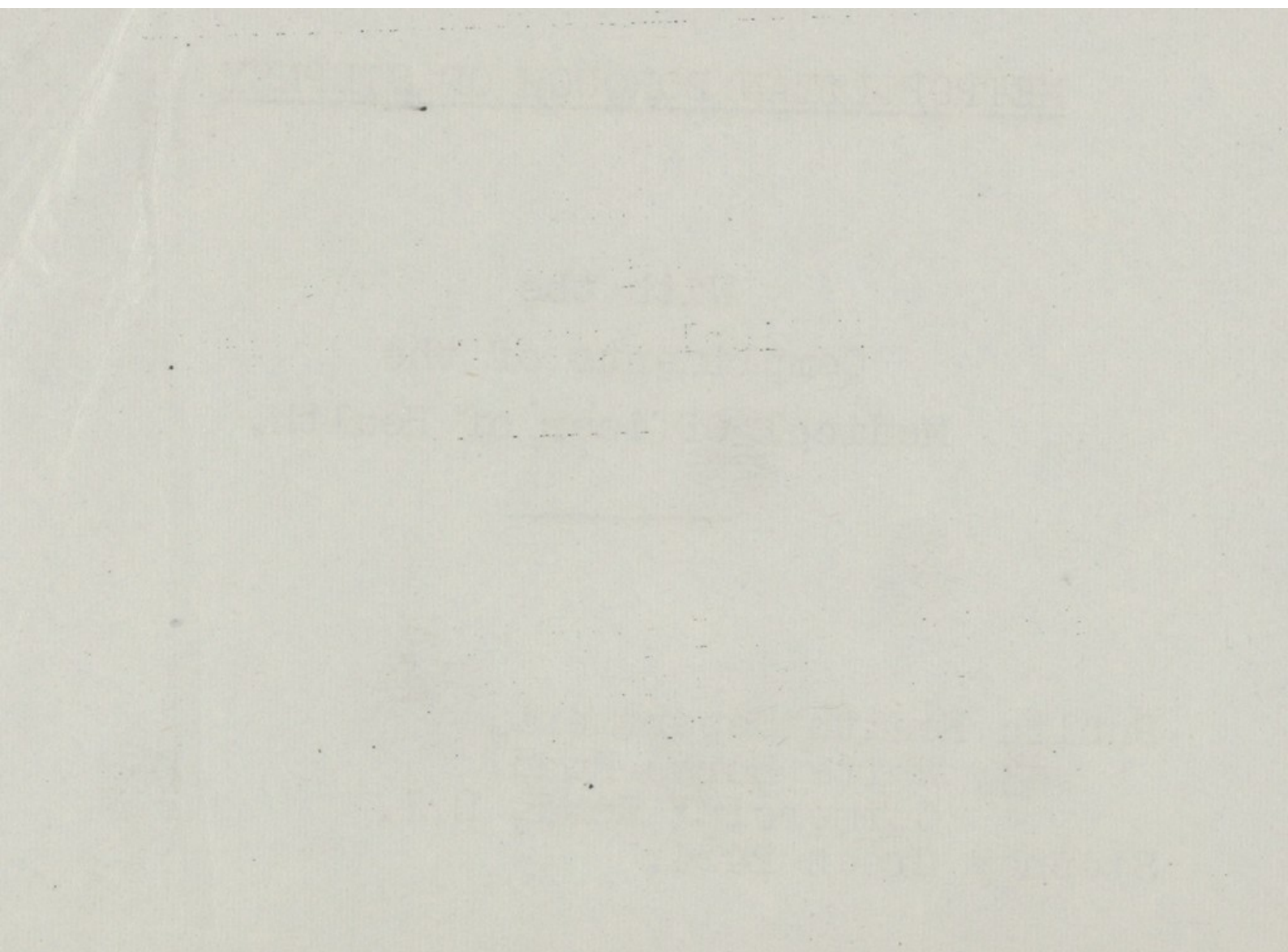
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METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF STEPNEY

With the
Compliments of the
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
43, White Horse Road,
Commercial Road, E.1.
Stepney Green 2484.



Metropolitan Borough of Stepney.



A N N U A L R E P O R T

for the year

1949

of the

Medical Officer of Health,
F.R.O'SHIEL, L.R.C.P.I., L.M., D.P.H.

Together with a
Summary of the Report
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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
(at 31st Dec. 1949)

Ex-officio: His Worship The Mayor (Councillor F.B.Tyrrell,
J.P.)

Chairman: Councillor (Miss) E. Upton.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor (Mrs.) K. Edwards.

Alderman T. Aylward

Alderman (Mrs.) M. Sambrook

" G. Pendley

" I. M. Vogler.

Councillor D.M. Ahearne

Councillor M. Lerner

" (Miss) E. Aylward

" M. Levitas

" (Mrs.) E. Armsby

" J. Lomas

" (Mrs.) S.B.Bloomfield

" J. P. Long

" S. Callaghan

" (Mrs.) F. Marsh

" J. H. Coram

" J. McGlashon

" W. J. Curtis

" B. Mushin

" M. Davies

" J. Sambrook

" R. A. Durell

" (Mrs.) B.Sokoloff

" (Mrs.) F. Finlay

" F. G. Spearing

" N. Finlay

" (Mrs.) A. Taylor

" H. Karstadt

" E. G. Woollon

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF STEPNEY

Public Health Department,

43, White Horse Road,

STEPNEY, E.1.

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Metropolitan Borough of Stepney.

Your Worship, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report for the year 1949.

The population of the Borough according to the Registrar-General's estimate shows some increase and is now 100,550.

The total Births decreased from 2,171 in 1948 to 1,872 this year, the live birth-rates being 21.2 and 18.19 per 1000 respectively.

The Maternal Mortality rate was 0.53 per 1,000 total births. The Infant Mortality rate, after last year's low record, rose somewhat from 28.3 to 32.2.

This year the incidence of infectious disease again remained low. Of 13 notified cases of Diphtheria the diagnosis was confirmed in only 3 cases none of which was fatal.

There were 16 cases of Poliomyelitis in the Borough with one death in a child aged 6 months.

I have to report a decrease in the number of primary notifications of Tuberculosis which were 19 less than last year's figure of 189. The deaths from the disease were, however, the same as last year, namely 71.

The National Health Services Act has now been in force some 18 months, the maternity and child welfare service now being the responsibility of the London County Council.

All the infant welfare centres and day nurseries continue as formerly and have been well attended though there have not been any notable changes in the scheme since its transference from the Borough Council. One new voluntary day nursery was opened during the year at Thirza Street under the Sisters of Mercy.

The former Tuberculosis Dispensary, now known as the Chest Clinic, which was transferred from the Borough Council to the Regional Hospital Board had a successful year but there has been no alteration in the scheme since the transfer.

It is with regret that I have to report that Mr. W.F. Lellow, the Assistant Administrative Officer, retired after 48 years in the Council's service, thirty of which were spent as chief clerk and assistant administrative officer in the Public Health Department. Mr. Lellow's long period of office extended over the regime of all four Medical Officers of Health since the Borough was founded and he witnessed great progress in the health and hygiene of Stepney. He gave of his best to the health service, and through his enthusiasm and interest contributed in no small measure to its success.

In presenting my Annual Report I should like once more to express my gratitude to the Chairmen and Members of the Committees for their help and interest throughout the year and to acknowledge most gratefully the willing co-operation of the Staff of the Health Department.

I have the honour to remain,
Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

F. R. O'SHIEL,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
at 31st December, 1949.

Medical Officer of Health

F.Roantree O'Shiel, L.R.C.P.I., L.M., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health - Vacant.

Public Analyst: W.M.Paulley, B.A., F.R.I.C.

Assistant Analyst: C.J.F.McGinn, B.Sc., A.R.I.C.

Assistant Administrative Officer

W.F.Lellow (2)

Principal Assistant

S.J.Carr

Sanitary Inspectors

District:

W.E.Anstee (1.3)

W.Cue (1.3)

R.W.G.Day (3)

S.Firsht (3)

G.D.Freeland (1.3.4)

W.E.Hart (3)

E.C.Hawker (3)

W.H.Haworth (3)

J.J.Keniry (3)

S.S.Lowther (3.4)

E.A.Sheppard (3)

P.H.Thorn (3)

E.P.Webber (3.4)

Food:

A.C.Brown(2.4) H.J.Green(1.2.4) W.F.Smith(2.4.7) S.Vogler(3.4)

Disinfestation:

E.J.Edwards (2.4)

Disinfestation & Female Common Lodging

Houses: Miss H.A.Whitty (3.4.5.6.8)

Housing: C.F.Guy (2)

Rodent Control: J.G.McCarthy (3)

Clerical Staff

T.Aylward

D.J.Berry

W.J.Dixon

W.E.Driscoll

S.Embleton

Mrs.C.Gardner

W.P.Howard

S.S.Harris

Miss R.Levey

J.McMullon

M.Pliskin

B.Reilly

Caretakers:

A.N.Cook, Public Health Offices.

