

[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

of the

Medical Officer of Health

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

for the year

1952

Together with the Report of the

PUBLIC ANALYST

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

at 31st December 1952

Ex-officio: His Worship The Mayor
(Councillor A.D.Bermel, J.P.)

Chairman: Councillor (Miss) E. Upton

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

Alderman T. Aylward

Alderman (Mrs.) A.Elboz

Alderman J.Moore, J.P.

Alderman J. Mulshaw

Alderman (Mrs.) M. Sambrook

Councillor W. Bannell

Councillor (Mrs.) S.B.Bloomfield

Councillor W. J. Curtis

Councillor (Mrs.) F. Finlay

Councillor W. G. Humphries

Councillor (Mrs.) A. M. Jolly

Councillor H. Karstadt

Councillor M. Lerner

Councillor M. Levitas

Councillor R. Milligan

Councillor B. Mushin

Councillor J. Sambrook

Councillor J.C.Sullivan

Councillor (Mrs.) A. Taylor

Council's Representatives on L.C.C. Health Committees, at
31st December 1952

Division 5

Alderman (Mrs.) M. Sambrook

Councillor W. G. Humphries

Councillor (Miss) E. Upton

Central

Councillor (Mrs.) K. Edwards

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 and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough of Stepney for the year 1952.

The population as estimated by the Registrar-General shows a slight increase, and is now 99,000 compared with the 1951 estimate of 98,850 and the census figure of 98,581.

The total number of live births registered was 1,894 and the live birth rate is 19.13.

Stepney's infantile mortality rate* has again reached a record low figure of 18.47 which compares favourably with 27.6 for England & Wales. The maternal mortality rate † is 3.08, the total number of maternal deaths being six, whilst last year there were no maternal deaths (see page 5).

The general death rate for the Borough is 13.8, about the same as last year.

The incidence of infectious disease continues to be low with the exception of measles and whooping-cough, of which there were 1,284 and 156 notifications respectively (1,459 and 226 in 1951).

* Infant Mortality Rate = the number of deaths per annum of infants under one year of age, per 1000 children born.

† Maternal Mortality Rate = the number of deaths per annum of women ascribed to pregnancy, childbearing, abortion, etc., per 1000 live and stillbirths.

There were no cases of smallpox or typhoid but two paratyphoid cases. No deaths occurred from any infectious disease except one from infantile paralysis, one from pneumococcal meningitis and two from meningococcal infection. There were 50 deaths from tuberculosis and 241 from cancer. The figures for 1951 were 49 and 232 respectively.

Perhaps the most serious happening this year was the great increase in the number of deaths related to a period of dense smoke-fog which occurred in London between the 5th and 8th December. The first indication of abnormality was the reported deaths of cattle at the Smithfield Show. Later it was assessed that 4,000 human deaths in Greater London could be attributed to the fog. For week ended 13th December the number of deaths recorded in the administrative County of London had been exceeded only four times during the past century.

The effect in Stepney was indicated by the following figures: Deaths in Stepney from bronchitis, pneumonia, influenza, other diseases of the respiratory system and cardiac diseases during the week of the fog and the week after (viz. weeks ended 13th and 20th December) were 115. During the corresponding two weeks in 1951 the figure was 37.

Similar weather conditions bringing fog (high barometric pressure, low ground temperature and high relative humidity) may recur, and the obvious danger to health caused by smoke in fog has focussed attention on the need for further measures to achieve smoke abatement in London.

Byelaws for the clean handling of food came into force on 3rd November 1952. These byelaws cover not only shops and cafés but also the sale of food in the open air. In the latter case they are difficult to apply. It is quite impossible to equip food-barrows with hot and cold water and proper sanitary conditions and no amount of care can keep dust and flies from food sold under such primitive conditions. With the multiplicity of well-equipped food shops in 1952, barrows and snack shacks would seem unnecessary, but ancient customs die hard.

Stepney is a centre of the food trade. Much food is imported and there are important wholesale markets and food-factories in the Borough. The pictures facing page 27 show the Council's food inspectors examining food on the wharves under the Imported Food Regulations of 1937 and sampling in a food-factory under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

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The Housing progress of the Borough Council and the London County Council continues apace, and evidence of the progress made will be found on pages 53 and 54.

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Although certain diseases such as cancer tend to increase there is no doubt that the general health of Stepney has vastly improved during the last half century. The table on page 47 indicates the extent of the improvement.

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I would like to express my gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support and to the Staff of the Department my appreciation of the interest they have shown in their work throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

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 1952

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.P. McGinn, B.Sc., A.R.I.C.

Assistant Administrative Officer: E.P. Webber (1, 2)

Principal Assistant: S.J. Carr

District Sanitary

Inspectors

W.E. Anstee (1)
W. Cue (1)
R.W.G. Day (1)
S. Firsht (1)
W.E. Hart (1)
W.H. Haworth (1)
J.J. Keniry (1)
B. Reilly (1)
(and 5 vacancies)

Food Inspectors

A.C. Brown (1, 2)
H.J. Green (1, 2)
S.S. Lowther (1, 2)
S. Vogler (1, 2)

Caretakers

W. Clark
A.N. Cook
E.H. Vaughan
(Messenger/Relief-Caretaker)

Disinfestation

Inspectors

E.J. Edwards (1, 2)
Miss H.A. Whitty
(1, 2, 4, 5, 6)

Housing Inspector

C.F. Guy (1)

Rodent Control

G.D. Freeland (1, 2, 3)

Woman Hygiene Assistant

Miss A.J. Ballam (T)

Rodent Investigators

S.C. Ludlow
T.T. Walker

Foreman

Rodent Operative

T.J. Fox

Clerical Staff

T. Aylward
D.J. Berry
E.M. Coker (+)
H.I. Davies (T)
W.J. Dixon
W.E. Driscoll
S.W. Embleton
Mrs. C. Gardner
S.S. Harris
Miss R. Levey
J. McMullon
Mrs. M. Munday (T)
M.J. O'Connor (x)
M. Pliskin
J. Pratt (T)

Foreman

Disinfector

W. Sexton

-
- (1) Sanitary Inspectors Certificate. (x) Permanent employee temporarily transferred from another department.
(2) Meat & Other Foods Certificate.
(3) Smoke Certificate.
(4) Health Visitors Certificate.
(5) State Certified Midwife.
(6) Trained Nurse.

(T) Temporary.

(+) H.M. Forces.

NOTE - For staff changes during the year see page 16.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1952

Area of Borough - 1902.7 acres.	Rateable Value (1st April, 1952) ..	£1,248.815.
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate of Home Population as at 30th June, 1952) ..	99,000.	Sum represented by a penny rate £4,990.
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1952) according to Rate Books	29,003.	Density of population (persons per acre) .. 56.05.

BIRTHS.	Total	Male	Female	Rates.
Legitimate	1728	909	819	
Illegitimate	166	98	68	
TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS	1894	1007	887	LIVE BIRTH RATE per 1000 population - 19.13
STILL BIRTHS	51	28	23	STILL BIRTH RATE per 1000 total (live and still) births - 26.22
TOTAL BIRTHS	1945	1035	910	

DEATHS.	Total	Male	Female	Rates.
TOTAL (All Ages)	1371	797	574	DEATH RATE per 1000 population - 13.84
MATERNAL	6	---	---	MATERNAL DEATH RATE per 1000 total (live and still) births - 3.08
CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.				
Legitimate	32	17	15	RATE per 1000 legitimate live births - 18.51
Illegitimate	3	3	-	RATE per 1000 illegitimate live births - 18.07
TOTAL.	35	20	15	RATE per 1000 live births (total) - 18.47

DEATHS from	Total	Male	Female
Cancer	241	138	103
Measles	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1	-	1
Tuberculosis - respiratory ..	49	34	15
" - other forms ..	1	-	1

I. STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

General Information.

Stépney is situated on the North bank of the Thames, having a river frontage of 2.39 miles. It is roughly rectangular in shape, its length being 2.3 miles and breadth varying from 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, with 90 miles of streets. The acreage is 1,902 of which the river accounts for 136 acres and the inland water, consisting of docks and canals, 75 acres. The height above sea level varies from 8ft. at the dockside to 45ft. in the northern part of the Borough.

Under the whole of the Borough is the dark blue London clay at a depth of between 20 and 30 feet from the surface. Above this level are layers and patches of gravel and sand, and nearer the surface brown and yellow clays. In some parts of the Borough are layers of "made" ground, the result of earlier habitation. As is to be expected, the flow of sub-soil water is towards the river.

The area is to a large extent industrial in character, factory premises being spread throughout the Borough, but concentrated somewhat towards the western end, apart from the docks and wharves on the river frontage. The chief industries carried on, besides those associated with docks and wharves, are the manufacture of clothing of all kinds, brewing, cigarette making, furniture and upholstery manufacture, and motor vehicle repairs.

Open Spaces.

The first portion of the King George's Playing Fields was opened during the year by H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh. The part opened comprises 10 acres, and the ultimate area is to be $65\frac{1}{2}$ acres, which will more than double the existing acreage of open spaces in the Borough. A list of open spaces is given on page 43.

Population.

The Registrar-General's mid-year estimate for 1952 is 99,000, which is 150 more than the mid-year estimate for 1951 and 419 more than the census figure of that year.

The density of population is now 56.05 persons per acre.

Births.

The total number of live births registered in the Borough during the year was 3,607, of which 1,906 belonged to other areas. In addition, 193 births belonging to Stepney occurred outside the Borough, making a total of 1,894 births (1,007 male and 887 females) to Stepney residents. 3,247 births occurred in hospitals in the Borough, of which 1,383 were to Stepney residents.

The live birth rate is 19.13 per thousand of the population, the highest since 1948. The rate when adjusted by the comparability factor is 18.55, compared with the County of London rate of 17.6 and the rate for England & Wales of 15.3.

Illegitimate live births numbered 166, representing 8.7 per cent of the total live births.

Stillbirths numbered 51, representing a rate of 26.2 per 1,000 total births.

Comparative vital statistics for the year as between England and Wales, the Administrative County of London, and Stepney, are shown in Table 2 on page 44.

Marriages.

The number of marriages registered during the year was 907, being 76 more than last year and 149 less than in 1950. The rate of marriages per 1,000 population was 18.3 and in 1951 it was 16.8.

Deaths.

The net number of deaths registered during the year was 1,371, of which 797 were males and 574 females, as compared with 1,364 for last year. The Rate of 13.84 compares with 13.83 for 1951. The principal causes of death were from heart disease, which accounted for 29 per cent of the total deaths, cancer 17 per cent, and diseases of the respiratory system 19 per cent. A Table on page 45 shows deaths by cause and age.

Road Accidents.

The Table on page 46 summarises road accidents which have occurred in the Borough over the past five years, for which information I am indebted to Mr. A. S. Monckton, the Council's Road Safety Organiser.

Infant Mortality.

The deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 35, giving a rate of 18.47 per thousand live births, the lowest rate ever recorded in Stepney, as compared with 21.12 last year. The rate for England and Wales is 27.6 and that for London 23.8. There were 23 deaths of infants under four weeks old, representing a rate of 12.13 per thousand live births. The main causes of death among infants under one year of age were prematurity and congenital malformations.

