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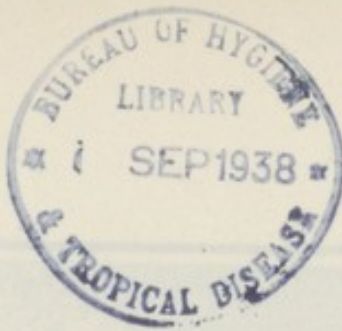
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W0037

Metropolitan Borough of Woolwich

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR

WOOLWICH

1937

BY

J. MACMILLAN, D.S.O., M.C., M.B., D.P.H.

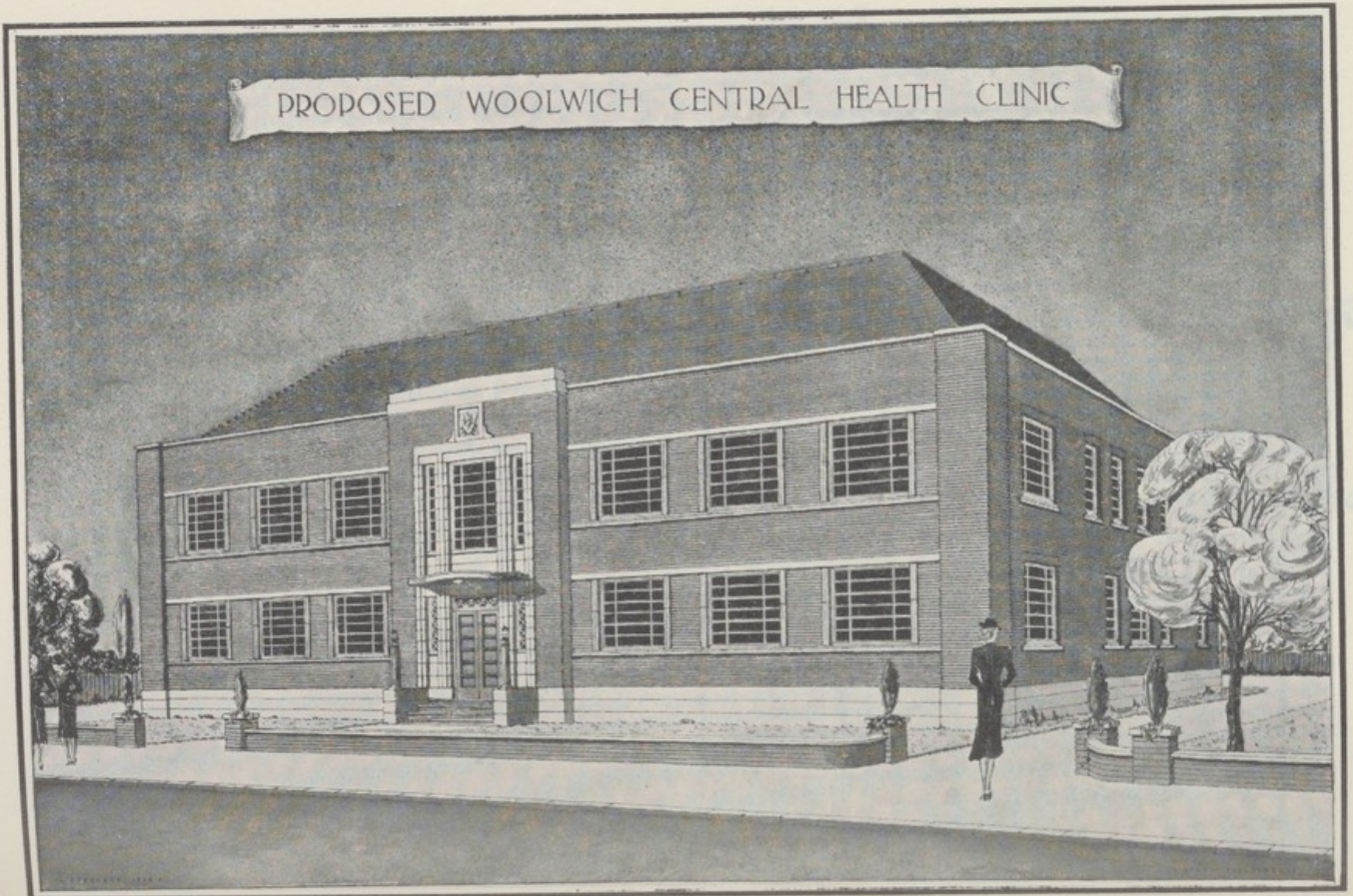
Medical Officer of Health

WOOLWICH :

The Kentish Independent Printing Works (T.U.)

41, Wellington Street, S.E.18

PROPOSED WOOLWICH CENTRAL HEALTH CLINIC



HEALTH COMMITTEE.

At 31st December, 1937.

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR (Councillor P. H. Rance, J.P.).

Councillor Mrs. E. L. REEVES (*Chairman*).

Councillor C. H. DARBY (*Vice-Chairman*).

Alderman :

Mrs. E. BROOKS.

Councillors :

J. W. ANDREWS

C. J. KEEDY

M. CROUT, J.P.

D. B. LISTER

G. S. DEAN

S. W. LISTER

Mrs. L. E. DRIVER

H. VAUGHAN

A. H. GILDER

Miss G. E. WALTERS, J.P.

G. E. GREENWOOD

(One vacancy).

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

Comprising the Members of the Health Committee.

Alderman Mrs. E. BROOKS (*Chairman*).

Councillor Mrs. L. E. DRIVER (*Vice-Chairman*).

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PREFACE.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Metropolitan Borough of Woolwich.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Thirty-seventh Annual Report on the health of the Metropolitan Borough of Woolwich.

The Report, in accordance with the instructions of the Council, follows the outline indicated by the Ministry of Health, in Circular 1650, in order to ensure uniformity in the presentation of Annual Reports of Medical Officers throughout the country.

It is customary to preface the Annual Report by a brief reference to some of its principal contents. It is not possible to touch on all of them but a moment's glance at the table of contents will show the many ramifications and the diversity of the Department's work to-day.

The population of the Borough is estimated by the Registrar General at 149,400 persons at the middle of the year, an increase of 2,900 on 1936. This is the total population and it includes non-civilians; it is on this figure that the rates of the Borough are calculated. It is now seven years since the Census was taken and the factors from which the population is calculated are in consequence uncertain. There is evidence of migration from Woolwich to surrounding districts and into Woolwich from the central London Boroughs but it is not possible to measure this movement with any degree of accuracy and it may be that the recent increase of work locally has brought about a greater influx of people into Woolwich than these figures indicate.

The general death-rate was 11.1 per thousand of the population; in 1936 it was 11.2, the lowest recorded rate being 9.9 in 1923. Amongst the general causes of death, diseases of the heart stand highest, principally in the later years of life. The next most numerous causes of death are cancer, respiratory diseases, and tuberculosis.

The infant mortality rate was 40, compared with 59 in 1936 and 44 in 1935. This is the lowest infant mortality rate in the records of the Borough. The neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 births) was 17.4 as against 21.81 the previous year. The birth rate was 14.2, a slight increase over that of 1936 (13.8). The number of maternal deaths was 3, two less than in 1936, the rate for the year per 1,000 births being 1.35. Not in any year in the last quarter of the century has there been so low a maternal mortality rate.

Health propaganda and health education are an essential part of the work of the Department. For this reason the Council welcomed the National Health Campaign which had for its primary object the increased use of the health services. The various activities are reported on in full in Section II.

In Maternity and Child Welfare work the year is notable because of the great increase in the arrangements made for the care and comfort of the toddler. Additional clinics have been arranged, following-up is more complete and additional provision has been made for the treatment of the defects discovered. Plans have been approved for a Central Health Clinic at Woolwich and when the building is completed in 1938 combined health centres for advice and treatment for expectant and nursing mothers, for infants, for toddlers and for school children will be available for the whole of the Borough. The salaried midwives service to which I referred in my Report for 1935 and which is to be administered by the London County Council, was not in operation during the year, but the County Council's arrangements had been completed to enable this service to be started on the 1st January, 1938. The Woolwich Borough Council are co-operating in this scheme through their ante-natal clinics and in the provision of ancillary services.

Much progress was made during the year in the matter of the clearance of unhealthy dwellings. An additional 20 areas were represented by me during the year bringing the total number of areas dealt with since the commencement of the programme up to 54. In these 54 areas were 481 houses, occupied by 1,884 persons. Three official representations in all have been made by medical officers of the London County Council. Details of all these areas will be found in the Housing Section of the Report. Such experience as has been gained in the last two years seems to indicate that there is a slowly progressing voluntary movement towards the abatement of overcrowding. At the end of 1935, 683 families were known to be living in overcrowded conditions. At the end of 1936 the comparable figure was 530, and at the end of 1937 it was 390. The number of overcrowded families rehoused by the Borough Council as incidental to their slum clearance or general housing programme was 62 in these three years; the number rehoused by the London County Council in accordance with their relief of overcrowding programme was 15. The amount of overcrowding would appear to be becoming less without much systematic effort at

rehousing in municipal estates but it cannot be forgotten that information as to new cases of overcrowding is not likely, without periodic surveys, to be accurate and the true position is possibly not so good as these figures indicate.

Ample evidence of other valuable work carried out by the Sanitary Section during the year will be found in those sections dealing with sanitary administration, supervision of the food supplies, and control of the infectious diseases. A very high standard has been maintained throughout.

In recent years all over this country much thought has been given to the problem of the eradication of the bed bug from houses and particularly from those owned by the municipalities. The problem is much more difficult than it would appear at first sight. The bed bug is small, it shuns the light and takes advantage of every cavity which will give it shelter. Under suitable conditions it multiplies rapidly and it can live for a long time without food. For these reasons it is a very difficult insect to abolish. There are many insecticides—proprietary and otherwise—on the market; the continued presence of the bed bug and the very multiplicity of these remedies indicates how useless most of them are. The bed bug frequently invades new houses, being in most instances transported there in the furniture. It is easy to kill it in transit by the use of a suitable fumigant in the furniture van—hydrogen cyanide, one hundred per cent. effective, is most often used. In homes, however, this cannot always be selected—it is too dangerous a chemical, for example, in a single dwelling in a block of flats. Because of this, efforts have been made to discover a fumigant which is toxic to the bed bug, and is not harmful to man. One such is washed heavy coal tar naphtha. In Woolwich in the last eighteen months we have been doing research work in connection with its use. The story of the experiments and of the difficulties overcome, is set out in Section IV. In washed heavy naphtha we appear to have a disinfectant which is easily applied, which is non-toxic to man, which does not damage paint, which has no dangerous carry over and which is successful, provided the atmospheric conditions are right—a temperature of 60°F. is necessary. The process is not yet perfected but this should not require much more research. Naphthas vary in constitution, some containing a greater proportion of elements toxic to the bed-bug than others and the one we have been using is now being fortified in this respect. It can safely be said that in naphtha we have a disinfectant which solves, safely, effectively and cheaply, the problem of the disinfection of the flat or tenement house, a situation in which hydrogen cyanide in this country at least can never be used.

As regards the infectious diseases there was a decrease of scarlet fever (428 compared with 609) and an increase of diphtheria (297 compared with 176). There were no deaths from scarlet fever and ten from diphtheria. Diarrhoeal diseases shewed a marked increase—81 cases of dysentery of a mild type and 65 of epidemic diarrhoea being notified. Measles was not present in epidemic form. The number of

notifications of tuberculosis received during the year was 264 compared with 253 in 1936. At the end of the year there were 772 persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis and 156 persons suffering from other forms of tuberculosis, that is in all 928 persons (968 in 1936), living in the Borough. The number of deaths from tuberculosis during the year was 119 compared with 116 in 1936.

Since my last report the following staff changes have taken place :—

Mr. Myles Formby, F.R.C.S., was appointed Consultant to the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic, 24th March.

Miss D. Grand, who joined the staff as a temporary health visitor on the 25th November, 1936, was appointed as a health visitor from 1st April.

Miss W. A. Phebey, health visitor, commenced duty on the 1st April.

Mr. J. W. Lewington was appointed to a temporary clerkship from 2nd April.

Miss J. Walters, temporary clerk, was appointed to Grade "A" from the 20th July.

Miss D. Grand, health visitor, resigned her appointment on the 30th November.

Miss Margaret Campbell, sanitary inspector and health visitor, retired on superannuation on the 1st December.

Mr. Myles Formby, F.R.C.S., resigned his appointment on the 31st December.

In presenting this report I desire specially to acknowledge the continued confidence and support which I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Committees on Health, and indeed from all the Members of the Council. Their kindly and sympathetic way of dealing with the many problems which I have had to bring before them has made the task easy. I take this opportunity also of sincerely thanking every member of the staff for the valuable work they have done during the year and for the help they have given to me personally.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. MACMILLAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

i. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

(a) In tabular form are shown below the names, qualifications and appointments of all Medical and Dental Officers employed by, or discharging duties for the Council, either whole or part time, or in a consultative capacity, at the 31st December.

TABLE No. 1.

Year appointed.	Name.	Qualifications.	Appointment.
1921	Blackmore, F. J. C. ..	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P... ..	Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Tuberculosis Officer.
1931	Proudfoot, M. E. ..	M.B., Ch.B.	Assistant Medical Officer (General Purposes).
1931	Saunders-Jacobs, E. V.	M.A., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., B.Sc., D.P.H.	Assistant Medical Officer (General Purposes).
1934	Smith, F. E.	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Assistant Medical Officer (General Purposes).
1927	Lynham, J. E. A. ..	B.A., M.D., D.M.R.E.	Consultant, Artificial Sunlight Clinic.
1927	Taylor, H. G.	F.R.C.S.	Consultant under Puerperal Fever Regulations, Obstetric Consultant (1931).
1937	Formby, Myles L. ..	F.R.C.S.	Consultant, Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.
1930	Emslie, M.	M.B., Ch. B.	Medical Officer, Toddlers' Clinic (part-time).
1934	Smith, W.	M.A., M.D., B.Ch.	Medical Officer, Schick Testing Clinic. (part-time).
1937	Alcock, O. H.	M.B., B.S.	Medical Officer, Infant Welfare Centres (part-time).
1937	Morton, J. M.	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Medical Officer, Infant Welfare Centres (part-time).
1937	Waghorn, K. M. ..	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P... ..	Medical Officer, Infant Welfare Centres (part-time).
1937	Holmes, L.	M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.	Anaesthetist, Dental Clinics.

TABLE No 1—*continued.*

Year appointed.	Name.	Qualifications.	Appointment.
1930	Brews, R. V.	L.R.C.P.I. and L.M., L.R.C.S.I. and L.M.	Public Vaccinator (part-time).
1930	Cowie, W.	M.A., M.B., C.M.	do.
1930	Wise, H. M.	M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.	do.
1930	Milton, E. F.	M.D., B.S.	do.
1930	Blackall, G.	M.B., B.A.O., D.P.H. ..	do.
1930	Power, F. J.	L.R.C.P.I. and L.M., L.R.C.S.I. and L.M.	do.
1934	Mair, A.	M.D., D.P.H.	do.
1932	Elvy, D. M.	L.D.S.	Dental Surgeon (part-time).
1937	Jones, O. N. H. ..	L.D.S.	do.
1937	Wade, H.	L.D.S.	do.

The deputies for the above Public Vaccinators are respectively :

Dr. N. E. Sampey, Dr. D. Wilson, Dr. E. C. Wise, Dr. W. T. Milton, Dr. R. W. Wood, Dr. R. Lewys-Lloyd, Dr. H. M. Wise.

(b) In tabular form are shown below the dates of appointment, names and qualifications of the Public Analyst, Sanitary Inspectors, Health Visitors, Vaccination Officer, Tuberculosis Staff and Clerical Staff employed by the Council on 31st December.

Mr. A. Edgcombe Brown, B.Sc., F.I.C., the Public Analyst for Greenwich, acts as Public Analyst for this Borough during the temporary absence of Mr. H. Amphlett Williams.

TABLE No. 2.

Year appointed.	Name.	Qualifications.	Appointment.
1933	Williams, H. Amphlett ..	A.C.G.F.C., F.I.C.	Public Analyst (part time).
1909	Shaw, H.	Cert. Royal San. Inst.; Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Board; Cert. San. Insp. Assocn.; Cert. Meat and other foods; Cert. San. Science, R.S.I.	Chief Sanitary Inspector. (1928)
1901	Tedham, W.	Cert. Royal San. Inst., Cert. Meat and other foods.	Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE No. 2—continued.

Year appointed.	Name.	Qualifications.	Appointment.
1920	Pendril, H. W.	Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Board ; Cert. Advanced Inspectors, R.S.I.; Cert. Meat and other foods ; Cert. Smoke Insp., R.S.I.	Sanitary Inspector.
1921	Harris, C. V.	Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Board ; Cert. Royal San. Inst. ; Cert. Meat and other foods.	Sanitary Inspector.
1922	Couch, C. J.	Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Board ; Cert. Royal San. Inst. ; Cert. Meat and other foods ; Cert. Smoke Insp., R.S.I. ; Cert. Advanced Inspectors, R.S.I.	Sanitary Inspector.
1925	Pindar, E. B.	Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Board ; Cert. Royal San. Inst. ; Cert. Meat and other foods.	Sanitary Inspector.
1928	Andrew, F. A.	Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Joint Board ; Cert. Meat and other foods.	Sanitary Inspector.
1929	Hemingway, F.	Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Joint Board ; Cert. Meat and other foods.	Sanitary Inspector.
1930	Kersey, H. M.	Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Joint Board ; Cert. Meat and other foods ; Cert. Smoke Insp., R.S.I.	Sanitary Inspector.
1931	Hoines, F. J.	Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Joint Board ; Cert. Meat and other foods.	Sanitary Inspector.
1933	Lewis, E.	Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Joint Board ; Cert. Meat and other foods ; Cert. Smoke Insp., R.S.I. ; Cert. San. Science, R.S.I.	Sanitary Inspector.
1935	Sumner, G. R.	Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Joint Board ; Cert. Meat and other Foods.	Sanitary Inspector.
1935	Wheal, W. F. R.	Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Joint Board ; Cert. Meat and other foods.	Sanitary Inspector.
	One vacancy	—————	Sanitary Inspector.
1935	Tyers, Miss M. F.	Cert. San. Insp., Exam Joint Board; Cert. General Hospital Training ; C.M.B. ; Health Visitors' Cert. ; Massage ; Diploma in Nursing, University of London.	Woman Sanitary Inspector (1936).
	One vacancy	—————	Woman Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE No. 2—*continued.*

Year appointed.	Name.	Qualifications.	Appointment.
1918	Garside, Mrs. M. ..	Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Board ; C.M.B. ; Health Visitors' Cert.	Health Visitor and Sanitary Inspector.
1919	Burnett, Miss W. ..	Cert. San. Insp. Exam. Board ; C.M.B. ; Health Visitors' Cert., Board of Education.	Health Visitor.
1919	Tibbits, Miss E. ..	Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Board ; Health Visitors' Cert., Board of Education.	Health Visitor.
1919	Ware, Miss C.	Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Board ; C.M.B. ; Health Visitors' Cert., Board of Education.	Health Visitor and Sanitary Inspector.
1920	Morgan, Miss F. ..	Cert. General Hospital Training ; C.M.B. ; Health Visitors' Cert. ; Maternity and Child Welfare Cert.	Health Visitor.
1922	Seccombe, Miss W. ..	Cert. General Hospital Training ; C.M.B. ; Health Visitors' Cert.	Health Visitor.
1927	Farrell, Miss E. V. ..	Cert. General Hospital Training ; C.M.B. ; Heliotherapy Cert. ; Health Visitors' Cert., Board of Education.	Health Visitor and Artificial Sunlight Nurse.
1930	Frederick, Miss F. E. ..	Cert. General Hospital Training ; C.M.B. ; Health Visitors' Cert.	Health Visitor.
1933	Carey, Miss A.	Cert. General Hospital Training ; Cert. Fever Training ; C.M.B. ; Health Visitors' Cert. ; Cert. San. Insp. Exam. Joint Board.	Health Visitor
1933	Adams, Miss W. ..	Cert. General Hospital Training ; C.M.B. ; Health Visitors' Cert ; Diploma in Nursing, University of London. ; Cert. San. Insp., Exam. Joint Board.	Health Visitor.
1934	Little, Miss E.	Cert. General Hospital Training ; Cert. Fever Training ; C.M.B. ; Tuberculosis Cert. ; Health Visitors' Cert.	Health Visitor. (1935).
1937	Phebey, Miss W. A. ..	Cert. General Hospital Training ; C.M.B. ; Health Visitors' Cert.	Health Visitor.
1937	Grand, Miss D.	Cert. General Hospital Training ; C.M.B. ; Health Visitors' Cert.	Health Visitor (re- signed 30th November).
1921	Castledine, Mrs. L. ..	Cert. General Hospital Training	Tuberculosis Visitor.
1921	Mahony, Miss N. ..	Cert. General Hospital Training ; Health Visitors' Cert.	Tuberculosis Visitor.

TABLE No. 2—*continued.*

Year appointed.	Name.	Qualifications.	Appointment.
1935	Plummer, Miss E. M. ..	Cert. General Hospital Training ; C.M.B. ; Cert. Fever Training ; Health Visitors' Cert.	Tuberculosis Visitor.
1923	Smith, Mrs. M.	Dispensing Certificate	Dispenser and Secretary of Care Committee.

CLERKS :

1901	Smith, H. S.	Chief Clerk.
1906	Collyer, H. M... ..	Committee Clerk.
1913	Prescott, T. H.	Clerk, Grade C.
1920	Taylor, S. G.	Vaccination Officer and Clerk, Grade B.
1920	Pike, L. J.	Clerk, Grade B.
1920	Stephenson, Miss D.	Maternity and Child Welfare Clerk.
1922	Edwards, Mrs. N.	Maternity and Child Welfare Clerk.
1930	Crawford, Miss I.	Clerk, Grade A.
1931	Allen, L.	Clerk, Grade A.
1933	Biswell, Miss V.	Tuberculosis Clerk.
1933	Bryant, Miss A.	Clerk, Grade A.
1934	Goad, A.	Clerk, Grade A.
1935	Grant, Miss I.	Clerk, Grade A.
1936	Walters, Miss J.	Clerk, Grade A.
1937	Lewington, J. W.	Temporary Clerk.

The Medical Officer of Health is Administrative Tuberculosis Officer and Executive Officer under the Council's Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.

ii. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The bacteriological work of the Council rendered necessary by investigations into infectious diseases, food poisoning, etc., is carried out at the Woolwich War Memorial Hospital. The bacteriological examination of milk samples is carried out partly at the Woolwich War Memorial Hospital and partly at the Clinical Research Laboratory.

A minimum of 800 samples is purchased annually in accordance with the provisions of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and the various Regulations and Orders in which are laid down standards for food. They are submitted for chemical analysis to the Public Analyst whose Laboratory is situated at 1, Southwark Street, London, S.E.1.

iii. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

In tabular form is shown below a list of clinics and treatment centres in the Borough :—

TABLE No. 3.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Situation.	Nature of Accommodation.	By Whom Provided.	Sessions Weekly.
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.			
Old Town Hall, Woolwich ..	Doctor's Room, Weighing Rooms, Waiting Rooms, etc.	Woolwich Borough Council.	9
236, Plumstead High Street ..	Doctor's Room, Ante-Natal Room, Ante-room, Weighing Room, Waiting Room, Dental Rooms.	do.	8
Westhorne Avenue, Eltham ..	Doctor's Room, Ante-Natal Room, Ante-room, Weighing Room, Waiting Room, Lecture Hall, Dental Rooms.	do.	7
Elizabeth Street, North Woolwich	Doctor's Room, Weighing Room	do.	1.5*
Wesley Hall, Timbercroft Lane, Plumstead.	do. do.	do.	2
All Saints' Church Hall, New Eltham.	do. do.	do.	3
Holy Trinity Church Hall, Beresford Street, Woolwich.	do. do.	do.	1
St. Luke's Hall, Westmount Road, Eltham.	do. do.	do.	1
Sunlight Clinic.			
Old Town Hall, Woolwich ..	Treatment and Waiting Rooms, etc.	do.	10
Day Nurseries.			
Nil.			
School Clinics.			
Brewer Street, Woolwich ..	Doctors' Rooms, Treatment Rooms, Waiting Rooms.	Local Medical Association.	Daily
236, Plumstead High Street, Plumstead.	Doctor's Room, Treatment Room, Waiting Rooms, Dental Rooms.	do.	Daily
Westhorne Avenue, Eltham ..	Doctor's Room, Dental Rooms, Waiting Room, Treatment Rooms.	do.	Daily

* An Ante-Natal Clinic is held here once fortnightly.

TABLE No. 3—*continued.*

Situation.	Nature of Accommodation	By Whom Provided.	Sessions Weekly.
Cyril Henry Treatment Centre, St. Mary's Street, Woolwich,	Accommodation for operating on, and detention of, cases of enlarged tonsils and adenoids	London County Council	Daily
Borough Disinfecting Station, Whitehart Road, Plumstead.	Accommodation for cleansing verminous children.	Woolwich Borough Council	Daily
Tuberculosis Dispensaries.			
Maxey Road, Plumstead ..	Doctor's Rooms, Waiting Rooms, Dressing Rooms, Dispensary, etc.	do.	Daily
11, Carnecke Gardens	Doctor's Room, Waiting Room etc.	do.	3
Venereal Diseases.			
Nil.			
Orthopaedic Clinics.			
8, Thomas Street, Woolwich ..	Clinic, Waiting Room, Dressing Room	Woolwich Invalid Children's Aid Association	Daily
Christchurch Church Hall, Eltham High Street.	Waiting Room	do.	6

During the year the Health Committee had under consideration the provision of a Central Health Centre at Woolwich to replace the Old Town Hall Infant Welfare Centre and the Brewer Street School Clinic. The necessary recommendation came before the Council at the beginning of 1938. The new building is to be of two storeys; on the ground floor will be provided a large waiting hall, a set of maternity and child welfare rooms, orthopaedic treatment rooms, sunlight treatment rooms, and a staff room; on the upper floor will be provided a dental suite, minor ailment treatment rooms, special treatment rooms, foot clinic and waiting and staff rooms. When this Health Centre has been completed, combined health centres for maternity and child welfare work and for the medical treatment of school children will be available for the whole of the Borough, similar health centres having been provided at Eltham in 1931 and at Plumstead in 1932.

iv. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) *Accidents and Sudden Illness.*—The London County Council provide ambulances free of charge within the County of London for the conveyance of persons meeting with accidents or sudden illness in streets or public places. The ambulance may be called by private, public or police telephone. Full instructions are given

in every telephone box. Where the dialling system is in operation, it is necessary to dial 999 and ask the operator for "Ambulance." No charge is made for the use of the telephone if the call is made from a public box.

(b) *Maternity Cases.*—Maternity cases can be removed to hospital by ambulance if an ambulance card is obtained from the hospital when the bed is booked. Urgent cases, whether previously arranged for or not, can be removed when accompanied by a doctor or a nurse. Telephone No. Waterloo 6000 or Regent 4000. No charge is made for the ambulance, but the telephone call must be paid for.

(c) *Removal of Sick Persons.*—The London County Council will arrange for the removal of sick persons by ambulance to hospitals or any place within the County of London. No charge is made for the removal of cases of infectious disease to the London County Council hospitals. Non-infectious cases removed to the London County Council hospitals are subject to assessment. Otherwise the standard charge is 12s. 6d. Full particulars and arrangements for removal can be obtained by telephoning Waterloo 3311, or writing to the Medical Officer of Health, London Ambulance Service, London County Council, The County Hall, S.E.1.

V. PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

During the year, nursing assistance was available in all parts of the Borough. Such assistance is provided by six Nursing Associations, as follows :—

Woolwich and Plumstead District Nursing Association.

Silvertown and North Woolwich District Nursing Association.

Eltham Provident Nursing Association.

New Eltham District Nursing Association.

Horn Park District Nursing Association.

Mottingham District Nursing Association.

All these Associations insist that the patient shall be under the care of a medical practitioner, and, in ordinary circumstances, only nurse non-infectious cases. On the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health, however, they provide nursing assistance for cases of measles, whooping cough, zymotic enteritis, ophthalmia neonatorum, pneumonia, anterior poliomyelitis, tuberculosis, puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia. For nursing assistance, the Borough Council pay, in necessitous cases, in accordance with the following schedule :—

Disease.	Rate of Payment.
Measles	} 1s. 0d. per visit for one case ; 6d. per visit, per case, for more than one case in the house at the same time.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .	
Zymotic Enteritis	
Whooping Cough	
Poliomyelitis	

Acute Primary Pneumonia	}	1s. 3d. per visit.
Influenzal Pneumonia ..		
Puerperal Fever		
Puerperal Pyrexia		
Tuberculosis		

An additional grant is made yearly in respect of the nursing treatment of children suffering from threadworms.

vi. HOSPITALS.