W.Clark. Mortuary.

Messenger/Relief Caretaker.

E.C.Vaughan

Foreman Disinfector

W.Sexton

Foreman Rodent Operative

T.J.Fox

Temporary Staff

Clerical: Mrs.M.Munday

Rodent Investigators: S.Smith

M.J.O'Connor⁺

T.T.Walker S.C.Ludlow

1. Cert.Royal San.Inst.

2. Cert.San.Insp.Exam.Board.

3. Cert.Royal San.Insp.& San.

Insp.Exam.Jt.Board.

4. Cert.Meat and other Foods.

5. Health Visitor's Cert.

6. State Cert.Midwife.

7. Diploma Social Science.

8. Trained Nurse.

+ Permanent employee temporarily transferred from
Public Cleansing Department.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1949

Area of Borough (in acres)	...	1902.766
Population (Registrar-General's estimate)	...	100,550
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1949) according to Rate Books)	...	26,681
Rateable Value, 1 April 1949	...	£1,213,365
Sum represented by a penny rate, gross	...	£5,055

=====

LIVE BIRTHS:	<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	Live birth rate per 1000 estimated resident population = 18.19.
Legitimate...	1681	854	827	
Illegitimate.	149	78	71	
Total				
Live Births..	1830	932	898	
STILL BIRTHS.	<u>42</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>19</u>	Stillbirth rate per 1000 total (live and still) births = 22.4.
Total Births..	1872	955	917	
DEATHS.	1339	751	588	Death rate per 1000 estimated resident population = 13.3.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

(Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's short list):

	Deaths	Rate per 1000 total (live & still) births)
No.29 Puerperal sepsis ...	Nil	Nil
No.30 Other maternal deaths	1	0.53

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.	<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Legitimate	55	33	22
Illegitimate	4	4	-
Total:	59	37	22

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All infants per 1000 live births	32.2
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births.	32.7
Illegitimate " " " illegitimate " "	26.8

DEATHS FROM:-

	<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Cancer (all ages)	255	149	106
Measles	-	-	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	4	2	2
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	66	48	18
" Other forms	5	4	1

I. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

POPULATION.

The final estimate from the Registrar-General was 100,550.

BIRTHS.

The total number of live births of Stepney residents during the year was 1830 - 932 males and 898 females. This was 199 less than in the previous year. The birth-rate was 18.19 per 1000 of the population.

MARRIAGES.

The total number of marriages which took place during the year was 1,153.

DEATHS.

The total number of deaths, after deducting deaths of non-residents who died in the Borough and adding those residents who died in outlying institutions was 1,339 - 751 males and 588 females. This was 137 more than in the previous year. One woman resident of Stepney died at the age of 101 years.

The death rate for the whole Borough was 13.3 per 1000 of the population (12.0 in 1948).

UNEMPLOYMENT AND NATIONAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) The Ministry of Labour has kindly supplied me with the following information as to the estimated number of persons residing in the Borough registered as unemployed at the end of the year:-

<u>Men</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Total</u>
1976	18	191	11	- 2196

(b) The National Assistance Board has kindly provided the following information of the number of cases on their books:-

At 1st January, 1949 .. 4195

At 31st December, 1949 .. 4402

STEPNEY BOROUGH COUNCIL INFORMATION SERVICE.

The work of the Information Service under the Borough Librarian has continued successfully throughout the past year and the Information Centre, situated at 671a, Commercial Road, E.14, has been increasingly used by citizens of Stepney who seek guidance or who require some information. Many persons are unaware of the legislation that exists for their protection and it is a distinct advantage to them to have one place in the Borough where they can be guided and have their rights and duties simply explained.

The recent Social Legislation has caused many enquiries on the personal application of the Acts and during the past year a total of 2,468 enquiries were dealt with on the Social Services alone. This number formed part of the grand total of 9,816 enquiries received during the year and which covered a very extensive field. The scarcity of housing accommodation and the numerous problems arising from this also resulted in many seekers for advice at the Information Centre and the staff was able to alleviate much worry.

Another feature of the work of the Information Service is the assistance rendered to old persons in their pension and other problems and by putting them in contact with suitable welfare organisations and clubs in the Borough.

WELFARE OF AGED PERSONS.

The problem of the aged sick and infirm still gives much cause for anxiety. During the year one person was removed under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948. The Stepney Old People's Welfare Association was formed towards the end of 1948 following a representative conference convened by the Stepney Borough Council in March 1948. It has representatives of the Borough Council, London County Council and all local statutory and voluntary interests. Grants are made to the voluntary associations by the Borough Council under Section 31 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

There are now eleven clubs, all affiliated to the association. Luncheons are provided at the W.V.S. club, the Toynbee Veterans Club and the St. George's Club. The "Meals on Wheels" service is run by the W.V.S. from the Londoner's Meals Service and the Invalid Kitchens. A chiropody service for the aged was started by the St. Katharine's Club for Pensioners and is also now available at four other clubs. Home Helps are provided by the London County Council and Home Nursing by the East London Nursing Society.

All these services for the aged are rapidly expanding. A full account of progress is given in the Annual Report of the Association which can be obtained from the Secretary (Miss D.B. Halsall) at Butcher Row, Ratcliffe, E.14 (The Royal Foundation of St. Katharine).

II. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

STAFF.

The following changes in the staff of the Department took place during the year :

(a) Ceased duty

Dr.J.Kerr Brown	Deputy M.O.H.	6.6.49
E.G. Carter	Sanitary Inspector	25.3.49
G.H. Green	Do	30.4.49
W.E. Hart	Sanitary Clerk	18.9.49
D. Henville	Public Analyst	22.8.49
Mrs.M.E.Meredith	Temporary Clerk	21.5.49
P. Payne	Sanitary Clerk	23.4.49
E.J. Playfair	Temporary Clerk	9.7.49
E.F. Roome	Do	17.9.49
H.F. Williams	Sanitary Inspector	31.5.49

(b) Commenced duty

W.E. Driscoll	Sanitary Clerk	7.11.49
G.H. Green	Sanitary Inspector	3.1.49
W.E. Hart	Do	19.9.49
C.J.P. McGinn	Assistant Analyst	7.11.49
M.J. O'Connor	Temporary Clerk	3.10.49
E.J. Playfair	Do	4.5.49
E.A. Sheppard	Sanitary Inspector	9.5.49
P.W. Thorn	Do	31.10.49
H.F. Williams	Do	1.1.49

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

A total of ¹²⁶³~~1,612~~ investigations of a bacteriological nature were carried out at Mile End Hospital on behalf of the Public Health Department, and are classified as follows:-

Nasal and Throat Swabs for K.L.B.	505
Identification of micro-organisms	748
Guinea Pig Inoculation	1
Faeces for organisms	9

HEALTH PROPAGANDA.

In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 40/49, a Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign took place during the summer, consisting of advertisements in the local press, billposting, distribution of leaflets, posters and the screening of slides and a film trailer at local cinemas.

A film trailer on "Burning and Scalding Accidents" was screened at the cinemas.

Posters and leaflets regarding vaccination and facilities therefor were distributed, and posters on various health subjects were exhibited in the Council's public conveniences during the year.

Publicity was given to the handling of food, protection against diarrhoea, whooping cough, tuberculosis, influenza, venereal diseases, measles, scabies etc.

In all, approximately 20,000 leaflets and posters were utilised for health propaganda purposes.

TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE.

During the year the Tuberculosis Care Committee has continued its useful work amongst tuberculosis patients and their families on the same lines as before.

95 cases have been assisted - with clothing, removal expenses, pocket money, insurance arrears, lino and curtains for new homes, wireless repairs and licences, extra nourishments, Christmas gifts, etc.

The Committee acknowledge with gratitude the help again given by local firms and friends by the purchase of the Christmas seals. From the sale this year £332 was raised, practically as large an amount as last year, and a sum which will enable the Committee to consider favourably the often very sad cases brought to their notice.

They also thank the London County Council for arranging the continuance of the grant from the Sunday Cinema performances, the National Assistance Board, the Jewish Board of Guardians, and the British Red Cross Society for their help and co-operation, and the several members of the Committee who have during the year brought very welcome gifts of clothing for patients.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

These regulations provide that persons suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract shall not be employed in the handling of milk or milk receptacles. Power is given to the Council to cause such persons to discontinue their employment. It was not found necessary to take action under the regulations during the year.