Maternal Mortality.

Six maternal deaths occurred during the year, giving a rate of 3.08 per 1,000 total births. Of these 6 deaths, 3 were due to puerperal sepsis and 3 to other causes, including haemorrhage.

The three due to puerperal sepsis were:

1. Uraemia due to septic abortion.
2. Multiple pyaemic abscesses due to septic abortion.
3. Intestinal obstruction. Gangrene of small intestine.
Septic dissolution of wall of uterus after breech labour.

Those due to other causes were:

4. Post partum haemorrhage due to uterine atony.
5. Internal haemorrhage due to ectopic pregnancy.
6. Inhalation of stomach contents during anaesthesia for Caesarean section.

Comparative Statistics.

A table showing vital statistics for the Borough for various years from 1901 is given on page 47.

Unemployment.

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>	
2,024	7	234	6	= TOTAL 2,271.

The total unemployed at the end of 1951 was 2,321.

II. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

WELFARE OF AGED PERSONS.

The Council is empowered by Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, as amended by the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, to make application to the Courts for orders for the removal to hospitals or institutions of aged, infirm or physically incapacitated persons who are living in insanitary conditions and who are in need of care and attention.

During the year, it was necessary to apply for ten Removal Orders and one Extension Order, details of which are given below. The orders operate for 3 months in each case.

In addition to living in insanitary conditions and being unable to devote to themselves, and not receiving from other persons proper care and attention, the persons removed were also either -

- * (a) suffering from a grave chronic disease; or
- (b) aged and/or infirm, or
- (c) physically incapacitated.

<u>Person.</u>	<u>Age.</u>	<u>* Reason for Action</u>	<u>Removed to -</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Mrs.M.N.	74	b.c.	Institution.	-
Mr.F.P.	82	b.c.	Hospital.	-
Miss B.L.	70	a.b.c.	Institution.	Emergency Order and transferred to Institution by Extension Order.
Mrs.E.R.B.	73	b.c.	Institution.	-
Mrs.L.C.	70	a.b.c.	Institution.	-
Mr.C.C.	85	b.c.	Institution.	Died.
Mr.J.McG.	74	a.b.c.	Hospital.	Died.
Mr.T.M.N.	84	b.	Institution.	Died.
Mrs.B.L.	70	b.	Institution.	-
Mr.A.J.H.	63	b.c.	Institution.	-

In addition to the above persons removed under Court Orders, admission was gained to hospitals or institutions for fourteen other persons.

The majority of visits to aged persons made by officers of this Department are carried out by the Council's woman sanitary inspector and woman hygiene assistant, and over 2,200 visits were made by these officers during the year.

Unfortunately there are still far from sufficient voluntary workers to visit aged persons in Stepney, many of whom live alone and have no relatives and who very much appreciate occasional friendly visits. This is social work which is well worth doing, and if any resident of the Borough feels that he or she could help in this respect, the Secretary of the Stepney Old People's Welfare Association, The Royal Foundation of St. Katharine, Butcher Row, Ratcliffe, E.14, would appreciate their assistance.

A register of old people visited is kept in the Department, a summary of which is as follows:-

Number on register at 1st January	237
Additions to the register during the year	370
Removals from register during the year	127
Number on register at 31st December	480

The Council provides a service for disinfecting and cleansing bed linen and personal clothing, under Section 122 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936. This service although not provided solely for old folk affords most benefit to such people.

Aged persons who have not the facilities in their homes for a bath, or who are not capable of bathing themselves, are assisted in this respect by the Department's cleansing attendants with the aid of portable bath equipment. By this means during the year 122 old persons were bathed and 263 baths given.

There are fourteen old people's clubs in the Borough, whose activities are co-ordinated by the Stepney Old People's Welfare Association. The Council is represented on this body by members of the Council and the Medical Officer of Health, and applications to the Council by old persons' clubs for grants under Section 31 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, are referred to the Association for investigation. Grants made to clubs by the Council during the year amounted to £1,844.

A Meals on Wheels service is provided for the old folk, run jointly by the Old People's Welfare Association and the W.V.S., some 13,000 meals being delivered during the year, and four of the clubs have Luncheon Clubs which provided over 15,000 meals in 1952.

Chiropody Clinics are provided at five of the clubs.

DECEASED PERSONS.

Mortuary. Ten bodies were received in the Council's Mortuary during the year.

Inquests. Inquests were held on 49 residents of the Borough, 3 of whom were children under five years of age: 9 deaths were due to suicide, 22 were accidental, and 18 due to other causes (2 natural causes, 10 misadventure, 2 open verdict, 1 manslaughter and 3 murder).

Burials. Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, placed a duty on the Council to arrange for the burial of any persons found dead within the borough, where no private arrangements have been made.

Twenty-six such burials took place during the year at a cost of £240. Of this amount £160 was recovered from the estates of the deceased persons, leaving £80 falling to the cost of the Council.

FREE WASHING FACILITIES.

The public availed themselves in increasing numbers of the Council's provision for free washing facilities in public conveniences, some 40,000 free washes being taken during the year. This service was established last year to promote food and personal hygiene and cleanliness.

HOSPITAL FACILITIES.

The undermentioned hospitals are situated in the Borough:

	<u>No. of Beds</u>
The London Hospital, Whitechapel Road	689
Mile End Hospital, Bancroft Road	475
St. George-in-the-East Hospital, Raine Street	215
The London Jewish Hospital, Stepney Green	125
Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Children, Glamis Road	50
East End Maternity Hospital, Commercial Road	60

LEGISLATION.

The following Acts, Orders and Regulations affecting the Department were made during the year :

<u>Act, Order or Regulation.</u>	<u>Date Operative From</u>
L.C.C. (General Powers) Act, 1952.	26/6/52
Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952.	23/3/53
Public Health (Meat) (Amendment) Regulations, 1952.	31/8/52
Memo 3/Meat (Methods of Meat Inspection).	1/2/53
Meat Products Order, 1952.	16/3/52
" " " No.2, 1952.	15/6/52
" " " No.3, 1952.	1/1/53
Food Standards (Coffee Mixtures) Order, 1952.	21/9/52
" " (Suet) " " 1952.	28/12/52
" " (Ice Cream)(Amendment) Order, 1952.	7/7/52
Mineral Oil in Food (Amendment) Order, 1952.	19/10/52
Labelling of Food (Amendment) Order, 1952.	31/3/52
Transfer of Functions (Slaughterhouses & Knackers Yards) Order, 1952.	1/1/53
Metropolitan Water Board (Extension of Operation of Byelaws) Order, 1952.	31/3/52
Poisons List Order, 1952.	1/1/53
Poisons Rules, 1952.	1/1/53
" " No.2 " "	1/1/53
Public Health (Aircraft) Regulations, 1952.	1/10/52
Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.	1/10/52
Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952.	1/5/52
Ice Cream (Heat Treatment &c.)(Amendment) Regulations, 1952.	5/5/52
L.C.C. Byelaws for the Protection of Food.	3/11/52
Stepney Borough Council Pleasure Fair Byelaws.	1/12/52

Other Statutory Instruments issued during the year dealt with liqueur chocolates, condemnation of imported canned meat, sulphur dioxide in imported dehydrated vegetables; official certificates for the purpose of the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937 & 1949, in respect of the countries of Argentina, Belgium and Turkey, and approved oxydising agents for the cleansing of milk tankers etc.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

I am indebted to Dr. Mitchell, Divisional Medical Officer of the London County Council, for the following information relating to the personal health services administered by the L.C.C. in the Borough.

1. Statistics.

Infant Welfare Centres.

Total number of children who first attended during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were -

Under 1 year of age	..	..	1,568
1 to 5 years of age	..	..	259

Total number of children who attended and who at the end of the year were -

Under 1 year of age	..	..	1,289
1 to 5 years of age	..	..	1,419

Total attendances by children -

Under 1 year of age	..	..	20,947
1 to 5 years of age	..	..	8,260

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.

Ante-Natal consultations -

No. of women who attended first time	..	..	103
No. of women who attended	..	..	112
Total attendances	915

Post-Natal consultations -

No. of women who attended	24
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Health Visitors.

No. of infants under 1 year of age visited for first time

..	..	1,987
Total visits to infants under 1 year of age	..	12,690
Total visits to children 1 to 5 years of age	..	24,232
No. of expectant mothers visited	..	569
Total visits to expectant mothers	..	1,701

Infant Life Protection.

No. on Register:-	<u>1st Jan.1952.</u>	<u>31st Dec.1952.</u>
Foster Mothers ..	10	19
Foster Children ..	11	19

Child Minders (daily guardians.)

No. of daily guardians - Voluntary	..	9
Statutory	..	1
No. of children minded - Voluntary	..	10
Statutory	..	1

Care of Premature Infants.

No. of premature births during the year	..	128
No. of deaths under 1 month	..	12

Immunisation and Vaccination.

For details of immunisation and vaccination see pages 32 and 35.

Domestic Help Service.

This service covering the boroughs of Bethnal Green, Poplar and Stepney, has been divided into three districts, irrespective of borough boundaries, and the statistics for each separate borough are not available.

However, the number of cases in which help was provided in the "southern" district (which comprises the Borough of Stepney less the area east of the Canal and two areas north of the east-west line - Whitechapel High Street, Whitechapel Road and Mile End Road), was as follows:-

Maternity (including expectant mothers)	11
Tuberculosis	12
Other	690

2. Services Provided.

Infant Consultation.

	<u>Afternoons</u>
673 Commercial Road	- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
52-54 Ashfield Street	- Tuesday and Wednesday
17 Rhondda Grove	- Monday and Thursday.
Mary Hughes Centre, Underwood Rd	- Monday and Thursday.
St. George's Town Hall	- Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.
5 Pier Head, Wapping	- Wednesday.
Dame Colet, Duckett Street	- Tuesday and Wednesday.

Ante-Natal.

673 Commercial Road	- Wednesday.
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Vaccination against Smallpox.

St. George's Town Hall	- Friday.
35 Stepney Green	- Friday.

Immunisation against Diphtheria or Whooping Cough.

35 Stepney Green	- Friday.
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Note:- Diphtheria and Whooping Cough immunisations are also carried out at the Infant Welfare sessions.

Toddlers Clinic.

St. George's Town Hall	- First Tuesday morning each month.
Dame Colet, Duckett Street	- Fourth Tuesday each month.

Day Nurseries.

Underwood Road.
Old Church Road.
Christian Street.

Voluntary Day Nurseries.

St. Paul's, Wellclose Square.
2 Beaumont Grove.

Nursery School.

Thirza Street.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological investigations are carried out on behalf of the Public Health Department by the Regional Hospital Board's Group Laboratory at Mile End Hospital. 384 investigations were carried out during the year on specimens received from medical practitioners in the Borough, nasal and throat swabs accounting for 119 and faeces 265.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The London County Council is responsible for the provision of ambulance transport within the administrative County of London.

CONFERENCES.

The following Conferences were attended during the year by members of the Committee and of the Department :

<u>Conference</u>	<u>Held At</u>	<u>Attended By</u>
National Smoke Abatement Society Annual Conference.	Portsmouth.	Cllr. J. Sambrook & Mr. R. Day (Sanitary Inspector).
Royal Sanitary Institute Annual Congress.	Margate.	Chairman & Medical Officer of Health.
Sanitary Inspectors' Association Annual Conference.	Brighton.	Vice-Chairman & Mr. H. Green (Sanitary Inspector (Food)).