The Medical Officer of Health is asked to report under this heading on the hospitals belonging to the local authority and hospitals with which the local authority have made arrangements for the admission of patients. There are no hospitals belonging to this local authority, but arrangements for the admission of patients have been made with two local hospitals :—

- (a) War Memorial Hospital.
- (b) British Hospital for Mothers and Babies.

The Council's arrangements with these hospitals were fully reported on in the Annual Report for 1930, but it may be convenient to refer to them briefly here :—

At the War Memorial Hospital the Council reserve twelve beds for children under five years, and sufficient accommodation as may be necessary for 66 maternity cases per annum. In addition the Hospital authorities are under contract to provide emergency treatment as occasion arises for such cases of midwifery as require it.

At the British Hospital for Mothers and Babies, such accommodation as may be necessary for 144 confinements per annum, and for their ante-natal treatment, is reserved for cases sent by the Borough Council.

vii. MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

There are no whole-time midwives employed by the Council. By the courtesy of the County Medical Officer of Health I have been able to ascertain that 61 midwives residing in the Borough gave notice during the year of their intention to practise.

The services of a Consultant Surgeon are available for cases of obstetric emergencies and difficulties occurring at home, and for consultation and treatment in cases of puerperal fever or puerperal pyrexia. Arrangements have also been made for the home nursing of such cases and for such bacteriological investigations as are necessary.

Maternity in-patients beds are provided in : (a) The British Hospital for Mothers and Babies ; (b) The War Memorial Hospital ; (c) The Eltham Cottage

Hospital; (d) The Military Families Hospital; (e) St. Nicholas Hospital (London County Council); and (f) a few in midwives' homes.

District midwifery services are maintained by the British Hospital for Mothers and Babies in the district adjacent to the Hospital, and were maintained by the Plaistow Maternity Hospital in North Woolwich until June, 1937.

The Council's Maternity Services are fully described in the Maternity and Child Welfare Section of the report.

The County Council's scheme of Salaried Midwives did not come into operation during the year but arrangements were made for it to commence on 1st January 1938.

viii. INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS OR CHILDREN.

There are no special provisions for the institutional treatment of unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants or homeless children in the Borough, but in February 1934, the Council agreed to make a grant towards the cost of maintenance of Woolwich cases admitted to Stretton House Home, Grove Park, a home maintained by the Southwark Diocesan Preventive and Rescue Work Organisation for unmarried mothers. No grant, however, has yet been made.

ix. HEALTH VISITING.

The arrangements made for the visiting of children between the ages of one and five years are described in the Maternity and Child Welfare Section.

x. INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

A note on the administration of this service will be found in the Maternity and Child Welfare Section of the report.

xi. ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

Arrangements for the orthopaedic treatment of children under five years of age were made with the local branch of the Invalid Children's Aid Association in 1925. This body has for many years maintained a remedial clinic in Thomas Street where all children requiring such treatment may be sent. A branch clinic was opened at the Christchurch Church Hall, Eltham High Street, on the 1st April, 1936. The London County Council make an annual grant in respect of children over five years of age. In the Maternity and Child Welfare Section of the Report there is an account of the year's working so far as children under five are concerned.

xii. SUPPLY OF INSULIN TO PERSONS SUFFERING FROM DIABETES.

In May, 1930, the Council obtained the approval of the Ministry of Health to supply Insulin to diabetic patients who were necessitous and unable to obtain it under the National Health Insurance Acts. A continuing approval is obtained yearly.

Insulin was supplied under this scheme to 17 patients during the year, the total cost being £21 7s. 5d.

Insulin is supplied to medical practitioners under the following conditions:—

- (1) The application must state the name, age, address, and sex of the patient for whom it is required.
- (2) A quarterly report must be furnished in respect of each patient treated, giving the following information:—
 - (a) The number of doses of Insulin administered;
 - (b) Stating whether any tests were made of the urine or of the blood of the patient, and, if so, by whom and with what results;
 - (c) A report on the progress of the patient.

xiii. VACCINATION.

I submit a return by the Vaccination Officer on the work carried out under the Vaccination Acts for the year 1936.

TABLE No. 4.

RETURN to be made on or before 13th February, 1938, by Mr. S. G. Taylor, Vaccination Officer of all Sub-Districts of the Metropolitan Borough of Woolwich Registration District, respecting the Vaccination of Children whose Births were registered from 1st January to 31st December, 1936, inclusive:—

Registration Sub-Districts comprised in Vaccination Officer's District.	Number of Births returned in the " Birth List Sheets " as registered from 1st January to 31st December, 1936.	Number of these Births duly entered by 31st January, 1938, in Columns I., II., IV., and V. of the " Vaccination Register " (Birth List Sheets), viz. :—				
		Col. I. Successfully Vaccinated.	Col. II.		Col. IV. Number in respect of whom Statutory Declaration of Conscientious Objection has been received.	Col. V. Died Unvaccinated.
			Insusceptible of Vaccination.	Had Small Pox.		
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
1. PLUMSTEAD ..	615	238	—	—	294	27
2. WOOLWICH .. †	1253	611	8	—	460	46
3. ELTHAM ..	493	220	1	—	206	16
Total ..	2361	1069	9	—	960	89

TABLE No. 4—*continued.*

Number of these Births which on 31st January, 1938, remained unentered in the "Vaccination Register" on account (as shown by "Report Book") of :—			Number of these Births remaining on 31st January, 1938, neither duly entered in the "Vaccination Register" (Columns 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 of this Return) nor temporarily accounted for in the "Report Book" (Columns 8, 9 and 10 of this Return).	*Total Number of Certificates of Successful Primary Vaccination of Children under 14 received during the Calendar Year 1937.	Number of Statutory Declarations of Conscientious Objection actually received by the Vaccination officer irrespective of the dates of birth of the children to which they relate, during the Calendar Year 1937.
Postponement by Medical Certificate.	Removal to Districts the Vaccination Officers of which have been duly apprised.	Removal to places unknown or which cannot be reached; and cases not having been found.			
8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
5	9	30	12	These figures are to be obtained from columns 2 and 6 of the Summary (Form N.)	
7	61	45	15		
9	23	12	6		
21	93	87	33	1233	1016

NOTES ON TABLE NO. 4.

NOTE.—(a) The total of the figures in columns 3 to 11 should agree with the figures in column 2. Any cases of children successfully vaccinated after the declaration of conscientious objection had been made should be included in column 6 above and not in column 3. The number of such cases should be inserted here :—nil.

(b) The figures in columns 2 to 11 should not include re-registered births or cases of children born in other districts.

*The total in this column should be the number of Certificates of successful primary vaccination of children under 14, actually received during the year, including any relating to births registered in previous years. The total thus given should include the Certificates of successful primary vaccination of which copies have been sent to the Vaccination Officers of other Districts. The total number of Certificates for the year 1936 sent to other Vaccination Officers should be stated here :—120.

†Includes the Burrage and Herbert Wards in Plumstead Parish.

(Signature) S. G. TAYLOR,
Vaccination Officer.

Date—12th February, 1938.

During the year ended 30th September, 1937, the number of persons successfully vaccinated or re-vaccinated at the cost of the rates was 1767. This figure includes 728 primary vaccinations of persons under one year of age, 365 over one year of age, and 674 re-vaccinations.

xiv. ADOPTIVE ACTS, BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

Adoptive Acts.—The Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923, have been adopted by the Council. During the year, the Borough Treasurer tells me, the Council made 164 advances to purchasers of houses in accordance with the provisions of these Acts.

By-Laws and Regulations.—A complete list of the various By-laws and Regulations in force in the Borough was given in the Annual Report for 1934. One additional one, dealing with the fouling of public footways by dogs, came into force during 1935.

xv. SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE (LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL).

Through the courtesy of Sir Frederick Menzies, the School Medical Officer, I am able to give the following particulars of the routine medical examination of elementary school children in Woolwich in 1937.

The percentage of entrant boys requiring treatment for some defect or other was 41.6, and of girls, 38.8; the corresponding figures for London being 48.1 per cent., and 48.6 per cent. Excluding nutrition and dental defects, the percentage of entrant boys requiring treatment was 14.6, and girls, 13.9; the corresponding figures for London being 14.8 and 13.9

TABLE No. 5 (PART I.).

Examination of Elementary School Children in Woolwich, 1937.

Numbers Examined and Defects Found.

	Boys.								GIRLS.							
	Entrants.		Age 7.		Age 11.		Age 14.		Entrants.		Age 7.		Age 11.		Age 14.	
	Cases *	Cases *	Cases *	Cases *	Cases *	Cases *	Cases *	Cases *	Cases *	Cases *	Cases *	Cases *	Cases *	Cases *	Cases *	
Number examined	1,202		807		982		977		1,060		767		963		930	
	Cases *		Cases *		Cases *		Cases *		Cases *		Cases *		Cases *		Cases *	
Malnutrition	29	—	22	2	15	—	3	2	18	1	23	2	24	3	10	4
Skin Disease	8	5	8	4	5	2	4	3	7	4	5	4	5	3	7	4
Defective Teeth	—	380	—	152	—	139	—	157	—	306	—	164	—	167	—	185
Enlarged Tonsils	122	49	66	31	26	9	15	6	107	40	57	26	48	26	32	25
Adenoids	18	12	14	11	6	4	1	1	15	8	6	4	2	1	2	1
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	95	72	43	34	15	9	5	5	64	47	28	25	12	10	10	10
Other Nose and Throat defects	6	3	4	1	—	—	1	1	4	2	3	2	7	4	4	3
Enlarged Glands	13	2	2	—	2	—	1	—	9	1	1	—	2	—	—	—
Eye Disease	23	15	8	6	12	8	7	5	22	14	17	9	7	6	5	4
Vision defect	—	—	—	38	—	62	—	69	—	—	—	40	—	64	—	68
Otorrhoea	4	2	1	1	4	1	2	—	5	2	2	2	3	2	3	1
Other ear disease	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	2	2	1	—	—
Defective hearing	1	—	2	—	2	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	—	1	1
Speech defects	3	—	11	4	4	—	2	2	1	1	1	—	2	2	—	—
Heart defects	2	—	5	—	5	1	10	—	1	—	—	—	4	1	5	3
Anaemia	13	4	4	2	4	—	2	—	5	2	8	4	6	2	5	2
Lung defects	17	4	9	5	3	—	3	2	16	6	3	1	6	2	2	1
Nervous defects	6	—	8	4	7	3	3	1	4	1	3	1	2	—	1	—
Phthisis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other T.B. disease	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Rickets	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Spinal deformities	—	—	—	—	3	3	4	4	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	3
Other deformities	15	3	5	2	7	4	6	3	28	9	5	2	23	9	8	5
Other defects	20	13	27	16	18	11	8	5	21	13	13	8	22	10	15	5
Number of Children noted for treatment.. .. .	—	500	—	265	—	232	—	239	—	411	—	257	—	278	—	290

* Defects, however slight, are included under "Cases"; those severe enough to require treatment are shown under *.

TABLE No. 5 (PART II.).

Age Groups.	Number examined.	CLOTHING AND BOOTS.			NUTRITION.				CLEANLINESS OF HEAD.			CLEANLINESS OF BODY.			TEETH.			VISION.		
		Good	Fair	Poor	Good	Average	Below normal	Bad	Clean	Nits	Pediculi	Clean	Dirty	Pediculi	All sound	Less than 4 decayed.	4 or more decayed.	6/6 in both eyes.	6/9 in either or both eyes.	6/12 or worse in either or both eyes.
Entrants—																				
Boys	1202	969	233	—	141	996	64	1	1179	22	1	1198	4	—	810	327	65	—	—	—
Girls	1060	878	180	2	183	836	40	1	1045	12	3	1056	4	—	736	267	57	—	—	—
Age 7—																				
Boys	807	630	177	—	68	680	58	1	799	8	—	804	3	—	647	147	13	537	198	64
Girls	767	622	144	1	93	608	66	—	748	16	3	765	2	—	599	158	10	513	193	58
Age 11—																				
Boys	982	782	199	1	102	829	51	—	976	6	—	977	5	—	836	143	3	753	137	88
Girls	963	739	224	—	116	788	58	1	950	12	1	963	—	—	791	168	4	722	134	105
Age 14—																				
Boys	977	769	206	2	131	815	31	—	973	3	1	974	3	—	820	156	1	731	128	115
Girls	930	765	164	1	159	737	34	—	922	5	3	929	1	—	741	188	1	692	125	113
Total	7688	6154	1527	7	993	6289	402	4	7592	84	12	7666	22	—	5980	1554	154	3948	915	543
Percentage		80.0	19.9	0.1	12.9	81.8	5.3	—	98.8	1.1	0.1	99.7	0.3	—	77.8	20.2	2.0	73.1	16.9	10.0
London		55.6	44.1	0.3	16.5	77.4	6.1	—	97.6	2.1	0.3	99.1	0.9	—	70.2	26.3	3.5	67.6	19.0	13.4

SECTION II.

HEALTH PROPAGANDA.

Education, both mental and physical, is of paramount importance to the well-being of a nation, and to each and every citizen. This is particularly true of education in health matters, and the Council place the greatest importance on this work. Manufacturers and tradesmen, in order to sell their wares, have found it necessary to carry on large scale and continuous advertisement; in the same way it is necessary to advertise the health services provided by local authorities—not to sell them—but to induce the people to make full use of them. This has been recognised by the Government in the National Campaign, referred to below, to encourage a wider use of the Health Services. The success of the services provided depends to a great extent on the co-operation of the public, and increased co-operation means greater progress towards a healthy race. Fit and happy citizens make a fit and happy nation

The activities of the Council in this direction during 1937 may be classified as follows:—

(a) **HEALTH WEEK.**—The following is a copy of the report of the Health Committee to the Council:—

“ *Health Week.*—We report that, in accordance with the Council’s resolution, a Health Exhibition, which was organised by the Central Council for Health Education, was held at the Town Hall, Woolwich, during the week 27th September to 2nd October, 1937.

We were able to secure the co-operation of those Committees of the Council which deal directly or indirectly with matters affecting health, and of various national and local organisations. The exhibits were limited to those which bear directly on the work.

The Health Department’s stands and tableaux dealt with general sanitation and food supervision, diphtheria immunisation, infestation by the bed-bug and other insects, safer motherhood, the care of the toddler, nutrition, tuberculosis and the National Health Campaign. In connection with these a pleasing innovation was provided by two tableaux demonstrating a maternity ward in a London County Council Hospital, and the work of the new domiciliary midwifery scheme, which commences next January.

Other aspects of health work were given prominence by the exhibits of the National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare, the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, the Dental Board of the United Kingdom, the British Social Hygiene Council, the Woolwich Tuberculosis Care Committee,

the Health and Cleanliness Council, the British Red Cross Society, the Eugenics Society, the National Ophthalmic Treatment Board and the Workers' Education Association. The Woolwich War Memorial Hospital exhibited a model of a modern hospital, loaned by the King Edward's Hospital Fund and the Chelsea School of Chiropody staffed a working Foot Clinic.

Stands illustrating the work of other Committees of the Council were also arranged; by the Works Committee, three exhibits including a pleasing presentation on the stage of the Council's work in connection with open spaces; by the Electricity Committee, three exhibits illustrating its different activities for the care and comfort of the householder; and by the Allotments, Baths, Housing and Libraries Committees, one stand each presenting attractive and instructive pictures of their respective parts in the Council's work.

During the afternoons and evenings lectures and talks, illustrated by appropriate films, were given in the Council Chamber, and the Electricity Department arranged for cookery demonstrations every afternoon and evening.

We acknowledge with thanks our indebtedness to the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History Section), the London County Council, and many others for the loan of models, pictures and articles in connection with the Exhibition.

The attendances during the week are estimated at 14,902, including school children in conducted parties.

We are grateful to the lecturers who gave their services and to all who helped by exhibiting, by speaking, by lending, or by working, to whom we have extended the sincere thanks of the Council, and we take this opportunity of placing on record once more our appreciation of the work of the Council's staff."

(b) HEALTH SERVICES BOOKLET.—In order that every home in the Borough may have information regarding the Health Services available for ready reference, a booklet of twenty pages giving full information regarding these services is obtainable, free of charge, at the Health Department, or at any of the Council's health centres, dispensaries and public libraries. Every new tenant on the Council's estates is handed a copy on taking possession of the house; copies are distributed by post from time to time to residents in the Borough selected at random, and copies are distributed to members of the audience at all informal talks, referred to below. A large number were distributed at the information stall at the Health Exhibition. In fact every opportunity is taken of bringing it to the notice of the public.

(c) HEALTH AND HAPPINESS FOR BABY.—In the past, various leaflets on the care and management of infants, and advice to expectant and nursing mothers have been issued by the Council. During 1937 it was decided to combine these leaflets in the form of a booklet under the title of "Health and Happiness for Baby." This

booklet of 32 pages was printed in November, and a copy is now sent to each Woolwich mother when the birth of her baby is notified. Copies are obtainable also at the Council's welfare centres.

(d) SCHOOL CHILDREN.—For some years past the Libraries Committee and the Health Committee have co-operated in arranging displays of cinema films to school children during the winter months. One day each month three separate audiences, each of approximately 400, see a programme of films, which lasts about one hour, in the Public Hall. The films are on topics of general education and health education. The health films shown were :—

January 18th	..	..	“The Blood.”
February 15th	..	..	“Circulation of the Blood.”
March 15th	..	..	“Carriage.”
November 15th	..	..	“Swimming (Crawl Stroke).”
December 13th	..	..	“Swimming (Back Stroke).”

During 1937 the two Committees further co-operated in arranging film displays at the Plumstead Museum. One Wednesday in each of the winter months an afternoon request display is given to a varying audience, and in the evening the same films are shown to an audience of approximately 200, who are admitted by ticket. The health films shown in this connection were :—

October 13th	..	..	“Breathing.”
November 10th	..	..	“The Blood.”
December 18th	..	..	“The Red Army.”

(e) ADULTS.—Following on the display of cinema films to school children at Plumstead, referred to under heading (d), the same films are again shown later on in the evening to an adult audience. At these displays the audience averages 180.

(f) INFORMAL TALKS.—Informal talks to audiences at their own meeting-places forms a prominent part of the Council's health education programme. These talks are extremely popular and in great demand. They are very useful in affording opportunities for making known the health services available, and for spreading information on specific subjects connected with health. Great interest is shown in the matter of food values, and talks such as “Feeding the Family,” “Where to find the Vitamins” and “Safeguarding our Food Supplies” are in great demand. The talks are given by members of the staff and are usually illustrated by cinema films. The use of sound films has been greatly appreciated and has intensified the interest in these talks.

(g) **CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR HEALTH EDUCATION.**—This Council is an incorporated body composed of representatives of Government Departments, Local Government, National Health Insurance, Professional Organisations and Voluntary Societies engaged in Health Propaganda work. It aims at (a) promoting and encouraging education and research in the science and art of healthy living and promoting the principles of hygiene and encouraging the teaching thereof, and (b) assisting and co-ordinating the work of all statutory bodies in carrying out their powers and duties under the Public Health Acts and other statutes relating to the promotion or safeguarding of public health or the prevention or cure of disease in so far as such work comprises health education and propaganda. The Council seeks to achieve these objects by :—(a) The organisation of Health Weeks on behalf of local authorities ; (b) the production and distribution of posters ; (c) the issue of “ Better Health ” ; (d) the organisation of a Health Education Conference annually ; (e) distribution of films and leaflets ; (f) the issue of a Year Book collating information relating to health propaganda ; (g) the furnishing of expert advice on the best methods of Health Education.

The Borough Council increased its annual contribution to the funds of this body from three to five guineas.

(h) **POSTERS.**—The display of posters was continued during the year. Two sets of posters for display on the large poster frames previously owned by the Empire Marketing Board, were obtained each month from the Central Council for Health Education. Two additional sets were obtained in June and July, the London County Council having given permission to the Council to use two of their boards in these months. The posters shown during the year were as follows :—

January	..	..	“ Better Homes Mean Better Health.”
February	..	..	“ Rules of Health.”
March	..	..	Youth Hostels Association.
April	..	..	“ Obey the Laws of Health.”
May	..	..	“ Get Fit, Keep Fit.”
June	..	..	“ National Fitness Campaign.”
„	..	..	“ Get Fit, Keep Fit.”
July	..	..	“ Health is Worth a Little Effort.”
„	..	..	“ National Fitness Campaign.”
August	..	..	“ Holiday Fitness all the Year.”
September	..	..	“ Use your Opportunities.”
October	..	..	“ Self Help in Health.”
November	..	..	National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare.
December	..	..	“ National Health Campaign.”

In addition to the monthly display of these large poster sets, many smaller posters and washable show-cards are regularly displayed in the welfare centres and dispensaries.

(i) **BETTER HEALTH.**—This is the official journal of the Central Council for Health Education. It contains popular articles on personal and public health, and is in great demand. The Council purchased 2,000 copies each month and distributed them in various ways throughout the Borough.

(j) **NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH CAMPAIGN.**—Early in 1937 the Minister of Health and the President of the Board of Education invited the Central Council for Health Education to co-operate with their departments in a national campaign to increase the use of the health services provided by local authorities. The Ministers felt that whilst the excellence of the work achieved was well known, sound and sustained publicity would increase the use to which these services were put and make a marked improvement in the results obtained. A campaign was arranged, therefore, divided into sections, each section to deal with a health service or group of services. The first, which commenced with a broadcast address by the Prime Minister on the 30th September, was devoted to general public interest in the Health Services, and to introduce the slogan "Use Your Health Services." The second part, to cover November and December, dealt particularly with the Maternity and Child Welfare Services. The third part, to cover the month of January, 1938, is to be devoted to the School Health Services. The fourth part, arranged for February, is to cover services for adults and adolescents.

A series of large posters measuring 80 inches by 120 inches for display on hoardings; double crown posters for display in windows and on notice boards; classroom posters; display show-cards for counters, etc.; traffic notices; bookmarks, and three-leaf folders were prepared, all bearing similar information and the same slogan for each section of the Campaign. In Woolwich arrangements were made for display on hoardings of the large posters; the double crown posters and the classroom posters were distributed widely to the churches, clubs, guilds, employers and to the various departments of the Council. The show-cards were distributed to small shopkeepers; the bookmarks were distributed through the Libraries, and 30,000 of the three-leaf folders, with local information overprinted, were distributed house-to-house throughout the Borough.

(k) **INFORMATION IN POST OFFICES.**—In August the Minister of Health issued a circular in which he stated that the Postmaster General had expressed his readiness to co-operate with local authorities in advertising at the post offices the health services available in each locality. The Minister had arranged for a notice to be exhibited at all post offices, stating that particulars of the health services in the district, including the addresses of child welfare centres, can be obtained at the counters. Accordingly a supply of Health Service Booklets was sent to each post office in the Borough, and arrangements made to replace these as they were distributed.

(l) BOOKMARKS.—In an effort to make more widely known the facilities available for the diagnosis and treatment of Tuberculosis in Woolwich, 6,000 bookmarks showing the chief symptoms of the disease and the addresses of the tuberculosis dispensaries, were printed. The distribution of these bookmarks was undertaken by the Libraries Committee.

(m) COOKERY CLASSES.—The provision of nutritious meals on small incomes is a very great problem to the wives and mothers of the majority of the tuberculous, and in order to assist them in the buying and cooking of cheap, yet nutritious articles of food, cookery demonstrations are held at the Dispensary at Maxey Road, every week. The South Metropolitan Gas Company kindly supply the services of a demonstrator and also a demonstration meter which shows in terms of pence the actual cost of cooking the meals. It is shown in the demonstrations that it is not always the most expensive foods that provide the best food value or the most appetising dishes. The Tuberculosis Care Committee provide cups of tea and biscuits at each meeting, and the cooked dishes are sold at about half cost to those attending the classes. The net cost to the Council for food provided during the year was £3 14s. 9d. The number attending was 17, and the number of attendances was 237. There were 40 meetings.

SECTION III.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Council's Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme is comprehensive in its arrangements for the care and comfort of (a) expectant and nursing mothers; (b) children under 5 years of age, and (c) foster children under 9 years of age.

STAFFING.—Three whole-time medical officers are in medical charge of the clinics, each devoting eight half-days per week to Maternity and Child Welfare and three half-days to Tuberculosis. Four part-time medical officers are also employed: one on three half-days, one on two half-days and two on one half-day each, three of them for general work and one for the systematic examination of toddlers. Three consultants have been appointed, one for the artificial sunlight clinic, one for consultation in connection with cases of puerperal sepsis and difficult obstetric conditions occurring at home, and one for the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic. The dental staff—three dentists and an anaesthetist—are part-time and are appointed by the School Treatment Committee subject to the approval of the Council. The health visiting staff now consists of thirteen health visitors: two of these are part-time sanitary inspectors, and all but one, who is the Artificial Sunlight Clinic Nurse, are Infant Life Protection Visitors. It is the practice of the Council to appoint additional temporary health visitors during epidemics of measles.

PUBLIC HEALTH (LONDON) ACT, PART XII.—Every birth occurring in the Borough requires to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health within thirty-six hours of birth and only a very small percentage of births are not notified. As soon as a notification is received, a booklet dealing with the care and comfort of mothers and infants is sent by post to every mother. Subsequently, between the tenth and fourteenth day, a visit is paid to the home by the health visitor, who decides on her first visit the necessity for subsequent visits.

THE WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITORS.—The importance of home visiting and the supervision of the health of the mother and child is now fully recognised and the influence of the health visitor is greater to-day than it has ever been. As an agent for teaching hygiene in the home her work is of enormous importance. The number of visits paid by the Council's Health Visitors during the year is summarised in the following Table:—

TABLE No. 6.

Births—First visits	2,218
„ Revisits	18,025
Infant deaths investigated	30
Still-births investigated	11
Expectant mothers—home visits	1,038
Infectious diseases :—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum—First visits	33
„ „ Revisits	11
Measles—First visits	40
„ Revisits	25
Puerperal Fever—First visits	9
„ „ Revisits	4
Puerperal Pyrexia—First visits	14
„ „ Revisits	7
Zymotic Enteritis—First visits	35
„ „ Revisits	23
Pneumonia	56
Infant Life Protection	690
Visits unclassified	495
Visits unsuccessful	4,051
	26,815

Following their usual practice the Council gave the necessary facilities to two health visitors to attend refresher courses and paid their expenses.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.—The Council are responsible for Infant Life Protection work and all the Health Visitors have been appointed Infant Life Protection Visitors for their particular districts. When evasion of the law is suspected any necessary investigations are made by one of the male sanitary inspectors. The homes of all new foster mothers are inspected by the district sanitary inspectors, who furnish in each case a sanitary report.

At the end of 1936 there were 75 nurse children and 59 foster mothers on the Council's register, and a year later the numbers were 70 and 54. It is the custom to report on all homes where women indicate their desire to become foster mothers and, in addition to the number of foster mothers shown above, another 14 were either temporarily without nurse children or had been noted as suitable persons.

These figures do not, however, tell the whole story, as 150 nurse children were added to the register, and 155 nurse children were removed during the year. The following Table, No. 7, shows the ages of the children under supervision on the 31st December, 1937 :—

TABLE No. 7.

Under 1 Year.	1 -	2 -	3 -	4 -	5 -	6 -	7 -	8 -
16	13	10	4	8	3	2	8	6

The number of visits paid by Infant Life Protection Visitors was 690. The number of visits made by the male inspector in connection with infringements and kindred matters was 54, while the number of visits paid by the district sanitary inspectors was 27. The number, and nature, of the various legal infringements discovered during the year, were as follows :—

TABLE No. 8.

<i>Nature of Infringement.</i>	<i>No.</i>
Keeping a nurse child without giving timeous notice ..	11
Change of address by foster mother without giving timeous notice	3
Infant removed from care of foster mother without giving timeous notice	4
Keeping nurse children in excess of permitted number ..	1

Cautionary letters were sent in all cases. There were no prosecutions.

In one instance insanitary conditions were discovered ; in one instance there was overcrowding, and in five instances verminous conditions existed. In all cases appropriate action was taken to secure the abatement of the nuisances. Nurse children who are kept under unsatisfactory conditions may be removed to a place of safety, but it was not necessary to take this action during the year.

All foster mothers are urged to attend the Council's welfare centres with the children under five years of age in their charge, and it is pleasing to record, that, with very few exceptions, those children who are under five regularly attend an infant welfare centre. Special care is taken to see that children who are weak and ailing attend. No children died during the year.

The only institution in the Borough holding a certificate of exemption is the Woolwich War Memorial Hospital.

THE WORK OF THE WELFARE CENTRES.—These are eight in number and are all municipal. Infant Welfare sessions are held at all of them; ante-natal sessions are held at four—in two instances twice weekly, in one instance thrice weekly, and in one instance once a month. Since April one health visitor at Woolwich, one at Plumstead and one at Eltham have been engaged wholly in clinic work, either in their own main centre or in one of the subsidiary ones. With the inclusion of the monthly ante-natal sessions at North Woolwich, at the end of the year 7.25 ante-natal sessions and 25 infant consultation and weighing sessions were being held each week.