MASS MINIATURE RADIOGRAPHY.

Arrangements were made with the London County Council and the North Eastern Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board for obtaining volunteers from commercial, industrial and other undertakings in the Borough, for X-ray examinations under the Mass Miniature Radiography System.

A circular letter was sent by the Stepney Public Health Department to firms in the Borough employing more than 25 people. Over 450 such firms were circulated.

More than 50 firms responded by allowing their employees to participate in the scheme during working time, and as a result arrangements were made for 1,991 persons to attend for X-ray examination at Bethnal Green Hospital Centre.

III. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

During the year 529 inspections were carried out and it was found necessary to serve 7 Notices, as follows:-

Insufficient W.C. accommodation	4
Insufficient means of ventilation	2
Non maintenance of reasonable temperature	1

No applications were received for exemption under Section 10(2) of the Act.

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACTS, 1933.

Applications for Entry or Retention in the Council's list of persons entitled to sell poisons included in Part II of the Poisons List were received as follows:-

Entry	10
Retention	116
Removals (given up)	1
Transfers	2
Inspections or visits made	225

COMPLAINTS.

The number of written complaints received and duly dealt with during the year, were as follows:-

Relating to condition of houses etc.	1912
From H.M. Inspector of Factories	23
From L.C.C. regarding verminous premises	29

In addition numerous complaints were made to the Sanitary Inspectors, who made over 11,000 visits in connection therewith.

DRAINAGE.

The following drains were tested and necessary action taken :

Drains tested	2,284
Found to be defective	236

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are 17 authorised and licenced 'offensive trades' in the Borough, viz:-

<u>Cow House</u> :	56, Swedenborg Square.
<u>Tripe Boilers</u> :	5, Whitechapel High Street. 94, Wentworth Street.
<u>Dresser of Furskins</u> :	48, 50, 50a, 54 & 56, Old Church Road. 34/38, Brodlove Lane. 29, Spelman Street.
<u>Poultry Slaughterhouse</u> :	21/22, Hessel Street Lower Market. 21, Fordham Street. 14, Hessel Street. 39, Woodseer Street. 49, Globe Road. 16/18, Cobb Street. 13, Leyden Street. 15, Leyden Street. 82, Stepney Way. 8, Gun Street. 9, Gun Street.

RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTIONS ACTS.

During the year 277 applications were received and Certificates or Reports were issued as follows:-

<u>Certificates</u>		<u>Reports</u>	
Granted.	Refused.	Granted.	Refused.
209	2	52	14

WATER SUPPLY.

Water Certificates under the provisions of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, as to new dwellings having a proper and sufficient supply of water, were issued in respect of the following :-

Flats	703
Houses	114
Shops	2
	819

WELLS.

There are 16 Wells in the Borough, particulars of which are as follows:-

The following 8 Wells are out of use

- (1) Truman, Hanbury & Buxton's Brewery, 91, Brick Lane, E.1.
- (2) Old Baths, 86, Brick Lane, E.1.
- (3) Thomas Hubbuck & Son, Ltd., 368, The Highway, E.1.
- (4) The Tower of London.
- (5) The Royal Mint.
- (6) Potter & Clark, Ltd., Fairclough Street, E.1.
- (7) T. Gooch, Ltd., 6/8, The Highway, E.1.
- (8) The North Thames Gas Board, Commercial District,
Harford Street, E.1.

The following 8 Wells are in use

- (9) Free Trade Wharf, The Highway, E.1. (For drinking and all purposes. Sampled frequently).
- (10) The Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Leman Street,
- (11) E.1. (2 Wells: used only for drinking purposes and sampled frequently).
- (12) Taylor Walker's Brewery, Narrow Street, E.14.
- (13) (3 Wells).
- (14)
- (15) Charrington's Brewery, Mile End Road, E.1. (Used for brewing and tested frequently).
- (16) Mann, Crossman & Paulin's Brewery, Raven Row, E.1.
(Used only for beer bottle-washing - reserved for emergency use only).

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

There are 1,678 houses-let-in-lodgings in the Borough and 965 inspections were made during the year. There were no legal proceedings instituted.

LODGING HOUSES. There are 8 such premises in the Borough, viz:-

(a) Common Lodging Houses. (4)

<u>Address</u>	<u>Accommodation</u>
Wilson Carlile House, 20/2, Johnson Street.	258 men
Salvation Army Hostel, 177, Whitechapel Road.	535 Men
Salvation Army Hostel, Hopetown Street.	250 Women
15/16, Calvin Street.	10/15 Couples.

115 inspections were made during the year and 3 Notices (2 Intimations and 1 Statutory) were served.

(b) Seamen's Lodging Houses. (4)

<u>Address</u>	<u>Accommodation</u>
Sailors Home & Rest, Ensign Club, Dock Street.	235 Men
5, North East Passage.	11 Men
Empire Memorial Hostel, 747, Commercial Road.	315 Men
220, Cable Street.	30 Men

76 inspections were made during the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

I am indebted to the Public Cleansing Officer for the following information relating to the arrangements in the Borough for the collection and disposal of refuse :-

<u>Salvage Collected and Disposed of.</u>		<u>Tons</u>
Waste Paper		189
Kitchen Waste		925

<u>House, Trade and Street and Market Refuse.</u>	<u>Duke Shore Wharf.</u> Tons	<u>Devonshire Street.</u> Tons	
House and Trade Refuse	31,318	4,093	35,411
Street & Market Refuse	6,386	1,128	7,514

SITES CLEARED OF RUBBISH &c.

Rubbish and other material was cleared from 134 sites in the Borough during the year, as follows:-

	<u>No. of Sites</u>	<u>Amount of rubbish and other material removed.</u>
(a) By Public Health Department under Section 93 of the Public Health (London) Act 1936.	101	2908 cubic yards.
(b) By War Damage Department under War Debris Clearance Scheme.	33	4663 cubic yards.

MORTUARY.

The Borough Council under Section 234 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, provides a Mortuary at Branch Road for the reception of dead bodies.

During the year 8 bodies were deposited therein.

RODENT CONTROL.

The staff throughout the year consisted of the Assistant Rodent Officer, 1 clerk, 3 investigators, 1 foreman rodent operative and 6 operatives, and the following work was done by this section under the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries (Infestation Division) Scheme N.S.19 :

	<u>Business Premises</u>	<u>Dwellings</u>
No. of visits by investigators	5,115	11,342
No. of infestations found	488	1,651
No. of treatments undertaken	315	1,568
No. of visits made by operatives	3,264	10,018
No. of pre-baits laid		92,056
No. of poisoned baits laid		32,190
Estimated kill of rodents		6,001
No. of bodies recovered		721
No. of drain tests requested		498
No. of drains found to be defective		94
No. of 'Complaints' received		1,114

During the year 16 districts have been investigated and treatments given where necessary.

All the riverside wharves were investigated and treatment given in 20 cases.

There is a decided improvement in the rat infestation on open sites since the clearance of rubbish during the year.

'MAINTENANCE TREATMENTS' FOR DESTRUCTION OF RATS IN SEWERS.

The Borough Engineer & Surveyor has kindly supplied me with the following information.

In accordance with Local Authority Circular N.S.No.6 (dated 29th August 1944) issued by the Ministry of Food (Infestation Division) two treatments for the destruction of rats in Sewers were carried out during the year, viz. from 13th June 1949 to 26th July 1949 (inclusive) and from 5th December 1949 to 19th January 1950 (inclusive).

The system adopted was that recommended, viz. 2 days pre-baiting and 1 day poison baiting. The pre-bait used was damped sausage rusks and the poison zinc-phosphide (22%).

1,469 manholes were treated during the first period and 1,509 during the second period.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 50: Burial of the Dead.

Fortyseven funerals were arranged under the provisions of this section.

Details of the Burials are as follows:-

		St.Patrick's R.C. Leyton- stone.	East London C.of E. Plaistow	Tower Hamlets C.of E. Southern Grove.	TOTAL
Adults and children over 10.	M	5	15	6	26
	F	1	7	2	10
Children under 10 years.	M	1	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-
Children of and under 1 month.	M	-	2	-	2
	F	-	1	-	1
Stillborn.	M	1	2	-	3
	F	1	3	-	4
Totals:		9	30	8	47

Section 47: Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

This section, operated by Borough Councils, relates to the compulsory removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

During the year it became necessary for me to apply to a Court of summary jurisdiction for the removal, under this section, of two persons - one of whom died two days prior to the date of hearing.

Details of the cases are as follows:-

Miss F.G. (aged about 60).