SPECIAL REPORTS of Medical Officer of Health to Public Health Committee.

Special reports on the following subjects were made to the Committee during the year :

- Dock Canteens - Food and Drugs Act, 1938.
- Pet Animals Act, 1951.
- Disposal of Unsound Foodstuffs.
- Modified One-pipe System of Plumbing (joint report with Borough Engineer & Surveyor).

STEPNEY BOROUGH COUNCIL INFORMATION SERVICE.

(Under the direction of the Borough Librarian).

The work of the Information Service, situated at 671a Commercial Road, E.14, has been well-maintained throughout the past year and the total number of enquiries dealt with during the period shows a slight increase over the preceding twelve months. A total of 12,641 enquiries were received from personal callers, by telephone and letters, this number being an increase of 345 over the previous year.

The value of the Service to the residents of Stepney has once again been demonstrated by the number of calls made upon the Service and it has become the usual thing to "take your problem of direct your enquiry to the Information Centre".

The enquiries received can be broadly classified under two main headings - (a) General and Local Information and (b) Personal Problems. The latter covers numerous matters and it is the attention given to these which forms the most socially important activity of the Information Service. The enquiries themselves have remained as varied as ever although those on Local and Civic information again head the list, closely followed by enquiries arising out of Landlord and Tenant and Marital problems.

The greatest care is taken at the Centre to provide the highest possible standard of accuracy in all answers given and to ensure that people with problems to solve, some of them of an embarrassing kind, are dealt with sympathetically and tactfully. The fact that so many who have used the Service on a previous occasion return for advice on other matters is perhaps the surest measure of the success which the Information Service enjoys and is also a matter of great satisfaction to the staff.

.

I am indebted for this information to the Information Officer, Mr. J. Mordsley, who administers the Service under the direction of the Borough Librarian.

SWIMMING AND SLIPPER BATHS.

The three swimming baths in the Borough are Council Baths. During the year the number of swims amounted to 100,948 comprising 23,417 adults and 77,531 children.

The water is subjected to continuous chlorination and filtration and samples are taken periodically for analysis.

The number of slipper baths taken during the year, at the four Council establishments, was 344,179 which included 5,392 attendances of Old Age Pensioners who were admitted free of charge.

HEALTH PROPAGANDA.

Distribution of leaflets and display of posters on various health subjects was carried out in the Borough during the year.

A Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign was carried out in accordance with the request of the Ministry of Health. Combined advertisements giving particulars of facilities for immunisation appeared in the local press during March, April and May.

At five local cinemas, slides were shown for periods of one week at intervals during the campaign.

Five-thousand leaflets and 100 posters were distributed through Schools, Day Nurseries, Infant Welfare Centres, the W.V.S., Gas and Electricity Showrooms, Libraries, Factories, Public Conveniences, Public Baths and Hospitals etc. In addition with the co-operation of the Borough Librarian 500 book-marks were distributed with library books.

1,200 leaflets "The Customer's Health is in Your Hands" and "A Message to Housewives" were distributed through the usual channels, a large quantity also being distributed through Youth Clubs.

Six-thousand leaflets on various Health Education subjects including Diphtheria Immunisation, Measles, Whooping Cough, Vaccination, Tuberculosis, Bugs, Food Hygiene etc., were distributed from the exhibition stand at Mile End Library. The main topics of this exhibition stand dealt with Food Hygiene, the Work of the Sanitary Inspector, and Burning and Scalding Accidents in the Home.

Notices on the Council's bye-law regarding depositing of rubbish were posted in various blocks of tenements and on many vacant sites where nuisances had arisen.

"The Public Health Service as a Career" was the feature of a stand exhibited by the Department during the exhibition on "Careers for School Leavers" which was organised in the Borough by the local Rotary Club, with the co-operation of the L.C.C. and local Borough Councils. This Public Health stall was staffed by members of the Department and much interest was shown by the children of school leaving age who visited it.

STAFF CHANGES.

The following staff changes took place during the year:

(a) Commenced Duty.

Miss A.J. Ballam	Woman Hygiene Assistant.	11/2/52
D.G. Stripp	Sanitary Inspector (District).	20/3/52

(b) Ceased Duty.

W.M. Paulley	Public Analyst.	31/12/52
W.F. Smith	Sanitary Inspector (Food).	20/1/52
D.G. Stripp	Sanitary Inspector (District).	20/9/52
P.W. Thorn	Sanitary Inspector (District).	31/1/52

(c) Change of Duties.

S.S. Lowther	Sanitary Inspector (District) to Sanitary Inspector (Food).	21/1/52
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For full list of staff see page 1.

III. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Most of the work of the District Sanitary Inspectors has been concerned with sanitary defects in dwelling houses. Summaries of inspections and sanitary work effected during the year are given on Pages 48 and 49.

Complaints.

5,029 complaints were recorded in the register, but in addition numerous complaints were made direct to the district sanitary inspectors. The number of visits made in investigating complaints was 9,192.

Dangerous Structures.

The District Surveyor was notified on 280 occasions of premises or parts of premises alleged to be structurally dangerous.

Drainage.

1,471 drains were tested with smoke and 253 were found to be defective. 6,842 visits of inspection were made to drainage works during the year, and 693 drains were cleansed or repaired and 536 constructed or reconstructed. Observations were submitted to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor on 61 plans of new drainage works.

The London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, slowed up the procedure for dealing with nuisances arising from defective drains and it is hoped that legislation will be promoted in the near future to enable sanitary authorities to act more speedily in such cases.

Factories.

671 inspections under the Factories Acts 1937 & 1948 were made of the 3,312 factories on the register, and 76 Notices were served. Details will be found in Table 8 on Page 50.

Outworkers.

50 inspections were made of outworkers' premises. There are 664 premises on the register, the trades concerned being as follows:-

Wearing Apparel	613	Paper Bags	2
Umbrellas	5	Carding etc. of Buttons	2
Artificial Flowers	3	Chocolates & Sweetmeats	11
Christmas Crackers, etc.	7	Cardboard Boxes	16
Feather Sorting	1	Stuffed Toys	4

There were no notifications of infectious disease relating to outworkers' premises.

Number of Firms in the Borough employing Outworkers	40
" " Outworkers residing in and employed in the Borough	117
" " Outworkers residing outside the Borough	161
" " Outworkers residing in the Borough employed by firms outside	547

Pleasure Fairs - Stepney Borough Council Byelaws.

On 14th May the Council made Byelaws under Section 68 of the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1939, for regulating the hours during which pleasure fairs held in the Borough may be open to the public, for securing safe and adequate means of entrance and exit, for the prevention of nuisances and for preserving sanitary conditions and cleanliness. The Byelaws came into operation on 1st December.

Houses Let in Lodgings.

There are 1,471 such premises in the Borough, of which 222 inspections were made during the year.

Land Charges Act, 1925.

The number of enquiries dealt with during the year regarding outstanding notices under the Public Health and the Housing Acts, and reported to the Town Clerk, amounted to 754, concerning 1,644 properties.

Legal Proceedings.

A summary of legal proceedings instituted during the year, showing penalties imposed, is as follows:-

	<u>No. of Summonses</u>	<u>Fines</u>	<u>Costs</u>
Food and Drugs Act 1938.	31	£49. 0. 0.	£23. 4. 0
Public Health (London) Act, 1936.	57	20. 0. 0.	105. 6. 0
Merchandise Marks Acts, 1887-1938.	<u>2</u>	<u>2. 0. 0.</u>	<u>6. 6. 0</u>
	90	£71. 0. 0.	£134.16. 0

The Magistrates made Closing Orders, under the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, on two dwelling-houses in the Borough on application by the owners.

Licensed Premises.

At the request of the Licensing Justices, inspections are made of Public Houses and Off Licences when applications for transfer of licences are being made. The Sanitary Inspectors' reports are taken into consideration when the applications come before the Sessions. Reports on 74 premises were submitted during the year.

Lodging Houses - Common.

There are four Common Lodging Houses in the Borough, providing accommodation for 1,103 persons, as follows:-

15 & 16, Calvin Street	-	41 Married Couples
10-22, Johnson Street	-	258 Men
177, Whitechapel Road	-	535 Men.
Hostel for Women, Hopetown Street	-	228 Women.

45 inspections were made during the year, including 12 inspections carried out at night.

Lodging Houses - Seamen's.

A licence was granted during the year to keep the premises at 11, Ensign Street as a Seamen's Lodging House.

There are now six such premises in the Borough, providing accommodation for 499 seamen, as follows:-

The Sailors' Home & Red Ensign Club, Ensign Street & Dock Street.	-	235 Seamen
The Empire Memorial Hostel, 747 Commercial Rd.	190	"
5, North East Passage.	-	11 "
220, Cable Street.	-	30 "
9, Ensign Street.	-	22 "
11, Ensign Street.	-	11 "

75 inspections were made during the year, including 18 inspections carried out at night.

Colonial House, 17 Leman Street.

These premises were opened in May for the reception of coloured colonials who arrive in this country without means or accommodation and who appear suitable for employment. The premises are administered by the L.C.C. Welfare Department on an agency basis for the National Assistance Board and can accommodate 12 persons at any one time.

Notices Served.

Informal Notices served under the various Acts during the year were as follows:-

Public Health (London) Act, 1936	4,699
Factories Acts, 1937 & 1948	76
Shops Act, 1950	8
Total:	<u>4,783</u>

Offensive Trades.

There are 19 offensive businesses in the Borough, of which 136 inspections were made during the year. The premises 7, Leyden Street was added to the register and 9, Gun Street removed.

The register now includes —

Tripe Boiler (1): 94, Wentworth Street.

Dressers of Furskins (3): 34/38, Brodlove Lane.
48, 50, 50a, 54 & 56, Old Church Road.
29, Spelman Street.

Poultry Slaughterhouses (15):

28, Burslem Street.
161, Cannon Street Road.
16/18, Cobb Street.
49, Globe Road.
8a, Hessel Street.
14, " "
21/22, " "
36, " "
42, " "
75, " "
7, Leyden Street.
13, " "
15, " "
Fish Hall, 10a, Monthope Street.
82, Stepney Way.

Pet Animals.

In consequence of a Private Member's Bill in the House of Commons, the Pet Animals Act became statute in 1951, and operated from 1st April this year. All keepers of pet shops must now be licensed by the local authority, who shall specify conditions to be complied with respecting accommodation, feeding, fire precautions, age of animals sold, etc. No pets may be sold in streets, except at stalls or barrows in

markets, nor may they be sold to persons under 12 years of age. In Stepney so far there are no actual pet shops, such pets as are sold in the Borough are from market stalls.

During the year 5 persons were licensed under the Act.

Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933, & Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941.

113 premises are listed for the sale of poisons included in Part II of the Poisons List. Applications received during the year were as follows :

For - Entry	::	::	7
Retention	::	::	106

181 visits were made to these premises, and 4 samples of poisons were taken, all of which were satisfactory.