In tabular form below are shown detailed statistics for 1937 and the consolidated statistics for the previous year:—

TABLE No. 9.

Centre.	Number on Roll of Centre.			Number of Attendances.		
	Mothers.		Children.	Mothers.		Children.
	Expectant.	Nursing.		Expectant.	Nursing.	
Town Hall	412	249	1,308	803	373	8,589
Plumstead	270	347	1,123	669	798	8,750
Eltham	469	192	1,060	1,355	274	7,057
Slade	—	88	483	1	115	4,307
New Eltham	3	55	516	1	83	5,771
St. Luke's	—	48	312	—	49	3,065
North Woolwich ..	25	20	126	72	31	1,109
Beresford Street..	9	38	146	18	52	735
Totals, 1937 ..	1,188	1,037	5,074	2,919	1,775	39,383
Totals, 1936 ..	1,053	985	5,099	2,857	1,785	39,204

The next Table, No. 10, shows the number of children attending each centre and the number of attendances made by them during the year. It should be noted that children are classified in the table by year of birth, so that the figures cannot be read as under one year, under two years and so on. They illustrate, however, quite definitely the fact that the toddler does not attend such clinics in large numbers, and that as he gets older he attends less. The figures in this table do not include those of the Toddlers Clinics or of the Sunlight Clinic.

TABLE No. 10.

Children in Attendance at Each Centre.

Year of Birth.	Town Hall.	Beresford St.	N. Woolwich.	Plumstead.	Slade.	Eltham.	St. Luke's.	New Eltham.	Totals.
1937	406	37	43	429	150	296	99	135	1,595
1936	417	39	33	335	145	285	82	122	1,458
1935	220	31	22	178	80	181	49	104	865
1934	146	19	17	90	58	125	33	73	561
1933	76	11	6	66	31	114	34	50	388
1932	43	9	5	25	19	59	15	32	207
Totals	1,308	146	126	1,123	483	1,060	312	516	5,074

Attendances.

Year of Birth.	Town Hall.	Beresford St.	N. Woolwich.	Plumstead.	Slade	Eltham	St. Luke's	New Eltham	Totals
1937	3,040	168	421	3,582	1,601	2,429	1,170	1,534	13,945
1936	3,840	255	464	3,848	1,679	2,780	1,208	2,302	16,376
1935	895	152	95	813	519	992	382	1,119	4,967
1934	439	94	100	285	337	421	153	469	2,298
1933	252	36	21	165	131	303	122	248	1,278
1932	123	30	8	57	40	132	30	99	519
Totals	8,589	735	1,109	8,750	4,307	7,057	3,065	5,771	39,383

Feeding of Infants in Woolwich.—In mid-summer the usual enquiry was made, as in previous years, as to the type of feeding adopted in the case of infants attending the welfare centres. The method used was as follows :—

- (a) On the card of every child under one year of age attending a welfare centre between the 7th June and the 24th July was inserted once, and once only, the terms "Breast," or "Breast and Hand," or "Hand Fed."
- (b) The child's age was taken on the day on which this note was made.
- (c) At the end of the period the results were summarised for the whole Borough and the appropriate percentage worked out.

The results of the enquiry are shown in Table No. 11 on the adjoining page.

TABLE No. 11.

Feeding of Infants attending Welfare Centres—7th June to 24th July, 1937.

Method of Feeding.	AGE IN MONTHS.													Grand Total.
	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	Total.	9-10	10-11	11-12	
Breast	65	74	52	48	28	24	29	14	4	338	—	—	—	338
Breast and Hand	13	30	20	8	14	9	16	20	7	137	10	3	2	152
Hand	11	30	39	46	42	46	61	48	60	383	66	50	96	595
	89	134	111	102	84	79	106	82	71	858	76	53	98	1,085
	PERCENTAGES.													
Breast	73.0	55.2	46.9	47.1	33.3	30.4	27.4	17.1	5.6	39.4	—	—	—	31.2
Breast and hand.. ..	14.6	22.4	18.0	7.8	16.7	11.4	15.1	24.4	9.9	16.0	13.2	5.7	2.0	14.0
Hand	12.4	22.4	35.1	45.1	50.0	58.2	57.5	58.5	84.5	44.6	86.8	94.3	98.0	54.8

TODDLERS CLINICS.—In 1936 the Council reviewed their arrangements for dealing with the care and comfort of the pre-school child, consequent upon the issue of a circular from the Ministry of Health drawing attention to the number of children entering school with defects, many of which could have been prevented from developing or could have been cured if the health of the children had been adequately supervised during the pre-school period.

Toddlers sessions have been an essential feature of the Woolwich Borough Council's scheme for the supervision of the pre-school child since May, 1930, but as a result of the consideration of the circular referred to above, the Council decided to provide additional sessions for the examination of toddlers, additional facilities for the treatment of the conditions discovered, and to strengthen the following-up scheme; and for these purposes to appoint additional staff—medical, dental, health visiting and clerical. The enlarged scheme came into operation on the 3rd May.

Toddlers sessions are held twice each week at the Council's main centres at Woolwich, Plumstead and Eltham. Once a month two sessions are held at New Eltham, and it is possible in addition to examine a few toddlers at morning sessions at the Slade and North Woolwich Centres.

Children are examined in their birthday months, aged 2, 3 and 4 years. The examinations follow the lines of the school medical examinations, and they are recorded in a similar way on modified record cards. Children requiring observation are called up for review at intervals of a few months, and arrangements are made for those who require treatment. All of these are followed up by the health visitors.

So far as treatment is concerned, increased provision has been made for the treatment of minor ailment cases and dental cases, and an Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic has been established. Additional professional and clerical appointments have been made.

The findings at the medical examinations are summarised in the Table No. 12 which follows. These figures differ but little from those of previous years and their significance has been discussed in previous Annual Reports.

TABLE No. 12.

Medical Inspection of Toddlers, 1937.

Disease, Defect or Condition.	BOYS. Age last Birthday.			GIRLS. Age last Birthday.			Total.
	2	3	4	2	3	4	
Total Children Examined	383	234	225	331	234	219	1,626
NUTRITION—							
(a) Excellent	292	130	79	252	146	106	1,005
(b) Normal	80	84	105	71	73	90	503
(c) Sub-normal	11	20	41	8	15	23	118
(d) Bad	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
MUSCULAR TONE—							
(a) Excellent	212	147	155	179	172	164	1,029
(b) Good	160	84	70	148	62	55	579
(c) Poor	11	3	—	4	—	—	18
CLOTHING AND FOOTGEAR—							
(a) Good	367	227	216	318	228	206	1,562
(b) Fair	16	7	9	3	6	13	64
CLEANLINESS—							
(a) Excellent	353	218	215	306	221	204	1,517
(b) Fair	30	15	10	25	13	14	107
(c) Dirty	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
HEART AND CIRCULATION—							
(a) "Functional" Conditions ..	60	64	70	59	53	44	350
(b) Organic and Congenital Heart Disease	—	—	1	2	1	1	5
ANAEMIA	54	35	30	51	32	32	234
RESPIRATORY SYSTEM—							
Bronchitis	3	2	13	12	12	4	46
Asthma	—	—	3	1	—	—	4
NERVOUS SYSTEM—							
Behaviour Symptoms	92	50	46	96	65	36	385
Minor Retardation	42	10	2	19	3	3	79
Organic Nervous Disease, in- cluding Chorea	2	1	1	—	—	—	4
Mental Deficiency, Mongolism and Epilepsy	2	—	—	—	—	2	4
ALIMENTARY SYSTEM—							
Worms	2	—	1	4	5	3	15
Acidosis Attacks	1	1	1	1	—	—	4
Gastritis, Enteritis, etc... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Constipation	4	2	1	9	5	9	30
GENITO-URINARY SYSTEM—							
Enuresis and Frequency	12	39	11	19	15	10	106
Other Conditions	24	13	3	1	—	—	41
SKIN CONDITIONS—							
Infective Skin Conditions	4	3	2	11	2	3	25
Urticaria, Eczema, etc... ..	18	18	4	17	8	4	69
Ichthyosis, Alopecia, or Erythema Nodosum	—	1	—	2	1	5	9

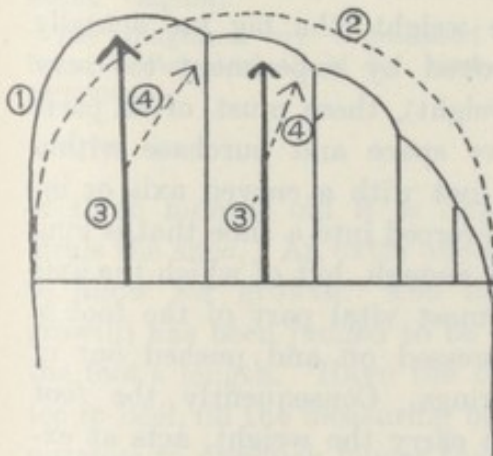
Medical Inspection of Toddlers, 1937—*continued.*

Disease, Defect or Condition.	BOYS. Age last Birthday.			GIRLS. Age last Birthday			Total
	2	3	4	2	3	4	
EYE DEFECTS AND INFECTIONS—							
Slight Squint	15	7	9	7	7	8	53
Blepharitis	3	3	1	1	3	8	19
Conjunctivitis	1	1	1	3	—	2	8
EAR CONDITIONS—							
Otorrhoea, etc.	4	4	6	9	7	3	33
TEETH—							
Caries	31	69	111	18	53	96	378
Extractions or Fillings	—	7	35	4	8	47	101
Hypoplasia	12	3	1	5	4	1	26
Malocclusion	21	7	2	16	8	4	58
RICKETS—							
(Cases clinically considered as showing definite evidence of Rachitis)	81	30	20	32	26	15	204
NOSE AND THROAT—							
Enlarged Tonsils	70	58	48	41	31	40	288
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids							
Adenoids							
ENLARGED GLANDS—							
Tonsillar	29	34	46	22	23	26	180
Posterior Cervical	11	9	5	9	14	14	62
OTHER DISEASES AND DEFECTS							
Rheumatism	1	2	2	—	2	6	13
Diabetes	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Jaundice	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
DEVELOPMENTAL CONDITIONS—							
Umbilical Hernia	1	—	1	3	3	3	11
Naevus	3	1	1	4	1	—	10

Dr. Emslie, who has been engaged on this work since the commencement of these toddlers' examinations, instead of commenting on the year's work, has, at my request, prepared a note, which follows, on the principles which should govern the choice of children's shoes—a matter which may have a considerable bearing on the incidence of foot deformities and disabilities in later life.

Boots.—Boots are unsuitable wear for children because they hinder the use of certain essential joints of the feet. Everything to be strong must be consistently used. For certain purposes in late childhood where extra protection is required, as in playing rough games, or to cut out certain movements, such as sideways wobble in skating, boots are allowable, but only as exceptional wear. A young child should never be hampered at the start by placing him in boots.

Diagram I.

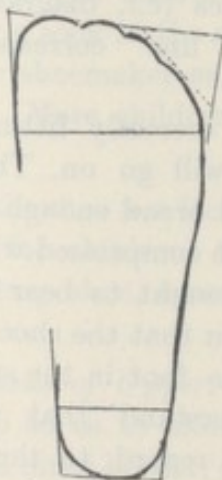


Showing (1) outline of foot against (2) outline of round-toed shoe. Arrows indicate: (3) and (3') the correct position of first and second toes. (4) and (4') deviation produced by shoe curved at toes.

Shape of the Shoe.—The shoe chosen should obviously correspond (overall) with the shape of the child's foot, that is to say, it should be longer along its inner than its outer border and should be straight at the sides. The average child's shoe now-a-days fulfils this requirement, but shoes exist which have a rounded front curved off equally on both sides. These are bad since they inevitably press the toes into and over each other and cause interference with walking. Infants' shoes and some later models, especially shoes with broad welts and unbuilt-up uppers, are frequently below standard on this account. (See diagram I).

The sides of the shoe should deviate so that the front of the shoe is broader than the back, corresponding again to the shape of the foot. Shoes in which the two borders are not only straight but are parallel are incorrect. Either the fore part of the foot is unduly compressed or the child's heel is sloping about in the hinder part of such shoes. Mothers buying their babies' first walking shoes should particularly look out for this fault as it occurs mostly in the soft kid shoes designed for babies' of about a year old, as does also the rounded toe. (See diagrams II and III).

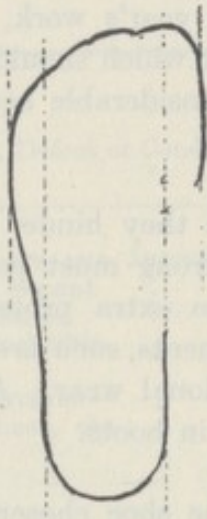
Diagram II.



To show deviation of borders of foot from heel forwards. Breadth of foot at ball—1.6 times breadth at heel.

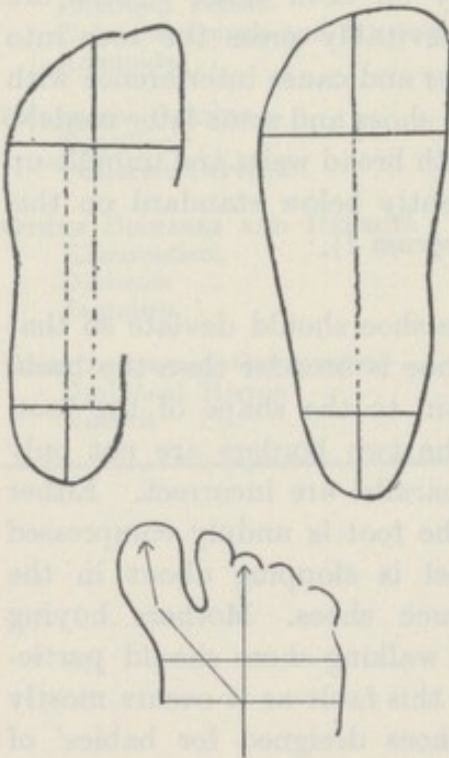
The Axis of the Foot.—In infants' feet the big toe often takes a curve inwards, on its own, away from the others. (Diagram IV (3)). Many feet show, in addition to this, a twist or turn

Diagram III.



To show impossibility of a fit with a parallel-sided shoe.

Diagram IV.



(1) "Curved" foot indicating deviation inwards of axis of foot from heel to ball.

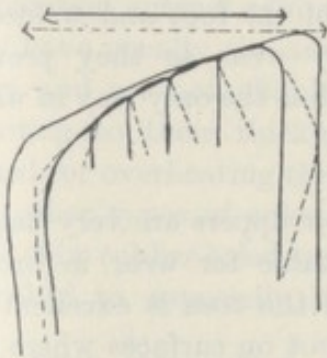
(2) "Straight" foot showing straight axis from heel to ball.

(3) Outline of foot showing in-curved big toe and axes along which weight is borne in fore part of foot (half total to big toe).

in the axis of the foot which brings the middle of the fore part of the foot nearer the mid line of the body than the central axis of the heel (c.f. diagram IV (1)). This important character appears in many strong, well-arched and supple feet, whereas a foot with a straight axis from heel to toe is often a less well arched and generally less impressive foot. (Diagram IV (2)). The axis of the shoe should, naturally, throughout its length correspond with the axis of the foot. Since, moreover, in walking and running movements and in dancing, the big toe and that part of the ball of the foot which corresponds to the first and second toes carry the bulk of the weight (the big toe actually having been proved by experiment to carry half the total weight), these must, of all parts of the foot, have space and purchase within the shoe. If a foot with a curved axis or in-curved big toe is forced into a shoe that is long enough and wide enough, but of which the axis is straight, the most vital part of the foot is that which is pressed on and pushed out of its normal bearings. Consequently the foot in attempting to carry the weight, acts at extreme disadvantage: great strain is caused and breakdown in the long run often follows though the factor concerned is often not clear. To conserve the form and functional fitness of children's feet mothers must find by an outline drawing the general "trend" of these feet as regards their central axes (c.f. diagram) and seek shoes in which the "line" corresponds.

Fit of the Shoe.—A correctly fitting shoe is not just a shoe that will go on. The shoe must be long enough and broad enough for the foot placed in it not to be compressed when the weight of the body is brought to bear on the foot. This does not mean that the shoe should take, and just take, the foot in the standing position. Mothers understand that such a "fit" is impossible in regard to their own feet, since, if the big toe touches the end of the shoe, the foot is cramped, the muscles of the arch and leg go into a state of spasm, and the

Diagram V.



Showing effect of too short, especially if too wide, shoes (dotted line shows resulting distortion of toes with splaying of front of foot; condition leading to "bunion" or hallux valgum).

The diagrams are reproduced from *Mother and Child* by kind permission.

person can only limp along. Children who walk and run so much on their toes should always have their big toe well clear of the end of the shoe, otherwise it takes the brunt of the step end on and conveys the force of the step directly into the arch, with a jarring and "paralysing" effect on that. The contact should be taken by the length of the big toe and the breadth of the pad or ball of the foot: this can only be if the end of the big toe (and second toe) is clear of the end of the shoe at all times. Failing this, whether the child complains of pain or not (at this stage children don't often complain directly of pain in their feet) the foot is "hurt."

Children's shoes must also, of course, allow for growth; when the shoes are two or three months old it is important that the foot should still function happily inside the shoe. An extra allowance, therefore, must be made at the time of buying to allow for growth. The necessary allowance overall (for clearance and for growth) has been judged to be not less than three quarters to one inch longer than the foot's length. Have the child stand up and measure the length of the foot, toe to heel, on the measuring board in the shoe shop. Insist on having shoes three-quarters to one inch longer than the actual length of the foot so got, an allowance longer, probably, than the shoe shop would suggest, but shoes shorter than this do not last their time and harm the feet.

But mothers may say "How can I put my child in shoes as long as these? Such shoes won't stop on." Children's shoes are, in fact, made on very wide lasts; a long enough shoe is often enough a too wide shoe. This can be corrected by wearing a sock in the shoe, without taking away from the length, but, better, insist on your shoemaker supplying shoes that are made in different, including narrow, widths. More children require narrow shoes than mothers ever realize.

If the shoe is a lace one, or one with a broad instep strap (far and away the best models for children) the effect of too great roominess is minimised. With the ankle strap shoe, a most unsatisfactory type in general, it is aggravated.

Details of Upper.—The shoe upper, whether in leather or canvas, should be built up so as to allow room for the thickness of the foot. The foot is thickest along its inner border, corresponding to the great toe, and thins off towards the outer toes. Shoes with flattened uppers that allow most room in the middle of the foot are, therefore, bound to cause cramping and so must be avoided. Some sandals and welted shoes and all ordinary plimsolls possess this disadvantage.

Some rubber-soled canvas-uppered shoes are built up but the upper is sustained by a band of rubber running along the sides of the foot and welded in with the sole part. These shoes are bad for ordinary wear as they prevent ventilation between the sole of the foot and the shoe, which is the only way in which ventilation of the under surface of the foot can be got.

● Shoes which have openings let into the leather of their uppers are very helpful to secure extra ventilation in summer but are not suitable for wear in broken weather. The open sandal which allows freedom for all the toes is excellent for use on a soft sandy beach or on smooth pavements but not on surfaces where grit or pebbles may get in and harm the feet. If the upper of a strap shoe or sandal tends to spread, or even split, at the sides of the front opening the foot is being forced out of the shoe and that shoe is too short (not narrow), c.f. previous note on length. The softer and more pliable the upper the better.

Types of Fastening.—The shoe should obviously always be at one with the foot. To avoid any tendency to slipping, it should grip the arch neatly and this can be ensured by using only lace or instep strap shoes. Sandals must be examined carefully to see that their fastenings have the effect of instep and not ankle strap shoes. For proper freedom in movement there should be nothing cutting the ankle, but the arch should be held, so that, in rising on the toes and similar movements, the sole and the foot don't part company (even within the shoe). Ankle strap shoes are never really desirable as they provide no grip for the arch and the foot slops about as it will inside them. Pumps are equally undesirable except, occasionally, for dancing use; though light and pliable they tend to be poorly shaped.

Types of Sole.—The foot possesses a number of joints between toe and heel which, of course, are intended for use. The child in a stiff shoe can walk only penguin-wise, the stiff sole acting as a splint. This is not only ugly but means losing some of the usefulness of the foot and the spring and activity of the gait. Some soles (often those on cheaper shoes) are more pliant than others. Cheapness is no disadvantage if other things are right, as the shoes can be renewed more frequently as the child grows, without anxiety as to price.

The following are some of the important points :—

Leather may or may not be waterproof. Thin leathers are cheaper, lighter and more pliable, but may not be sufficient protection against rain or rough surfaces. Thick leathers are waterproof but tend to be heavy and rigid and not as good a cushion for the foot as certain rubbers.

Crepe rubber is waterproof, pliable, and provides an admirable cushion for the feet against jarring. As a rule crepe shoes are not heavy. There is no apparent discomfort due to overheating. Some crepe welts, however, are too clumsy, throwing the feet out of the correct line in walking.

Thin rubber soles on plimsolls and other shoes are waterproof but useless as a protection against rain as their thinness allows the upper of the shoe to get wet. They have usually the advantage of pliability though some rubbers are noticeably heavy and are not pliable. They may or may not allow a good deal of jarring, according to their thickness. Being mostly used for exercise they tend to be blamed for overheating the feet but there is no proof that they actually do this more than other types of soles. Many rubbers, however, smell very badly once worn. Some thin rubber-soled and canvas-uppered shoes are not well shaped : this must be looked to, especially in plimsolls.

Certain composition soles are much cheaper than leather and are solid and waterproof but tend to be heavy and inflexible and unsuitable for young children.

The important things are flexibility and lightness, with due regard to protection against rain in shoes used for certain purposes, and, in others, protection against hard and rough surfaces.

Supports.—Avoid all shoes of proprietary make that have anything to stiffen the arch of the shoe between the heel and fore part, either as a built-in support or as a modification of the normal shape of heel. These things act as splints and are a hindrance to the functional development of children's feet.

Welts.—In welted shoes and sandals see that the uppers are built up (as often they are not) to allow for the thickness of the foot like an ordinary shoe, otherwise the sole tends to get warped when the foot goes in. Examine the outline of the upper proper to see that it is correctly shaped and avoid too wide welts that would keep the feet apart and at an angle to each other which is an incorrect way of walking.

Heels.—As a result of wearing heels for centuries, the European foot has become modified in certain characteristics and the carriage of the body has come to correspond. To avoid disturbance in later life, it is therefore well to train the feet to the use of a heel from the time the child is taking its first steps. The heel should be very gradually increased during the years of childhood by one thickness of leather at a time. The heel must remain squat and square with the shoe throughout. Abrupt changes must not be allowed in adolescence.

Fit of the Heel.—The body weight must be poised on the heel plumb in line with the leg to avoid "going over the ankle." Walking barefoot the heel steadies itself on the ground. Using shoes the heel of the shoe should grip the foot so that in effect the two are one and sideways wobbling within the shoe cannot take place. Some children have small heels. If a shoe can't be got with a correctly fitting forepart that also grips tidily at the heel, the grip can be improved by having suede or leather linings sewn into the hinder part of the upper or, in older children, sticking in the rubber heelgrips made for the purpose. Here again a lace fastened shoe helps the grip.

How Children Walk.—Children walk at first on a very broad base with their legs well apart and the feet pointing directly forwards. Walking barefoot the big

toe may be noticed to separate a little from the others and turn inwards, an action that reminds one of the prehensile big toe of the apes and that automatically widens and strengthens the grip on the ground. Shoes, as has been noted, should not interfere with the action of the big toe. The whole foot, however, may be turned slightly in, the child walking "pin-toed"—an action by which nature tries to strengthen and conserve weak arches and counteract any tendency to flatfoot or knock-knee (try the action on yourself). Do not therefore correct any tendency to walk pin-toed in a young child at any time—later on when the arches are improved the child can be taught to point the feet straight. Never teach a child to walk or dance with toes pointing out: it is the worst thing for straining the arches, upsetting balance, and causing flat foot.

The Results of Bad Shoeing.—Nearly all the deformities and discomforts familiar in grown up feet can be seen daily, in miniature form, in children's feet, as a result of ignorant (not necessarily cheap) shoeing. Unfortunately these conditions are not self-correcting. Never, therefore, buy or make do with, or accept as a gift, a pair of shoes without having the child's feet measured. This must be done standing, making the extra allowance for length which has been described. In addition each of the other factors mentioned as important should be considered at each purchase. Then only can you be sure you are doing nothing to hurt the children's feet in later life.

ARTIFICIAL SUNLIGHT CLINIC.—An artificial sunlight clinic is held in part of the Town Hall Infant Welfare Centre. The total number of patients treated during the year, including 135 whose course of treatment was not completed at the end of 1936, was 589. The total number of treatments given was 11,171; of these, 9,023 were by carbon arc, 1,540 by mercury vapour lamp, 312 by radiant heat lamp, and 296 by infra-red lamp.

The clinic is open every morning and on four afternoons each week. Treatment is by appointment only and no charge is made. Patients as a rule attend twice a week. An assistant medical officer attends on two half-days each week. The clinic is under the medical supervision of Dr. J. E. A. Lynham, who has furnished the following report on the year's work:—

"The review of the figures related to the Sunlight Clinic shows a higher total than in any of the previous years.

The proportion of cases of rickets to the total is about the same as before, whilst the proportion of children sent for debility and malnutrition is higher. In the case of rickets a large majority of the children are greatly improved, but a few cases met with are extraordinarily stubborn, and give an impression that they could be classified apart in a special group.

In the debility group the number that ceased attending is high, a fact which seems to be related to lack of proper care and foresight on the part of the parents.

Children with enlarged glands have done well with general light baths.

The infra-red lamp has been used systematically in cases where there have been complaints of painful joints or muscles. It has proved its value to the Clinic.

The skin lesions have been mostly of an infective type, and have done well.

A number of expectant mothers have also shown clinical signs of improvement, and have been emphatic in their expression of appreciation of the good effect of their treatment.

During the year a number of patients signed on as new cases had been in attendance in infancy, and were brought back because the parents were assured that their children's health had improved during former treatments.

It is beyond question that the Clinic is performing a useful social service."

Mothers living in Eltham find it difficult to attend regularly with their children at the clinic and to keep up attendance for the time considered necessary by the medical officers. From them a course of treatment demands much time in travelling and consequential expense. A centre in Eltham is required and proposals for this are now being considered by the appropriate authorities.

The following Table No. 13 shows the number of cases and conditions treated during the year :—

TABLE No. 13.

Cases treated at Sunlight Clinic during 1937.

	Brought forward from 1936.	New Cases.	Total.	Much Improved or Cured.	Improved.	I.S.Q.	Ceased Attending.	No. Outstanding
Rickets	31	112	143	47	30	3	37	26
Anaemia, Debility and Malnutrition	68	191	259	79	42	12	52	74
Catarrhal Children	6	61	67	8	14	6	17	22
Septic Conditions ..	1	4	5	2	1	—	—	2
Nervous Children ..	1	10	11	4	—	—	3	4
Enlarged Glands ..	13	18	31	12	3	1	5	10
Miscellaneous Nervous Conditions ..	1	1	2	—	—	2	—	—
Miscellaneous Skin Conditions ..	5	10	15	8	2	—	—	5
Other Conditions ..	5	32	37	11	5	2	5	14
Mothers	4	15	19	9	4	—	2	4
	135	454	589	180	101	26	121	161

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CLINIC.—Enlarged or infected tonsils and adenoids are, excluding dental disease, the most common defects found among school entrants. There is much difference of opinion regarding the correct treatment for enlarged tonsils and adenoids occurring in young children. Some cases obviously require operative treatment, some obviously do not ; but there are a number of border line cases where one doctor would state an operation was necessary and another would say not. A rational view with regard to operation for enlarged tonsils and adenoids may be expressed in this way. Children should only be operated upon when there is no satisfactory alternative and this applies particularly to children under five. Operation is a last resort in treatment and should only be made use of in dealing with gross enlargement or definite infection of tonsils and adenoids when other methods of treatment have failed. The presence of complications, e.g., ear disease, may of course modify what is written above, but the younger the child the more important it is to adhere to conservative methods of treatment.

In these circumstances it would appear that the most satisfactory way to arrive at a proper opinion in the matter is by making arrangements to provide a specialist who can be consulted upon individual cases. Much can be done for the toddler suffering from throat, nose and ear abnormalities without operation. His general health can be improved ; the catarrh which so often accompanies these conditions can be dealt with and the ear passages made more healthy by simple medical methods. Breathing exercises are helpful to improve the airway through the nose and the child's chest capacity. To these may be added, if the circumstances so warrant, some simple medical treatment.