Reason: (a) Suffering from a grave chronic disease being aged, infirm and physically incapacitated and living in insanitary conditions (viz. cancer of breast and diabetes), and
(b) unable to devote to herself and not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

Date of Court Order and period of Detention:

Thames Magistrates Court, 25th March 1949.
Three months.

Type of Accommodation:

Removed to Mile End Hospital, Bancroft Road, E.1. on 25th March 1949.

Ultimate result of Council's action:

Transferred to an observation ward at St. Clement's Hospital, Bow Road, E.3. on 23rd April 1949, for observation under Lunacy Acts.

Other Information:

L.C.C. Welfare Department later informed to take steps under Section 48, to prevent or mitigate loss or damage to her property.

Mr. A.C. (aged 88).

Reason: (a) Suffering from a grave chronic disease being aged, infirm and physically incapacitated and living in insanitary conditions, and
(b) unable to devote to himself and not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

The application was withdrawn on 25th March 1949, the person having died on 23/3/49.

CONFERENCES, &c.

During the year the undermentioned conferences, lectures and refresher courses were attended:

<u>Date & Place.</u>	<u>Conference or Lecture</u>	<u>Attended by</u>
20/21 January. LONDON.	Conference on the "New Social Legislation and the Family" held by the British Social Hygiene Council and the Town & Country Planning Asscn.	Cr.(Miss) E.Upton. Medical Officer of Health.
24 February, 3 & 10 March. LONDON.	Regional Course in Health Education for Sanitary Inspectors held by the Central Council for Health Education.	Mr. W.F. Smith. Mr.G.D.Freeland.
23/27 May. BRIGHTON.	Annual Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute.	Cr. B. Mushin. Medical Officer of Health.
12/16 Sept. EASTBOURNE.	Conference of the Sanitary Inspectors Association.	Cr.(Miss) E.Upton. Mr.G.D.Freeland.
28/30 Sept. HARROGATE.	Annual Conference of the National Smoke Abatement Society.	Cr.(Mrs.)K.Edwards. Mr. S. Lowther.
13/14 October. LONDON.	National Conference on the Care of Aged People, held by the National Old People's Welfare Committee.	Cr.(Miss) E.Upton. Medical Officer of Health.
28 October. LONDON.	Ninth Conference of the Women Members of Local Authorities held by the National Women Citizen's Association.	Cr.(Mrs.) F.Marsh.
8/9 November. LONDON.	National Conference on Health Education held by the Central Council for Health Education.	Cr.(Miss) E.Upton. Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, ETC., CARRIED OUT BY THE DISTRICT
SANITARY INSPECTORS DURING THE YEAR 1949.

	W.E. ANSTEE (1)	E.G. CARTER (to 25.3.1949) (2)	W. CUE (3)	R.W.G. DAY (4)	S. FIRSH (5)	G.D. FREELAND (6)	G.H. GREEN (to 30.4.1949) (7)	W.E. HART (from 19.9.1949) (8)	E.C. HAWKER (9)	W.H. HAWORTH (10)	J.J. KENIRY (11)	S.S. LOWTHER (12)	E.A. SHEPPARD (from 9.5.1949) (13)	P.W. THORN (from 31.10.1949) (14)	E.P. WEBBER (15)	H. WILLIAMS (to 31.5.1949) (16)	TOTALS (17)
Complaints	934	171	766	794	1192	940	279	217	747	668	1503	904	454	80	1122	563	11334
Drainage..	403	48	515	630	616	207	28	84	224	972	390	663	106	14	899	53	5852
House-to- House ...	-	-	-	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	62	-	109
Houses- let-in- lodgings.	157	-	5	225	8	93	-	12	43	117	235	47	7	-	16	-	965
Infectious diseases & contacts	22	16	35	43	33	41	20	13	46	41	67	36	18	13	50	9	503
Lodging Houses: Common...	64	-	-	-	15	6	-	-	1	9	-	-	-	1	-	-	115 ⁺

+ Includes 19 inspections of Women's Common Lodging Houses by Miss Whitty.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)
Lodging Houses: Seamen's..	-	-	29	-	-	-	-	-	1	12	30	-	1	3	-	-	76
Markets (Week-end)	3	1	3	3	3	2	3	1	2	3	4	3	1	-	3	2	37
Offensive Trades...	88	-	-	-	18	63	-	6	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	191
Pharmacy & Poisons Acts, 1933	45	-	33	14	24	16	-	-	16	8	6	25	9	-	21	8	225
Rent Res- triction Acts.....	4	3	38	31	9	4	15	7	18	-	4	89	32	-	37	1	292
Shops Act, 1934.....	125	2	41	2	3	63	3	15	31	60	51	64	1	-	63	5	529
Observat- tions re Smoke nuisances	9	-	54	46	-	6	-	-	38	1	5	42	-	1	46	-	248
Surveys re Essentia- lity Cer- tificates & Licences	13	16	60	35	78	24	35	9	30	62	20	121	90	-	72	4	669
Defence Reg. 68CA	15	1	8	10	8	-	-	4	-	2	-	6	-	-	3	-	57

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)
Factories: Mechanical	521	6	77	255	210	119	53	24	99	309	109	83	30	11	89	72	2067
Factories: Non- mechanical	13	-	14	17	-	31	2	-	15	143	42	18	5	2	11	2	315
Outworkers	84	1	11	-	67	12	3	-	-	16	-	15	2	-	30	28	269
Workplaces	22	3	20	-	-	3	8	-	-	-	-	33	4	-	16	-	109
Miscellan- eous	1091	46	186	767	832	518	220	137	335	1567	151	187	103	239	522	147	7048
Revisits...	1509	315	791	1092	2114	1142	279	434	1447	907	549	938	852	83	1287	1191	15230
Intimation Notices served: To L.C.C. & Council Housing Dept.	3	42	53	89	79	67	31	16	52	14	17	44	70	1	127	22	727
To Owners.	195	133	299	341	797	533	180	158	489	454	288	327	327	59	507	394	5481
Statutory Notices served.....	49	40	59	106	323	76	65	62	98	127	71	115	126	8	193	182	1700
Legal Pro- ceedings..	-	4	5	2	2	1	1	-	1	3	3	1	10	-	16	-	49

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The following details relate to matters under Parts I and VIII of the Factories Act, 1937, which are administered by the Council :-
FACTORIES.

Type of Factory.	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices
Factories without mechanical power	627	315	12
Factories with mechanical power	2387	2067	117
Other premises under the Act (building operations and works of engineering construction)	97	58	5
Total:	3111	2440	134

No. of cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Found	Remedied	Referred	
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness	27	27	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	5	5	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	7	7	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:				
(a) Insufficient	12	11	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	71	71	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	9	9	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not includ- ing those relating to Outwork)	28	28	-	-
Total:	159	158	-	-

2 prosecutions were instituted under this Act during 1949.

OUTWORKERS.

<u>Nature of Work.</u>	<u>No. of Outworkers on List.</u>
Wearing Apparel (Making etc.) ..	624
Umbrellas	3
Artificial Flowers	3
Paper Bags and Cardboard Boxes	6
Carding etc. of Buttons ..	1
Cosaques, Christmas Crackers, etc.	9
Waterproof Makers	4
Total:	<u>650</u>

No. of inspections to Outworkers premises	269
No. of Notifiable Diseases found ..	11
No. of firms in the Borough employing Outworkers	42
No. of Outworkers residing and employed in the Borough	150
No. of Outworkers residing outside the Borough	176
No. of Outworkers residing in the Borough employed by firms outside	500

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS - Summary of

	<u>No. of Summonses</u>	<u>Fines</u>	<u>Costs</u>
Public Health (London) Act 1936	49	£268. 0.0.	£106. 5.6.
Food and Drugs Act, 1938 ..	68	235.10.0.	61. 2.0.
Factories Act, 1937	2	-	-
	<u>119</u>	<u>£503.10.0.</u>	<u>£167. 7.6.</u>

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF
DISTRICT SANITARY INSPECTORS DURING THE YEAR 1949.