Amended Poisons Rules and Poisons List Order were issued during the year.

Rag and Bone Dealers.

14 inspections were made of such premises during the year, and 1 Notice was served. The L.C.C. (General Powers) Act, 1952, amends the existing law restricting sales etc. by dealers in rags and old clothes. No such dealer may in the course of his business now sell or give gratuitously any article to a person under 15 years of age.

Rag Flock & Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

Premises in the area registered under the 1951 Act number 18, and another is licensed. During the year 32 inspections were made of these premises and 14 formal samples of filling materials were taken. The Analyst reported that two samples were unsatisfactory, one of horsehair and one of cotton felt, and the occupier of the premises from which the latter sample was obtained was cautioned.

Refuse Disposal.

The Public Cleansing Officer has kindly supplied the following information on refuse and salvage disposed of during the year :-

House and Trade	-	33,281	Tons
Street and Market	-	7,350	"
Salvage - Waste Paper	-	116	"
Kitchen Waste	-	606	"

Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts.

During the year, 94 applications were received from occupiers for certificates stating that premises were not in a reasonable state of repair: 87 were granted and 7 refused.

63 applications were received from owners for revocation certificates: 41 were granted and 22 refused.

261 visits were made by Inspectors in connection with these applications.

Rodent Control.

"Warfarin" is proving to be a very useful rodenticide and is being used wherever suitable circumstances permit. During the year 7,999 properties were inspected, including dwellings and business premises. £1,079 was recovered from occupiers of business premises. Further statistics are set out on page 51.

Shops.

During the year, 312 inspections were made under the Shops Act, 1950, and 8 Notices were served in respect of sanitary accommodation. The number of premises in the Borough covered by the provisions of the Act is 2,508. No applications were received for exemption from complying with sanitary accommodation requirements.

Smoke Abatement.

The number of complaints of smoke nuisance received during the year was 52 and the number of observations kept was 100.

Water Supply.

The whole of the Borough is supplied with water by the Metropolitan Water Board, which is the authority responsible for its purity. Quantity and quality of water supplied by the Board during the year have been satisfactory, and no complaints were received.

All premises in the Borough are supplied individually direct from public water mains, with the exception of two places which are supplied by means of a common standpipe.

The number of instances where water supply to premises in the Borough was repaired or reinstated totalled 175, and the Metropolitan Water Board was notified on 70 occasions of premises where wastage of water was taking place.

Water Certificates.

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 356 flats and 24 houses.

Wells.

Bacteriological and chemical analyses of water from the seven deep wells in industrial use in the Borough are made periodically and the results of such analyses are reported to this Department.

Workplaces.

Inspections during the year of the 362 workplaces in the area (other than those covered by the Factories Act 1937), amounted to 49.

IV. HOUSING

Overcrowding.

During the year 328 cases of alleged overcrowding were investigated, 181 of which were confirmed and referred to the London County Council.

104 overcrowded families were rehoused, 90 by the London County Council and 14 by the Borough Council, and the number of known overcrowded families on the register increased from 1,107 to 1,184.

144 visits were made to premises to ascertain "permitted numbers", and the owners of the premises were informed.

In order to prevent overcrowding 42 inspections were made, for the Government of Cyprus, of accommodation alleged to be available in the Borough for intending immigrants.

Underground Rooms.

There are approximately 3,760 underground rooms in the Borough used for living or sleeping purposes, about 3,640 of which are unfit. During the year 340 inspections were carried out, as a result of which 16 Closing Orders were made, 40 rooms being closed and the modified occupation of 19 rooms approved. The number of Underground Rooms closed since 1936 totals, to date, 200. Progress on closure generally is held up for lack of suitable alternative accommodation.

Building Licences and Essentiality Certificates.

Of the 314 applications received, 309 were recommended, involving 493 visits by the inspectors.

Defence Regulation 68 C.A. (use of living accommodation for business purposes).

Thirty-one investigations of premises regarding "Change of User" were made for possible contravention of this Regulation, involving 86 visits by the inspectors. The Regulation lapsed on 8th December.

Preferential Housing on Health Grounds.

Of the 115 cases investigated, 55 were recommended for rehousing: 8 to the County Council and 47 to the Borough Council.

Applications for Rehousing.

At the end of the year, there were 4,964 applications for rehousing on the Housing Manager's register (an increase of 414 over 1951), including 254 tenants of Council dwellings and 512 licensees of requisitioned premises.

Temporary Hutments.

288 Hutments owned by the Borough Council remained at the end of the year. 34 were recommended for demolition because of structural deterioration.

Requisitioned Properties.

The number of dwellings under requisition by the Borough Council at the end of the year was 1,809, involving 2,523 lettings; three dwellings were recommended to the Housing Manager for de-requisitioning for various reasons, and 24 basement rooms which did not comply with the regulations were recommended for closure.

New Housing.

This year saw the commencement of the erection of the Borough Council's Sidney Street Estate and the London County Council's Ocean Estate proceeded apace.

During the year, 431 new dwellings were completed in the Borough; 118 by the Borough Council, 258 by the County Council, 52 by the Commissioner for Crown Lands and 3 by private owners.

A list of the new properties erected in the Borough since the war by the Borough Council and the London County Council will be found on pages 53 and 54.

Summary of Inspections made by the Housing Inspector.

Overcrowding	328
Preferential housing on health grounds	115
Underground Rooms	340
"Permitted Numbers" under Housing Act 1936	144
Temporary Hutments	167
Requisitioned premises	45
Premises situated in Clearance Areas	151
Defence Regulation 68 C.A.	20
Building Licences	34
Section 5, Housing Act 1936	172
" 11, " "	47
Miscellaneous	155

Statistics.

Further Housing Statistics are given on pages 55 and 56.

Among the interesting statistics recorded in the Registrar-General's One Per Cent Sample Tables of the 1951 Census, are those relating to the presence or absence of ordinary amenities in the housing of Great Britain to-day.

It transpires that 24 per cent of the households in the Greater London area have to share water closet accommodation (23% in Great Britain). 22 per cent in the London area have to share piped water supply (17% in Great Britain). Households in the Greater London area which have no bath of their own, or who have to share baths amount to 46 per cent (45% in Great Britain).

Bad as these figures may appear they are a great improvement on the situation 50 years ago.

V. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Since June, 1949, when the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1949 came into operation, there has been a steady improvement in the method of distribution of milk, and in all shops milk is now sold in closed bottles and cartons pre-packed by the large wholesalers. This has, to a large extent, removed the probability of contamination and adulteration in the shops. There has since 1949 been an increase of approximately 11 per cent in the number of premises where milk is sold.

Towards the end of the year, the London County Council Byelaws for the Protection of Food became operative. These byelaws which contain provisions for the better handling, wrapping and delivery of food are an advance on previous legislation and should bring about a general improvement in the standard of food hygiene.

At the beginning of the century there were 93 basement bakehouses in Stepney, only 69 of which were granted certificates of suitability under the Factory & Workshops Act of 1901. At the commencement of the operation of the Factories Act, 1937, there were still 33 basement bakehouses in the Borough. By 1946 this number had been reduced to 20, partly by bombing and other disturbances during the war.

In 1949, action, deferred during the war, was taken under section 54 of the Factories Act 1937 to close 11 of the remaining basement bakehouses. These were given 3 years notice to close by May 1952.

Before the end of the year all eleven basement bakehouses were successfully closed and only nine of the original 93 now remain.

The closing of basement bakehouses is in the interest both of the bakehouse staff and the customer, and under the Act of 1937 all new bakehouses must be at or above ground floor level.

The Borough Council's authority to operate the Food and Drugs Act covers also that portion of the Borough which is within the confines of the Port Health Authority. The duties include the supervision of the many dock canteens of the Port of London Authority.

During the year the Borough Council successfully opposed a representation to the Ministry of Food by the Port Health Authority to have these and other Food and Drugs Act powers transferred to the latter authority. The canteens are largely patronised by dockers who are resident in Stepney and the Borough Council considered that continued supervision by the Council's Food Inspectors would be most adequate and appropriate.

Milk Supply. There are 265 distributors in the Borough, including 21 with dairies and 30 itinerants. During the year 264 inspections were made and 13 Notices served.

Fourteen samples of milk, 10 for chemical and 4 for bacteriological examination were taken in the course of delivery to hospitals and schools in the Borough. All the samples were satisfactory.

Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) & (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949. 463 licences were issued during the year, including 189 for "Pasteurised" milk, 217 for "Sterilised" milk, 56 for "Tuberculin Tested" milk and one Pasteuriser's licence.

Bacteriological examination of foodstuffs. The following samples were submitted for bacteriological examination:-

<u>Nature of Sample.</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>No. Unsat.</u>	<u>Observations.</u>
Milk.	34	-	
Cakes.	2	-	
Canned Cooked Pork.	2	-	
Canned Jellied Veal.	4	1.	Staphylococcus aureus and aerobics present; 440 tins destroyed.
Canned Ham.	1	1.	Staph. aureus and albus present. (Ham destroyed).
Cooking Fats.	2	2.	Staph. aureus and albus present.
Ham Roll.	1	1.	Staph. aureus and Bacillus proteus present.
Beef Sausages.	2	-	
Canned Raspberries.	2	-	
Synthetic Cream Filling.	20		(See below).
Ice Cream.	74		(See over).

The synthetic cream fillings were found to contain bacteria varying from less than 100 to over a million per ml. All unsatisfactory samples were followed up and necessary improvements effected in the methods of production.



Imported Food Regulations — Inspection of Canned Meat at wharf-side.



Food & Drugs Acts — Sampling at Butter Blending Factory.

Ice Cream. There are 273 registered premises in the Borough: 33 are registered for manufacture, 238 for sale, and 2 for storage only. 238 inspections were carried out and 6 Notices were served for cleansing and other requirements.

Seventy-four samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination, with the following results:-

	Manufactured		Total
	<u>in Borough:</u>	<u>outside Borough</u>	
Grade 1.	4	25	29 (26)
Grade 2.	2	27	29 (15)
Grade 3.	3	7	10 (5)
Grade 4.	-	1	1 (5)

In five instances the tests were void due to the high prevailing temperature.

The figures in parenthesis show the totals for 1951.

Improvement in the bacteriological standard of ice cream samples examined over the past 5 years, is shown in the following table :-

	No. of Samples <u>Examined.</u>	Percentage unsatisfactory. <u>(Grades 3 & 4)</u>
1948 ...	162	61.1 per cent.
1949 ...	155	45.1 "
1950 ...	99	27.0 "
1951 ...	51	19.6 "
1952 ...	69	15.9 "

The standard required by the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order 1951 was altered by an amending order in 1952 to: Fat 4%, Sugar 10% and Milk-Solids 5%. All the 76 samples submitted for chemical analysis were satisfactory, the average fat content being 10.1%, sugar 12.7% and milk-solids 8.0%.

Butchers Shops & Stalls. 374 inspections were carried out during the year, and 41 Notices served. A summons was issued in respect of the dirty condition of the floor of a butcher's shop and a fine of £2 was imposed with £2.2s. costs.

Transport and Handling of Meat. (Circular M.F.20/49). 146 inspections were made of vehicles delivering meat into the Borough from Islington Cattle Market and Smithfield Market. One van was found to be unsatisfactory and was withdrawn from service at the Inspector's request.