The Council decided to establish an ear, nose and throat clinic where the above principles and methods would be given effect and this was started in May, 1937. Mr. Myles Formby, consultant Laryngologist to the Woolwich War Memorial Hospital agreed to act as Consultant and Dr. Frances Smith, one of the Council's medical officers, took charge of the routine work in the clinic. Before doing so, Dr. Smith, along with one of the Council's Health Visitors, attended Mr. Formby's clinics elsewhere in order to acquire an adequate knowledge of the methods to be followed. These methods have since been in use at the Council's clinics. Briefly, they involve a careful examination with suitable light and instruments of the child's ears, nose and throat, a survey of its general condition and an enquiry into its previous history. In the majority of cases an attempt is made first to remedy any abnormal conditions by the simplest means, such as the use of drops for the nose, lavage of the nasal sinuses, attention to dental caries, giving of general tonics, or a course of ultra violet light treatment. In many cases improvement is obtained by these methods, but, if not, the question of operation is considered and if this be necessary arrangements are then made for admission to one of the Council's beds in the War Memorial Hospital. Unfortunately it sometimes happens, the first time the child attends, that operation provides the only suitable remedy.

During the period in which the clinic has been open, 218 children in all were seen suffering from the conditions set out in Table No. 14. The Table also shows how they were dealt with.

The year's work shows that there is a definite need for a clinic of this character and that parents are prepared to take advantage of the facilities provided. It will be noted from the Table that operation was necessary in 29 cases ; 21 of these have already been operated on. Most of these are still attending the clinic because the treatment is not completed with the operation. It is necessary to take steps to ensure that the child learns to breathe properly after the operation if a continuance of symptoms is to be avoided. The total number of sessions held during the period was 34 ; the total number of attendances was 473.

TABLE No. 14.

Condition.	No. of Cases.	For opinion only.	For Treatment		Discharged.			Still attending.	Ceased attending.
			Conser-vative.	Opera-tion.	Cured.	Much proved.	Im-proved.		
Enlarged tonsils and adenoids	159	9	121	29	17	8	4	95	26
Nasal catarrh ..	20	—	20	—	2	7	4	6	1
Otorrhea	20	—	19	1	12	—	—	8	—
Injuries	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wax in ear.. ..	7	1	6	—	6	—	—	1	—
Diphtheritic paralysis	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Laryngeal stridor..	3	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
Otitis extern ..	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Others	5	1	4	—	2	1	—	—	—
	218	15	173	30	40	16	9	111	27

PROVISION OF MATERNITY OUTFITS.—In 1930 the Council agreed to supply sterilised maternity outfits for the use of necessitous mothers in order to ensure the necessary cleanliness in domestic midwifery, and with a view to minimising the risks of maternity. They are supplied, free, half cost, or cost price, according to the family income, the Council's economic circumstances scales being used as tests of necessity. During the year 78 applications were received : 75 outfits were supplied—42 free, 18 at half cost, and 15 at cost price.

COMPENSATION TO MIDWIVES.—Whenever an assistant medical officer finds it necessary to recommend hospital treatment for expectant mothers referred to the Council's ante-natal clinics for ante-natal examination by midwives, the midwife loses her patient if the mother accepts the advice of the medical officer and is

admitted to hospital. In these cases the Council make a payment of 10s. 0d. by way of compensation to the midwife subject to the following conditions :—

- (1) That the medical officer of the clinic certifies that he or she has advised the patient to be confined in a maternity hospital ;
- (2) That the midwife submits the ante-natal clinic medical officer's report ;
- (3) That the patient confirms the fact that she has engaged a midwife to attend in her confinement and has been referred by the midwife to the clinic ;
- (4) That the birth takes place in hospital ; and
- (5) That if a booking fee has already been paid to the midwife, this fee be returned to the patient before compensation is paid to the midwife.

During the year compensation was paid in 7 instances.

PAYMENT OF MIDWIVES' FEES.—Payments to midwives, not exceeding 25s. 0d. in respect of any one confinement are guaranteed where this course is necessary or desirable. Two such payments were made during the year.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH (PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA) REGULATIONS, 1926.—The Council's Scheme for the diagnosis and treatment of these conditions provides for the services of a consultant—Mr. H. G. Taylor, F.R.C.S.—for the provision of nursing assistance, for hospital treatment in the County Council's hospitals, and for bacteriological examination where necessary. The extent to which it has been made use of has been reported on in that part of the infectious diseases section of the Report which deals with the notification of these diseases.

OBSTETRIC COMPLICATIONS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE.—In September, 1931, the Council arranged for the services of Mr. H. G. Taylor, F.R.C.S., the Council's Consultant under the Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, to be available in such exceptional cases, and to pay him a fee of £5 5s. 0d. for each case. Two cases were dealt with in this way during the year.

HOME HELPS.—During the year 107 applications were considered by the Committee and 120 home helps were provided. The total cost of this service was £470 8s. 6d., and payments by mothers amounted to £37 11s. 0d.

BOARDING OUT OF CHILDREN.—In appropriate circumstances, instead of providing a home help, the Council arranges for the boarding out of children with suitable foster mothers, at the Council's expense. Two cases were boarded out during the year.

EXPENSES OF MOTHERS BREAST-FEEDING THEIR BABIES IN HOSPITAL.—In appropriate circumstances, where hardship is imposed upon breast fed babies by the inability of mothers to visit the babies frequently enough in hospital to ensure normal breast feeding, the Council will pay the travelling expenses incurred by mothers. No such payments were made during the year.

TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS.—Children requiring medical or surgical treatment for certain minor ailments are referred to the School Clinics at Brewer Street, Woolwich, or at the Eltham and Plumstead Health Centres, to private practitioners, or to hospitals. During the year, 332 children were sent to these clinics, and for each case the Council paid 5s. 0d. Spectacles have been provided under this scheme at an additional cost to the Council.

TABLE No. 15.

				<i>Brewer Street.</i>	<i>Eltham.</i>	<i>Plumstead.</i>
Impetigo	..	..	..	18	35	35
Ear Discharge	..	..	..	9	14	36
Eyes	..	..	..	22	34	55
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	16	39	19
				65	122	145

The corresponding totals for 1936 were respectively 70, 170 and 76.

DENTAL TREATMENT.—Mothers and children requiring dental treatment are referred from the Welfare Centres to the School Clinics at Brewer Street, Woolwich, at Westhorne Avenue, Eltham, and at Plumstead High Street. This service which had been established at Woolwich for many years, was extended to Eltham in 1932 and to Plumstead in 1933. Until August there were three sessions per month at Woolwich, two per month at Plumstead, and two per month at Eltham. From August 1st sessions were held weekly at all three Centres, and from October an additional afternoon session was held at Plumstead. A second dental room was provided at Eltham during the year.

The following Table No. 16 shows the cases attending, and the total attendances during the year. The number of sessions was 136, including anaesthetic days.

TABLE No. 16.

	Expectant Mothers.		Nursing Mothers.		Children under 5.	
	No.	Attendances.	No.	Attendances.	No.	Attendances.
Woolwich.. ..	121	253	29	89	21	33
Plumstead	46	121	10	29	208	365
Eltham	—	—	—	—	166	370
	167	374	39	118	395	768
All Centres, 1936	137	254	40	87	327	544

The figures of the toddler clinics in this connection are full of interest. In 1937 49 children aged 2 had defective teeth, 468 aged 3 and 444 aged 4. These figures correspond at 2 years to 6.8 per cent., at 3 years to 26.1 per cent., and at 4 years to 46.6 per cent. of the children examined—101 children or 6.2 per cent. had already had teeth extracted or filled.

Dentures are provided free, at part cost, or at cost price, according to the ability to pay, and payment is spread over many weeks. In consequence, the income received during the year includes money received in respect of dentures supplied in previous years. Forty-two sets (complete or partial) of artificial teeth were supplied during the year at a total cost of £188 12s. 6d. Payments by mothers amounted to £104 3s. 9d.

Arrangements were made with the London County Council for an X-ray examination in dental cases whenever the dental surgeon considered this necessary, at the cost of 7s. 6d. per attendance.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT FOR CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.—Children requiring orthopaedic treatment are referred to the remedial clinic of the Woolwich Invalid Children's Aid Association. The Council pay for children under five years of age sent by their medical officers to the clinic, 2s. 0d. per attendance for cases requiring massage or electrical treatment and 1s. 6d. per attendance for any other form of treatment. The cost of these services for the year was £244 2s. 0d. Only cases recommended by the Medical Officer of Health are included in this scheme, and payment is only made for the number of attendances approved by him. Excluding 53 children where wedges only were necessary, and 53 others where temporary splinting only was required, the children referred to the clinic required treatment for the conditions set out under tabulated headings in Table No. 17. A further 76 children were referred for instruction in simple exercises to be carried out at home.

All children referred to this clinic are carefully "followed up" either by the Voluntary Visitors of the Association or by the Council's Health Visitors.

The Woolwich Invalid Children's Aid Association's main clinic is in Thomas Street, Woolwich, but arrangements have been made for the treatment of Eltham children on three days a week at Christchurch Church Hall, Eltham High Street. The Association found, just as the Council did in the case of the artificial sunlight clinic, that the matter of attendances of Eltham children was a very difficult problem for Eltham mothers. The arrangement is a temporary one. The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee have accepted in principle the establishment of a municipal orthopaedic clinic at Eltham to be housed in the same building as the proposed artificial sunlight clinic.

TABLE No. 17.

Cases treated at Orthopaedic Clinic, 1937.

Type of Case.	Number remaining over from 1936.	New Cases.	Total Cases.	Number who completed treatment by end of year.	Number with treatment not completed.
Talipes (Club Foot)	2	13	15	13	2
Talipes (Flat Foot)	2	15	17	15	2
Rickets—					
General	2	6	8	7	1
Genu Valgum (Knock Knee) ..	7	29	36	27	9
Genu Varum (Bow Leg) ..	6	44	50	41	9
Infantile Paralysis	2	3	5	4	1
Erb's Paralysis	1	—	1	—	1
Bad Posture	—	7	7	5	2
Muscular Weakness	4	17	21	14	7
Mouth Breathing	—	5	5	4	1
Torticollis	2	11	13	12	1
Other Deformities	—	5	5	4	1
Other Diseases	—	5	5	2	3
	28	160	188	148	40

PROVISION OF NURSING ASSISTANCE.—In Section I of the Report, the general scheme of nursing assistance is described in full. The extent to which this service has been made use of in respect of specific diseases is fully reported on in the appropriate portions of the Infectious Diseases' Section of the Report. In addition grants were made to the nursing associations in respect of 21 children treated for threadworms at one shilling per visit, amounting in all to £11 2s. 0d.

CHILDREN'S BEDS.—Twelve beds have been reserved by the Council in the Woolwich War Memorial Hospital for the treatment of children under 5 years of age suffering from such conditions as are usually admitted to general or children's hospitals. Including those remaining in hospital at the beginning of the year, the number of children who received treatment during the year was 164; of these 143 were discharged cured or very much improved in health, 12 were discharged as improved, and 4 died. One child was transferred to another hospital, two others were discharged showing no improvement, and the number remaining in hospital at the end of the year was two. The surgical conditions for which these children were treated included:—enlarged tonsils and adenoids, hernia, phimosis, injury,

pyloric stenosis, abscess, fracture, mastoid, etc., and those admitted for medical treatment included children suffering from pneumonia, malnutrition, bronchitis, vomiting, marasmus, diarrhoea, convulsions, enuresis, etc. Some children were admitted for observation.

INSTITUTIONAL MIDWIFERY.—(1) *British Hospital for Mothers and Babies*. There are 44 beds in this hospital, and I am informed by Miss Gregory, the Secretary of the Hospital, that 919 babies were born during the year and 129 mothers were admitted for ante-natal or emergency treatment. At the ante-natal clinics in connection with this hospital, 10,277 attendances were made, and at the infant clinics, 3,166 attendances. In addition there were 241 extern cases. The number of mothers admitted under the Council's scheme was 148, the nett cost to the Council being £897 12s. 0d.

(2) *War Memorial Hospital*. There are 8 maternity beds in this general hospital, and I am indebted to Mr. R. S. G. Hutchings, the Secretary, for the following information regarding the admissions to the maternity unit during the year. The number of children born in the hospital was 193, and 12 mothers were admitted for ante-natal or emergency treatment. The number of attendances at the ante-natal clinics was 1,846. The number of mothers admitted under the Council's scheme was 67, the nett cost to the Council being £434 2s. 0d.

In June the Council decided to enter into an agreement with the Woolwich War Memorial Hospital at a convenient date, whereby additional maternity accommodation would be provided at the hospital in new maternity wards. The agreement will provide for an increase in the annual number of cases from 68 to 144, and for a grant-in-aid in respect of additional Woolwich cases.

ANTE-NATAL TREATMENT AND EMERGENCIES.—The number of cases admitted for ante-natal or emergency treatment under the Council's scheme was two. Both were admitted on account of albuminuria.

CONVALESCENT HOME TREATMENT FOR CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS OF AGE.—The necessary arrangements for this are made by the Woolwich Invalid Children's Aid Association, to whom the Council give grants-in-aid for this purpose. During the year grants totalling £300 were made in respect of 91 children. The children were sent away for periods varying from 2 to 19 weeks, and payment was only made in respect of children sent to homes approved by the Medical Officer of Health.

CONVALESCENT HOME TREATMENT FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.—In June, 1931, the Council decided to make provision under their maternity and child welfare scheme for the convalescent treatment of expectant and nursing mothers. The scheme includes payment of railway fares where necessary. It was resolved also to recover some of the cost from patients after consideration of each case on its merits. During the year no mothers were so admitted to convalescent homes.

In 1934 at the request of the Metropolitan Boroughs' Standing Joint Committee, the Council agreed to co-operate in a scheme which had for its object the provision of a convalescent home for the reception of mothers after confinement and their babies. The proposals provided for a home of 30 single rooms for mothers and babies and nurseries for babies and toddlers. The joint scheme whereby the Boroughs were to be responsible for 13 beds was not proceeded with and individual boroughs have undertaken the maintenance of a certain number of beds.

SUPPLY OF MILK, ETC., TO NECESSITOUS MOTHERS AND CHILDREN. The approximate cost of this service during the year was as follows:—Dried milk, £1,156 1s. 0d.; Fresh milk, 16s. 4d.; Dinners, Nil.

In 1934 the Council agreed to co-operate with the London County Council with regard to the supply of extra nourishment to maternity cases where domiciliary relief was being granted by the County Council. The scheme was subsequently enlarged to include delicate children whose parents were in receipt of out-relief. At the end of the year it was estimated that the amount due from the London County Council in respect of extra nourishment was £150, compared with £247 in the previous year.

BLIND PERSONS ACT, 1920.—The Council at the request of the London County Council, have arranged that home visiting of blind children under five years of age should be carried out by the Council's health visitors. Reports are furnished to the County Council, as the occasion arises, when the home conditions are unsuitable for blind children or it is advisable that the child should be admitted to a suitable institution. During the year no new cases came to the knowledge of the department. The Ministry of Health issued a circular during the year drawing the attention of Councils to the importance of taking all practical steps to prevent blindness and impaired eye-sight.

WIDOWS', ORPHANS' AND OLD AGE CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONS ACT, 1925.—The local authority may, in case of desertion of a child who is an orphan, administer the payments on behalf of the child. No case under the provisions of this Act was dealt with during the year.

SECTION IV.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

STAFF.—The staff of the Sanitary Section at the end of 1936 consisted of one Chief Inspector, twelve male inspectors, one woman inspector and two part-time women inspectors. There were two vacancies to be filled as the Council decided shortly before the end of the year to appoint an additional sanitary inspector following upon the opening of the new abattoir at Clothworkers Wood, and one part-time woman inspector retired on superannuation at the end of November. An additional two temporary inspectors were employed at the beginning of the year for a few weeks in connection with the measurement of houses throughout the Borough, rendered necessary by the overcrowding provisions of the Housing Act, 1936.

WATER SUPPLY.—The Metropolitan Water Board is responsible for the water supply of the Borough, and no complaints were received as to the quality of the water supply during the year. So far as can be ascertained there are eighteen wells in the Borough, used in the main for trade or kindred purposes.

DRAINAGE.—The drainage of every house in the Borough, except in eight instances, is connected with sewers. These exceptions are to be found on Shooters Hill, Bostall Heath, Harrow Manorway and Bexley Road, and in all cesspools are used. The total number of cesspools is fourteen, seven of which are in Plumstead and seven in Eltham.

The inspection of new drainage and of extensive re-construction of old systems is carried out by the Borough Engineer, but in all other instances alterations are supervised by the Sanitary Inspectors. During the year 42 complaints were received regarding the defective action of combined drains; on investigation, 208 houses in all were found to be affected. In all systems, except 5, the obstruction was of a temporary character. In 13 instances choked interceptors were found. Costs recovered from the owners amounted to £2 5s. 9d. In the following 5 instances reconstruction was necessary:—80-94, Grangehill Road; 1-17, Tiliae Road; 1, 1a, 2, 2a, Godfrey Villas and Pellipar Mission Hall, Godfrey Road; 107-133, Footscray Road; 93-96, Brookhill Road. After service of the necessary notices and on receipt of the consents of the owners, the work was carried out by the Works Department of the Council, the costs being paid by the owners in their proper proportions. Forty-nine orders for the cutting off and sealing up of drains, involving 235 houses, were made during the year as a result of slum clearance operations.

REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.—House refuse is collected and disposed of by direct labour under the control of the Works Department of the Council. Collection is made once weekly, with the exception of a small central area, where a twice-weekly collection is made. All refuse is disposed of by burning at the Council's destructor at White Hart Road, Plumstead.

Offensive trade refuse is removed by contractors, who make their own arrangements with the shopkeepers as to the time and day of removal. The contractors

provide airtight receptacles of a type approved by your Medical Officer of Health, the number of these supplied varying according to the individual requirements of the shopkeepers. The minimum charge for the removal of these tins is 1s. per week.

Inoffensive trade refuse is removed by the Works Department at a charge of 5s. per load, and 2,496 tons of such refuse were removed.

COMPLAINTS.—During the year 3,589 complaints of nuisances were made to the Health Department or to the Sanitary Inspectors on the district, and all these were investigated by the Sanitary Inspectors. After investigation the necessary notices for the remedy or abatement of the defects or nuisances discovered were served upon the owners or other persons responsible.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.—A summary of the inspections carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors will be found in Table No. 18. In connection therewith the numbers of intimation and statutory notices served were 1,475 and 358 respectively. The statutory notices related to 295 premises, and included 287 general, 31 ashpit, 9 water-closet and 17 paving notices. In addition to these notices under the Public Health (London) Act, 12 notices were served under the London County Council (General Powers) Acts and under By-laws, and 2 under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

In 63 instances, where owners did not comply with the statutory notices, the Town Clerk was asked to institute proceedings. It was only necessary, however, to issue summonses in eight instances, as in all the other cases the necessary steps were taken on receipt of a letter from him.

In Table 19 will be found a summary of the nuisances abated and defects remedied.

TABLE No. 18.

INSPECTIONS.

Housing Survey — Houses		Drains Tested by Water Test ..	71
Inspected	47	New Houses	1,847
Clearance Areas — Houses		Tents and Vans	21
Surveyed	425	Factories	263
Complaints Investigated ..	3,254	Workshops	93
Outworkers' Premises	163	Workplaces	44
Houses Let in Lodgings	231	Shops Act, 1934	1,468
Houses <i>re</i> Infectious Disease ..	924	Theatres and Cinemas	7
Houses <i>re</i> Smallpox Contacts ..	9	Rag and Bone Premises	12
Houses <i>re</i> Verminous Cases	5,574	Urinals Accessible to the Public	147
Houses <i>re</i> Scabies Cases	389	Women's Lavatories	72
Houses <i>re</i> Other Diseases	23	Smoke Observations	18
Common Lodging Houses	65	Special Inspections <i>re</i> Rats ..	299
Underground Rooms Illegally		Pharmacy and Poisons Act	76
Occupied	7	Miscellaneous	1,514
Drainage Inspections	1,433	Re-Inspections	5,187
Drains Tested by Smoke Test ..	278		

TABLE No. 19.

NUISANCES ABATED.

Cleansing—		Rain Water Tanks Repaired ..	—
Interiors Cleansed	736	" " " Abolished ..	—
Rooms Cleansed	1,394	Sinks Repaired or Provided ..	182
Damp Conditions—		Wastes Cleansed	35
Walls	619	Wastes Trapped or Repaired ..	229
Sites	40	Water Closets—	
Roofs	479	Flushing Apparatus Repaired	82
Rain Water Pipes and Gutters	248	" " Renewed	58
Others	49	New Pans	230
Dilapidations—		New Traps	219
Walls	723	Foul Pans Cleansed by Owner	14
Ceilings	533	" " " Occupier	9
Floors and Hearths	150	Additional W.C.s Provided ..	14
Coppers	71	Doors and Fastenings	
Stoves	137	Remedied	50
Others	41	Dust Bins Provided	200
Verminous Conditions—		Underground Rooms Closed ..	3
Rooms Cleansed	1,377	Water Supply—	
Defective Lighting—		Additional	—
Windows Repaired	136	Reinstated	22
" Enlarged	—	Cisterns Cleansed	—
" Additional	2	" Covered	—
Other Means	14	" Removed	—
Defective Ventilation—		Foul Accumulations—	
Windows Rendered Usable ..	221	Manure Removed	1
" Additional Provided	2	Offensive Accumulations	
Other Means	—	Removed	16
Defective Paving—		Back Yards Cleansed	4
Yards Re-paved	86	Dung Pits Provided	—
" Repaired	83	Rats—	
Scullery Floors Re-paved or		Drains Repaired in Consequence	4
Repaired	33	Premises Rat-Proofed	7
House Drains—		Other Effective Measures ..	4
Defective Drains Repaired ..	177	Rag and Bone Premises—	
Choked Drains Cleared	282	Premises Cleansed	—
Vent Pipes Repaired	17	Rainproof Premises Provided	—
Soil Pipes Repaired	14	Vermin-proof Conditions Pro-	
Gullies Fixed	53	vided	—
New Drainage	15	Miscellaneous	410

SHOPS ACT, 1934.—The Council, in their capacity as sanitary authority, have to enforce some of the provisions of this Act. The remainder of the Act is administered by the London County Council. The term "shop" includes any

premises where any retail trade or business is carried on, any wholesale shop and any warehouse kept for the purposes of trade by any person carrying on any retail trade or business, or by any wholesale dealer or merchant. This definition was extended by the Shops Act, 1936, to include the business of lending books or periodicals when carried on for purposes of gain. The Council have delegated all their powers, except the appointment of inspectors, to the Health Committee. The provisions, with the enforcement of which this Council are charged, are those which deal with ventilation, heating, and the provision of sanitary conveniences, and the Medical Officer of Health and all the Sanitary Inspectors have been appointed inspectors for this purpose.

The Health Committee of the Council decided in 1936 that they would require separate conveniences for each sex in those shops where members of both sexes were employed if the number of employees exceeded four. If the number was four or less one sanitary convenience was to be regarded as suitable and sufficient provided that the door of such convenience was fixed with an appropriate lock or fastener on the internal side, and with an automatic indicator showing on the external side of the door whether the apartment was engaged or vacant. This arrangement has proved satisfactory in operation.

The number of Exemption Certificates issued in cases of shops where, owing to restricted accommodation or other special circumstances a sanitary convenience could not be provided on the premises, was 5. In every case the alternative accommodation has been within 100 yards of the shop. Heating has been insisted upon in all closed shops, but the heating of wet fish, butchers' and open-fronted shops has been confined to cash desks and back rooms where existing. In the case of all closed shops means of ventilation other than the shop door has been insisted upon, and this has been met in the majority of cases by a movable fanlight over the door.

The number of inspections made during the year was 1,468, and 45 notices for offences under the Act were served. Sanitary accommodation was made suitable and sufficient in 45 cases, and suitable means of heating was provided in 6 cases. Suitable means of ventilation was provided in 11 cases.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.—During the year 18 smoke observations were made on factory chimneys in the Borough. In 3 cases offences were committed and one notice was served. In each case the nuisance was abated forthwith and no further action was taken.

PUBLIC BATHS AND WASHHOUSES.—There are three bathing establishments in the Borough, one at Plumstead, one at Woolwich, and a small one at North Woolwich. At Plumstead there is a First Class Swimming Bath (capacity 120,000 gallons); a Second Class Swimming Bath (capacity 80,000 gallons); 64 Slipper Baths, and a separate building for Turkish and Russian Vapour Baths. There is also a Public Washhouse. At Woolwich there is a First Class Swimming Bath (capacity 120,000 gallons); a Second Class Swimming Bath (capacity 90,000 gallons); and 60 Slipper Baths. At North Woolwich there are 22 Slipper Baths.

The Minister of Health, after an Inquiry held in 1936, approved the Council's proposals for the establishment of swimming baths at Eltham. The erection of these baths was commenced in March.

The Baths will be situate on an "L" shaped site at the junction of Eltham Hill and Sherard Road, Eltham.

The scheme comprises at ground floor level :—

1. A spacious crush hall, with main and secondary entrances leading from Eltham Hill.
2. Male and female cloakrooms and lavatories.
3. Manager's office and ticket boxes.
4. Adults' swimming pool, 100 ft. by 40 ft., with three tiers of seating for spectators along each side, 40 dressing cubicles, and approximately 80 lockers for each sex, together with lavatories beneath the seating tiers.
5. Children's swimming pool, 60 ft. by 30 ft., with 32 cubicles, approximately 50 lockers for each sex ranged along the sides somewhat above the surround level, and easy of observation for the attendant-in-charge, and lavatories for both sexes.

In the basement are placed :—

1. The establishment laundry and drying room.
2. Workshop.
3. Male and female staff lavatories and mess room.
4. Filtration plant and thermal storage boilers, and electrical equipment.
5. Chair store, etc.

Emergency exits are provided to both pools. A car park is provided with access from Sherard Road.

Through the courtesy of the Baths Superintendent I am able to say that the total number using the Swimming Baths during the year was 249,710 ; Turkish and Russian Vapour Baths, 19,822 ; Slipper Baths, 186,084 ; and the Public Wash-house, 15,559.

Filtration plants have been installed at the Woolwich and Plumstead Baths, and the chemical and bacteriological content of the water is regularly examined by members of the Baths staff. Independent samples are taken by this Department from time to time. There are two open-air swimming pools in the Borough, one in Eltham Park and one in the Victoria Gardens, North Woolwich. These belong to the London County Council, and filtration plants have been installed at both. There are also paddling pools in the Borough, one belonging to the Woolwich Borough Council on their Middle Park Estate, and one in Eaglesfield, belonging to the London County Council. There are no filtration plants at either of these.

ERADICATION OF BED-BUGS.—An organised effort against bed-bug infestation of the Council's Housing Estates has been in being since 1934. It includes inspection of the furniture and effects of selected applicants, inspection when opportunity offers of occupied Council houses not known to be infested, disinfestation when necessary of furniture and effects prior to occupation, disinfestation when necessary of tenanted and untenanted Council houses, and regular periodic supervision of all houses for a period of two years after a process of disinfestation has been carried out. The figures given under appropriate heads below indicate what this effort means and indicate the measure of success.

The privately owned housing estates, of varying sizes, present a much greater problem. Our experience during the last four years shows that two out of every five tenants accepted for the Council's houses are living in bug-infested privately owned premises. If this be a true sample of housing conditions in Woolwich it means that some 8,000 houses are bug infested. It is not possible to exercise the same control over these houses as over the Council's estates, but the Council does help owners so far as its resources allow, by disinfecting contents of infested houses while the owners deal with the structure, by "following up" afterwards by trained women Sanitary Inspectors and by disseminating knowledge about the bed-bug amongst the populace. There is, however, no organised search for the bed-bug in these houses and no disinfestation of premises or furniture before new tenants are admitted. Bug-infested houses, about to be demolished, are, however, disinfested.

During the year the Royal Sanitary Institute arranged two courses on disinfestation, one, extending over a fortnight, for sanitary inspectors, and one, extending over a week, for disinfectors. The Council sent to these courses one sanitary inspector and one disinfecter.

In Circular 1650 the Ministry of Health ask that particulars of the action taken for the eradication of bed-bugs should be given under the five headings set out below :—

1. *The number of (a) Council houses, (b) Other Houses, (i) Found to be infested, (ii) Disinfested.* Visits are paid to the Council's houses (a) when a tenant gives notice that he intends to vacate the premises and before he does so ; (b) when a tenant asks for a transfer to another Council house ; and (c) at the request of the Estate Office, when the presence of bed-bugs is suspected. The number of such visits made during the year was 404. The number of Council houses found to be infested during the year was 69, and all of these were successfully disinfested, in all, except six instances, after one fumigation.

The distribution of infested houses is interesting, as most of the infestation which exists in the Council's houses is in houses which were occupied prior to the institution in 1934 of the disinfestation scheme. On the Page Estate of 2,306 houses, bug infestation was found in 55 cases. On the Middle Park Estate of 1,784 houses, 14 cases were found ; twelve of these and all of those on the Page Estate were in houses which were built prior to 1934.