	W.E. ANSTEE	E.G. CARTER (to 25.3.49)	W. CUE	R.W.G. DAY	S. FIRSH	G.D. FREELAND	G.H. GREEN (to 30.4.49)	W.E. HART (from 19.9.49)	E.C. HAWKER	W.H. HAWORTH	J.J. KENIRY	S.S. LOWTHER	E.A. SHEPPARD	P.W. THORN (from 31.10.49)	E.P. WEBBER	H. WILLIAMS (to 31.5.49)	T O T A L S
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)
Animals causing nuisance removed	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	11
Cisterns cleansed, covered and repaired ...	23	-	-	-	6	1	-	2	1	13	5	-	-	-	-	5	56
Dampness remedied ...	224	29	392	263	408	120	25	109	420	60	60	363	960	97	486	323	4339
Drains:																	
Cleansed or repaired ...	76	31	244	138	92	120	10	26	30	90	24	132	168	19	198	98	1496
Constructed/reconstructed	58	12	20	17	47	278	1	8	12	212	247	84	54	10	278	18	1356
Dustbins provided ...	14	8	28	62	36	42	4	7	48	34	36	120	24	4	72	17	556

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)
Dwelling rooms cleaned	312	107	948	969	1068	393	55	162	1683	361	210	1104	1128	115	660	408	9683
Underfloor ventilation provided ...	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	4	4	6	-	-	-	-	-	18
Improved light & ventilation provided to rooms	-	-	-	3	-	12	1	1	-	4	3	16	-	2	-	15	57
Manure recep- tacles pro- vided	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Offensive ac- cumulations removed	32	5	-	11	92	43	15	5	35	26	31	24	-	2	18	12	351
Gutters and rainwater pipes fixed or repaired.	94	47	128	60	42	48	6	36	48	62	48	168	78	14	366	42	1287
Repairs to roofs	196	13	620	241	282	303	45	74	540	138	132	398	402	30	348	221	3983
Sink, bath & lavatory pipes fixed or repaired.	52	10	44	49	84	42	3	15	12	48	30	240	60	9	388	43	1129
Smoke nuisan- ces abated..	34	-	-	-	36	2	-	2	38	-	15	14	-	7	42	32	222
Urinals fixed or repaired.	24	-	-	3	6	1	-	-	1	10	12	-	-	-	36	-	93
Verminous rooms cleansed ...	109	-	32	84	177	123	8	33	73	73	103	-	66	8	54	47	990

+ See also Page 40.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)
<u>Water Closets:</u>																	
Cleansed or repaired ..	160	18	88	193	252	59	4	39	43	48	35	188	90	16	192	102	1527
Light and ventilation provided ..	26	-	-	-	8	2	-	-	6	2	27	-	-	4	30	7	112
Pans & traps fixed	98	20	48	65	108	36	25	21	36	24	60	140	60	14	227	40	1022
Provision of repair of flushing cisterns....	78	14	64	56	84	72	6	31	36	48	42	249	-	7	366	87	1240 1234
Water supply reinstated or repaired.	53	2	156	72	36	153	2	3	48	52	48	34	24	8	222	38	457 955
Yards, fore-courts paved or paving repaired ...	108	9	36	33	18	84	3	18	132	24	12	69	24	-	60	24	654 653
Floors, windows, staircases, fireplaces and coppers repaired....	536	24	892	514	924	361	63	52	721	240	243	472	846	48	522	221	6679 6619 2901 2964
Miscellaneous	79	8	308	42	-	361	-	37	243	179	180	292	266	37	851	18	

IV. HOUSING.

Statistics.

I. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:-

(1)(a) Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	12,717
(b) Inspections made for the above purpose	24,847
(2)(a) Dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	72
(b) Inspections made for the purpose	82
(3) Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
(4) Dwelling-houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	6,368

II. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices:-

Defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	4,590
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III. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 11, 13 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :- Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	-
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :- (1) Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1,778
(2) Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices :- By owners	1,778
By Local Authority in default of owner	-
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :- Separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	9

Overcrowding (Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV).

During the year 788 cases of overcrowding were investigated, and of these --

401 were referred to the London County Council for rehousing, and

3 were referred to the Rehousing Department of the Stepney Borough Council.

A total of 626 overcrowded families were rehoused during the year - 199 by the London County Council and 427 by the Borough Council.

During the year the Government of Cyprus, before issuing visas, asked for inspections to be made of accommodation alleged to be available here for immigrants from Cyprus, in order to prevent infringement of the Housing Act, 1936. This is a welcome innovation which I should like to see followed by other countries.

Preferential Housing on the grounds of health.

129 cases were investigated: 37 cases were referred to the London County Council for rehousing and 30 to the Stepney Borough Council Rehousing Department.

Underground Rooms.

There are approximately 4,000 underground rooms which do not comply with the Housing Act and the Regulations made thereunder. During the year, 2,739 underground rooms were inspected and in nine of these Closing Orders were made.

Number of Dwellings Erected.

	Houses	Flats
By Stepney Borough Council	87	488
By London County Council	-	67

Building Licences and Essentiality Certificates.

Applications received	598
Recommended	565
Recommended with modifications .	21
Not recommended	5
Others	7

Slum Clearance.

No representations were made for slum clearance but extensive surveys were carried out of 'Black Spots' and much old property was cleared away under the redevelopment areas in operation at present.

Inspections and Visits made by the Housing Inspector.

1. Inspections in connection with "Black Spots" ...	504
2. Inspection of dwellings to ascertain if re-housing justified on grounds of health ...	129
3. Inspection of underground rooms with a view to closure	91
4. Inspection of Temporary Hutments	251
5. Inspections for Overcrowding	788
6. Inspection of Requisitioned Properties	78
7. Inspections to ascertain 'Permitted Numbers' under the Housing Act, 1936	22
8. Inspections under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	26
9. Visits with regard to the issue of Building Licences and Essentiality Certificates	37
10. Inspections made under Defence Regulation 68C.A.	54
11. Miscellaneous visits	126

Temporary Hutments.

Of the Hutments inspected, 2 were recommended for demolition because of their structural condition.

Requisitioned Properties.

Of the requisitioned properties inspected, 17 were recommended to the Housing Manager for de-requisition for various reasons.

V. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The work of the Food Section has increased during the year, which will be seen from a perusal of this report. In particular, the number of legal proceedings has increased to 70 as compared with 32 in the previous year and the amount of unsound food condemned on the wharves is 260 tons as against 90 tons in 1948. Whenever possible, foodstuff condemned by the Food Inspectors is diverted for use as animal food.

Efforts have been made during the year to improve conditions under which food is prepared, sold and stored. Although there has been some measure of success in this direction, the difficulty of carrying out substantial improvements in old and worn out property in the borough must always present a problem. When improvement schemes visualised are carried forward to completion, real progress will be made.

Summary of inspections, etc. by the specialist inspectors engaged in the supervision and inspection of food.

	A.C. Brown	H.J. Green	W.F. Smith	S. Vogler	TOTALS.
Bakehouses	-	158	180	-	338
Butcher & Bacon shops and stalls	204	-	2	117	323
Butter & Margarine premises	-	34	32	-	66
Complaints	6	15	20	11	52
Cowsheds	-	-	9	-	9
Fish shops and stalls	361	-	2	304	667
Grocery & Provision shops	-	110	142	-	252
Greengrocers and Fruiterers shops and stalls	304	-	1	548	853
Ice Cream premises	-	279	210	-	489
London Fruit Exchange	25	-	-	151	176
Markets (Daily)	337	152	107	266	862
Markets (Weekend)	2	3	2	2	9
Milkshops	1	294	184	-	479
Poultry shops and stalls	414	-	-	1067	1481
Prepared Food premises	274	6	-	166	446
Railway Depots	170 ⁺	-	-	138 ⁺	308
Restaurants, Cafes & Canteens	89	372	313	135	909
Spitalfields Market	32	-	-	120	152
Wharves	605	-	-	238	843
Wholesale Grocers	3	146	270	-	419
Miscellaneous visits	30	230	126	72	458
Samples: Food and Drugs	18	542	593	33	1186
Others	62	65	187	19	333
Re-visits	195	67	184	559	1005
No. of summonses taken out.	5	32	23	10	70

+ Includes 143 special night or early morning inspections at Bishopsgate Goods Station.

7

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122

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Milk Supply.

	<u>No. on</u> <u>Register</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Inspections</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Notices</u> <u>Served</u>
Dairyman (with Dairies)	44	479	23
Purveyors (Bottled) Milk	167		
Distributors (Itinerant)	37	-	-
Cowhouses	1	9	-

As from 1st October, 1949, the production of milk in all cowhouses became the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949), but the licensing of cowhouses under the offensive trades section of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, is still the responsibility of the local authority.

39 samples of milk were taken in course of delivery to hospitals and L.C.C. schools and homes in the Borough, as follows:-

	<u>Chemical analysis</u>		<u>Bacteriological examination</u>	
	<u>Examined.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>	<u>Examined.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Schools	6	-	6	-
Hospitals & LCC Homes	23	-	1	-
Day Nurseries	3	-	-	-

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

These Regulations came into operation on 1st October, 1949, and included the new designation "Sterilised." The regulations are an attempt to encourage the sale and consumption of 'safe' milk and it is anticipated that eventually only persons holding licences under these regulations will sell milk. Provision is made for licences to be granted free of charge. As a result, there has been an increase in the number of licences issued, i.e. 340 as against 39 issued during the previous year. This has caused a considerable increase of work to the Food Inspectors and clerical staff.