Caseous Lymphadenitis - Examination for. 1,194 carcasses and 276 sides of imported mutton arriving from Australia, New Zealand and South America were examined by cutting of the lymphatic glands. None of the meat was found to be affected with the disease.

Bakehouses and Baker Shops. 260 inspections were carried out and 13 Notices served. There are 55 bakehouses in use in the Borough; of these 9 are basement bakehouses. 114 cleansings were carried out during the year. There are in addition 24 baker shops. Nine basement bakehouses were closed during the year under the Factories Act, 1937 (see p.26)

Butter and Margarine Factories. There are 34 of these factories in the Borough, and during the year 28 inspections were made.

Prepared Food Premises. The number of prepared food premises on the register is 175, of which 574 inspections were made and 48 Notices served. Legal proceedings taken against a person for carrying on the business of a fish fryer on unregistered premises resulted in a fine of £2 and £2.2s. costs.

Poultry Shops and Stalls. 939 inspections and visits were made mainly for the purpose of examining poultry exposed for sale. 18 Notices were served.

Fish (Wet) Shops and Stalls. 507 inspections and visits were made and 4 Notices served.

Greengrocers and Fruiterers Shops and Stalls. 1,161 inspections were carried out and 42 Notices served.

Proceedings regarding apples were instituted in three cases, two under the Merchandise Marks Act for applying a false trade description, and one under the Food and Drugs Act for selling to the prejudice of the purchaser apples not of the nature demanded, in that Newton Wonders and Laxtons were being sold as Cox's Orange Pippins. Fines and costs of £3 and £8.8s. respectively were imposed.

Grocers and Miscellaneous Food Premises. 1,709 inspections were made and 32 Notices served.

Public Houses. 223 inspections were carried out and 13 Notices served.

Catering Establishments (incl. industrial canteens). 1,141 inspections were made and 115 Notices served. 23 sum-

monses were issued in respect of dirty conditions at three Cafes and fines totalling £42 and £7.7s. costs were imposed.

Improvements effected at Food Establishments:

Lavatory basins installed	33
Premises where hot water supply installed	53
Premises where washing facilities for staff have been improved	57
Sinks provided	32
Additional W.Cs provided	2
Food storage accommodation provided	33
Refrigerators or ice-boxes installed or repaired	12
Walls, ceilings, floors, windows cleansed	1715
Floors renewed or repaired	27
Shop fronts improved	6
Premises where ventilation provided or improved	30
Premises where natural lighting improved	4
Protective covers provided for displayed food	26
Refuse bins provided	38
Miscellaneous improvements	510

Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937.

152 detention and 145 release notices were served under the Regulations, affecting a variety of foodstuffs including meat, cocoa, assorted canned goods, dried fruits etc. It was found necessary to serve detention notices on two consignments of imported meat products which arrived unaccompanied by the "official certificates." These were subsequently produced and the foodstuffs released.

Export Certificates. Six certificates were issued in respect of the examination of foodstuffs for export, as follows:

South America.....	2	Mexico.....	1
Egypt.....	2	Italy.....	1

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 :-

<u>Premises.</u>	<u>Tons</u>	<u>cwts.</u>	<u>qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
Wharves	360	19	2	24
London Fruit Exchange and Spitalfields Market	23	18	2	5
Railway Depots	9	3	3	21
Zeebrugge-Harwich Train Ferry (at Bishopsgate Goods Station)	4	10	-	14
Other premises	85	3	-	6
TOTAL:	483	15	1	14

Approximately 100 tons was allowed to be used for animal feeding purposes or for manufacturing purposes other than for human consumption.

Over 3,000 condemnation certificates were issued during the year.

Zeebrugge-Harwich Train Ferry. 303 special midnight or early morning visits were made to Bishopsgate Goods Station for the purpose of examining 4,014 trucks of foodstuffs arriving from the following countries :-

Italy.....	3,707	trucks	Belgium.....	89	trucks
Germany.....	18	"	Greece.....	10	"
Austria.....	66	"	Switzerland....	3	"
Yugo-Slavia.....	106	"	Norway.....	5	"
Czecho-Slovakia..	8	"	Holland.....	2	"

The weight of the foodstuffs examined was 30,339 tons, comprising fresh fruit and vegetables 28,732 tons; preserved fruit and vegetables 127 tons; cheese 336 tons; fish 21 tons; canned meats, salami etc. 195 tons; fat pork 29 tons; biscuits, chocolate and confectionery 846 tons; and whalemeat 53 tons. The foodstuffs found to be unsound, and which were stopped and destroyed, amounted to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons.

A summary of the visits made during the year by the Sanitary Inspectors (Food) will be found on page 52.

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

Notifications.

A total of 2,127 notifications of cases of infectious disease were received during the year as compared with 2,448 in 1951. Table 13 on page 57 shows details of the notifications received, together with age groups. The diagnosis was not confirmed in nine of the above notifications.

A list of the diseases notifiable in the County of London is shown in Table 14, p.58.

Diphtheria.

Two notifications were received, but the diagnosis was not confirmed in either of the cases. The number of children immunised at L.C.C. clinics was 1,483, of which 1,119 were under five years of age. 1,030 children were given a reinforcing injection.

A supply of anti-toxin is kept in the Department for use by general practitioners in emergency cases. 119 swabs were forwarded by general practitioners to Mile End Group Laboratory, where bacteriological examinations are carried out on behalf of the Borough Council.

Dysentery.

73 notifications were received during the year, as compared with 222 the previous year. The diagnosis was not confirmed in two of the notifications.

Food Poisoning.

Fourteen individual cases of suspected food poisoning were notified. In 8 cases a salmonella organism was isolated from the patients' stools and in no case was the source of infection traced to any particular article of food.

In addition to the notified cases mentioned above, information reached the Department of an outbreak of food poisoning in an industrial canteen situated in the Borough. On 3rd January, 1952, a number of employees of a business establishment suffered from vomiting and diarrhoea after a meal at 1 p.m. the previous day in the firm's canteen.

Investigation of the canteen was carried out the same day, and the following information was obtained.

The meal consisted of beef sausages purchased on 1st January

from a grocery store in the neighbourhood, and cooked in fat in the oven. These were served as sandwiches in bread rolls. About 15 employees partook of the meal, and 6 or 7 felt ill about 9 p.m. and later.

Other foods eaten were tomato soup, blue vein cheese, cream cakes, bread and butter, tea or coffee. Some had their own sandwiches, and 4 of these were also taken ill.

Jan.1. Cook vomited in morning. Served above type of lunch and went home at 2.30 p.m.

Jan.2. Same type of meal eaten by employees, 1 p.m. Several ill, 9 p.m.

Jan.3. Similar meal eaten. No ill effects.

On 3rd January, the day of investigation, no samples remained of the sausages eaten on the 2nd, but samples were taken of those eaten on the 3rd, and of the fat in which they were cooked. Samples were also taken of synthetic cream cakes.

On 4th January the cook was interviewed. She had quite recovered, and had not seen her doctor. No evidence was seen of septic sores.

On 7th January all the affected staff had recovered from their illness.

Bacteriological Reports.

Sausages - no food poisoning or pathogenic germs.

Unused Cooking Fat - light growth of staphylococcus albus.

Used Cooking Fat - mixed growth of staphylococcus aureus (coagulase negative) and B.Subtilis present.

Synthetic Cream - culture negative.

From the above bacteriological report it is possible that the used fat was the cause of the outbreak.

Measles.

Notifications for the year numbered 1,284, and there were no deaths. There were 1,459 cases in 1951.

One measles epidemic reached its peak in March 1951 and the

next in December 1952, which follows the expected incidence. It has been found that measles tends to recur in periods of under 2 years, i.e. approximately 92 weeks.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Of the 24 cases notified, 16 belonged to Stepney.

Paratyphoid.

Two cases of Paratyphoid B occurred during the year. Case one was a child of 5 years of age; result of bacteriological examination negative, Widal positive. No source of infection was discovered, but the family had been abroad in Italy earlier in the year. The case recovered.

Case 2 occurred in a girl of 17 years. No source of infection was found but the girl had recently returned from holiday. This case recovered after ten weeks in hospital.

Poliomyelitis. There were 9 confirmed cases of poliomyelitis in the Borough, of which one, a boy aged nine, died. Last year there was only one confirmed case and no deaths.

Pneumonia.

Of the various forms of pneumonia, only acute primary and acute influenzal are notifiable. 63 cases were notified during the year, compared with 97 last year.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

There were 96 notifications during the year, compared with 14 in 1950. The increase is largely due to the revised definition of the disease contained in the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations of 1951. Of the 96 cases notified 51 were residents of the Borough.

Scabies.

Scabies is still notifiable under the County of London (Scabies) Regulations, 1943. The number of cases formally notified was 28, the same as last year.

Fifty-four scabies patients were treated with medicinal baths at Branch Road Treatment Centre and their clothing disinfested, viz:-

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Children</u>	
17	21	16	= Total 54.

The number of baths given amounted to 109 during the year.

Scarlet Fever.

There were 210 cases notified, an increase of 75 over last year. Only 23 per cent were admitted to hospital as compared with 96 per cent of 968 cases notified in 1938. There were no deaths from the disease.

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.

The number of children successfully vaccinated or revaccinated at L.C.C. clinics during the year was 656.

A supply of vaccine is kept in the Department for emergency use.

Tuberculosis.

The number of primary notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis received was 137 as compared with 173 last year, and the number of non-pulmonary cases was 12 as compared with 16 in 1951. The mortality rate for the year of pulmonary tuberculosis is 49 and of non-pulmonary 1 per 100,000 population, as compared with 46 and 3 respectively in 1951. (See details of register on p.59).

The Tuberculosis Regulations, 1952, which revoked the 1930 Regulations, came into operation on 1st May and modified the 1930 Regulations to bring them into line with the requirements of the National Health Services.

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.

Tuberculosis Care Committee.

The Tuberculosis Care Committee on which are represented voluntary and official bodies, and whose meetings are attended by the Medical Officer of Health, continues to supply help to tuberculous persons and their relatives who require assistance which cannot be obtained from official sources, or where urgency or special circumstances indicate that the voluntary sources of the Care Committee are preferable.

Help was given during the year to 84 persons by way of clothing, extra nourishment, provision of convalescence and holiday expenses, beds, bedding, rent, insurance, coal, wireless licences, and home helps. The annual Christmas Seal Sale Fund amounted to £295.

Whooping Cough.

156 cases were notified during the year, the figure for 1951 being 226. There were no deaths from the disease.

Infectious Disease Contacts.

Where a person is 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 certificate during the year.

Authentication of International Certificates of Vaccination and Inoculation.

A person proceeding abroad is required in certain countries to produce a certificate of recent successful vaccination and inoculation. The medical signatures of 202 such certificates were authenticated by me during the year.

Disinfection.

448 premises were disinfected because of infectious disease, of which 17 were for pulmonary tuberculosis.

110,335 articles of clothing and bedding were steam disinfected, including 90,650 articles for export for which 223 certificates were issued.

Formaldehyde disinfection of 253,029 articles of clothing for export was also carried out during the year, for which 191 certificates were issued.