Houses other than those in Council ownership are found to be infested on house-to-house inspection, on inspection following investigation of a complaint, or on enquiry into the occurrence of infectious disease, and occasionally an occupier asks for help in eradicating the bed-bug. The number of such houses found to be infested during the year was 361. The number in which the scheme of co-operation described in my Annual Report for 1932, between the Council and the landlord, was put into operation was 159, while a further 121 in clearance areas were dealt with prior to demolition. One further house is known to have been disinfested by the occupier after advice from the department.

2. *The methods employed for freeing houses from bed-bugs.* Different methods were used by the Department during the year, in different circumstances.

(a) Sulphur dioxide, plus cleansing, as described in my Annual Reports for 1932 and 1933, was used in 119 houses, all of which, with the exception of 9, were in private ownership. In 106 instances this method of treatment was successful on one application.

(b) Cyanide (Zyklon B) was used for the disinfestation of 19 occupied houses in 13 blocks. In each case the occupiers of the infested dwellings were accommodated for two nights in a block of empty houses on the Council's estate, reserved for this purpose. The occupiers of the non-infested houses in the blocks were offered accommodation for one night, but allowed to return to their own dwellings the same evening if they so desired, as soon as the premises had been certified as safe. In one instance re-infestation occurred during the year. Infestation was found to be due to the sub-letting of some rooms in the house without the consent of the Council, bug infested furniture being taken in in this way.

(c) In cases of light infestation, or where for any reason it was not practicable to seal off a room, other fumigants or contact sprays were used on 48 occasions, with 11 primary failures.

(d) Washed heavy naphtha was used on 56 occasions. In 9 instances the primary treatment was not successful, three of these being furnished houses.

In my report for last year I referred to experimental work with this substance and to the necessity of working out a technique. It is satisfactory to report that by the end of 1937 a satisfactory technique for the use of washed heavy naphtha in unfurnished houses had been developed.

We started using washed heavy naphtha, or rather pseudo-cumene—that part of naphtha which comes off at the lower temperatures—in June, 1936, and we got satisfactory results until October, when we began to get failures. It was then found, after some laboratory experiments in London, that the minimum lethal concentration of naphtha for the bed-bug was .15 per cent., for a period of 18 hours, and that a temperature of 50 degrees F. was necessary for that period if this concentration was

to be maintained. As a result we started heating the rooms by means of Primus stoves to a temperature of over 65 degrees F. With this, results were better, but they were not quite satisfactory, and by chemical analysis it was found that the concentration of washed heavy naphtha in a room varied, being denser at lower levels. Because of this it was necessary to provide a "reservoir" of the fluid near the ceiling and this was done in the first instance by the use of blankets, stretched across from the picture rails, or, if there were not any rails, by means of hooks in the walls. This arrangement was not altogether satisfactory because it was found that on occasion the wet blankets drew the picture rails away from the wall or pulled out the hooks. Ultimately a lighter material—a tennis sponge—was used and this gave much better results. With this the idea of a "reservoir" was dropped and we began to use diffusion screens, from floor to ceiling, three inches away from all walls. About this time a delayed action sprayer, working by clockwork was invented, and it became possible to reinforce by mechanical means the naphtha on the screens—some eight hours after the rooms had been closed. When these diffusion screens were first used it was apparent on entering the room the following day that the concentration was much stronger than before, and that there was a definite "kick" in the atmosphere. In order to measure this "kick" an experiment was made. Three similar rooms in three adjoining empty flats were dealt with as follows, equal quantities of washed heavy naphtha being used in each room.

- (i) In the first room the walls were sprayed in the original way ;
- (ii) In the second room the walls were draped and the drapings were sprayed ;
- (iii) In the third room the walls were draped and a delayed action sprayer, charged with half a gallon of washed heavy naphtha, was set to go off eleven hours afterwards.

Samples of air were taken the following morning and it was found that in the first room the concentration was .14 per cent. naphtha, in the second room .22 per cent., and in the third room, .25 per cent. The maximum concentration which could have been obtained at the atmospheric temperature that day was .27 per cent. We had now learned that by means of drapery we could increase the efficiency of naphtha by nearly 60 per cent., and by using the delayed action sprayer as well, by about 80 per cent. It was clear that drapery would be used in the future. It was now necessary to find an easy means of fixing the drapery. Different ways were tried, but ultimately Mr. Sumner, one of the Council's Sanitary Inspectors, hit on the idea of using electric conduit tubing, using tubing of different sizes so that one piece could be telescoped into the other. The method consists of a framework of metal junction boxes and tubing. The tubing is cut into standard lengths—uprights of 7 ft. 9 ins., corner pieces 2 ft. 3 ins. long, and connecting pieces 4 ft. and 6 ft. long. Simple additions enable this apparatus to be used in staircases and in corridors. The largest possible oblong is constructed in the room, and the drapery hung from it in double lengths, i.e., 15 ft. long. A cheaper material, Egyptian cotton, is now used for the drapings. The fitting takes about five minutes per room to erect. The roof space is treated differently. There is much movement of air in the roof space

and in the summer it is hotter than the rest of the house. In consequence ordinary draping dries much too quickly, so in the roof space we have continued to use blankets, nailing them to the rafters and joists.

The problem of the furnished house is not yet solved. We have dealt, of course, with furnished houses by taking the furniture out and fumigating it in a van with cyanide and treating the house as an empty house. Leaving furniture in situ, however, the problem is much more difficult. More care has to be exercised in erecting the framework in a furnished room. The furniture has to be moved to the centre of the room and may have to be opened and tilted so that the vapour can get to the contents and underneath. The delayed action sprayer presents further difficulties as it cannot be allowed to discharge its contents over the furniture, because the naphtha would run down non-absorbent surfaces and collect in pools on the floor, from which evaporation would be slow. In order to get over this difficulty we have tried what may be described as a small draped kiosk of tubing, 3 ft. 6 ins. square base, and 7 ft. 9 ins. high, in addition to the ordinary draping round the walls. The delayed action sprayer is placed inside the kiosk and discharges on to its draping only. We have used it on three occasions—in two Council houses and in one slum house. In the slum house it failed completely, because there was a great deal of leakage. In the other two houses it was apparently successful, but in the course of a fortnight a few young bugs were found in each house. These were dealt with by local treatment.

The method, which appears somewhat elaborate, is not so elaborate as it looks, once the disinfestors get used to it. It may be regarded as solving the problem of the disinfestation of an unoccupied house using a fumigant non-toxic to humans. It involves no destruction of house property and it does not damage paint. It leaves an odour which is no more than one gets on clothing after it comes back from the dry-cleaners.

Photographs illustrating the method appear on adjoining pages.

During the ensuing summer it should be possible to develop a technique for use in furnished houses and if this be successfully effected a great advance in the eradication of the bed-bug will have been made. The drawback to its use in furnished houses is the necessity for the provision of places of temporary shelter.

(e) In addition to the above, 121 houses in Clearance Areas were disinfested with a mixture of equal parts of orthodichlorobenzene and paraffin before demolition.

3. *The methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses.* The Sanitary Inspector in charge of disinfestation inspects the furniture of all persons provisionally selected as tenants for the Council's houses, decides when disinfestation is necessary and makes the necessary arrangements. During the year he visited 489 houses in this connection. In all cases where vermin are found, the removal is carried out under the supervision

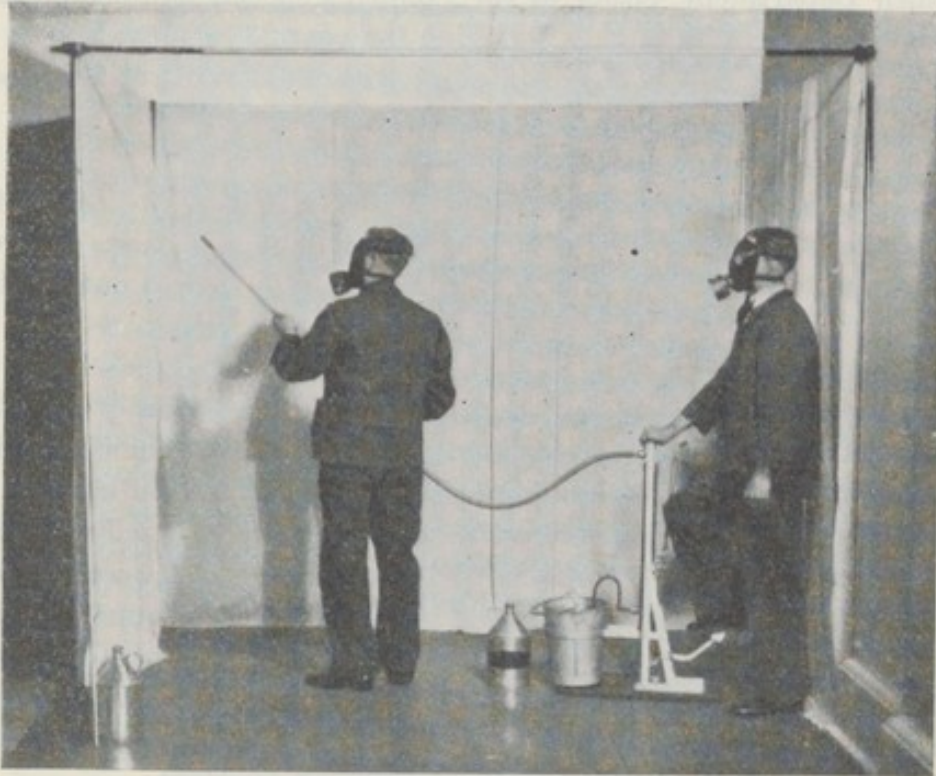


Figure I
The Process of Spraying a Room.

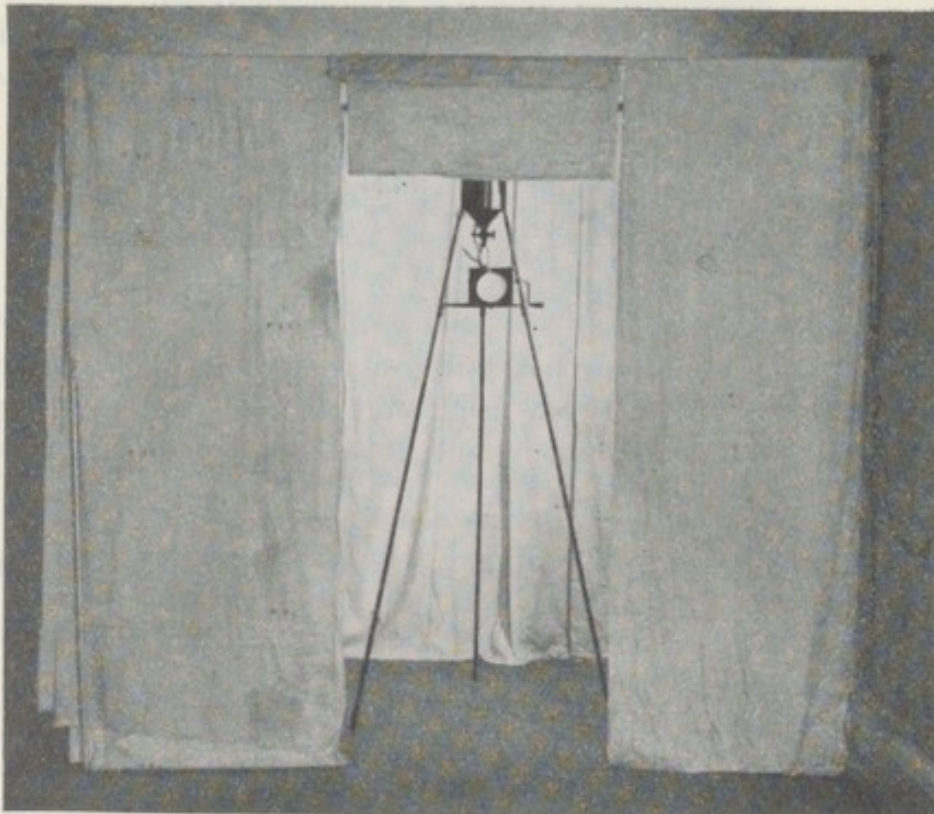


Figure II
Room with Delayed Action Sprayer in position.

of the Health Department, either in the Council's special pantechnicons, of which there are now two, or in hired vans. During the year 233 removals were carried out in this way, each vanload being disinfested with Zyklon B, at the Council's Sun Yard Eltham Depot.

4. *Whether the work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority or by a Contractor.* The work of disinfestation, including all cases where hydrogen cyanide was used, was in every instance during the year carried out by the Council's own staff.

5. *The measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing.* In Woolwich all houses which are disinfested, or where furniture is disinfested prior to the tenants' admission, are subject for a period of two years to periodical inspection by the Council's woman sanitary inspectors. In this way 754 houses dealt with in earlier years were inspected. Bugs were found in 1937 in 19 of those treated in 1936. With four exceptions on the Council's Page Estate these were all in private ownership. In order that householders may co-operate with the Council in preventing infestation or re-infestation after cleansing, the following steps have been taken by way of supervision or education :—

(a) Each new tenant on the Council's estate receives by post a copy of the Council's Health Services Booklet, which contains a short article on the bed-bug and how it spreads.

(b) To the head of each infested family is sent after disinfestation a letter asking for co-operation, and enclosing a reprint of the article referred to above.

(c) The sanitary inspector in charge of disinfestation personally explains to the housewife the precautions which must be taken after disinfestation if the house is to remain free from bugs.

(d) The woman sanitary inspector pays periodic visits for a period of two years. On these visits she repeats how infestation may occur, e.g., by the exchange of bedding and cot furniture between neighbours and friends, by the purchase of secondhand furniture from neighbours and dealers, or by the purchase of infested firewood from itinerant hawkers.

(e) Secondhand furniture is disinfested free of charge on request, but such requests are rare.

(f) A copy of the film, "The Red Army," has been purchased and is shown frequently in connection with health lectures. It deals with the life history of the bed-bug and its dissemination.

(g) During Health Week a bed-bug stall was arranged at the Exhibition.

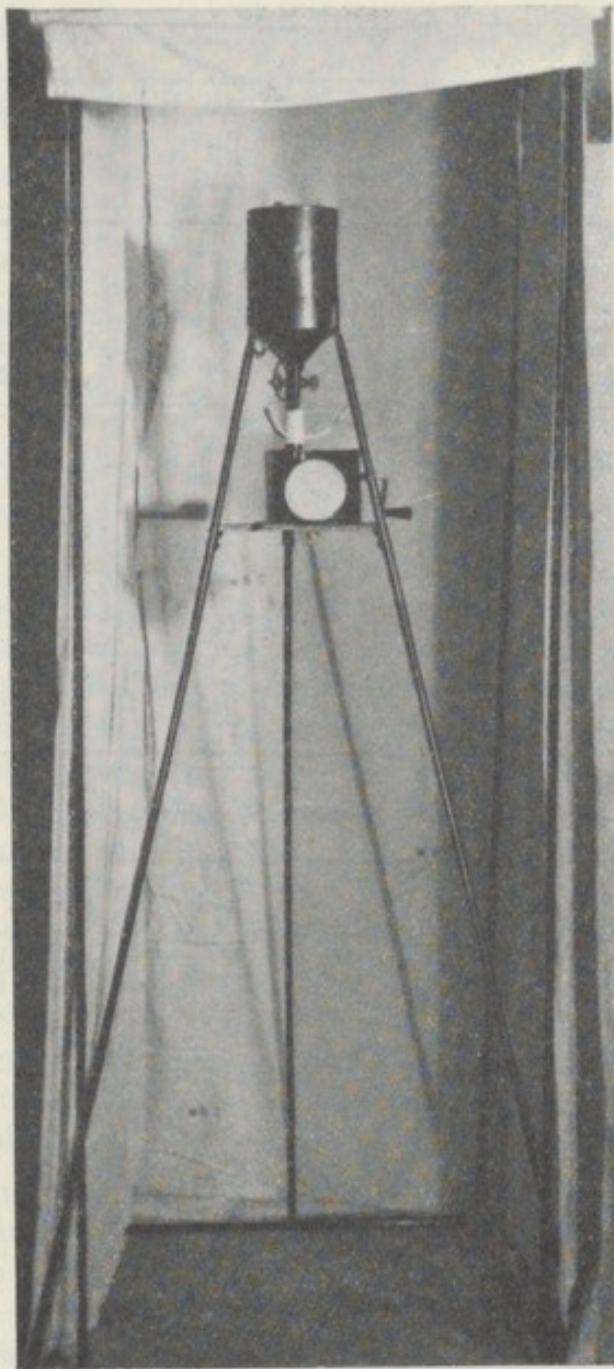


Figure III
Kiosk with Delayed Action Sprayer in
position

In dealing with the progress made in the use of heavy naphtha I referred to chemical and other laboratory work carried out. For their help in this respect the Council are much indebted to Mr. S. Ashmore of the Government Laboratory and Mr. A. W. McKenny Hughes of the British Museum (Natural History) and it is with the greatest possible pleasure that I acknowledge the indebtedness of the Council, and my own, to them. To Mr. Ashmore for his help and counsel in the matter of the elimination of cyanide from goods and houses disinfested in this way I owe much also.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.—The following Table is in the form adopted by the Secretary of State to provide for uniformity throughout the country in the presentation of certain particulars of this work which lend themselves to statistical treatment.

TABLE No. 20.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1.—*Inspection.*

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers. Prosecuted. (4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ..	263	13	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	93	4	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	44	5	—
Homeworkers' Premises	163	—	—
Total	563	22	—

2.—*Defects Found.*

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	43	43	—	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors ..	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation	Insufficient	1	1	—
	Unsuitable or Defective	22	22	—
	Not separate for Sexes	1	1	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bakehouses (S. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—
Total	67	67	—	—

3.—*Outwork in Unwholesome Premises : Section 108.*

Nature of Work. (1)	Instances. (2)	Notices Served. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Making of Wearing Apparel	—	—	—
Making of Lamp Shades	—	—	—
Covering of racquet balls	—	—	—

THE RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.—This Act makes it obligatory for all occupiers of land to keep the land and premises thereon clear of rats and mice. Cases of rat infestation vary widely and often the correct treatment of a particular case can only be decided after an examination of the premises concerned. Each district inspector is the rats officer for his area and investigates all complaints received, giving the necessary advice to suit the particular case. During the National Rat Week, held from 1st-6th November, special measures were undertaken and the co-operation of many large firms in the Borough and the Borough Engineer was obtained. The number of baits laid in the sewers of Woolwich and Plumstead was 6,872. The total number of inspections made was 380. In four instances it was necessary to secure the repair of defective drains. Seven premises were made rat proof and other effective measures were taken in four instances. The number of statutory notices served was two.

FOULING OF FOOTWAYS BY DOGS.—In 1934 the Council made a By-law which was sanctioned by the Home Office to come into operation from the 1st January, 1935. The By-law is as follows :—

“No person being in charge of a dog in any street or public place and having the dog on a lead shall allow or permit such dog to deposit its excrement upon the public footway.”

Six summonses were issued during the year, particulars of which will be found in Table No. 23 at the end of the Section.

NUISANCE FROM PIGEONS.—Under Section 121 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, a Borough Council is empowered to seize and destroy, sell or otherwise dispose of house-doves or pigeons in excessive numbers, if they appear to have no owner. It is necessary, however, in the first place for the Council to obtain the consent to the measures adopted by them from the persons or body in whom the building or land, upon which the birds congregate, is vested. The powers of the Council under this Section have been delegated to the Health Committee. No action was taken during the year.

RAG AND BONE BY-LAWS.—One of the By-laws made by the London County Council prohibits the distribution or sale of any article of food or any balloon or other

toy from any premises used for the business, or from any cart, barrow or other vehicle or receptacle used for the collection or disposal of rags and bones, etc., or in any other way connected with the business.

Two summonses were taken out during the year. The results of these proceedings will be found in Table No. 23. In three cases it was not possible to serve the summonses

RAG FLOCK ACT.—Six samples of rag flock were taken for analysis. Such material must comply with the Rag Flock Regulations, in which it is laid down that the soluble chlorine in the form of chlorides must not exceed 30 parts of chlorine in 100,000 parts of flock. All the samples complied with the Regulations, as the result of analyses show, the number of parts of chlorine being, respectively, 2.1 ; 4.4 ; 3.6 ; 3.2 ; 8.6 ; 13.8.

MORTUARIES.—The Public Mortuary is in Sunbury Street, Woolwich, but in recent years this has been little used, owing to the centralisation of Coroners' Courts in London. Inquests on Woolwich cases are held in Lewisham or Greenwich. The temporary mortuary in Eltham was still less used and at the suggestion of the Commissioner of Police, the Council considered as to its future user, and with his concurrence finally decided to close it. It was closed from the 30th June.

The following Table shows the use made of the mortuaries during the year :—

TABLE No. 21.

	Sun Street.	Sun Street (Infectious).	Eltham.	All Mortuaries.	
				1936	1937
Number of Bodies Received :—					
(a) For Inquest	—	—	—	—	—
(b) For Custody	7	—	4	10	11
	7	—	4	10	11
Number of Post-Mortem Examinations	—	—	—	—	—

CEMETERIES.—The Council own three cemeteries within the Borough, two in Plumstead and one in Eltham. The two in Plumstead are known respectively as the Woolwich Cemetery and the Plumstead Cemetery, the Woolwich one being divided into two portions, the Old and the New. Eltham Cemetery was opened for interments in April, 1935. Burials also take place in Eltham Churchyard, and rarely in a private burial ground within the grounds of Christchurch Priory in Eltham High Street.

In the following Table are shown the numbers of interments in the different graveyards. The information in the case of the cemeteries is given through the courtesy of the Town Clerk, and, in the case of the Eltham Churchyard, through that of the Vicar of Eltham.

TABLE No. 22.

	Number of Interments		
	1935	1936	1937
Woolwich Cemetery	584	610	613
Plumstead Cemetery	681	741	719
Eltham Cemetery	56	140	148
Eltham Churchyard	166	168	161

Exhumations.—During the year three exhumations under Home Office licences were carried out.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—By the Transfer of Powers Order, 1933, consideration of, and decision on, applications for the establishment anew or the enlargement of certain offensive businesses, or imposition, modification, or removal of conditions, was transferred from the London County Council to the Metropolitan Borough Councils. At that time there was only one offensive trade, namely, that of a slaughterer of poultry, the premises at which this was carried on being approved by the London County Council in November, 1931.

In 1936 the Council approved an application by the Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society to establish anew the business of a slaughterer of cattle and that of a tripe boiler, subject to certain conditions. An application for the re-establishment of the business of slaughterer of poultry, referred to above, was considered by the Council in July, 1937, and was approved.

REMOVAL OF INFIRM AND DISEASED PERSONS.—Power is given by Section 224 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, to remove infirm and diseased persons living under insanitary conditions to institutions. Usually such persons are persuaded to enter an institution, but occasionally difficulty is experienced in this connection, and it is necessary to make application to a Magistrate for an Order. No such applications were made during the year.

SANDPITS.—It is the practice of the Council to disinfect all children's sandpits under their control at regular intervals during the year.

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933.—This Act places upon Metropolitan Borough Councils the duties of enforcing the provisions of that part of the Act which relates to poisons in Part 2 of the Poisons List. Poisons in Part 1 of the Poisons List may only be sold by "authorised sellers" and those in Part 2 by authorised sellers and by listed sellers, whose names appear in a register to be kept by the local authority. "Authorised sellers," i.e., pharmacists, are inspected by Inspectors appointed by the Pharmaceutical Society, but the Borough Council are required to arrange for the necessary inspection of all listed sellers. The Medical Officer of Health, the Chief

Sanitary Inspector, and two sanitary inspectors have been appointed as inspectors for this purpose. The Council decided in February, 1937, to delegate its powers under the Act to the Health Committee.

The number of names entered on the Council's list at the beginning of the year was 84. Eleven were added and four were deleted. The number at the end of the year was 91, and there were 90 deputies approved.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.—The particulars of the various prosecutions instituted under the various Acts are set out in detail in the following Table No. 23 :—

TABLE No. 23.

Prosecutions under Public Health and Kindred Acts.

No.	Date of Hearing.	Offence.	Situation.	Result.
1	16th March ..	Did distribute toys from a vehicle in exchange for rags.	Ceres Road	Fined 2s. 6d.
2	16th March ..	Being a person having charge of a dog on lead, allowed said dog to deposit its excrement on public footway	Wellington Street ..	Dismissed.
4	6th April ..	Did fail to properly pave the yard at the rear.	88, Grangehill Road,	Work done. Summons with- drawn.
5	6th April ..	Did fail to maintain the water closet flushing apparatus in a proper state of repair.	88, Grangehill Road,	Work done. Summons with- drawn.
6	6th April ..	Did fail to properly pave the yard at the rear.	202, Westmount Road.	Work done. Summons with- drawn.
7	6th April ..	Damp walls and defective wall plaster of ground floor back room.	202, Westmount Road	Work done. Summons with- drawn.
8	6th April ..	Did distribute toys from a vehicle in exchange for rags.	Craigton Road ..	Dismissed under Probation of Offenders Act.
10	27th April ..	Leaking and defective roofs of the main building, bay window, porch and back addition. Dirty and defective walls and ceilings of the water closet and scullery. Dirty ceilings of the staircase, landing and passage. Damp and dirty walls and ceiling of the ground floor back addition room. Untrapped scullery sink waste pipe.	65, Macoma Road ..	Order to abate in 21 days.

TABLE No. 23—continued.

No.	Date of Hearing.	Offence.	Situation.	Result.
11	20th May ..	Non-payment of cost of clearing drains.	127, Woolwich High Street.	Order to pay at the rate of 10/- each 14 days.
12	24th June ..	Defective, damp and dirty walls and ceiling of first floor back addition room. Defective back addition roof and gutters. Damp wall of ground floor front room. Dirty walls and ceiling of stairs and passage.	79A, Marmadon Road	Work done. Summons withdrawn.
13	24th June ..	Being a person having charge of two dogs on lead, allowed said dogs to deposit their excrement on public footway.	Sidcup Road ..	Fined 2s. 6d.
14	24th June ..	Did fail to comply with an Abatement Order made on 27th April, 1937.	65, Macoma Road ..	Fined £5
15	23rd June ..	Being a person having charge of a dog on lead, allowed said dog to deposit its excrement on public footway.	Herbert Road ..	Fined 2s. 6d.
17	13th July ..	Being a person having charge of a dog on lead, allowed said dog to deposit its excrement on public footway.	Powis Street ..	Dismissed under Probation of Offenders Act.
22	2nd December..	Damp walls of the first floor front and ground floor front rooms. Leaking house roof. Damp walls of the first floor back addition room. Defective reveal pointing of the window on the east side of the house.	60, Conway Road ..	Order to abate in 21 days.
23	9th December	Being a person having charge of a dog on lead, allowed said dog to deposit its excrement on public footway.	Plumstead Road ..	Dismissed.
24	30th December	Being a person having charge of a dog on lead, allowed said dog to deposit its excrement on public footway.	Plumstead High Street.	Dismissed under Probation of Offenders Act.

SECTION V.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Four sanitary inspectors are now engaged in the inspection and supervision of food and food premises. The opening of the new slaughterhouse at Woodlands Farm, Clothworkers Wood, rendered necessary the appointment of a third inspector for the supervision of meat in slaughterhouses. Three inspectors are now engaged in this work and in the taking of samples under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and the various Regulations and Orders dealing with food standards. The fourth regularly and systematically inspects all food premises, especially those so used for the first time, paying particular regard to the hygiene of premises used for the sale, etc., of food, as provided for in the Public Health (London) Act, 1936. In addition, each district inspector exercises a general supervision over all food exposed for sale and all food premises in his district, and in turn is responsible for the bi-weekly inspections of the market.

MILK SUPPLY.—The Borough Council is required to keep registers of all persons carrying on in the Borough the trade of cowkeeper, dairyman or purveyor of milk. The register of retail purveyors of milk must be kept separate from the other. All dairies have to be registered also. Information on these matters is set out below in tabular form.

TABLE No. 24.

	<i>No.</i>
Cowkeepers	2
Cowsheds	5
Dairies	71
Dairymen with premises in the Borough	44
Dairymen with premises outside the Borough	31
Purveyors of milk in sealed bottles	172

The number of inspections of dairy premises was 356, and a high standard of cleanliness in cowsheds and dairies and in other premises where milk is sold has been maintained. At the end of the year the cowsheds in the Borough were as set out in the following Table No. 25.

TABLE No. 25.