Details of the licences issued are as follows:-

	<u>Dealer's</u> <u>Licences</u>	<u>Supplementary</u> <u>Licences.</u>
"Pasteurised" milk	122	14
"Sterilised" milk	152	10
"Tuberculin Tested" milk	30	12

Bacteriological Examination of Foodstuffs.

The following samples were submitted for bacteriological examination :-

Nature of Sample	No. of Samples	Observations
Heat Treated Milk	24	Satisfactory.
Sterilised Milk	8	"
T.T.(Pasteurised) Milk	3	"
Luncheon Meat	4	"
Salad Cream	2	"
Eggs	1	"
Pork Brrawn	1	"
Cooked Mussels	1	"
Liquid Egg	1	Sample was unsatisfactory and the goods subsequently destroyed.
Gelatine	3	Samples of jellied eels in cartons taken at a food factory in the borough for bacteriological examination were found to be unsatisfactory. A full investigation into the method of production was carried out and certain suggestions, made with a view to obviating risks of contamination, were agreed to by the owners. In addition, talks were given to the employees on the care and handling of foodstuffs. Further samples taken proved satisfactory. (See special report on ice cream.)
Jellied Eels	7	
Eel Cartons	2	
Eel Gravy	1	
Cooked Eels.	1	
Ice Cream	155	

Ice Cream.

The total number of premises registered in the borough is 215, of which 41 are registered for manufacture, 169 for sale, and 5 for storage only. Systematic inspection of all these premises is carried out by the Food Inspectors. 489 inspections were made during the year and 56 Notices were served for cleansing and other requirements.

155 samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination with the following results :

				<u>No. made</u>	<u>No. made outside</u>
				<u>in Borough</u>	<u>Borough</u>
Grade 1	..	41	(34)	21	20
Grade 2	..	44	(29)	11	33
Grade 3	..	42	(44)	21	21
Grade 4	..	28	(55)	15	13

The numbers in parenthesis show the figures for 1948.

The steady improvement in the bacteriological standard of ice cream has been maintained. The percentage of grades 3 and 4 samples of those examined, was 78.5 in 1947, 61.1 in 1948 and 45.1 in 1949.

122 samples were submitted for chemical analysis, showing a fat content varying from 0.39 to 17.03 per cent, with an average of 7.87 per cent. 33 of the samples contained over 10 per cent of fat, 63 between 5 and 10 per cent of fat, and 26 less than 5 per cent of fat.

Butchers' Shops and Stalls.

323 inspections were made during the year and 38 Notices served.

Bakehouses and Bakers' Shops.

338 inspections were made and 11 Notices served. 139 cleansings were carried out to the 69 bakehouses in the Borough. During the year, the quinquennial survey of basement bakehouses took place and, as a result of this survey, only 9 of the 20 existing basement bakehouses in the borough were regarded as suitable for the continuance of the licences originally issued in 1903 under the provisions of the Factory Act, 1901. Notice was given to the owners of the remaining 11 basement bakehouses under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, that their premises were not suitable and that the licences would be withdrawn. Having regard to the difficult circumstances existing at the present time, 3 years notice of closure was given to the owners to enable them to find premises at ground or above ground level. In one case, notice of appeal was given within the statutory time and as a Writ was issued in the High Court disputing that the premises were a "basement" bakehouse, the matter remained in abeyance at the end of 1949.

Butter and Margarine Factories.

	<u>No. on</u> <u>Register</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Inspection</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Notices</u> <u>served.</u>
Butter and Margarine factories	4	66	-
Wholesale dealers in Margarine	38		
<u>Prepared Food Premises</u>	184	446	57

Poultry Shops and Stalls.

1,481 inspections were made and 6 Notices served.

Fish Shops and Stalls.

667 inspections were made and 6 Notices served.

Greengrocers and Fruiterers' Shops and Stalls.

853 inspections were made and 46 Notices served.

Wholesale and Retail Grocery and Provision Shops.

671 inspections were made and 12 Notices served. 21 Notices were served in respect of miscellaneous food premises.

Catering Establishments and Industrial Canteens.

909 inspections were carried out and 128 Notices served.

Transport and Handling of Meat (Circular M.F.20/49).

Kosher meat is delivered from Islington Cattle Market and non-kosher meat from Smithfield Market. There are two main contractors, and vans conveying meat into the Borough are inspected regularly. No contravention of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924-1948, was found and the vans inspected were generally satisfactory although some are of out of date construction.

Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937.

In January, a consignment of 800 cases of French Pork Brawn was landed at a wharf in the Borough unaccompanied by the official certificate as required by the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937. A detention Notice was served and the importers communicated with. Within two days they had obtained the official certificate by air-mail from France and the brawn, after inspection, was released.

Canned Australian Barracouta Fish.

In August, samples of canned Australian Barracouta fish were taken, for examination for metallic contamination, from three lots (approx, 7,000 cases) landed at two wharves in the borough. These samples showed the presence of lead in amounts varying from 4 to 10 parts per million and the three consignments were placed under detention. The Ministry of Food were informed and an undertaking has been received that the fish will be re-exported and its reimportation prohibited.

Samples were taken in December from a further consignment landed at one of the wharves and these showed the presence of lead varying from 4 to 10 parts per million. The whole consignment (7,604 cases) was placed under detention and notification sent to the Ministry of Food.

Date Juice.

In March, quantities of date juice arrived from Basra at one of the wharves in the borough. This juice was contained in 4-gallon petrol cans and 50-gallon oil drums, and samples were taken to determine whether petrol and cresols were contaminating the date juice. 11 samples were taken at one wharf, care being taken to obtain the samples from different levels in the drums; in addition, 2 bulk samples were taken. Analyses showed that in all the samples there was an absence of petrol and cresols and that the lead content was less than 1 part per million. Eventually the date juice was released for manufacturing purposes.

Arsenical Contamination of Italian Pears.

During the examination of 17 trucks of Italian pears which arrived at Bishopsgate Goods Station ex Zeebrugge-Harwich Train Ferry on 2nd August, it was observed that several of the trucks contained pears which were contaminated by what appeared to be arsenical insecticide. Three of the trucks most heavily contaminated were detained and samples were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst. In his report, the Public Analyst stated that the samples contained only 1/2000, 1/700 and 1/3200 grains of arsenic (as grains arsenious oxide) per pound of fruit as compared with the accepted limit of 1/100 grains per pound. The pears were subsequently released on condition that they would be cleaned before sale to the public.

From that date, all Italian pears were detained pending full examination and where evidence of serious contamination was visible, were released only on condition that cleansing was carried out before sale.

Further samples were taken from time to time and all were well below the accepted limit of 1/100 grain per pound.

During the period 2nd to 31st August, 192 trucks of Italian pears were examined and of these, 28 were released conditionally upon cleansing before sale.

Consignments of the pears were also received at Spitalfields Market during the same period and these were dealt with similarly.

Caseous Lymphadenitis.

827 carcasses of imported mutton were examined for caseous lymphadenitis by the cutting of the lymphatic glands. None of the carcasses were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Unsound Food.

The following quantities of unsound foodstuffs were disposed of during the year under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937 and the Public Health (London) Act, 1936 :

Premises

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Wharves	260	14	0	3
London Fruit Exchange and Spitalfields Market	96	1	3	11
Railway Depots	14	10	0	7
Zeebrugge-Harwich Train Ferry	24	0	1	23
Other premises	65	7	2	21
	460	14	0	179

During the year 124 Detention Notices for foodstuffs weighing 570 tons 18cwts. 3qrs. 1-lb., and 120 Release Notices for foodstuffs weighing 267 tons 4cwts. 2qrs. 21-lbs. were served.

Various foodstuffs were dealt with including such diverse kinds as canned goods, fruit, vegetables, dried fruits, confectionery, meat, fish and condiments.

Zeebrugge-Harwich Train Ferry.

265 night and early morning and 15 other visits to Bishopsgate Goods Station were made by the Food Inspectors for the purpose of examining 2,877 trucks containing foodstuffs arriving from the Continent. These consisted of:

Italian foodstuffs.....	2277 trucks containing apples, cauliflowers, chicory, cucumbers, grapes, lemons, lettuce, mandarines, nuts, pears, peas, pomegranates and prunes.
Hungarian foodstuffs....	398 trucks containing apricots, bacon, cheese, fowls, game, geese and turkeys.
Belgian foodstuffs.....	197 trucks containing apples, chicory, cucumbers, endives, fish, frozen fruit and vegetables, gooseberries, grapes, pears and peas.
Yugo-Slavian foodstuffs.	3 trucks containing cherries.
Swiss foodstuffs.....	2 trucks containing salami.