Charges for the export disinfecting service amounted to £726.

Disinfestation. (Bed bugs and other insect pests).

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

General inspections for vermin	1,519
Attempted visits	443
No. of premises found verminous	431
No. of re-visits	405
No. of miscellaneous visits	698
No. of premises sprayed	872
No. of rooms sprayed	1,759 ⁺

(+) Including 329 rooms dealt with at the request of Sanitary Inspectors.

As a precautionary measure the furniture and effects of all families transferred to Borough Council dwellings are treated, prior to removal, with hydrogen cyanide at the Council's Disinfestation Station, 42 Narrow Street. The furniture and effects of 262 such families were treated during the year.

In addition, disinfestation by steam and formaldehyde was carried out on twenty-two occasions during the year of the furniture and effects of families rehoused by the London County Council.

Many treatments were also carried out for infestations of cockroaches, beetles, ants, silverfish and the like.

Charges for miscellaneous disinfestations carried out during the year amounted to £186.

The specialist inspector is unable in many cases to gain entry during normal hours into dwellings for the purpose of inspection, because so many wives of tenants are out at work. Accordingly arrangements are made for evening inspections, when the occupants of the dwellings return home from work. 38 such inspections were carried out during the year.

Verminous Persons.

The number of lice infested persons bathed and whose clothing was disinfested at Branch Road Cleansing Station was as follows :-

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Children</u>	
421	48	18	= Total 487.

The number of baths and treatments given amounted to 536.

Summary of Borough Analyst's Quarterly Reports

for the year 1952.

During the year, 1,173 samples were submitted for analysis. These comprised 990 samples (57 Formal and 933 Informal) under the Food and Drugs Act; 4 informal samples under the Pharmacy and Poisons Act; 168 miscellaneous samples; 1 sample from the Borough Engineer & Surveyor and 10 samples from private purchasers.

The 990 samples (818 Foods and 172 Drugs) purchased by inspectors under the Food and Drugs Act are classified as follows :-

11 Baking Powder.	4 Minced Meat.
28 Beer and Spirits.	11 Meat Paste.
11 Butter and Margarine.	3 Mincemeat.
16 Buttered Rolls.	29 Miscellaneous Foods.
8 Cocoa.	307 Milk.
3 Coffee.	14 Condensed Milk.
6 Coffee Essence.	18 Sauces and Pickles.
6 Cream and Soft Cheese.	46 Sausages.
15 Custard Powder.	25 Spices.
5 Dried Fruits.	10 Suet.
8 Fish Paste.	6 Tinned Fish and Soups.
16 Flour.	3 Tinned Vegetables.
25 Other Cereals.	3 Tea.
18 Soft Drinks.	14 Vinegar and Condiment.
8 Flavourings.	23 Pure Chemicals.
10 Herbs and Stuffing.	24 Oils.
5 Honey.	23 Ointments.
77 Ice Cream.	11 Powders.
14 Jam.	37 Tablets.
13 Jelly.	8 Tinctures.
17 Cooked Meats.	51 Miscellaneous Preparations.

Of these 990 samples, 16 or 1.67 per cent were adulterated, details of which are shown overleaf.

ADULTERATED SAMPLES

Article	Formal or informal.	Nature of Adulteration.
Buttered Rolls.	Formal.	60% Margarine.
Cream Cheese.	Informal.	Soft cheese made from whole milk.
Pork Sausages.	Informal.	16% deficient in meat.
Tomato Vegetable Soup.	Formal.	Tin, 395 parts per million.
Pork Sausages.	Informal.	14% deficient in meat.
Pork Sausages.	Informal.	16% deficient in meat.
Pork Sausages.	Formal.	18% deficient in meat.
Tinned Tomato Soup.	Informal.	Tin 490 parts per million.
Tinned Tomato Soup.	Formal.	Tin 515 parts per million.
Buttered Rolls.	Formal.	100% Margarine.
Buttered Rolls.	Informal.	100% Margarine.
Buttered Rolls.	Formal.	100% Margarine.
Buttered Slices.	Formal.	100% Margarine.
Crab Paste.	Informal.	28% deficient in fish.
Minced Meat.	Formal.	Contained 45 parts per million sulphur dioxide.
Pork Sausages.	Informal.	14% deficient in meat.

Ice Cream. 77 samples were examined chemically, the average composition being: Fat 10.1%, Milk-Solids-not-Fat 8.0%, Sugar 12.7%. The Food Standards (Ice Cream) (Amendment) Order, 1952, came into force on 7th July, 1952, and required Ice Cream to contain not less than 4% Fat, 5% Milk-Solids-not-Fat and 10% Sugar.

All the samples of ice cream examined were found to comply with the Order.

The Methylene Blue Test of 74 samples of Ice Cream resulted in 10 samples being classed as Grade III and one sample as Grade IV. The vendors in these cases were notified.

Milk. 307 samples were examined during the year; the average composition of the samples is shown in the following table:-

Month	No. Samples Examined	Fat, per cent	Solids-not-Fat, per cent
January ..	16	3.64	8.72
February ..	28	3.55	8.72
March ..	31	3.46	8.64
April ..	23	3.47	8.65
May ..	18	3.43	8.69
June ..	25	3.41	8.76
July ..	33	3.49	8.66
August ..	25	3.48	8.64
September ..	27	3.45	8.71
October ..	28	3.70	8.84
November ..	28	3.74	8.81
December ..	25	3.75	8.85
Whole Year ..	307	3.55	8.72
Legal Minimum	-	3.00	8.50

Average composition for the past 10 years is as follows:-

Year	No. Samples Examined	Fat, per cent	Solids-not-Fat, per cent
1943	561	3.61	8.68
1944	572	3.64	8.72
1945	578	3.50	8.67
1946	575	3.53	8.70
1947	530	3.52	8.68
1948	389	3.47	8.71
1949	290	3.50	8.67
1950	186	3.58	8.75
1951	265	3.56	8.70
1952	307	3.55	8.72

For the fourth year in succession, no milk has been reported as adulterated.

Pharmacy and Poisons Act. 4 Informal samples were examined and all complied with the requirements of Part II of the Poisons List.

Miscellaneous Samples. 168 samples examined consisted of:-

5 Apples and Pears.	1 Tinned Cherries.
1 Bread Roll.	19 " Blackcurrants.
1 Cake Mixture.	5 " Luncheon Meat.
4 Dehydrated Onions.	1 " Grapefruit.
8 Dried Fruits.	1 " Pease Pudding.
1 Fruit Paste.	1 " Soup.
1 Gravy Powder.	5 " Vegetables.
1 Meat.	2 " Tomato Soup.
1 Margarine.	2 " Tomato Puree.
2 Lime Flowers.	5 Tomato Juice.
14 Pork Brawn.	2 Tomato Paste.
7 Soft Drinks.	2 Water.
1 Squills.	74 Methylene Blue Tests
1 Sweets.	(See Ice Cream).

Of these samples, 18 were unsatisfactory, as shown below:-

13 Tinned Blackcurrants.	- Contained Tin from 300 to 705 parts per million.
2 Tinned Tomato Soup.	- Contained Tin 800 p.p.m. and 1035 p.p.m.
1 Tomato Extract.	- Contained Lead 9 p.p.m. Approx. 197 p.p.m. on dry.
1 Tomato Paste.	- Contained Tin 1370 p.p.m., Lead 110 p.p.m.
1 Bread Roll.	- Contaminated with metallic aluminium.

Private Purchasers. 10 samples were examined and fees of £10.10.0d received.

Borough Engineer & Surveyor. One sample of sewer deposit was examined.

A P P E N D I X

OF

S T A T I S T I C A L

T A B L E S

Table 1.

OPEN SPACES WITHIN THE BOROUGH

P L A C E	A C R E A G E
<u>Maintained by Borough Council.</u>	
Albert Square Gardens	0.66
Arbour Square Gardens	0.66
Beaumont Square Gardens	1.00
Brickfield Gardens	1.50
Carlton Square Gardens	0.75
Christchurch Gardens, Spitalfields	1.25
Ford Square Gardens	0.40
Kingward Street Playground	0.13
Mile End Gardens	0.50
Rear of Town Hall, Cable Street	0.75
St. James Gardens, Ratcliff	2.00
Swedenborg Square Playground	0.67
St. George-in-East Churchyard	2.25
Shandy Street Recreation Ground	1.50
Sidney Square Gardens	0.33
Stepney Green Gardens	1.50
Trafalgar Square Gardens	0.60
Tredegar Square Playground	1.24
Trinity Square Gardens	1.13
Vallance Road Recreation Ground	0.75
Wakefield Gardens	0.067
York Square Gardens	0.20
<u>Maintained by London County Council.</u>	
King Edward VII Memorial Park, Shadwell	8.50
King George's Playing Fields (part)	10.00
Limehouse Churchyard	2.00
Stepney Churchyard	7.00
Wapping Recreation Ground	2.50
Total (approx.)	50 Acres

The above open spaces represent 2.95% of the area of the Borough, which is 1691 acres, exclusive of area covered by the river, docks and canals.

Table 2.

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1952
(Provisional)

	Stepney	London Administrative County	England and Wales
	<u>Rates per 1,000 Home Population</u>		
<u>Births</u>			
Live births	18.55 ⁺	17.6	15.3
Still births	0.51	0.34	0.35
<u>Deaths</u>			
All causes	14.67 ⁺	12.6	11.3
Typhoid and paratyphoid	0.00	-	0.00
Whooping cough	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.50	0.31	0.24
Influenza	0.03	0.05	0.04
Smallpox	0.00	-	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis (includ- ing polioencephalitis)	0.01	0.01	0.01
Pneumonia	1.01	0.58	0.47
<u>Notifications (Corrected)</u>			
Typhoid fever	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid fever	0.02	0.01	0.02
Meningococcal infection	0.03	0.02	0.03
Scarlet fever	2.10	1.56	1.53
Whooping cough	1.57	1.66	2.61
Diphtheria	0.00	0.01	0.01
Erysipelas	0.24	0.14	0.14
Smallpox	0.00	-	0.00
Measles	12.97	9.23	8.86
Pneumonia	0.63	0.57	0.72
Acute poliomyelitis (includ- ing polioencephalitis):			
Paralytic	0.06	0.06	0.06
Non-paralytic	0.03	0.03	0.03
Food Poisoning	0.14	0.18	0.13
Puerperal Pyrexia [⊠]	49.35	30.77	17.87
<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</u>		
All causes under 1 year of age	18.47	23.8	27.6
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	0.52	0.7	1.1

(+) Adjusted by Area Comparability Factor.

(⊠) per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

Table 3.