<i>Situation of Cowhouse.</i>	<i>No. of Sheds</i>	<i>No. of Cows.</i>	<i>Licencee.</i>
Avery Hill Farm, Eltham ..	3	69	W. F. Fisher
Coldharbour Farm, Eltham ..	2	88	C. U. Fisher

Designated Milks.—Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, all licences for designated milks can now be granted by Metropolitan Borough Councils. This Order revokes that of 1923 and reduces the number of designated milks to three, namely (a) "Tuberculin Tested"; (b) "Accredited"; and (c) "Pasteurised." Milk may also be sold as "Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)" if two licences are granted, and where "Tuberculin Tested" milk has been bottled at the place of production the word "Certified" may be added. Each licence automatically terminates on the last day of the year on which it is issued. In tabular form is shown below the number of licences so issued during the period:—

Number of pasteurisers' licences issued 1

Number of dealers' licences issued to use the designation:—

(a) "Accredited"	—
(b) "Tuberculin Tested"	17
(c) "Pasteurised"	33

Number of supplementary licences issued to sell:—

(a) "Accredited" Milk	—
(b) "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	4
(c) "Pasteurised" Milk	8

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.—The number of samples of milk examined bacteriologically during the year was 72: two of raw milk, sixty-eight of pasteurised milk, and two of tuberculin tested milk.

No samples of milk were examined for the presence of tubercle bacillus. The test now prescribed for tuberculin tested milk is known as the Methylene Blue Reduction Test and the two samples of tuberculin tested milk examined passed this test. Two samples of bulked raw milk were examined before pasteurisation and each had a plate count of over five million. After pasteurisation the counts, which are included in the Table set out below, were 12,200 and 36,400 respectively. Table No. 26 which follows, gives detailed results of the examination of samples of pasteurised milk.

TABLE No. 26.

<i>Month.</i>	<i>Type of Milk.</i>	<i>Number of Bacteria per m.l.</i>
January	Pasteurised	84,000
	do.	46,000
	do.	512,000
	do.	19,400
	do.	17,460
February	Pasteurised	34,200
	do.	23,400
	do.	254,000
	do.	16,700
	do.	28,500

TABLE No. 26—*continued*

<i>Month.</i>	<i>Type of Milk.</i>					<i>Number of Bacteria per m.l.</i>
March	Pasteurised	772,000				
	do.	316,000				
	do.	1,600				
	do.	3,400				
	do.	16,400				
	do.	21,000				
April	Pasteurised	39,600				
	do.	22,200				
	do.	44,600				
	do.	73,000				
	do.	39,500				
	do.	10,200				
	do.	14,400				
	do.	42,000				
	do.	51,000				
	do.	27,500				
	do.	19,760				
June	Pasteurised	27,200				
	do.	62,000				
	do.	53,400				
	do.	32,400				
	do.	6,560				
	do.	8,300				
	do.	28,400				
	do.	16,200				
	do.	96,000				
	do.	118,000				
	do.	14,300				
July	Pasteurised	38,000				
	do.	280,000				
	do.	316,000				
	do.	52,400				
	do.	78,500				
	do.	44,500				
October	Pasteurised	33,000				
	do.	16,000				
	do.	86,400				
	do.	66,200				
	do.	11,860				
	do.	8,960				
	T.T. Pasteurised	760				
November	Pasteurised	54,000				
	do.	139,000				
	Pasteurised	264,000				
	do.	23,200				
	do.	32,000				
	do.	45,000				
	do.	10,530				
	do.	13,600				
	do.	12,200				
	do.	16,400				
	do.	36,400				
	do.	36,400				
	do.	52,000				
	do.	55,000				
	do.	14,400				
do.	10,800					

It will be noted that in nine instances the prescribed standard was not complied with.

Dried and Condensed Milks.—Nine samples of condensed milk and four of dried milk were examined. One informal sample of dried milk on analysis was found to be deficient to the extent of 6 per cent., as the contents of the package were only equivalent to one and seven-eighths pints of milk instead of two.

Artificial Cream Act, 1929'—This Act has for its object the regulation of the manufacture and sale of artificial cream. The Council are required to keep a register of all premises (with certain exceptions) where artificial cream is manufactured, sold, exposed, or kept for sale. One shop where artificial cream is sold, has been placed on the register.

MEAT SUPPLY.—Notice of intention to slaughter any animal must be given to the Council in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

No meat marking scheme under Part III of these regulations is in force in the Borough.

The following Table No. 27 shows the number of animals slaughtered and inspected in the Borough during the year, and the numbers and percentages condemned on account of tuberculosis and on account of other diseases. In 1936 the number of animals slaughtered was 40,341.

TABLE No. 27.
Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known) ..	3,305	30	610	15,478	15,511
Number inspected	3,305	30	610	15,478	15,511
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i>					
Whole carcases condemned ..	—	—	—	1	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	380	—	—	128	1,186
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	11.4	—	—	0.8	7.6
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>					
Whole carcases condemned ..	1	—	—	—	18
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	328	4	—	—	818
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	9.9	13.3	—	—	5.38

The figures for each month are shown in the following Table No. 28.

TABLE No. 28.

Month.	Cattle.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Calves.	Total.
January	305	1,187	1,731	—	3,223
February	267	903	1,690	—	2,860
March	294	1,171	1,766	1	3,232
April	305	1,109	1,528	—	2,942
May	267	1,083	635	139	2,124
June	251	1,394	107	209	1,961
July	242	1,369	123	150	1,884
August	232	1,370	179	106	1,887
September	253	1,318	1,640	—	3,211
October	295	1,753	1,730	5	3,783
November	302	1,628	1,960	—	3,890
December	322	1,193	2,422	—	3,937
	3,335	15,478	15,511	610	34,934

Licensing of Slaughtermen.—The Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, requires that all slaughtermen shall be licensed. During the year one new licence was issued and 19 were renewed.

Slaughterhouses.—There is no public slaughterhouse in the Borough. Slaughterhouses are subject to annual licence, and in Table No. 29 which follows, are shown those licences in force at the end of the year.

TABLE No. 29.

<i>Situation of Slaughterhouse.</i>	<i>Owner.</i>
Clothworkers' Wood, Woodlands Farm	Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society, Ltd.
14, Church Street	Westhorp and Bartlett.
33, Herbert Road	Anderson, F.
38, Plumstead Common Road ..	Reed, A. J.

The slaughterhouse at Bostall Farm, Abbey Wood, belonging to the Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society, Ltd. was closed on 9th November and the new one at Clothworkers' Wood was opened the following day.

REGISTERED PREMISES.—The Public Health (London) Act 1936, requires the registration of premises used for the following purposes :—

- (a) The sale, manufacture or storage of ice cream or similar commodity ;
- (b) The manufacture of sausages ;
- (c) The preparation or manufacture of potted, pressed, pickled or preserved meat, fish or other food.

The register of such premises which is now complete is kept in five parts, and the numbers in each part at the end of the year were as set out below :—

(a) Sale, manufacture or storage of Ice Cream	247
(b) Manufacture of Sausages	96
(c) Preparation or manufacture of Potted, Pressed, Pickled or Preserved Meat	143
(d) Preparation or manufacture of Potted, Pressed, Pickled or Preserved Fish	47
(e) Preparation or manufacture of Potted, Pressed, Pickled or Preserved other foods	4

The total number of inspections made was 789, and the number of notices served was 19.

OTHER FOOD PREMISES.—As a matter of routine the food inspector made 607 visits to other food premises, including eating houses, coffee stalls, and restaurants, and immediate action was taken in regard to any insanitary condition found. In addition 1,913 visits were made to shops and to stalls in the markets.

Bakehouses.—There were, at the end of the year, 35 bakehouses in the Borough, of which 33 were factory and 8 underground. The inspections numbered 88, and 5 notices were served. The conditions on the whole were satisfactory.

The number of inspections made in respect of all food premises, other than those referred to above as registered premises is shown in the following Table :—

TABLE No. 30.

Premises.	On Register 31st December	Number of		Legal Proceedings.
		Inspections.	Notices.	
Bakehouses	35	88	5	—
Cowsheds	5	46	2	—
Dairies	71	310	1	—
Slaughterhouses	4	16	—	—
Premises where food is prepared (other than above)	194	607	49	—
Shops and Markets	—	1,913	1	—

UNSOOUND FOOD.—There were 422 instances of unsound food being surrendered. These compare with 464 in 1936. Included in the food surrendered were : 3 tons 2 cwts. Pork ; 2 tons 5 cwts. Beef ; 1 cwt. Mutton ; 1 ton 7 cwts. Ox Liver ; 9 cwts. 1 qr. Ox Lungs ; 3 cwts. Sheep Offal ; 19 cwts. 2 qrs. Pig Offal ; 4 cwts. 2 qrs. Rabbits ; 45 lbs. Bacon ; 20 lbs. Fish ; 15 lbs. Turkey ; 2 qrs. Sweets ; 2 qrs. Canned Meat and 495 tins Sild. No seizures were made.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926.—Under the provisions of Section 9 of the above Act, Food and Drug Authorities have power to execute any of the provisions of the Act, other than those relating to importation, in respect of food stuffs which are subject to an Order in Council made under the Act. The Orders which so far have been made are as follows :—

The Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods) No. 3 Order, 1928.	Honey ; Apples.
The Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods) No. 5 Order, 1928.	Currants ; Sultanas and Raisins ; Eggs in Shell ; Dried Eggs ; Oat Products.
The Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods) No. 4 Order, 1929.	Raw Tomatoes.
The Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods) No. 5 Order, 1930.	Malt Products.
The Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods) No. 8 Order, 1931.	Frozen or Chilled Salmon or Sea Trout.
The Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods) No. 1 Order, 1932.	Butter.
The Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods) No. 3 Order, 1934.	Bacon and Ham.
The Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods) No. 5 Order, 1934.	Dead Poultry.
The Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods) No. 7 Order, 1934.	Meat.
The Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods) Amendment Order, 1936.	Meat.

These Orders prohibit the sale, or exposure for sale, respectively, in the United Kingdom, of the products mentioned above, unless the goods bear an indication of the country of origin. The term " sale " includes sale, wholesale, or sale by retail ; and exposure for sale includes exposure for sale, wholesale, and exposure for sale by retail. As a general rule imported produce does not require marking when sold in quantities not exceeding 14 lbs. in weight.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE (GRADING AND MARKING) ACTS.—These Acts empower the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries to make Orders for the grading and marking

of agricultural produce. One mark—the National Mark—is used, or will be used, for all graded produce of England and Wales, and by law it conveys a guarantee that the produce is of the grade stated. It is not compulsory for all such foodstuffs to be so marked, but, if marked, they must conform to the standard.

In London the local authority is the Metropolitan Borough Council concerned and in Woolwich the Medical Officer of Health, the Chief Sanitary Inspector and three Sanitary Inspectors have been appointed officers under the Act.

The following is a list of products regarding which Regulations were in force on the 31st December, 1937 :—

<i>Date of Regulations.</i>	<i>Produce.</i>
1929	Potatoes.
1930	Strawberries ; Cherries.
1931	Beef.
1932	Cider.
1933	Gooseberries ; Loganberries ; Raspberries ; Red Currants ; Cheshire Cheese ; Pears.
1934	Cauliflower and Broccoli ; Canned Fruits ; Honey ; Asparagus ; Jam ; Carrots ; Leeks ; Radishes ; Red Beet ; Cabbage Greens and Cabbages ; Salad (Spring) Onions ; Parsnips ; Ripe Onions and Shallots ; Watercress ; Horseradish ; Kidney and Runner Beans ; Mushrooms ; Forced Rhubarb ; Natural Rhubarb ; Stilton Cheese ; Hot House Grapes.
1935	Apples ; Glasshouse-grown Tomatoes ; Cucumbers ; Dressed Poultry ; Canned Fruits (Amendment) ; Bottled Fruits ; Bottled Vegetables ; Black Currants ; Creamery Butter ; Vegetables ; Perry ; Caerphilly Cheese ; Cheddar Cheese ; Cream Cheese.
1936	Eggs ; Malt Extract and Malt Flour.
1937	Wheat Flour ; Eggs (Amendment) ; Canned Vegetables ; Plums ; Leicester Cheese ; Lancashire Cheese ; Wensleydale Cheese ; Derby Cheese ; Fruit Products ; Cabbage Greens and Cabbages (Amendment).

During the year Regulations affecting Wheat Flour (1933), Plums, Fruit Juice Syrups, Lancashire Cheese, Wensleydale Cheese, Leicester Cheese, and Canned Vegetables (1936) were revoked.

No offences were discovered during the year.

SOPHISTICATION OF FOOD.—The following Table No. 31 gives details of the various analyses made under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, and the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations.

TABLE No. 31.

Article.	Formal Samples.	Informal Samples.	Number Analysed.	Number Adulterated.
Milk	244	50	294	22
Cream	—	8	8	—
Dried Milk	—	4	4	1
Condensed Milk	9	—	9	—
Milk Food	—	1	1	—
Butter	—	15	15	—
Cheese	—	9	9	—
Margarine	—	2	2	—
Lard	—	3	3	—
Suet	—	3	3	—
Dripping	—	4	4	—
Cooking Fat	—	1	1	—
Tea	—	12	12	—
Coffee	—	1	1	—
Coffee and Chicory Extract ..	—	4	4	—
Cocoa	—	4	4	—
Sugar	—	9	9	—
Cornflour	—	3	3	—
Sago	—	6	6	1
Tapioca	—	6	6	—
Spaghetti	—	1	1	—
Rice	—	5	5	—
Currants, Raisins, etc.	—	9	9	—
Mincemeat	—	1	1	—
Ground Almonds	—	11	11	—
Fruit, Dried	—	9	9	—
Fruit, Canned	—	64	64	—

TABLE No. 31—*continued.*

Article.	Formal Samples.	Informal Samples.	Number Analysed.	Number Adulterated.
Glace Cherries	—	2	2	—
Candied Peel	—	2	2	—
Pepper	—	6	6	—
Mustard	—	2	2	—
Dried Mint	—	4	4	—
Ground Ginger	—	4	4	—
Bread	—	5	5	—
Biscuits	—	2	2	—
Baking Powder	—	9	9	—
Jam	—	12	12	1
Jelly	—	7	7	—
Honey	—	4	4	—
Lemon Curd	—	4	4	—
Gelatine	—	1	1	—
Treacle	—	3	3	—
Salad Cream and Mayonnaise ..	—	4	4	—
Pickles	—	3	3	—
Sauce	1	6	7	2
Sweets	—	23	23	1
Marzipan	—	2	2	—
Ices	—	3	3	—
Lemon Squash	—	1	1	—
Orange Squash	—	2	2	—
Mineral Waters	—	3	3	—
Lemonade, etc., Crystals	—	3	3	—
Fish	—	2	2	—
Fish, canned	—	49	49	35
Fish Paste	—	2	2	—
Apples	—	6	6	—
Peas, canned	—	5	5	—
Beans and Tomato Sauce	—	14	14	1

TABLE No. 31—*continued.*

Article.	Formal Samples.	Informal Samples.	Number Analysed.	Number Adulterated.
Beans, Curried, canned	—	1	1	—
Split Peas	—	4	4	—
Tomatoes, canned	—	1	1	—
Arrowroot	—	5	5	—
Meat.. .. .	3	7	10	1
Meat, canned	—	4	4	—
Meat Paste	—	3	3	—
Brawn	—	4	4	—
Sausages	7	9	16	—
Vinegar	—	3	3	—
Wine	—	3	3	—
Cocktail	—	2	2	—
Beer	—	5	5	—
Spirits	20	—	20	1
Camphorated Oil	—	4	4	—
Zinc Ointment	1	6	7	2
Calomel Ointment	3	4	7	5
Camphorated Liniment	—	2	2	—
Gregory Powder	—	4	4	—
Health Salts	—	1	1	—
	288	512	800	73

The Public Analyst has furnished the following figures showing the percentage of fat found in each sample of milk submitted for analysis during the last three years :—

TABLE No. 32.

	1935	1936	1937
4.5 per cent. and over	8	4	4
4 per cent. and under 4.5 per cent.	11	11	11
3.5 per cent. and under 4 per cent.	102	145	125
3 per cent. and under 3.5 per cent.	146	113	153
Below 3 per cent.	8	4	1
	—	—	—
	275	277	294
	—	—	—

Mr. Amphlett Williams makes the following observations on his analyses during the year :—

“ *Adulterated Samples.*—The percentages of samples which were reported as adulterated, not up to standard or improperly labelled, during the last four years are given below :—

	1934	1935	1936	1937
Percentage adulterated	3.8	6.6	5.2	9.1

These percentages are rather higher than the average of the other Metropolitan Boroughs, but the very marked increase in 1937, need not cause any great anxiety ; it is largely influenced by the number of samples of canned sild taken of one particular brand which were contaminated with tin, and is, therefore, not fairly representative of the bulk of the food sold in this Borough. If the samples submitted from this brand of canned sild are omitted from the totals, the remaining adulterated samples amount to 6.6 per cent. for 1937.

Composition of Milks.—The average percentages of fat and of solids-not-fat found in the samples of milk analysed during the past four years are given below ; the averages have been calculated for each quarter as well as for the whole year, and thus show the regular seasonable variations in the quality of the milk. All the samples analysed have been included excepting those definitely adulterated, of which particulars will be found elsewhere.

Percentage of Fat.

<i>Quarter.</i>	1934	1935	1936	1937
January—March ..	3.52	3.51	3.60	3.56
April—June	3.41	3.50	3.43	3.41
July—September ..	3.53	3.59	3.56	3.45
October—December ..	3.69	3.92	3.81	3.76
Whole Year	3.54	3.59	3.59	3.56

Percentage of Solids-not-fat.

<i>Quarter.</i>	1934	1935	1936	1937
January—March ..	8.80	8.85	8.76	8.70
April—June	8.86	8.85	8.78	8.68
July—September ..	8.69	8.67	8.70	8.61
October—December ..	8.97	8.86	8.81	8.79
Whole Year	8.83	8.81	8.77	8.71

The results are typical of the milk supply in the Metropolitan area and show that a satisfactory standard, considerably above the minimum of the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901, has been maintained in Woolwich.

A perceptible fall in the average percentage of solids-not-fat is, however, occurring and a larger number of “doubtful” milks was noticed this year.

These "doubtful" samples, which contain approximately 8.5 per cent. of solids-not-fat, are generally found to give other analytical criteria approximately coinciding with the lowest figures given by genuine milk; they receive the most elaborate analysis, but, individually, they usually have to be reported as "genuine" or "possibly genuine," owing to the difficulty of proving the addition of a small percentage of water to an article which itself contains about 88 per cent. of water and which is subject to natural variations in its composition. Collectively, however, their effect although slight, becomes significant.

Hot Milk.—Nine samples of hot milk were taken from various cafes in the Borough during the year, one of which was found to contain 6 per cent. of added water. The remainder were genuine and of good quality.

Canned Sild: Tin.—Following the analysis of a sample can of Sild (small herrings caught chiefly off the coast of Norway) which showed contamination by tin to the extent of 2.7 grains per pound, nine further samples were taken from different boxes of the same consignment.

Of these samples, six were found to be contaminated with tin, in amounts varying from 2.2 to 4.6 grains per pound, and the other three were passed, as they contained less than 2 grains of tin per pound.

While it is obviously undesirable that there should be any metallic contamination of food, it is necessary for practical administrative purposes to adopt a certain fixed limit as the standard, above which the food must be rejected; and in the absence of any legal standard, the limit of 2 grains of tin per pound as a quantity "potentially injurious to health," which was recommended by the Local Government Board Report in 1908, has been generally accepted and applied.

The consignment of the brand of sild referred to was, unfortunately, a large one, comprising 20 boxes of 100 tins each, in all 2,000 tins of sild, and in order to avoid destroying boxes which might have been quite satisfactory, samples were then taken from every box; where the results on these samples were near to the standard mentioned, further samples were taken from the same boxes. In all, 43 "follow-up" samples were taken, of which 23 contained tin in excess of 2 grains per pound. The boxes yielding the excessive proportions of tin contamination were surrendered by the dealer and their contents destroyed, while the remainder were passed on the condition that any tins not sold within a very short period should be destroyed, since the proportion of tin tends to increase on storing.

Unfortunately the determination of tin is a lengthy process, involving the digestion of portions of the sample in boiling nitric and sulphuric acids for several hours, followed by precipitation of the tin by sulphuretted hydrogen, and considerable difficulty was experienced in carrying out so many tin determinations, in duplicate, in the poisonous atmosphere created.

Canned Sardines: Lead.—Fourteen samples of sardines of Portuguese origin comprising 5 different brands were analysed and found to contain lead, in quantities varying from 4 to 25 parts per million; the three samples which contained 15 or more parts per million were all of the same brand and were obtained from a stall in the market. The entire stock in question was surrendered and destroyed, and other Authorities were notified. The quantities of lead found in the samples of other brands were also undesirably high and as I have pointed out in the Report for 1935, this contamination can and should be prevented.

Canned Salmon.—A sample of canned salmon was examined, following a complaint that the salmon contained broken glass. Several small crystals varying in size from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 mm. long and about $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. thick were found embedded in the flesh, chiefly near to the bone. These crystals were quite hard and sharp and might have been mistaken for broken glass, until magnified, when their uniform orthorhombic form could be seen. Analysis showed them to consist of magnesium ammonium phosphate, identical in form and composition with the mineral struvite.

Crystals of this substance have been found before in canned fish, and excepting possibly through causing discomfort in the mouth would be unlikely to be injurious to health, since they would at once dissolve in the acid contents of the stomach. They are formed presumably by the combination of ammonia, which appears soon after the fish is killed, with the magnesium salts and phosphates naturally present, and being insoluble in neutral or alkaline solution, gradually crystallize out in the flesh; their presence suggests that the salmon may have been kept, possibly in cold storage, for a time before being canned.

Lobster Paste.—In view of a complaint that a pot of Lobster Paste was sour and fermenting, a bacteriological examination was carried out on the sample in addition to the chemical analysis; no growth of any kind could be obtained, however, the sample being apparently sterile; furthermore, the taste, although highly seasoned, was in my opinion quite normal, and the small air bubbles in the sample, to which attention was called, appeared to have been incorporated in the mixing; such air spaces are frequently to be seen in pastes of this type. The sample was accordingly regarded as genuine.

Sweets. Clear Mints.—A question arose as to the amount of sulphur dioxide permitted by the Preservative Regulations in boiled sweets. Not being specifically mentioned in the Schedule, these sweets may only contain that proportion of a preservative which has been necessarily introduced by the use of legitimately preserved ingredients in their manufacture; during the process of boiling however, the greater part of the preservative used, sulphur dioxide, is evolved, and opinions differ as to how much may be allowed in the finished sweets.

A sample of "Clear Mints" was found to contain 130 parts per million of sulphur dioxide and an analysis of the composition of the sweets indicated that

from the ingredients used a possible maximum of 200 parts per million of sulphur dioxide might have been introduced. As a result of a large number of experiments, it has been found that during the usual process of boiling sweets of this type, three quarters of the sulphur dioxide present disappears, and the residue, "necessarily introduced," would therefore only be 50 parts per million. The excess of 80 parts per million found in the sample referred to would not be likely to be prejudicial to health, and the point seems to be unimportant, until the inference is seen, viz., at least 500 parts per million of sulphur dioxide were presumably added originally and, since boiled sweets keep perfectly well without any preservative, its only object can have been to act as a bleach; one wonders what quality of sugar requires so much bleaching to give it the appearance of purity.

That such treatment is unnecessary, given pure ingredients, is shown by the fact that many samples of similar sweets, white and clear, tested during the year, contained not even a trace of sulphur dioxide.

In view of the doubt as to the legal position, no proceedings were instituted but the matter was taken up with the manufacturers, who stated that they used a special and secret method of boiling, during which less sulphur dioxide was evolved than in the usual process; in the absence of details of the alleged process, however, this statement could be neither confirmed nor contradicted.

It is hoped that such sweets may soon be included in the Schedule to the Preservative Regulations, so that those concerned may know what is authoritatively regarded as the maximum amount of sulphur dioxide that may be safely permitted.

Coffee Extract with Chicory.—Following a suspicion that a certain brand of Coffee and Chicory Extract contained benzoic acid preservative without a declaration to this effect on the labels, a sample was taken and submitted for analysis; the determination of benzoic acid in this particular sample proved difficult, on account of the complexity and unknown composition of the substances produced by the action of heat on sugar and thereby introduced into the sample through the "caramel" which was its chief constituent.

After steam distillation from the acidified extract, followed by ether extraction, etc., small sublimates were obtained which gave several of the well-known reactions for benzoic acid; it subsequently appeared, however, that these sublimates were not benzoic acid, but another substance possessing rather similar properties (possibly succinic acid) which had been formed during distillation by the action of acid on the decomposition products of sugar; and further distillations from only slightly acidified portions yielded no residues or sublimates. The sample was therefore regarded as genuine.

In the foregoing remarks, the information regarding action taken, etc., has been kindly furnished by the Inspectors, and I beg to acknowledge with thanks their general co-operation in the sampling of food and drugs."

ADULTERATED SAMPLES.—*Action Taken.*—The following Table No. 33 shows the number of adulterated samples and the action taken in each instance where the sample was formal :—

TABLE No. 33.

Sample No.	Article.	Formal or Informal.	Result of Analysis.	Result of Legal Proceedings or other Action.
110	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal.	Contained tin, 2.73 grains per lb.	Stock surrendered.
133	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.66 grains per lb.	do.
134	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.59 grains per lb.,	do.
135	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 3.01 grains per lb.	do.
136	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 3.43 grains per lb.	do.
174	Beans, with Pork and Tomato Sauce.	Informal	No pork found.	—
594	Canned Fish, Brisling	Informal	Contained tin, 2.03 grains per lb.	—
609	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.73 grains per lb.	Stock surrendered.
649	Milk	Formal	Slightly deficient in solids-not-fat.	—
665	Milk	Formal	Contained 1 per cent. of added water.	—
666	Milk	Formal	Contained 1 per cent. of added water.	—
727	Canned Fish, Sardines	Informal	Contained lead, 25 parts per million.	Stock surrendered.
755	Canned Fish, Sardines	Informal	Contained lead, 15 parts per million.	do.
756	Canned Fish, Sardines	Informal	Contained lead, 16 parts per million.	do.
791	Zinc Ointment ..	Informal	Zinc oxide 14 per cent. deficient.	—
17	Milk	Formal	Contained 2 per cent. of added water.	—
31	Milk	Formal	Contained a small proportion of added water.	—
54	Milk	Formal	Contained a small proportion of added water.	—

TABLE No. 33—*continued.*

Sample No.	Article.	Formal or Informal.	Result of Analysis.	Result of Legal Proceedings or other Action.
56	Milk	Formal	Contained a small proportion of added water.	—
74	Sago	Informal	Contained tapioca, 15 per cent.	—
93	Zinc Ointment ..	Formal	Zinc oxide 14 per cent. deficient.	Vendor cautioned.
148	Milk, dried, Full Cream	Informal	Weight deficient 6 per cent.	—
204	Minced Beef ..	Formal	Contained sulphur dioxide, 85 parts per million.	Vendor cautioned.
208	Sweets, Clear Mints	Informal	Contained sulphur dioxide, 130 parts per million.	—
228	Milk	Formal	Contained a small proportion of added water.	—
247	Milk	Formal	Contained 1 per cent. of added water.	—
250	Milk	Informal	Contained a small proportion of added water.	—
251	Milk	Informal	Contained a small proportion of added water.	—
252	Milk	Informal	Contained a small proportion of added water.	—
257	Milk	Formal	Contained a small proportion of added water.	—
258	Calomel Ointment ..	Informal	Calomel, 15 per cent. deficient.	—
259	Calomel Ointment ..	Informal	Calomel, 61 per cent. deficient.	—
260	Calomel Ointment ..	Informal	Calomel, 16 per cent. deficient.	—
282	Milk	Informal	Contained 2 per cent. of added water.	—
284	Milk	Informal	Contained 1 per cent. of added water.	—
297	Black Currant Jam	Informal	Not more than 27 per cent. fruit instead of 30 per cent.	—
303	Milk	Formal	20 per cent. of the fat abstracted.	Case dismissed on payment of £2 2s. costs.
307	Milk	Formal	Contained 6 per cent. of added water.	Summons withdrawn.
315	Calomel Ointment ..	Formal	Calomel, 40 per cent. deficient.	Vendor cautioned.
316	Calomel Ointment ..	Formal	Calomel, 15 per cent. deficient.	do.

TABLE No. 33—*continued.*

Sample No.	Article.	Formal or Informal.	Result of Analysis.	Result of Legal Proceedings or other Action.
347	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.66 grains per lb.	Stock surrendered.
348	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.94 grains per lb.	do.
364	Milk	Formal	Contained 6 per cent, of added water.	Vendor cautioned.
370	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.73 grains per lb.	Stock surrendered.
371	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 3.22 grains per lb.	do.
372	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.52 grains per lb.	do.
373	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.17 grains per lb.	do.
374	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 4.55 grains per lb.	do.
378	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 3.78 grains per lb.	do.
384	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 4.48 grains per lb.	Stock surrendered.
385	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.59 grains per lb.	do.
386	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.66 grains per lb.	do.
388	Canned Fish, Sild	Informal	Contained tin, 2.03 grains per lb.	do.
390	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.45 grains per lb.	do.
391	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 4.13 grains per lb.	do.
398	Whisky	Formal	Excess water, 6.9 per cent.	Dismissed on payment of £5 5s. costs.
412	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.10 grains per lb.	Stock surrendered.
414	Canned Fish, Sild	Informal	Contained tin, 2.17 grains per lb.	do.
415	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.66 grains per lb.	do.
416	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.38 grains per lb.	do.