The total weight of foodstuffs examined was 17,957 tons 6cwts.

Samples of Belgian canned luncheon meat were taken for examination for the presence of horseflesh. These samples proved to be satisfactory.

VI. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifications.

1,613 notifications (other than of tuberculosis) were received, or 263 more than in the previous year. (See table p. 42).

Immunisation.

I am informed by the Divisional Medical Officer, LCC that during the year the number of immunisations carried out in children under 5 years of age was as follows :

Diphtheria	1,043
Whooping Cough	874
Combined Diphtheria and Wh.Cough	330

It is not now possible to estimate the percentage of immunised children under 15 in Stepney, as these statistics are now prepared for the whole of Division 5 area, which includes Stepney, Bethnal Green, Poplar and the City of London.

Infectious Disease Contacts.

Where persons are precluded from continuing at work by reason of being a carrier, or having been in contact with infectious disease, benefits under the National Insurance Act, 1946, are only paid on production of a certificate from the Medical Officer of Health. It was not found necessary to issue any such certificates during the year.

Authentication of Certificates of Vaccination and Inoculation.

Circular 60/48 of the Ministry of Health relates to the difficulties in some countries by travellers from the United Kingdom who are required to prove that the certificates of vaccination or inoculation carried by them are genuine. In several parts of the world certificates are not accepted unless endorsed by a medical officer in the government or municipal service in which they are issued. The purpose of this is to provide proof that the signature of the person issuing the certificate is that of a registered medical practitioner.

Arrangements were made to have the signatures authenticated by endorsement of the certificates, and during the year 53 such signatures were authenticated by me.

Smallpox.

No cases of smallpox were notified during the year and it was not necessary for me to take action under the Public Health (Smallpox) Regulations, 1917.

Verminous Persons.

<u>Branch Road Cleansing Station.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Ch.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Persons bathed and clothing disinfected ...	202	25	9	236
Baths and treatments given	213	35	13	261

Bug Eradication.

The following is a summary of work carried out by the specialist inspectors :

	<u>Miss Whitty.</u>	<u>Mr. Edwards</u>
General inspections for vermin	780	638
Premises found verminous ...	249	210
Re-visits ...	355	417
Miscellaneous visits ...	502	1247
Premises sprayed with insecticide:-	<u>Council.</u>	<u>Private</u>
Premises ...	439	761
Rooms ...	1188	1584

590 families were rehoused in Borough Council houses and flats, and their furniture and effects were treated with hydrogen cyanide gas prior to removal. An additional 21 families were rehoused and, having new furniture, no treatment with H.C.N. was necessary.

All the bedding was disinfected by steam.

Cleansing and Disinfection.

394 premises were disinfected because of infectious disease and 32 because of pulmonary tuberculosis. 125,336 articles of clothing and bedding were steam disinfected. Of these, 96,211 related to articles of clothing for export.

Scabies.

County of London (Scabies) Regulations, 1943.

<u>Nº of cases of Scabies notified:-</u>	<u>Formally</u>	<u>Informally</u>
	99	65

<u>Branch Road Treatment Centre.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Ch.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Persons bathed and clothing disinfected ...	32	8	15	55
Baths and treatments given	53	13	26	92

London Hospital Treatment Centre.

Persons bathed and clothing disinfected on behalf of Borough Council ...	41	30	19	90
--	----	----	----	----

FOOD POISONING.

There were no outbreaks of food poisoning, but eight separate cases occurred.

In one case a woman was very ill after eating duck egg. The ducks were traced to a borough outside London, and it was found that some had recently sickened and died. The organism found in this patient's stools was *Bacillus Typhi Murium*. The patient recovered, but tended to remain a carrier.

Duck eggs were mentioned in four other separate cases, in all of which *Bacillus Typhi Murium* was found in the patient's stools. It was not possible to confirm that duck eggs were actually responsible in these cases.

In one other case of an aged woman, no particular food was suspected, but *Salmonella Thompson* was found in the patient's stools.

All cases recovered.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1949.

DISEASE	Under 1 year	Total Cases Notified. In Age Groups.										65 and over	Total	Cases admitted to Hospital	Corrected diag- nosis.	Corrected Total
		1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-					
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	18	15	25	25	62	26	3	2	-	-	-	177	65	11	166
Diphtheria	-	4	1	1	1	3	1	-	2	-	-	-	13	12	10	3
Membranous Croup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	1
Measles	73	206	237	132	159	305	12	4	2	1	1	-	1132	97	5	1127
Whooping Cough	15	29	20	12	14	28	3	1	8	1	-	-	131	19	2	129
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	2	-	-	8	7	-	8
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	9	2	16	1	-	16
Cerebrospinal Fever	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	-	5
Poliomyelitis	2	5	1	3	2	4	3	-	-	1	-	-	21	21	5	16
Polio-encephalitis	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	1
Dysentery	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	3	-	-	12	10	-	12
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	2	-	2
Pneumonia	1	4	2	-	-	3	4	5	19	11	20	13	82	42	-	82
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	4	1	9	7	1	8
TOTALS:	98	268	277	175	201	405	51	16	45	26	35	16	1613	292	35	1578

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930

Part I. Summary of notifications of Tuberculosis during the period from 1st January 1949 to 31st December 1949, in the Metropolitan Borough of Stepney.

Formal Notifications

No. of Primary Notifications of new cases of tuberculosis

Age Periods.	0-1-2-5-10-15-20-25-35-45-55-65-75-	Total (all ages)
<u>Respiratory:</u>		
Males	1 2 4 3 4 7 11 15 21 13 9 7 2	99
Females	2 1 1 3 3 10 13 16 4 2 3 1 -	59
<u>Non-Respiratory:</u>		
Males	- - - 1 - 1 1 1 2 - 1 - -	7
Females	- - - 2 - 1 1 1 - - - -	5

Part II. New Cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the above-mentioned period, otherwise than by formal notification.

Death Returns from Local Registrars

Age Periods.	0-1-2-5-10-15-20-25-35-45-55-65-75-	Total
<u>Respiratory:</u>		
Males	- - - - - - - - - 1 3 -	4 (A)
Females	- - - - - - - 1 - - -	1 (B)
<u>Non-Respiratory:</u>		
Males	- - - - - - - - - - -	- (C)
Females	- - - - - - - - - - -	- (D)

Death Returns from Registrar-General
(Transferable Deaths)

<u>Respiratory:</u>		
Males	- - - - - - - 1 1 - -	2 (A)
Females	- 1 - - - - - - - - -	1 (B)
<u>Non-Respiratory:</u>		
Males	- 1 - - - - - - 1 - - -	2 (C)
Females	- - - - - - - - - - -	- (D)

Posthumous Notifications

Age Periods.	0-1-2-5-10-15-20-25-35-45-55-65-75-	Total
<u>Respiratory:</u>		
Males	- - - - - 1 - 1 -	2 (A)
Females	- - - - - - - - -	- (B)
<u>Non-Respiratory:</u>		
Males	- - - - - - - - -	- (C)
Females	- - - - - - - - -	- (D)

"Transfers" from Other Areas (excluding transferable deaths)

<u>Respiratory:</u>		
Males	- - 1 - - 2 5 10 4 5 1 - -	28 (A)
Females	- - 1 - 1 1 5 4 3 1 - - -	16 (B)
<u>Non-Respiratory:</u>		
Males	- - - - - 1 - - 1 1 - - -	3 (C)
Females	- - - 1 - - - - - - - -	1 (D)

Other Sources.