TOTAL DEATHS BY CAUSE AND AGE OF STEPNEY RESIDENTS - 1952
(Registrar-General's Return)

CAUSES OF DEATH.	ALL AGES			Age Groups							
	Total	M	F	-1	1-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-
1. Tuberculosis - Respiratory ..	49	34	15	-	-	-	4	17	19	8	1
2. " - Other ..	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease ..	9	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	7	2	-
4. Diphtheria ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infection ..	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ..	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
8. Measles ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and Parasitic Diseases ..	2	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
10. Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach ..	37	19	18	-	-	-	-	1	18	16	2
11. " - Lung, Bronchus ..	44	36	8	-	-	-	-	2	19	16	7
12. " - Breast ..	17	-	17	-	-	-	-	3	8	2	4
13. " - Uterus ..	9	-	9	-	-	-	-	1	6	1	1
14. " - Other ..	127	78	49	-	1	-	-	13	42	40	31
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ..	7	5	2	-	1	-	2	-	2	1	1
16. Diabetes ..	6	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ..	114	52	62	-	-	-	-	-	24	41	49
18. Coronary disease, Angina ..	179	117	62	-	-	-	-	3	48	71	57
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease ..	46	12	34	-	-	-	-	-	8	21	17
20. Other Heart Disease ..	181	82	99	-	-	-	1	8	26	42	104
21. Other Circulatory Diseases ..	71	40	31	-	-	-	1	2	14	27	27
22. Influenza ..	3	1	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-
23. Pneumonia ..	100	60	40	8	2	-	1	2	17	21	49
24. Bronchitis ..	143	107	36	-	-	-	-	1	51	43	48
25. Other diseases of Respiratory System ..	16	11	5	-	-	-	-	1	4	6	5
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ..	19	18	1	-	-	-	-	3	4	9	3

Table 3 (contd).

CAUSES OF DEATH.	ALL AGES			Age Groups							
	Total	M	F	-1	1-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-
27. Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	3	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis ..	11	6	5	-	-	-	-	2	5	2	2
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate ..	19	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	12
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	6	-	6	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations ..	9	5	4	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	87	51	36	14	3	1	2	8	22	18	19
33. Motor vehicle accidents ..	8	5	3	-	-	1	1	3	-	1	2
34. All other accidents ..	32	19	13	1	2	-	-	6	3	3	17
35. Suicide ..	10	5	5	-	-	-	-	2	3	4	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	3	2	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
	Males	797	-	20	4	4	5	49	228	244	243
	Females	-	574	15	6	3	8	35	129	159	219
GRAND TOTAL:		1371		35	10	7	13	84	357	403	462

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Table 4.

Comparative Table of ROAD ACCIDENTS in the Borough

YEAR	Children Under 7 years		Children 7 - 14 years		Adults		TOTALS				
	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured			
1948	2	49	1	43	8	411	11	503			
1949	2	57	-	54	8	415	10	526			
1950	-	61	-	48	7	474	7	583			
1951	-	49	-	51	10	525	10	625			
1952	1	45	1	54	7	521	9	620			
1952	Pedestrians		Motor Cyclists		Pedal Cyclists		Drivers		Other Road Users		TOTAL
Killed	8		-		1		-		-		9
Injured	268		69		74		50		159		620

Table 5.

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS

Year	Popu- lation	Live Births		Deaths		Deaths under 1 year		Maternal Deaths		Cancer Deaths		Tuberculosis Deaths (all forms)	
		No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1901	298,600	11052	37.0	6217	20.8	1817	165	17	1.5	211	0.7	865	2.8
1911	279,560	8464	30.2	4854	17.3	1261	148	24	2.8	236	0.8	647	2.3
1921	249,657	6169	24.7	3244	12.9	550	89	10	1.6	263	1.0	346	1.3
1931	225,238	4010	17.8	2958	13.1	313	78	9	2.1	342	1.5	254	1.1
1938	200,500	2619	13.0	2217	11.0	163	62	6	2.2	343	1.7	128	0.6
1939	197,200	2466	12.5	2213	12.0	127	53	8	3.3	319	1.6	148	0.7
1940	136,030	2144	15.7	2729	20.0	86	43	5	2.3	292	2.1	147	1.0
1941	74,780	1164	15.5	1883	25.1	64	79	3	3.5	203	2.7	145	1.9
1942	71,980	1271	17.6	1243	17.2	66	52	5	3.7	171	2.3	85	1.8
1943	72,920	1371	18.8	1368	18.7	73	53	3	2.1	188	2.5	107	1.4
1944	73,030	1306	17.8	1425	19.5	77	56	0	0.0	185	2.5	96	1.3
1945	77,610	1442	18.5	1469	18.9	81	56	4	2.6	201	2.5	110	1.4
1946	94,800	2147	22.6	1399	14.7	110	51	4	1.8	198	2.1	81	0.8
1947	100,020	2184	21.8	1419	14.1	82	37	2	0.8	229	2.2	99	0.9
1948	99,470	2077	20.2	1228	12.3	59	28	0	0.0	239	2.3	75	0.7
1949	100,550	1830	18.1	1339	13.3	59	32	1	0.5	255	2.5	71	0.7
1950	99,730	1845	18.5	1255	12.5	49	26	2	1.0	244	2.4	56	0.5
1951	98,581	1846	18.7	1364	13.8	39	21	0	0.0	232	2.3	49	0.4
1952	99,000	1894	19.1	1371	13.8	35	18	6	3.0	241	2.4	50	0.5

Table 6.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, VISITS AND ACTION TAKEN BY
DISTRICT SANITARY INSPECTORS DURING THE YEAR

Complaints	9,192
Drainage	6,842
House-to-House	78
Houses-Let-in-Lodgings	222
Infectious Diseases and Contacts	400
Common Lodging Houses	45
Seamen's Lodging Houses	75
Markets (Week-end)	25
Offensive Trades	136
Pharmacy and Poisons Acts, 1933	181
Rent Restrictions Acts	261
Shops Act, 1950	312
Smoke Nuisances - Observations	100
Building Licences - Surveys	459
Defence Regulation 68 C.A.	55
Factories - Mechanical	581
Non-mechanical	83
Other	7
Outworkers premises	50
Workplaces	49
Miscellaneous Visits and Inspections	3,078
Re-visits	8,429
Attempted Visits	2,874
	<hr/>
Total Visits and Inspections ...	<u>33,534</u>

Intimation Notices served:

On County and Borough Council Housing Departments	518
On Owners	4,265
Statutory Notices served	1,236
Legal Proceedings taken	57

Table 7.

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

Animal nuisances abated	..	..	4
Dampness in rooms remedied	..	..	2368
Premises where: New drains constructed	..	..	476
Drains reconstructed	..	..	60
Existing drains repaired	..	..	287
Drain obstructions cleared	..	..	406
Dustbins provided	..	..	267
Dwelling rooms, passages and staircase walls and ceilings cleansed or repaired	..	..	3675
Factories: New W.C's provided	..	..	40
Sanitary accommodation repaired	..	..	90
Other defects remedied	..	..	112
Floors repaired	..	..	767
Fireplaces and coppers repaired or renewed	..	..	672
Gullies, manholes provided or repaired	..	..	575
Light and ventilation improved or provided to rooms and staircases	..	..	26
Roofs, gutters, rainwater pipes renewed or repaired	..	..	2203
Rubbish accumulations removed	..	..	179
Sinks, baths and lavatory basins fitted	..	..	1362
Soil and vent pipes provided or repaired	..	..	242
Ventilation (underfloor) provided to rooms	..	..	61
Verminous rooms disinfested	..	..	329
Waste pipes provided or repaired	..	..	1024
Water Closets and Urinals: New provided	..	..	573
Compartments cleansed, repaired	..	..	462
Obstructions cleared	..	..	129
Flush repaired	..	..	271
Pans and Traps fixed	..	..	712
Water Supply: Cisterns cleansed, repaired	..	..	186
Defective supply or fittings remedied	..	..	175
Windows repaired	..	..	1314
Yards, areas cleansed or paving repaired	..	..	139
Miscellaneous repairs	..	..	600
			<hr/>
		TOTAL:	19,786
			<hr/>

Table 8.
FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Type of Factory	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices
Factories without mechanical power	334	83	2
Factories with mechanical power ..	2,927	581	73
Other premises under the Acts (building operations and works of engineering construction) ..	51	7	1
TOTAL :	3,312	671	76

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred	
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness ..	2	2	-	3
Unreasonable temperature .	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation ..	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences				
(a) insufficient ..	5	5	-	6
(b) unsuitable or defective ..	77	77	-	19
(c) not separate for sexes	18	18	-	15
Other offences against the Acts (not including those relating to Outwork) ..	31	31	1	-
TOTAL :	133	133	1	43

Table 9.

RODENT CONTROL

	Council Property	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	TOTAL
Total Properties in Area	56	24,372	12,304	36,632
No. Properties Inspected				
(a) as result of notification by Occupier	6	1,103	363	1,472
(b) otherwise	4	4,663	1,860	6,527
No. Properties infested by rats:				
Major ..	1	-	17	18
Minor ..	6	866	389	1,261
No. Properties seriously infested by mice ..	3	156	125	284
No. infested properties treated by Local Authority	9	942	326	1,277
No. Sec.4 Notices served:				
(i) Treatment	-	-	-	-
(ii) Structural works .	-	-	-	-
Legal Proceedings ..	-	-	-	-

No. "block" control schemes carried out ... Nil.

Sewers - "Maintenance Treatments"

I am informed by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor that two treatments for the destruction of rats in sewers were carried out during the year, viz. from 26th May to 9th July 1952 and 24th November 1952 to 8th January 1953.

1,471 manholes were treated during each period, the estimated number of rats destroyed being 12,520 and 10,525, respectively.

Table 10.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS & VISITS BY THE SPECIALIST
INSPECTORS ENGAGED IN THE SUPERVISION & INSPECTION
OF FOOD.

Bakehouses	260
Butcher and Bacon shops and stalls	374
Butter and Margarine premises	28
Complaints	60
Fish shops and stalls	507
Grocery and Provision shops	549
Greengrocers & Fruiterers shops and stalls	1,161
Ice Cream premises	238
London Fruit Exchange	147
Markets (daily)	696
" (week-end)	14
Milkshops	264
Poultry shops and stalls	939
Prepared Food premises	574
Public Houses	223
Railway Depots	345 ⁺
Restaurants, Cafés, Canteens, &c.	1,141
Spitalfields Market	122
Wharves	733
Wholesale Grocers	555
Miscellaneous Visits	605
Samples: Food and Drugs	1,015
Other	241
Re-visits	815
	<hr/>
Total Visits & Inspections	<u>11,606</u>
No. of Notices served	345
No. of Summonses taken out (12 premises involved)	33

(+) Includes 303 special night or early morning inspections at Bishopsgate Goods Station.

Table 11.
POST WAR DWELLINGS.