TABLE No. 33—*continued.*

Sample No.	Article.	Formal or Informal.	Result of Analysis.	Result of Legal Proceedings or other Action.
419	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.38 grains per lb.	do.
423	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.10 grains per lb.	do.
428	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 3.29 grains per lb.	do.
429	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.66 grains per lb.	do.
433	Tomato Sauce ..	Informal	Contained benzoic acid, 120 parts per million.	—
465	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.17 grains per lb.	Stock surrendered.
466	Milk	Formal	Contained 1 per cent. of added water.	—
468	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.45 grains per lb.	Stock surrendered.
469	Canned Fish, Sild ..	Informal	Contained tin, 2.24 grains per lb.	do.
500	Tomato Sauce ..	Formal	Contained benzoic acid, 120 parts per million.	Vendor cautioned.
503	Milk	Formal	Contained a small proportion of added water.	—
504	Milk	Formal	Contained 1 per cent. of added water.	—
560	Milk	Formal	Contained 3 per cent. of added water.	—

OTHER LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.—There were no legal proceedings other than those for adulteration, taken in respect of infringements of various food laws, during the year.

FOOD POISONING.—The Public Health (London) Act, 1936, requires every medical practitioner in London to notify to the Medical Officer of Health every person whom he suspects or finds to be suffering from food poisoning. In his certificate he must state the name, age and sex of the person, the full postal address, and particulars of the food poisoning from which the person is suffering or suspected to be suffering.

The total number of notifications received was 28. The age and sex distribution of the cases notified is shown in the following Table No. 34.

TABLE No. 34.

Cases of Food Poisoning Notified during 1937.

Age Periods.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Under 1	—	—	—
1 and under 5	—	—	—
5 and under 10	1	—	1
10 and under 15	—	—	—
15 and under 20	—	—	—
20 and under 35	7	4	11
35 and under 45	1	3	4
45 and under 65	6	5	11
65 and over	—	1	1
	15	13	28

The medical practitioner notifying usually states on his certificate the food he suspects. In 14 households the food under suspicion was meat; in 10 it was fish; and in 2 other instances it was other foods, while in 2 instances no particular food was regarded as the cause. Most of the cases were slight in character and only two were admitted to hospital.

Only one case was followed up bacteriologically. An organism of the salmonella group, probably of the aertrycke strain was found.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.—The laboratories at which work is carried out, and the nature of the work done is reported on fully in that Section of the Report which deals generally with the provision of health services in the Borough.

NUTRITION.—Dissemination of knowledge and instruction on matters affecting nutrition is part of the Council's general scheme of health propaganda, *q.v.*

As part of the Council's scheme for Health Propaganda, cookery demonstration classes are held at the Tuberculosis Dispensary for the instruction of the wives and mothers of the tuberculous in the buying and cooking of simple, cheap and nutritious articles of food and the preparation of suitable dishes. This is fully reported on in the section dealing with Health Propaganda.

SECTION VI. HOUSING.

The following Table shows the main housing figures for the year set out under the headings given in Circular 1650 issued by the Ministry of Health for securing uniformity in the presentation of these statistics.

TABLE No. 35.

1.—*Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.*

(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	4,103
Number of inspections made for the purpose	11,505
(2) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925	47
Number of inspections made for the purpose	95
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	364
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	1,758

2.—*Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.**

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	1,463
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*Includes intimation notices.

3.—*Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.*

(a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :—	
(a) By Owners	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	295
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	289
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	—
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	3
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	5
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	6
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement, or room having been rendered fit	—

4.—*Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding.**

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	390
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	390
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	2,260
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ..	44
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ..	184
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	1,104
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	—*

*See paragraph on overcrowding below.

OVERCROWDING.—Section 62 of the Housing Act, 1936, provides that within six months of the appointed day, as fixed by the Minister of Health, every rent

book or similar document used in relation to dwelling houses must contain the following information :—

1. After the day of an occupier who causes or permits his dwelling to be overcrowded is liable to prosecution for an offence under the Housing Act, 1936, and, if convicted, to a fine not exceeding five pounds. Any part of a house which is occupied by a separate family is a "dwelling."

2. A dwelling is overcrowded if the number of persons sleeping in it is more than the "permitted number," or is such that two or more of those persons, being ten years old or over, of opposite sexes (not being persons living together as husband and wife), must sleep in the same room.

3. The "permitted number" for the dwelling to which this (Rent Book) (.....) relates is persons. In counting the number of persons each child under ten years of age counts as half a person, and a child of less than one year is not counted at all.

4. The Act contains special provisions relating to overcrowding already existing on the above-mentioned date or which is due to a child attaining the age of either one or ten years after that date, or which is due to exceptional circumstances. Full information about these special provisions and all provisions as to overcrowding can be obtained free on application to the Local Authority whose address is

The appointed day for Woolwich, as fixed by the Minister of Health for the purposes of this Section, was the 1st July, 1936.

The Council are under obligation on the application of either the landlord or the occupier to give in writing the permitted number of persons in respect of a dwelling. During the latter part of 1936 the great majority of working class dwelling houses in the Borough were measured to enable this to be done, but the work was not completed by the beginning of 1937. Because of this it was necessary to retain the temporary staff engaged for this work for a few weeks, particularly for the purpose of preparing "permitted number" notices. The work, however, was completed by the beginning of March. In addition measurements had to be made, and permitted number notices issued, in respect of new houses built during the year. The number of houses measured during the year was 2,092. The number of permitted number notices supplied to landlords and occupiers was 17,849. Most of these were in respect of houses measured in 1936.

The overcrowding provisions of the Housing Act have been in effect in Woolwich now for a complete year and it is possible to furnish a normal return under the heading "Overcrowding" above. At the end of 1936 the number of dwellings overcrowded was 530. During the year 44 new cases of overcrowding were discovered and 184 cases were relieved. The number of families living in overcrowded conditions at the end of the year was 390. This figure is given with reserve. Without a detailed survey of every house in the Borough it is not possible to say that these are the only overcrowded families in Woolwich. The figure simply means the number of families known to be living under overcrowded conditions.

Local authorities have played quite a small part in this partial relief of overcrowding in the Borough. It was found that 25 families had become sufficiently reduced in number through persons leaving to get married and taking up house on their own, or through death. Additional accommodation for overcrowded

families was found by re-arrangement of lettings in the same house in 41 instances. In 17 instances, where the permitted number was wrong, a correction showed there was no overcrowding. Eight cases were re-housed by the Woolwich Borough Council as part of their general housing policy or through slum clearance. Twelve were re-housed by the London County Council as part of their abatement of overcrowding policy. Five cases were dealt with in other ways. Seventy-six families had removed to other and unknown addresses.

Knowledge of fresh overcrowding came to the department in different ways. In 19 instances an overcrowded occupier applied for re-housing; on 7 occasions the owner complained, on one occasion the occupier, while 17 cases were discovered by the sanitary inspectors. No legal proceedings were instituted in respect of overcrowding during the year.

No new dwellings have been provided in Woolwich for the relief of overcrowding as the Council decided that this was a duty of the London County Council. The number of such dwellings required was estimated in 1936 to be 149. On the standard of $1\frac{1}{2}$ persons per room, this means 40 houses of three rooms, 36 of four rooms, 47 of five rooms, 13 of six rooms, 10 of seven rooms and 3 of eight rooms. The number of overcrowded families whose circumstances were investigated and whom the London County Council were asked to re-house on their housing estates, was 93.

INSPECTION OF HOUSES.—The number of houses inspected in accordance with the provisions of the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925, was 47, a much smaller figure than in previous years, due to the demands on the time of the inspectors in connection with the survey and clearance of unhealthy areas.

TABLE No. 36.

Action under the Housing Acts.

Premises.	Action Taken.	Date.
97, Brookhill Road	Demolition Order	24th February
8, Wilmount Street	Owner's undertaking accepted.	24th March
86, Eltham Road	Representation	17th June
2, North Park Mews	Closing Order	30th June
45, Eltham Road.. .. .	do.	30th June
26, Chesnut Road	do.	29th September
4, Ordnance Road	do.	do.
67, Harrow Manorway	Demolition Order	do.
31, Nightingale Vale	do.	do.

TABLE No. 36—*continued.*

Premises.	Action Taken.	Date.
17, Old Mill Road	Representation	25th October
12, Fenwick Street	do.	do.
16, Delvan Street.. .. .	do.	28th October
70, Court Road	do.	3rd November
32, Sand Street	Owner's undertaking accepted.	24th November
Prospect House, Heathfield Terrace	Representation	1st December
Brick Building in yard of Royal Oak Public House, New Road.	Closing Order	22nd December
17, Milward Street	do.	do.
11, Globe Lane	Representation	23rd December

UNDERGROUND ROOMS.—Section 12 (2) of the Housing Act, 1936, states that a room, the surface of the floor of which is more than 3 feet below the surface of the street adjoining or more than 3 feet below the surface of any ground within 9 feet of the room, shall be deemed to be unfit for human habitation if either :—

(a) the average height of the room from floor to ceiling is not at least 7 feet ; or

(b) the room does not comply with regulations made by the local authority for securing proper ventilation and lighting, and protection against dampness, effluvia or exhalation.

The regulations in force at the beginning of 1936 had been made by the Council under the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, and had not been revised since they were made in 1911.

As recent Acts have amended the law with regard to underground rooms, the Council decided to revise their underground room regulations and a new set was submitted to the Minister of Health during the year. Certain objections to the Council's proposals were made by the Minister and there was a further exchange of views. The Minister's decision had not been given at the end of the year.

CLEARANCE AREAS.—More unfit houses were dealt with during the year than in any year since the five-year programme was started. The steps taken by the Borough Council and the situation at the end of the year in each area represented by me since 1934 are set out in the following pages :—

(1) *Shepherds Farm Hutments.*—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 67 hutments was confirmed in 1934. At the end of 1936 all the hutments had been demolished.

(2) *Prospect Row and Kidd Street.*—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 9 houses was confirmed in 1935. At the end of that year all the houses had been demolished.

(3) *St. Thomas's Cottages, Princes Road.*—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 8 houses was confirmed in 1935. At the end of that year all the houses had been demolished.

(4) *Eltham High Street.*—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 14 houses was confirmed in 1935. At the end of 1936 all the houses had been demolished.

(5) *Keemor Street.*—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 6 houses was confirmed in 1935. At the end of 1936 all the houses had been demolished.

(6) *Bell Water Gate.*—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 5 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of that year all the houses had been demolished.

(7) *Timbercroft Lane (No. 1).*—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 2 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of that year both houses had been demolished.

(8) *Timbercroft Lane (No. 2).*—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 6 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of that year all the houses had been demolished.

(9) *Timbercroft Lane (No. 3).*—After a Clearance Order had been made in 1935 in respect of this area of 8 houses, the Council resolved to purchase the site by agreement. At the end of 1936 all the houses had been demolished and the site purchased.

(10) *Hulk Cottages.*—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 5 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of that year all the houses had been demolished.

(11) *The Grove, Eltham.*—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 2 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of that year both houses had been demolished.

(12) *Nightingale Vale and Montague Cottages.*—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 8 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of 1937 all the houses had been demolished.

(13) *Belmont Place, Nightingale Vale.*—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 4 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of 1937 all the houses had been demolished.

(14) *Waverley Cottages, Ogilby Street.*—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 2 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of 1937 both houses had been demolished.

(15) *Nile Cottages and Glass Yard*.—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 11 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of 1937 all the houses had been demolished.

(16) *Davey Square*.—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 7 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of 1937 all the houses had been demolished.

(17) *Albert Road and Woodman's Cottages*.—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 6 houses was confirmed (with payment of an allowance for one well-maintained house) in 1936. At the end of 1937 all the houses had been demolished.

(18) *Dock Street and Kent Cottages*.—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 9 houses was confirmed in 1936, one house being excluded from the Order. At the end of 1937 the eight houses had been demolished.

(19) *Kates Place and Albert Road*.—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 21 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of 1937 all the houses had been demolished.

The Council subsequently decided to purchase the land comprised in the area and were able to do so with the exception of the site of Nos. 1-9, where it was not possible to agree terms with the freeholder. In accordance with the powers contained in Section 32 of the Housing Act, 1936, the Council, on the 22nd December, 1937, decided to acquire this site by means of a Compulsory Purchase Order.

(20) *Anne's Place*.—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 4 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of 1937 all the houses had been vacated and as the Owner has failed to demolish, the Council are proceeding on his default.

(21) *Lewis Place*.—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 3 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of that year all the houses had been demolished.

(22) *Messiter Place*.—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 6 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of that year all the houses had been demolished.

(23) *Dingle Cottages and Harrow Manorway*.—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 8 houses was confirmed (with payment of allowances for well-maintained houses in seven cases) in 1936. At the end of 1937 all the houses had been demolished.

(24) *Salisbury Cottages, Plumstead High Street*.—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 6 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of 1937 five of the houses had been demolished.

(25) *Fennell Street*.—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 14 houses was confirmed (with payment of allowances for well-maintained houses in three cases) in 1936. At the end of 1937 all the houses had been demolished, three of them by the Council on the Owner's default.

(26) *Elm Terrace*.—This area consisting of 11 houses was represented by me to the Council as an unhealthy area on the 8th October, 1936, and the Council made a Clearance Order on the 24th November, 1936. The Order was unopposed and after inspection the Minister confirmed the Order without modification on the 18th March, 1937. At the end of the year all the houses had been demolished.

(27) *Pound Place*.—This area consisting of 8 houses was represented by me to the Council as an unhealthy area on the 8th October, 1936, and the Council made a Clearance Order on the 24th November, 1936. A Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 9th February, 1937, and the Clearance Order was confirmed by the Minister without modification, on the 12th April, 1937. At the end of the year seven of the houses had been demolished.

(28) *Wilmount Street (No. 1)*.—This area consisting of 7 houses was represented by me to the Council as an unhealthy area on the 8th October, 1936, and the Council made a Clearance Order on the 24th November, 1936. A Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 9th February, 1937, and the Clearance Order was confirmed by the Minister, without modification, on the 12th April, 1937. At the end of the year all the houses had been demolished.

(29) *Wilmount Street (No. 2)*.—This area consisting of 2 houses was represented by me to the Council as an unhealthy area on the 8th October, 1936, and the Council made a Clearance Order on the 24th November, 1936. The Order was unopposed and after inspection the Minister confirmed the Order, without modification, on the 18th March, 1937. At the end of the year both houses had been demolished.

(30) *Wilmount Street (No. 3)*.—This area consisting of 4 houses was represented by me to the Council as an unhealthy area on the 8th October, 1936, and the Council made a Clearance Order on the 24th November, 1936. A Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 9th February, 1937, and the Clearance Order was confirmed by the Minister, without modification, on the 12th April, 1937. At the end of the year all the houses had been vacated and were in process of demolition.

(31) *Kempt Cottages*.—This area consisting of 3 houses was represented by me to the Council as an unhealthy area on the 11th December, 1936, and the Council made a Clearance Order on the 3rd February, 1937. A Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 19th April, 1937, and the Clearance Order was confirmed by the Minister without modification, on the 13th August, 1937. At the end of the year all the houses had been demolished.

(32) *Beaconsfield Cottages and Majendie Road*.—This area consisting of 3 houses was represented by me to the Council as an unhealthy area on the 11th December, 1936, and the Council made a Clearance Order on the 3rd February, 1937. A Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 19th April, 1937, and the Clearance Order was confirmed by the Minister, without modification, on the 24th July, 1937.

At the end of the year all the houses had been vacated and were in process of demolition.

(33) *Brookhill Road (No. 1)*.—This area consisting of 3 houses was represented by me to the Council as an unhealthy area on the 11th December, 1936, and the Council made a Clearance Order on the 3rd February, 1937. A Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 19th April, 1937, and the Clearance Order was confirmed by the Minister, without modification, on the 24th July, 1937. At the end of the year two of the houses had been vacated.

(34) *Brookhill Road (No. 2)*.—This area consisting of 11 houses was represented by me to the Council as an unhealthy area on the 11th December, 1936, and the Council made a Clearance Order on the 3rd February, 1937. A Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 19th April, 1937, and the Clearance Order was confirmed by the Minister, without modification, on the 24th July, 1937. At the end of the year nine of the houses were empty, six of which were in course of demolition.

(35) *Charlotte Place*.—On the 12th March, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 6 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Charlotte Place, Nos. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23. The number of occupants was 26. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 8th May, 1937, and a Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 23rd June, 1937. The Order was confirmed by the Minister, without modification, on the 13th August, 1937. At the end of the year all the houses had been vacated. Re-housing was provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(36) *Godfrey Road and Woodrow*.—On the 12th March, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 17 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Godfrey Road, Nos. 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 43 and 45, and Woodrow, Nos. 15 and 16. The number of occupants was 59. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 8th May, 1937. The Order was unopposed and, after inspection, the Minister confirmed the Order, without modification, on the 13th August, 1937. At the end of the year 14 houses had been vacated. Re-housing was provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(37) *Churchfield Estate (No. 1)*.—On the 8th April, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 14 hutments, as an unhealthy area. The hutments in question are known as Camrose Street, No. 40, Fuse Street, Nos. 3, 10 and 11, Myra Street, Nos. 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, Trotyl Terrace, Nos. 4 and 12. The number of occupants was 56. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 26th May, 1937. The Order was unopposed and after inspection the Minister confirmed the Order (modified by the exclusion of No. 14, Myra Street, which had been demolished prior to the inspection) on the 13th August, 1937. Re-housing was provided on the Horn Park Estate. At the end of the year 12 of the hutments had been vacated and seven demolished.

(38) *Elizabeth Terrace*.—On the 10th June, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 6 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as

Elizabeth Terrace, Nos. 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22. The number of occupants was 20. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 21st July, 1937, and a Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 6th October, 1937. The Order was confirmed by the Minister, without modification, on the 14th December, 1937. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(39) *Lakedale Road*.—On the 10th June, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 3 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Lakedale Road, Nos. 72, 74 and 76. The number of occupants was 9. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 21st July, 1937, and a Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 6th October, 1937. The Order was confirmed by the Minister, without modification, on the 14th December, 1937. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(40) *Jackson Street (No. 1)*.—On the 10th June, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 6 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Jackson Street, Nos. 33, 35, 37, 39, 41 and 43. The number of occupants was 18. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 21st July, 1937, and a Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 6th October, 1937. The Order was confirmed by the Minister, without modification, on the 14th December, 1937. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(41) *Jackson Street (No. 2)*.—On the 10th June, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 7 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Jackson Street, Nos. 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64 and 66. The number of occupants was 29. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 21st July, 1937, and a Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 6th October, 1937. The Order was confirmed by the Minister, without modification, on the 14th December, 1937. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(42) *Graydon Street*.—On the 10th June, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 5 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Graydon Street, Nos. 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19. The number of occupants was 21. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 21st July, 1937, and a Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 6th October, 1937. The Order was confirmed by the Minister, without modification, on the 14th December, 1937. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(43) *Court Yard*.—On the 8th July, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 11 houses as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Court Yard, Nos. 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31 and 33. The number of occupants was 37. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 28th September, 1937. As an objection to this Order was subsequently withdrawn, no Ministry of Health Inquiry was held, but an inspection was made. The Minister's decision was not known at the end of the year. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(44) *Sandy Hill Avenue*.—On the 8th July, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 19 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Sandy Hill Avenue, Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22. The number of occupants was 58. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 28th September, 1937, and a Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 14th December. The Minister's decision was not known at the end of the year. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(45) *Walmer Terrace*.—On the 8th July, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 15 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Walmer Terrace, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14, and Richmond Place, No. 1. The number of occupants was 57. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 28th September, 1937, and a Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 14th December. The Minister's decision was not known at the end of the year. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(46) *Spray Street*.—On the 8th July, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 2 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Spray Street, Nos. 10, and 10a. The number of occupants was 30. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 28th September, 1937, and a Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 14th December. The Minister's decision was not known at the end of the year. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(47) *Albert Road (No. 1)*.—On the 8th July, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 2 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Albert Road, Nos. 138 and 144. The number of occupants was 10. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 28th September, 1937. As the Order was unopposed there was no local Inquiry, but an inspection was made. The Minister's decision was not known at the end of the year. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(48) *Taylor's Buildings*.—On the 8th July, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 2 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Taylor's Buildings, Nos. 5 and 6. The number of occupants was 10. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 28th September, 1937, and a Ministry of Health Inquiry was to have been held on the 14th December. The owners submitted a scheme for the different user of the buildings and in order that this might be considered fully the Inquiry was adjourned by the Minister on the application of the Council. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(49) *Joseph Street*.—On the 9th September, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 16 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Joseph Street, Nos. 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27, and Glenalvon Street, No. 9. The number of occupants was 67. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 16th November, 1937. No Inquiry had been held at the end of the year. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(50) *Hill Street*.—On the 9th September, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 4 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Hill Street, Nos. 14, 15, 16 and 17. The number of occupants was 17. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 16th November, 1937. No objection has been made to the Order and the decision of the Minister of Health is awaited. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(51) *Old Mill Road*.—On the 9th September, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 4 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Old Mill Road, Nos. 11, 12, 13 and 14. The number of occupants was 11. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 16th November, 1937. No objection has been made to the Order, and the decision of the Minister of Health is awaited. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(52) *Churchfield Estate (No. 2)*.—On the 7th October, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 42 hutments, as an unhealthy area. The hutments in question are known as:—

Bliethdale Road— Nos. 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 66, 69, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, 83, 85, and 87.

Woodhurst Road— Nos. 94, 94a, 96, 96a, 98, 98a, 99, 101, 103 and 107

The number of occupants was 180. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 16th November, 1937. As the Order was unopposed there was no Inquiry, but an inspection was made. The Minister's decision was not known at the end of the year. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(53) *Churchfield Estate (No. 3)*.—On the 7th October, 1937, I represented this area consisting of 4 hutments as an unhealthy area. The hutments in question are known as Bliethdale Road, No. 62, and Myra Street, Nos. 23, 23a and 25. The number of occupants was 16. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 16th November, 1937. As the Order was unopposed there was no Inquiry, but an inspection was made. The Minister's decision was not known at the end of the year. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

(54) *Anglesea Avenue*.—On the 7th October, 1937, I represented this area, consisting of 3 houses, as an unhealthy area. The houses in question are known as Anglesea Avenue, Nos. 7, 8 and 9. The number of occupants was 3. The Council made a Clearance Order on the 16th November, 1937. No Inquiry had been held at the end of the year. Re-housing is to be provided on the Horn Park Estate.

The total number of houses included in these 54 areas is 481; the corresponding figures at the end of 1936 being 34 and 293 respectively. The clearance area programme of the Borough Council is not yet completed as there are quite a number of areas to be dealt with.

The story of unfit areas in Woolwich would not be complete without a reference to the programme of the London County Council in Woolwich. So far that body has dealt with three areas as under :—

(a) *Ropeyard Rails Areas*.—On the 26th November, 1935, Dr. W. E. Roper Saunders, a medical officer of health appointed by the London County Council for the purpose of carrying into effect Part I of the Housing Act, 1930, made an official representation with respect to a group of areas known as Ropeyard Rails Areas (Nos. 1 to 8). They comprise 125 houses, including 4 tenement houses with 38 flats. The displacement of 1,021 persons is involved. At their meeting on the 21st July, 1936, the London County Council declared each of these areas to be clearance areas.

(b) *Barnfield Road Areas*.—These areas, details of which were given in my report for last year, were represented to the Council on the 11th December, 1935, by Dr. J. Bruce Low. The Council subsequently made compulsory purchase orders in respect of the unfit areas and also certain adjoining houses and lands. On the 25th October, 1937, a Ministry of Health Inquiry was held. The Minister's decision was not known at the end of the year.

(c) *Parkdale Road Area*.—The Clearance Order in respect of this area of 8 houses was confirmed in 1936. At the end of 1937 all the houses had been demolished.

The County Council programme, like that of the Borough Council, is not yet complete.

HUTMENTS.—In my Annual Report for 1934, I reported on an agreed three-party scheme between the owners of certain hutments, the London County Council and the Council, for the re-housing of the tenants of Eltham hutments and for the demolition of the hutments.

The first of these dwellings was ready for occupation on the 1st September of that year, and at the end of 1937, the total number of families so re-housed was 863. The scheme was completed during the year and all these hutments have been demolished.

A further 127 hutments have been dealt with by Clearance Orders.

RE-HOUSING OF OLD PEOPLE.—It was decided by the Council in 1935 that where aged or infirm persons were re-housed from clearance areas the women sanitary inspectors should pay periodic visits to all such cases, in order to promote their general welfare and prevent the development of insanitary conditions. This practice was continued during the year with satisfactory results.

NEW HOUSES.—The following Table No. 37 shows the number of certificates of a proper and sufficient supply of water for new houses granted by the Health

Committee at each of their meetings. Of these 311 were in respect of houses built by the Council.

TABLE NO. 37.

Date of Meeting.	Woolwich.	Plumstead :		Eltham.	Total.
		West.	East.		
6th January	—	39	6	18	63
3rd February	—	45	8	109	162
9th March	—	46	6	71	123
7th April	5	11	—	87	103
5th May	1	19	26	166	212
9th June	—	29	13	69	111
1st July	—	36	11	31	78
21st July	—	22	7	118	147
8th September	—	40	41	85	166
6th October	—	24	6	33	63
3rd November	—	32	13	93	138
1st December	—	19	4	65	88
	6	362	141	945	1,454

COUNCIL'S HOUSES.—During the year the Council erected 236 houses and flats on the Middle Park Estate, 20 on the Timbercroft Lane Estate, and 10 on the Page Estate.

At the end of the year 106 houses were in course of erection on the Middle Park Estate. The total number of dwellings on the Council's new estates at the end of the year was 4,144.

The Council acquired additional land in Garland Road, Plumstead, for housing purposes, and it is proposed to erect on this site 176 dwellings.

INCREASE OF RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST (RESTRICTIONS) ACTS.—No applications for certificates under the provisions of the above were received.

TENTS AND VANS.—By-laws regulating the use of these were made by the Council in 1903. All tents and vans (which are few in number) were inspected regularly, and steps were taken to ensure that the by-laws were being observed. The total number of inspections made was 21.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.—No register is now kept of houses let in lodgings, but as the records of this Department in respect of individual houses are kept on cards, such houses are kept prominently before the district sanitary inspectors by means of "signals" on the cards, which serve as reminders to the inspectors that they are dealing with houses that would formerly have been registered. During the year 231 inspections of such houses were made.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—These are licensed annually by the Borough Council in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936. The number of inspections made during the year was 65. The following Table No. 38 shows details of the accommodation available in each common lodging house in the Borough.

TABLE No. 38.

Premises.	Accommodation Men.
60, Beresford Street	50
50, Woolwich High Street	22
93, Woolwich High Street	24
102, Woolwich High Street	22
4, Rope Yard Rails	15
7, Rope Yard Rails	24
10, Rope Yard Rails	51
10a and 11, Rope Yard Rails	62
21 and 21A Rope Yard Rails	42
	312

SECTION VII.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

In addition to food poisoning, which is reported on in Section V., the following diseases are notifiable in the Borough :—

Anthrax	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	Pneumonia—Acute Primary
Cholera	Pneumonia—Acute Influenzal
Continued Fever	Poliomyelitis
Diphtheria	Polio-encephalitis
Dysentery	Plague
Encephalitis Lethargica	Puerperal Fever
Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia
Enteric (or Typhoid) Fever	Relapsing Fever
Glanders	Scarlet Fever (or Scarlatina)
Hydrophobia	Smallpox
Malaria	Tuberculosis
Membraneous Croup	Typhus Fever
	Zymotic Enteritis

Although notification of an infectious disease in a house is incumbent not only upon the medical practitioner in attendance but also upon the head of the family or the nearest relative or person in charge of the patient, in actual fact it is a rare thing for a lay notification to be received. If the patient is an inmate of a Hospital, in most cases the certificate is to be sent to the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the usual residence of the patient is situate, but cases of malaria, dysentery and the acute pneumonias, are always notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the patient is residing at the time he is notified.

In London, the London County Council maintain institutions for the isolation and treatment of the sick suffering from infectious diseases. Cases from Woolwich are usually admitted to the Brook Hospital, Greenwich, or to the Park Hospital, Lewisham, but during times of pressure cases are sent to Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford, or indeed, to any of the fever hospitals belonging to the London County Council.