<u>Respiratory:</u>		
Males	- - - - - - - - 1 - -	1 (A)
Females	- - - - - 1 - - - - -	1 (B)
<u>Non-Respiratory:</u>		
Males	- - - - - - - - - - -	- (C)
Females	- - - - - - - - 1 - - -	1 (D)

Totals: (A) 37
 (B) 19
 (C) 5
 (D) 2

TOTAL DEATHS BY CAUSE AND AGE
IN THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF STEPNEY - 1949.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Sex	All Ages	0-	1-	5-	15-	45-	65 & over
1. Typhoid and para-typhoid fevers.	-	Nil	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever.	-	Nil	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough.	-	Nil	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Diphtheria.	-	Nil	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system.	M	48	-	-	-	12	21	15
	F	18	-	1	-	9	6	2
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis.	M	4	-	1	-	1	1	1
	F	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
8. Syphilitic disease.	M	8	-	-	-	-	4	4
	F	2	-	-	-	-	1	1
9. Influenza.	M	4	-	-	-	-	2	2
	F	5	-	-	-	-	1	4
10. Measles.	-	Nil	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. Acute poliomyelitis & polioencephalitis.	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. Acute infectious encephalitis.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
13. Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus.	M	15	-	-	-	-	4	11
13. Cancer of uterus.	F	9	-	-	-	1	5	3
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum.	M	22	-	-	-	1	12	9
	F	23	-	-	-	-	8	15
15. Cancer of breast.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	17	-	-	-	2	6	9
16. Cancer of all other sites.	M	112	-	-	-	8	51	53
	F	57	-	1	1	4	19	32
17. Diabetes.	M	5	-	-	-	-	2	3
	F	13	-	-	-	2	4	7
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions.	M	44	-	-	-	-	14	30
	F	58	-	-	-	1	8	49
19. Heart disease.	M	197	-	-	-	8	45	144
	F	178	-	-	-	3	33	142
20. Other diseases of the circulatory system.	M	42	-	-	-	-	13	29
	F	42	-	-	-	-	10	32
21. Bronchitis.	M	60	2	-	-	-	19	39
	F	35	-	1	-	-	7	27
22. Pneumonia.	M	48	7	-	-	1	10	30
	F	30	4	2	-	1	3	20

CAUSES OF DEATH	Sex	All Ages	0-	1-	5-	15-	45-	65 & over
23. Other respiratory diseases.	M	9	-	1	1	1	2	4
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
24. Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum	M	16	-	-	-	1	8	7
	F	7	-	-	-	-	2	5
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years).	M	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
26. Appendicitis.	M	2	-	-	-	1	1	-
	F	3	-	2	-	-	1	-
27. Other digestive diseases.	M	6	-	-	-	1	1	4
	F	15	-	-	-	-	7	8
28. Nephritis.	M	14	-	-	1	2	3	8
	F	6	-	-	-	1	5	-
29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis.	-	Nil						
30. Other maternal causes.	F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
31. Premature birth.	M	10	10	-	-	-	-	-
	F	4	4	-	-	-	-	-
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease.	M	10	9	-	-	1	-	-
	F	14	9	1	-	1	1	2
33. Suicide.	M	7	-	-	-	1	5	1
	F	4	-	-	-	-	2	2
34. Road Traffic accidents.	M	6	-	-	1	2	2	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
35. Other violent causes.	M	21	3	5	1	1	6	5
	F	9	2	-	2	-	2	3
36. All other causes.	M	38	3	1	-	3	6	25
	F	29	-	1	-	4	10	14
ALL CAUSES.	M	751	37	8	4	45	232	425
	F	588	22	9	3	30	144	380
<u>Total:</u>		1339	59	17	7	75	376	805

26th Annual Report
SUMMARY OF BOROUGH ANALYST'S QUARTERLY REPORTS
for the Year 1949

During the year, 1,328 samples were submitted for analysis. Of these, 1,161 (348 Formal and 813 Informal) were taken under the Food and Drugs Act: 152 were received from the Public Health Department, 1 sample from the Public Cleansing Officer, 7 from the Food Executive Officer, 6 from private purchasers, and 1 sample from the Police.

Adulteration. Of 1,326 samples of Food and Drugs from all sources, 89 or 6.7 per cent were adulterated or unsatisfactory.

Food and Drugs Act. 1,161 samples - 30 adulterated.

MILK. 290 samples examined. The average composition for each month and the whole year is given below:

	No. <u>Examined</u>	Fat, per cent <u> </u>	Solids-not-fat, <u> </u> per cent.
January	41	3.54	8.67
February	38	3.41	8.66
March	31	3.50	8.63
April	22	3.38	8.66
May	19	3.20	8.70
June	11	3.35	8.67
July	22	3.47	8.56
August	17	3.45	8.58
September	19	3.57	8.63
October	29	3.65	8.67
November	14	3.73	8.82
December	27	3.73	8.81
WHOLE YEAR	290	3.50	8.67
Legal Minimum	-	3.00	8.50

32 of the above milk samples were taken from L.C.C. institutions in the Borough. No adulterated milk was received during the year.

ICE CREAM. Of 122 samples the average Fat content was 7.87 per cent.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT - Adulterated or unsatisfactory samples.

Serial No.	Article	Nature of Offence.	Observations
D562	Buttered Rolls.	100% Margarine.	£4-0-0 Fine £2-4-0 Costs.
D564	Buttered Rolls.	100% Margarine.	Case dismissed.
D307	Cream Cheese.	Soft cheese made from skimmed milk.	Informal.
A14	Fish Paste.	19.7% deficient in Fish.	Informal.
A33	Fish Paste.	24.3% " "	Imported Food.
A182	Fish Paste.	16.3% " "	Do.
A190	Pickled Herrings in Wine Sauce.	Contained no Alcohol.	Dismissed P.O.A. £3-3-0 Custs.
A247	Pickled Herrings in Wine Sauce.	" "	£10-0-0 Fine
A256	Pickled Herrings in Wine Sauce.	" "	£ 3-3-0 Costs.
A257	Pickled Herrings in Wine Sauce.	Alcohol trace only.	Informal.
C17	Meat.	Consisted of horseflesh.	£20-0-0 Fine £ 5-5-0 Costs.
B52	Sausages.	22.8% deficient in Meat.	£5-0-0 Fine £2-2-0 Costs.
B55	Sausages.	20.8% " "	£10-0-0 Fine £2-4-0 Costs.
C43	Sausages.	23.0% " "	£5-0-0 Fine £2-4-0 Costs.
D188	Glauber's Salt.	Water, 14.8%)	Informal. Did
D404	Glauber's Salt.	" 26.9%)	not comply with
D405	Glauber's Salt.	" 0.04%)	the British Pharmacopoeia.
A25	Calamine Lotion.	Incorrectly labelled.	Informal.
A26	Do	" "	Informal.
A30	Do	" "	Chemist notified.
A204	Hydrogen Peroxide.	Trace peroxide only.	Informal.
A668	Iodine Solution.	57.6% deficient in Iodine.	Informal.
A730	Iodine Solution.	55.2% " "	Caution.
A613	Saccharin Tablets.	21.6% deficient in Saccharin.	Informal.
D38	Sal Volatile.	33.3% deficient in Ammonia.	Informal.
D69	Sal Volatile.	11.4% " "	Caution.
D494	Sal Volatile.	72.0% " "	Informal.
D512	Sal Volatile.	67.0% " "	Caution.

Serial No.	Article	Nature of Adulteration.	Observations
D146	Zinc Ointment.	17.0% deficient in Zinc Oxide.	Informal.
D163	Zinc Ointment.	15.4% " "	Caution.

Total Fines and Costs £71. 2. 0.

Public Health Department. 152 samples submitted of which 56 were unsatisfactory, as below :

Serial No.	Article	Nature of Irregularity.	Observations
3,7,12) 15,22,) 23,31,) 47,49) & 53.)	Flour.	Insect infested.	Salvage.
5,17.	Semolina.	" "	Salvage.
6, 8.	Rolled Oats.	" "	Do
32.	Ground Ginger.	" "	Do
39.	Split Peas.	" "	Do
74.	Tapioca.	Musty condition.	Do
75.	Dried Egg.	Insect infested.	Do
72.	Currant Bread.	Contained dirt.	-
78.	Brawn.	Contained pig bristles.	Imported Food.
67,68, & 70.	Lemon Juice & Orange Juice.	Excessive amounts of Sulphur Dioxide.	Imported Food.
76.	Orange Pulp.	1.5% Acetic Acid.	Do
89.	Fat Compound.	Rancid.	Do
135,86) 136,137)	Salad Cream.	Rancid.	-
133.134	Salad Cream.	Badly mixed.	-
92.	Meat Pie.	Mouldy.	-
99.	Lemonade.	Contained tin from enamel.	-
131.	Chopped Peel.	Fermented.	-
141.	Cayenne Pepper	Deficient in Oil.	-
151.164	Tinned Barra-couta.	Excessive amounts of Lead.	Imported Food.
2,13,14,) 29, 119,) & 120.)	Tomato Paste.	Excessive amounts of Copper.	Imported Food.

Food Executive Officer. Of 7 samples submitted, 3 were unsatisfactory, viz:-

Serial No.	Article.	Nature of Offence.
41.	Meat.	Consisted of Horseflesh.
144.	Sausages.	24% deficient in Meat.
145.	Sausages.	24% " "

Public Cleansing Officer. 1 sample of Trade Refuse was examined.

Private Purchasers. 6 samples were examined: all were satisfactory.

Police. 1 sample of Motor Spirit was examined.

Fees received for analyses totalled £14.14.0.

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