Erected by Borough Council

<u>Address</u>	<u>Dwell- ings</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Dwell- ings</u>
Ames Cottages, Maroon Street	10.	Greaves Cottages, Halley Street	28
Amiel Street Cottages, Cephas Street	5.	Hadleigh House, Hadleigh Close	30
Aston Street	28.	Hawksmoor House, Maroon Street	28
Bailey Cottages, Maroon Street	6.	Hearnshaw House, Maroon Street	20
Bancroft House, Cephas Street	45.	Hemlington House, Maroon Street	20
Barbanel House, Cephas Street	30.	Hughes Mansions, Vallance Road (rebuilt)	58
Batten Cottages, Maroon Street	6.	Ibbott Street	15
Berry Cottages, Maroon Street	6.	Kenton House, Mantus Close	20
Blount House, Blount Street	20.	Lang Street	18
Bradshaw Cottages, Maroon Street	6.	Manning House, Halley Street	30
Braintree House, Malcolm Street	54.	Maroon House, Maroon Street	20
Brinsley House, Tarling Street	25.	Pemell Close, Bancroft Road	5
Burroughs Cottages, Halley Street	6.	Redclyf House, Cephas Street	30
Causton Cottages, Maroon Street	17.	Rennie Cottages, Cephas Street	10
Cephas Street	6.	Repton House, Repton Street	20
Colebert House, Colebert Avenue	24.	Rickman Street	6
Colebert Avenue	8.	Robert Sutton House, Tarling Street	44
Coltman House, Maroon Street	28.	Ryder House, Cephas Street	24
Culpeper House, Maroon Street	20.	Sceptre House, Sceptre Road	54
Dean House, Tarling Street	25.	Sheridan House, Tarling Street	44
Delmaine House, Blount Street	19.	Stannard Cottages, Bancroft Road	10
Dibdin House, Maroon Street	29.	Stothard House, Cephas Street	30
Dolland House, Maroon Street	30.	Stothard Street	8
Donoghue Cottages, Halley Street	30.	Tarling House, Tarling Street	44
Doveton House, Doveton Street	24.	West India House, West India Dock Road	31
Elsa Cottages, Halley Street	6.	Wickford House, Malcolm Street	54
Foley House, Tarling Street	44.	Winksworth Cottages, Cephas Street	5
Fox Close, Bancroft Road	5.		
Gibson Close, Bancroft Road	10.		
Gosling House, Sutton Street (rebuilt)	7.		

Total: 1,285 Dwellings.

Table 11 (contd.)Erected by County Council

<u>Address</u>	<u>Dwell-ings</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Dwell-ings</u>
Adriatic House, Ernest Street	12.	Jamaica House,	
Aden House, Trafalgar Gardens	20.	Limehouse Causeway	9
Anson House, Shandy Street	88.	Kindersley House,	
Arabian House, Ernest Street	24.	Philchurch Street	35
Azov House, Skidmore Street	28.	Lorne House,	
Batson House, Ellen Street	35.	Ben Jonson Road	24
Bengal House, Duckett Street	95.	Langmore House,	
Bicknell House, Ellen Street	16.	Christian Street	35
Bredel House,		Malacca House, Duckett Street	74
St. Paul's Way	54.	Malay House, Penang Street	14
Cambay House, Harford Street	9.	Matthews House,	
Casson House, Hanbury Street	24.	St. Paul's Way	44
Chicksand House,		Moray House, Solebay Street	24
Chicksand Street	70.	Pacific House, Ernest Street	12
Coral House, Ernest Street	12.	Penang House, Penang Street	19
Cromarty House,		Ramar House, Christian Street	20
Ben Jonson Road	28.	Reardon House, Reardon Street	43
Danvers House,		Riga House, Shandy Street	24
Christian Street	12.	Shadwell Gardens	96
Darien House,		Solander Gardens,	
Trafalgar Gardens	24.	Solander Street	39
Flores House, Shandy Street	24.	Solent House,	
Garnet House, Garnet Street	9.	Ben Jonson Road	21
Greatorex House, Extension,		Solway House, Ernest Street	12
Greatorex Street	8.	Taranto House, Trafalgar Gdns.	24
Greenland House,		Timor House, Duckett Street	9
Ernest Street	24.	Trinidad House, Gill Street	38
Grenada House, Gill Street	51.	Underhill House,	
Hadfield House, Ellen Street	25.	St. Paul's Way	40
Hanbury House, Hanbury Street	24.	Wheler House, Quaker Street	19
Hanson House, Ellen Street	20.	Whitethorn House,	
Hilliard House, Prusom Street	33.	Prusom Street	28
Ionian House, Duckett Street	12.	Schoolkeepers' Dwellings	2

Total: 1,486 Dwellings.

Erected by Other Persons

Apsley House, Aylward Street	36
Cephas Avenue	8
Lady Mico Almshouses, White Horse Road (rebuilt)	3
Pattison House, Aylward Street	16

Total: 63 Dwellings.

Table 12.

HOUSING STATISTICS

I. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:-			
(1)(a)	Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	6,392	
(b)	Inspections made for the purpose ...	24,394	
(2)(a)	Dwelling-houses inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	155	
(b)	Inspections made for the purpose ...	172	
(3)	Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...		11
(4)	Dwelling-houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	4,173	
II. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices:-			
	Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	3,197	
III. Action under Statutory powers during the year:-			
(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of Housing Act, 1936:-		
	Dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs ...		Nil
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-		
(1)	Dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	976	
(2)	Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:-		
(i)	By Owners	976	
(ii)	By Local Authority in default of owner		Nil

Table 12 (Contd.)

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

(i) Dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	2
(ii) Dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	... ..	2

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

(i) Separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... ..	16
(ii) Closing Orders determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit ..		Nil

(e) Proceedings under Section 25 of Housing Act, 1936:-

(i) No. of houses included by representation by Medical Officer of Health	...	45
(ii) No. of houses demolished in pursuance of representations ..	... ..	7

IV. Housing Act, Part IV - Overcrowding:-

(i) No. of overcrowded families on register at beginning of year	... ..	1,107
(ii) No. of new cases encountered during year		181
(iii) No. of cases relieved during the year		104
(iv) No. of overcrowded families on register at end of year	... ..	1,184

Table 13.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1952

DISEASE.	Cases Notified. In Age Groups												Notifica- tions	Corrected Total	Admitted to Hospital
	-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-			
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	2
Dysentery	9	10	11	9	6	12	4	1	3	2	2	4	73	71	33
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	14	6	24	24	6
Food Poisoning ..	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	5	1	3	1	14	14	7
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-
Measles	61	155	159	167	239	475	14	3	10	1	-	-	1284	1284	54
Mening. Infection	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	2
Ophth. Neonatorum.	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	24	24
Pneumonia	4	1	2	-	1	3	3	1	7	12	15	14	63	63	10
Ac. Poliomyelitis:															
Paralytic	-	-	2	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	6	7
Non-paralytic..	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	5	3	5
Ac. Encephalitis, Post Infectious	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1
Puerp. Pyrexia ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	78	8	-	-	96	96	96
Scarlet Fever ...	-	6	10	19	32	110	26	4	3	-	-	-	210	208	49
Enteric Fever ...	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	2
Whooping Cough ..	29	18	24	14	20	42	-	1	4	1	3	-	156	156	14
Tuberculosis:															
Pulmonary	-	4	-	10	-	5	3	13	46	14	31	11	137	137	-
Non-Pulmonary..	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	4	2	2	-	12	12	-
Scabies	-	-	-	1	1	3	3	1	11	6	1	1	28	28	-
TOTALS:	130	194	209	221	302	658	54	39	177	49	71	38	2142	2133	312

There were no notifications of Smallpox, Membranous Croup or Acute Encephalitis (Infective).

Table 14.
DISEASES NOTIFIABLE IN LONDON

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Authority for Notification.</u>
Acute encephalitis.	P.H.Act, 1936 (S.143). SI.1949/2259.
Ac. influenzal pneumonia.	" SI.1953/299.
Ac. primary pneumonia.	" SI.1953/299.
Ac. poliomyelitis.	" SI.1949/2259.
Anthrax.	L.C.C.Order, 1909. P.H.(L) Act, 1936 (S.192 & 304).
Chicken Pox.	(Notifiable in Port of London only).
Cholera.	P.H.(L) Act, 1936, (S.192 & 305).
Continued Fever.	" (S.192 & 305).
Diphtheria.	" (S.192 & 305).
Dysentery.	P.H.Act, 1936 (S.143) SI.1953/299
Enteric Fever (inc. ty- phoid and paratyphoid).	P.H.(L) Act, 1936 (S.192 & 304 - SI.1953/299.
Erysipelas.	" (S.192 & 304).
Food Poisoning.	F & D.Act, 1938 (S.17 as amended by N.H.S.Act, 1946 (10th Schedule).
German Measles.	(Notifiable in Port of London only).
Glanders.	L.C.C.Order, 1909 - P.H.(L) Act, 1936 (S.192 & 305).
Hydrophobia.	" Do.
Leprosy.	P.H.Act, 1936 (S.143), SI.1951/1036.
Malaria.	" SI.1953/299.
Measles.	" SRO.1938/1100, SRO.1940/205 and SI.1948/420
Membranous Croup.	P.H.(L) Act, 1936, (S.192 & 304).
Meningococcal infection.	P.H.Act, 1936 (S.143), SI.1949/2259.
Ophthalmia neonatorum.	L.C.C.Order, 1910 - P.H.(L) Act, 1936 (S.192 & 305). SRO.1928/419, 1936/971 and 1937/35.
Plague.	P.H.Act, 1936 (S.143). LGB.Reg. 1900.
Puerperal pyrexia.	" SI.1951/1081.
Relapsing Fever.	P.H.(L) Act, 1936 (S.192 & 304).
Scabies.	P.H.Act, 1936 (S.143). SRO.1943/1016.
Scarlet Fever.	P.H.(L) Act, 1936 (S.192 & 304).
Smallpox.	" "
Tuberculosis.	P.H.Act, 1936 (S.143). SI.1952/704.
Typhus Fever.	P.H.(L) Act, 1936 (S.192 & 304).
Whooping Cough.	P.H.Act, 1936 (S.143). SRO.1938/1100, 1940/205 and SI.1948/420.
Yellow Fever.	(Notifiable in Port of London only).
Zymotic enteritis or Summer diarrhoea.	(Notifiable in 9 Metropolitan Boro's only - not notifiable in Stepney).

Table 15.
TUBERCULOSIS - New Cases and Deaths

New Cases. 206 Pulmonary cases notified included 137 Primary Notifications, 7 from death returns and 62 transfers.

16 Non-Pulmonary cases notified included 12 Primary Notifications and 4 transfers.

Deaths.(*) 51 Pulmonary; 1 Non-Pulmonary.

Age Distribution of new cases and deaths is as follows:-

		-1	1-2	5-10	15-20	25-35	45-55	65-75	Total (all ages)						
(a) <u>New Cases.</u> Pulmonary	M	-	1	5	5	1	10	12	31	14	14	24	11	-	128
	F	-	3	6	2	3	6	20	21	9	1	3	4	-	78
Non-Pulmonary	M	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	6
	F	-	-	1	-	-	3	2	1	1	1	1	-	-	10
(b) <u>Deaths.</u> (*) Pulmonary	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	5	9	11	6	-	37
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	-	3	1	1	-	14
Non-Pulmonary	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1

(*) Compiled from local death returns. (Registrar-General's return shows 49 Pulmonary and 1 Non-Pulmonary deaths).

Table 16.
TUBERCULOSIS - Variations in Register

	Pulmonary			Non Pulmonary			Total Cases
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Ch</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Ch</u>	
(a) Cases on Register at 1/1/52	465	281	157	44	28	49	1024
(b) New cases notified	66	40	22	3	6	1	138
(c) Cases restored to Register	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(d) Other cases added	34	19	4	-	3	1	61
(e) Removals	84	47	30	5	6	17	189
(f) Cases remaining on Register at 31/12/52 ..	481	293	153	42	31	34	1034

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