The less common infectious diseases are admitted to any of the London County Council's infectious disease hospitals, but it is the practice of the County Council to select certain of their hospitals for the treatment of such diseases as puerperal fever, or anterior poliomyelitis, so that special facilities and experience may be available for these cases.

The total number of notifications, excluding cases of tuberculosis, which are dealt with later in this Section, was 1,318, compared with 1,254 in 1936.

In tabular form are shown in the next five Tables statistics relating to the incidence of infectious disease in the Borough in 1937 and previous years.

TABLE No. 39.

Notifications of Infectious Disease (excluding Tuberculosis), 1937.

Diseases.	Total Cases Notified.	Admissions to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria	297	296	10
Scarlet Fever	428	410	—
Puerperal Fever	10	9	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	27	22	3
Enteric Fever (including Para-Typhoid Fever)	17	17	—
Erysipelas	73	52	3
Malaria	1	1	—
Dysentery	81	16	—
Poliomyelitis	4	4	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	1
Smallpox	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	10	10	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	33	11	—
Zymotic Enteritis	65	56	16
Pneumonia	272	125	105
Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—
*Measles (including German Measles) ..	76	9	—
	1,394	1,038	143

*Not notifiable.

TABLE No. 40.
 Notifications of Infectious Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis), 1937.

DISEASES.	Number of Cases Notified.												
	Age Groups.												
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 3 years.	3 and under 4 years.	4 and under 5 years.	5 and under 10 years.	10 and under 15 years.	15 and under 20 years.	20 and under 35 years.	35 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and over.
Diphtheria	297	8	6	18	25	24	113	43	16	29	10	4	1
Scarlet Fever	428	2	11	28	32	32	188	65	29	26	12	3	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid Fever)	17	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	8	2	2	—
Puerperal Fever	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	2	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	22	3	—	—
Erysipelas	73	2	—	1	—	—	1	2	2	7	11	33	14
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	272	14	9	5	6	7	22	7	14	40	40	69	39
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	33	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	81	1	2	7	3	2	9	5	13	22	5	11	1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	10	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	3	2	—	1	—
Poliomyelitis	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—
Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zymotic Enteritis	65	33	11	5	—	1	2	3	3	3	2	2	—
*Measles (including German Measles)	76	8	5	2	7	7	38	6	—	3	—	—	—
* Not notifiable.	1,394	102	44	66	74	75	376	134	86	170	87	125	55

TABLE No. 41.

Ward Incidence of Infectious Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis), 1937.

Disease.	Borough	Dockyard.	St. Mary's.	River.	St. George's.	Burrage.	Herbert.	Glyndon.	St. Margaret's.	Central.	St. Nicholas.	Abbey Wood.	Well Hall.	Avery Hill.	Sherard.
Diphtheria	297	14	14	14	17	21	7	61	21	17	34	25	5	5	42
Scarlet Fever	428	9	17	13	21	23	24	39	35	32	43	32	17	39	84
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid Fever)	17	3	—	1	—	2	—	1	2	—	5	—	—	1	1
Puerperal Fever	10	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	27	3	1	4	1	2	1	—	2	3	—	—	4	1	5
Erysipelas	73	1	3	7	1	7	6	4	5	4	8	6	5	3	13
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	272	4	14	26	8	22	11	25	27	10	37	26	8	24	30
Malaria	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	33	2	1	1	—	2	—	—	2	4	5	8	2	—	6
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	81	1	1	7	7	3	8	—	10	3	6	2	7	20	6
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	10	1	—	1	1	3	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis	4	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zymotic Enteritis	65	3	—	9	1	2	2	4	5	3	15	2	—	9	10
*Measles (including German Measles)	76	3	2	3	8	5	2	3	5	—	8	6	1	22	8
* Not notifiable.	1,394	44	55	87	65	93	63	137	115	76	163	109	50	126	211

TABLE No. 42.

Deaths from Infectious Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis), 1937.

DISEASES.	Number of Deaths.											
	All Ages.	Age Groups.										
		Under 1	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-
Diphtheria	10	1	1	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Para-typhoid Fever)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	105	12	3	1	2	2	3	4	12	19	24	23
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	5	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zymotic Enteritis	16	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
*Measles (including German Measles)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
* Not notifiable.	143	26	5	5	6	5	6	4	13	22	28	23

TABLE No. 43.

Notification of Infectious Diseases (including Tuberculosis), 1916 to 1937.

Year.	Smallpox	Diphtheria and Mem. Croup.	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	§Puerperal Pyrexia.	Primary Pneumonia.	Influenzal Pneumonia.	Malaria.	Dysentery.	Anthrax.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.	Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis.	†Zymotic Enteritis.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Tuberculosis Non-pulmonary.	†Measles	× Chicken Pox.	
1916	1	271	95	232	9	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	—	17	—	80	392	77	1,590	—	
1917	—	277	79	147	12	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	—	22	1	101	448	95	1,710	—	
1918	—	240	61	222	12	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	23	—	11	3	118	563	97	800	—	
1919	4	398	63	243	26	—	7	—	123	—	61	7	1	34	3	7	1	123	394	80	1,886	—	
1920	1	427	82	538	6	—	13	—	136	—	29	1	—	29	3	6	—	31	359	69	1,013	—	
1921	—	592	59	1,351	11	—	14	—	187	49	10	4	—	32	9	2	—	454	285	71	481	—	
1922	—	437	37	511	8	1	11	—	212	133	11	—	—	26	3	2	4	31	245	60	2,698	—	
1923	—	152	40	334	16	—	8	—	196	46	4	1	—	18	1	5	6	49	245	66	194	—	
1924	—	195	45	440	11	—	7	—	249	105	3	1	—	27	17	12	5	13	273	69	2,679	—	
1925	—	299	44	364	16	—	9	—	237	40	5	1	—	31	10	5	1	13	246	54	1,916	—	
1926	—	393	46	411	8	1	4	7	259	33	5	—	—	18	7	9	5	23	287	52	1,246	—	
1927	—	278	65	478	9	—	8	30	280	36	3	1	—	19	6	4	3	12	269	84	457	—	
1928	3	300	89	529	17	—	20	28	216	14	12	1	—	14	8	3	3	5	263	62	2,418	—	
1929	5	496	80	567	7	—	15	38	293	90	5	—	1	17	4	9	4	8	250	52	151	—	
1930	10	497	77	627	8	—	5	31	262	21	2	1	—	8	—	2	22	244	55	2,702	597	—	
1931	3	281	80	387	3	—	8	41	327	44	3	—	—	7	2	12	6	3	229	51	113	672	—
1932	7	233	44	554	3	—	5	35	199	48	2	1	—	7	2	15	6	11	235	48	3,135	—	
1933	2	370	67	1,004	5	—	4	36	181	68	2	—	—	9	—	9	2	5	207	45	354	—	
1934	—	416	119	989	8	—	5	30	273	7	1	—	—	7	—	4	3	3	219	50	2,392	—	
1935	—	313	78	634	9	—	3	42	230	25	—	1	—	17	1	3	2	5	209	33	656	—	
1936	—	176	68	609	12	—	5	23	231	18	2	4	—	26	1	15	1	63	217	36	2,060	—	
1937	—	297	73	428	17	—	10	27	196	76	1	81	—	33	—	10	4	65	228	36	76	—	

§Notification of Puerperal Pyrexia commenced October, 1926.

†Measles notifiable from 1/1/1916 to 31/12/1919.

‡Compulsory notification of Zymotic Enteritis commenced 1913

× Chicken Pox was made notifiable from April, 1930 to 30th September, 1931.

DIPHThERIA.

Notification.—During the year 297 cases were notified compared with 176 in 1936 and 313 in 1935. There were 7 military cases. The number of notifications received each quarter was as follows :—

First quarter ..	67	Second quarter ..	40
Third quarter ..	57	Fourth quarter ..	133

Multiple Cases.—The following Table, No. 44, shows the house distribution in wards. The term "house" is synonymous with the term "family," except in two instances where two and three families respectively were involved.

TABLE No. 44.

Diphtheria—Multiple Cases, 1937.

	Dockyard.	St. Mary's.	River.	St. George's.	Burrage.	Herbert.	Glyndon.	St. Margaret's.	Central.	St. Nicholas.	Abbey Wood.	Well Hall.	Avery Hill.	Sherard.	Total Houses.	Total Cases.
Number of houses in which																
1 case occurred	10	10	12	6	13	7	44	19	15	24	21	5	5	30	221	221
2 cases occurred	2	2	1	2	2	—	7	1	1	5	2	—	—	3	28	56
3 " "	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	9
4 " "	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
Total houses ..	12	12	13	8	16	7	52	20	16	29	23	5	5	35	253	290
Military Cases ..	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
																297

Return Cases.—Seven cases gave rise to seven return cases.

Deaths.—There were 10 deaths from diphtheria compared with 7 in 1936 and 13 in 1935. Six of these were of children under five years of age and 4 were of school children.

Antitoxin.—A supply of antitoxin is kept at the Town Hall and at Eltham Library and is available for medical practitioners on application, at cost price, or free, where there is inability to pay. The amount supplied during the year was 64,000 units. The total cost to the Council was £2 18s. 8d., all of which was recovered.

Immunisation.—In 1934, the Council, with the co-operation of the local medical profession, started a scheme for the immunisation of children against diphtheria. The scheme is one in which immunisation is carried out by general practitioners and it was set out in full in my Annual Report for 1934. Slight modifications which are referred to in my Annual Report for 1935 were made during that year.

During 1937, 552 children were immunised and a further 28 were found not to require immunisation. Since the scheme started in November 1934, 2,363 children in all have been immunised.

In order to ascertain whether a child is susceptible to diphtheria or not, use is made of the Schick Test. This may be done before immunisation, but it must be carried out after immunisation in order to ascertain whether the desired result has been obtained. Schick testing clinics have been held as often as was necessary. The figures for the year follow. Before a course of immunisation 82 children were found to be Schick positive and 28 Schick negative; after immunisation, including children immunised in 1936, 428 were found to be negative and 39 positive; 4 children failed to attend. The remaining children were waiting until the requisite time had passed to enable immunity to be developed.

The total amount of fees paid to general practitioners for immunisation during the year was £275 7s. 6d. The other costs amounted to £58 0s. 0d.

SCARLET FEVER.

Notification.—During the year 428 cases were notified compared with 609 in 1936 and 634 in 1935. There were 20 military cases. The number of notifications received each quarter was as follows :—

First quarter . . . 90	Second quarter . . . 90
Third quarter . . . 108	Fourth quarter . . . 140

Multiple Cases.—The following Table, No. 45, shows the house distribution by wards. The term "house" is synonymous with the term "family" except in three instances where two families were involved.

TABLE No. 45.

Scarlet Fever—Multiple Cases, 1937.

	Dockyard.	St. Mary's.	River.	St. George's.	Burrage.	Herbert.	Glyndon.	St. Margaret's.	Central.	St. Nicholas.	Abbey Wood.	Well Hall.	Avery Hill.	Sherard.	Total Houses.	Total Cases.
Number of houses in which																
1 case occurred	7	9	11	7	15	18	24	22	28	35	28	13	30	59	306	306
2 cases occurred	1	-	1	1	1	3	4	3	2	1	2	2	3	4	28	56
3 " "	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	1	4	11	33
4 " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	8
5 " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5
Total houses ..	8	9	12	8	18	21	30	27	30	38	30	15	34	68	348	408
Military Cases ..	-	8	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
																428

Return Cases.—The following Table, No. 46, shows the number of return cases, the dates of admission to hospital, and the dates of discharge from hospital. It will be noted that in most of these cases the primary case was less than four weeks in hospital.

TABLE No. 46.

Scarlet Fever—Return Cases, 1937.

No. in Register.	Date Admitted to Hospital.	Date Discharged.	Total Days in Hospital.	Onset of Secondary Case.	Remarks on Primary Case.
78	1937. March 9th ..	1937. May 4th ..	57	1937. May 21st ..	—
102	April 1st ..	May 4th ..	34		
83	March 19th ..	April 10th ..	22	April 15th ..	—
93	April 2nd ..	April 24th ..	23	May 2nd ..	—
125	May 2nd ..	May 26th ..	25	June 4th ..	—
138	May 14th ..	June 8th ..	26	June 13th	Desquamation not complete.
153	May 30th ..	June 23rd ..	25	June 30th ..	—
238	August 25th ..	September 18th	25	October 9th ..	—

TABLE No. 46—*continued.*

No. in Register.	Date Admitted to Hospital.	Date Discharged.	Total days in Hospital.	Onset of Secondary Case.	Remarks on Primary Case.
280	1937. September 24th	1937. October 22nd ..	29	1937. November 14th	—
289	October 1st ..	October 25th ..	25		
309	October 14th ..	November 10th	28	December 3rd	Nasal discharge.
326	October 22nd ..	November 23rd	33	November 27th	—
329	October 24th ..	November 19th	27	December 17th	—
373	November 20th	December 11th	22	December 14th December 26th	—

Deaths.—There were no deaths from scarlet fever during the year, compared with 4 in 1936.

Home Isolation.—Nineteen cases, or 4.4 per cent., were isolated at home and in no instance did a return case occur. Frequent visits are made by the district sanitary inspectors to a case isolated at home in order to ensure that proper precautions are being taken to prevent the spread of the disease. Employees of the Royal Arsenal are not allowed to remain at work unless cases are removed to hospital, or a certificate of efficient home isolation is issued by the Medical Officer of Health. Two such certificates were issued during the year.

PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

Thirty-seven cases were notified during the year, compared with 28 in 1936 and 45 in 1935. In 27 instances notification was in respect of puerperal pyrexia, but at least two of these notifications should have been puerperal fever. In one instance the disease was a sequel of abortion. Thirty-one cases received hospital treatment. No cases were nursed under the Council's scheme, and no bacteriological examinations were made. Mr. Harold Taylor, the Council's consultant, in consultation with the doctors in attendance, saw two patients.

Deaths.—There were no deaths, compared with 2 in 1936 and 1 in 1935.

ERYSIPELAS.

The number of notifications of erysipelas was 73, compared with 68 in 1936 and 78 in 1935. There were 3 deaths.

MALARIA.

One case of this disease—a military case—was notified.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Seventeen cases were notified, all of whom were treated in hospital. There were no deaths. The following Table, No. 47, gives details of each case notified.

TABLE No. 47.

Enteric Fever 1937.

No.	Date Notified.	Sex.	Age.	Diagnosis.	Final Diagnosis.	Remarks.
1	31/1/37	M.	28	Typhoid Fever ..	Enteric Fever	—
2	10/3/37	F.	28	Enteric Fever ..	Enteric Fever	—
3	16/3/37	F.	39	Enteric Fever ..	Paratyphoid B.	—
4	20/3/37	M.	4	Typhoid Fever ..	Enteric Fever	—
5	22/3/37	M.	16	Enteric Fever ..	Enteric Fever	—
6	22/3/37	M.	13	Enteric Fever ..	Enteric Fever	—
7	25/3/37	M.	47	Typhoid Fever ..	Renal Tuberculosis ..	—
8	7/5/37	M.	51	Paratyphoid Fever	Sub-phrenic Abscess ..	—
9	31/5/37	M.	29	Enteric Fever ..	Paratyphoid Fever ..	—
10	22/6/37	F.	22	Typhoid Fever ..	Scarlet Fever	—
11	9/8/37	M.	24	Typhoid Fever ..	Enteric Fever	—
12	25/8/37	M.	12	Paratyphoid B. ..	Paratyphoid B.	—
13	30/8/37	F.	8	Paratyphoid B. ..	Paratyphoid B.	—
14	31/8/37	F.	41	Enteric Fever ..	Food Poisoning (Bac. Gaertner)	—
15	3/9/37	M.	20	Paratyphoid Fever	Paratyphoid Fever ..	—
16	9/10/37	F.	33	Typhoid Fever ..	Enteric Fever	—
17	26/10/37	M.	28	Typhoid Fever ..	Sonne Dysentery ..	—

DYSENTERY.

The number of cases notified during the year was 81, only 3 of which had been notified prior to the end of October. On the 9th day of November, 1937, I drew the attention of medical practitioners practising in the Borough to the incidence of Sonne Dysentery in London, and following on this 48 cases were notified during November and 30 during December. Steps were not taken to confirm the diagnoses bacteriologically except in a few instances. One case was so confirmed. The disease was mild. The number of notified cases of Dysentery in 1936 was 4.

ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS.

Four notifications of anterior poliomyelitis were received during the year, compared with one in 1936 and two in 1935. All these cases were admitted to the

special ward reserved for such cases by the London County Council at the Western Hospital.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

No case of this disease was notified during the year. The present condition of seven cases notified in previous years was investigated at the request of the County Medical Officer.

SMALLPOX.

There were no cases of smallpox.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

Ten cases were notified, compared with 15 in 1936 and 3 in 1935. There was one military case. All the cases were removed to hospital. Details of each are given in the following Table, No. 48.

TABLE No. 48.

Cerebro-spinal Meningitis, 1937.

No.	Date Notified.	Sex.	Age.	Ultimate Diagnosis.	Remarks.
1	17/1/37	M.	3	Broncho-pneumonia	—
2	15/3/37	M.	15	Cerebro-spinal meningitis ..	Died
3	30/3/37	F.	15	Cerebro-spinal meningitis ..	—
4	30/3/37	F.	21	Cerebro-spinal meningitis ..	Died
5	15/4/37	M.	15	Cerebro-spinal meningitis ..	—
6	10/5/37	M.	55	Cerebro-spinal meningitis ..	Died
7	18/5/37	F.	11/12	Cerebro-spinal meningitis ..	Military case
8	26/6/37	M.	6	Aseptic meningitis	—
9	4/9/37	M.	21	Infective endocarditis	Died
10	26/10/37	M.	4	Pneumococcal meningitis ..	Died

WHOOPING COUGH.

During the year 249 cases of Whooping Cough came to the knowledge of the Department, compared with 452 in 1936 and 266 in 1935. As this disease is not notifiable in the Borough, knowledge is usually obtained through the School Medical Service, but exceptionally cases are notified by medical practitioners and occasionally cases are discovered by the health visitors in their routine visits.

Nursing.—Eight cases were nursed under the Council's scheme, 118 visits in all being paid. The cost of this service was £5 13s. 0d.

Deaths.—There were 5 deaths certified to be due to this disease, compared with 8 in 1936.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Thirty-three cases were notified, eleven of which were admitted to hospital. Nursing assistance in accordance with the Council's scheme was given in the remaining twenty-two cases, 604 visits in all being paid. The cost of this service was £30 4s. 0d. The following Table, No. 49, gives details of each case.

TABLE No. 49.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1937.

Notified Date.	Cases Treated		Vision Impaired.	Vision Unimpaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
2/1/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
3/1/37	—	Yes	—	Yes	—	—
23/1/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
2/2/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
25/2/37	—	Yes	—	—	—	Died (Prematurity)
23/3/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
25/3/37	—	Yes	—	Yes	—	—
10/4/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
14/5/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
15/5/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
18/5/37	—	Yes	—	Yes	—	—
10/6/37	—	Yes	—	Yes	—	—
16/6/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
29/6/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
6/7/37	—	Yes	—	Yes	—	—
7/7/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
11/8/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
11/8/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
13/8/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
20/9/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
22/9/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
5/10/37	—	Yes	—	Yes	—	—
5/10/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
16/10/37	—	Yes	—	Yes	—	—
27/10/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
3/11/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
6/11/37	—	Yes	—	Yes	—	—
8/11/37	—	Yes	—	—	—	Died (Starvation and neglect of others).
12/11/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
20/11/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
8/12/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
10/12/37	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—
23/12/37	—	Yes	—	Yes	—	—

ZYMOTIC ENTERITIS.

Sixty-five cases were notified during the year compared with 63 in 1936 and 5 in 1935. The age incidence is given in Table No. 40. Zymotic enteritis at all ages and not limited to any particular months has been notifiable in Woolwich for many years. The number of deaths in children under two years of age certified to be due to diarrhoeal diseases was 13.

MEASLES.

The two main sources of our knowledge of the incidence of measles in the Borough are the School Medical Service and the health visitors. Occasionally, however, information comes through the local nursing associations and from parents. During the year 76 cases (including 37 cases of German Measles) were discovered. In 1936 and 1935 the corresponding figures were 2,060 and 656.

The incidence in each of the twelve months of the year was as follows :—

January	2	February	5	March	2
April	19	May	8	June	15
July	6	August	3	September	4
October	5	November	6	December	1

Home Nursing.—In one case nursing assistance was provided, 21 visits in all being paid. The cost to the Council was £1 1s. 0d.

Hospital Treatment.—The number of children admitted to fever hospitals was nine.

Deaths.—There were no deaths.

PNEUMONIA.

The number of cases notified was 272, compared with 249 in 1936. Of these 76 were influenzal. The number of deaths certified to be due to lobar or bronchial pneumonia was 105 and to acute influenzal pneumonia 37. The ward incidence of the pneumonias is shown in Table No. 41.

There is misunderstanding about the notification of pneumonia. All primary pneumonias—lobar or broncho—have to be notified. Secondary pneumonias, with the single exception of acute influenzal pneumonia, are not notifiable. The main objects underlying notification are to provide (a) statistical evidence of the prevalence of the disease or diseases and (b) nursing assistance if required.

The following Table, No. 50 shows the number of notifications of pneumonia received each month, classified by sex and according to type. It also shows the number of deaths occurring from acute primary pneumonia and influenzal pneumonia.

TABLE No. 50.

Monthly Incidence of Pneumonia, 1937.

Month.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Type.				No. of Deaths.	
				Lobar.	Broncho.	Influenzal.	Acute Primary (not specified)	Acute Primary Pneumonia.	Influenzal Pneumonia.
January ..	39	39	78	6	4	46	22	17	25
February ..	13	11	24	5	5	10	4	7	7
March ..	15	16	31	8	3	5	15	14	4
April ..	9	4	13	4	1	2	6	7	1
May ..	6	5	11	4	3	3	1	8	—
June ..	8	7	15	7	—	—	8	4	—
July ..	5	4	9	3	2	—	4	3	—
August ..	4	5	9	2	1	—	6	6	—
September ..	9	4	13	3	—	3	7	5	—
October ..	15	6	21	4	2	4	11	7	—
November ..	14	9	23	3	2	1	17	14	—
December ..	16	9	25	7	3	2	13	13	—
	153	119	272	56	26	76	114	105	37

Nursing.—Nursing assistance is provided by the Council for cases of pneumonia, and during the year 33 cases were nursed, 862 visits being paid by the nurses of the local nursing associations. The total cost to the Council was £53 17s. 6d.

Anti-Pneumococcal Serum.—During the year the Council provided, free of charge to medical practitioners, anti-pneumococcal serum (Felton's) for the treatment of persons suffering from pneumonia. The total cost to the Council was £36 0s. 0d.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Staff.—One whole-time Tuberculosis Officer is in charge of the Tuberculosis Service under the general administrative control of the Medical Officer of Health. He is assisted by three medical officers who are whole-time officers in the service of the Council. These officers devote three half-days per week each to tuberculosis work, and eight half-days to maternity and child welfare. There are also three

whole-time tuberculosis health visitors each of whom is responsible, among other duties, for one of the three districts into which the borough is divided for tuberculosis work ; one clerk-dispenser, who is also secretary of the Care Committee, and one clerk. No changes in the staffing of this Service took place during the year.

The service embraces the following ramifications :—

- (a) The administration of the Tuberculosis Regulations of 1925 and 1930.
- (b) Bacteriological examination of sputum.
- (c) The provision of outdoor shelters for use at the homes of patients.
- (d) The provision of two Tuberculosis Dispensaries.
- (e) Home visiting of tuberculous cases.
- (f) Arrangements for following up cases where diagnosis is doubtful.
- (g) Arrangements for securing the examination and systematic supervision of home contacts.
- (h) Visiting and medical examination of cases for the Ministry of Pensions.
- (i) Provision of extra nourishment.
- (j) Agreements with the War Memorial Hospital for X-ray examinations and with the London County Council for X-ray work at St. Nicholas Hospital.
- (k) Co-operation with the medical staff of the local London County Council General Hospital, the Tuberculosis Officer acting as consultant for tuberculous patients.
- (l) An agreement with the London Hospital for Finsen Light treatment of lupus, and with the War Memorial Hospital for other forms of Light treatment.
- (m) Agreements with Brompton and other hospitals for the maintenance of artificial pneumothorax and in conjunction therewith treatment by gold salts when necessary.
- (n) An agreement with the School Treatment Committee for the provision of dental treatment.
- (o) Provision of nursing assistance in certain cases.
- (p) Co-operation with the maternity and child welfare service.
- (q) Co-operation with the School Medical Service.
- (r) Co-operation with the Public Assistance Committee (London County Council).
- (s) Co-operation between the Tuberculosis Officer and the local medical practitioners.
- (t) A Tuberculosis Care Committee.
- (u) Institutional treatment through the London County Council.

Deaths.—Deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis during 1937 numbered 105, giving a death rate of 0.70 per 1,000 of the population. The corresponding figures for 1936 were 104 and 0.71 respectively. Deaths from non-pulmonary forms of tuberculosis numbered 14 as against 12 for the preceding year, the death rate being 0.09 per 1,000 of the population. The total number of pulmonary and non-pulmonary deaths was 119 and the combined mortality rate was 0.79. The following table shows the number of deaths and death rates every year since 1933.

TABLE No. 51.

Tuberculosis—Deaths and Death Rates.

Year.	Deaths.			Death-rates.		
	All Forms.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	All Forms.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
1933 ..	135	116	19	0.92	0.79	0.13
1934 ..	146	120	26	1.00	0.82	0.18
1935 ..	136	121	15	0.93	0.82	0.10
1936 ..	116	104	12	0.79	0.71	0.08
1937 ..	119	105	14	0.79	0.70	0.09

The following table sets out certified causes of deaths which occurred in notified cases but from other diseases.

TABLE No. 52.

Case No.	Date Notified as Tuberculosis.	Cause of Death.
1	10/4/33	Bronchitis.
2	25/10/22	Carcinoma of Rectum.
3	17/1/30	Acute Lobar Pneumonia.
4	29/7/29	Cardiac Disease. Bronchitis.
5	28/1/30	Carcinoma of Bladder.
6	26/1/37	Myocardial degeneration. Chronic Bronchitis.
7	3/7/33	Senile Decay.

Table No. 53, which follows, shows the period which elapsed between notification of the disease and death therefrom. Ten pulmonary cases and four non-pulmonary were not notified. The ratio of non-notified deaths to the total tuberculous deaths was as 1 is to 8. In the previous two years the corresponding ratios were as 1 is to 14 and as 1 is to 19 respectively.

TABLE No. 53.

Period between Notification and Death.	Pulmonary.	Percentages.	Non-Pulmonary.	Percentages.
Not notified	10	9.52	4	28.57
0-1 month	14	13.34	5	35.72
1-3 months	8	7.62	2	14.29
3-6 months	7	6.67	1	7.14
6-12 months	13	12.38	1	7.14
1-2 years	18	17.14	—	—
2-5 years	15	14.29	1	7.14
Over 5 years	20	19.04	—	—
	105	100.00	14	100.00

It will now be convenient to deal with the ramifications of the Tuberculosis Service, as set out above, in the order of their headings.

Administration of the Tuberculosis Regulations.—The Regulations of 1930 provide for the notification of cases of tuberculosis, for the correct maintenance of the tuberculosis register, and for the preparation and dispatch of periodic returns to the County Medical Officer.

- (1) Table No. 54 which follows gives a summary of cases coming to the knowledge of the Health Department in 1937 and includes notifications received from general practitioners, cases which were not notified but included in the death returns and cases transferred from other areas. Duplicate notifications are not included. Deaths occurring during the year are classified by age and sex groups in the same table.

TABLE No. 54.

Tuberculosis—New Cases and Mortality, 1937.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	3	3	3	1	2	—	—	1
5—15 years	5	5	7	4	1	—	2	1
15—25 years	33	43	6	7	8	10	3	2
25—35 years	27	20	4	3	9	11	—	2
35—45 years	19	17	1	2	8	11	—	—
45—55 years	19	9	2	1	13	5	1	—
55—65 years	19	5	1	1	18	2	—	1
65 and upwards ..	7	3	—	—	5	2	1	—
Totals	132	105	24	19	64	41	7	7

Excluding duplicates, 228 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 36 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified. Fifty-three duplicate notifications were received during the year due in most instances to the fact that notifications are given both by general practitioners and hospital medical officers who are ignorant of each other's action.

The following table shows the actual number of new cases notified during 1937 and the corresponding case rates.

TABLE No. 55.

	Woolwich.	Plumstead.	Eltham.	The Borough.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis :				
Cases	47	112	69	228
Rates	1.61	1.59	1.41	1.52
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis :				
Cases	4	13	19	36
Rates	0.14	0.18	0.38	0.26

Table No. 56, shows the site of disease in patients notified since 1928 :—

TABLE No. 56.

Year.	Lungs.	Meninges.	Intestines and Peri- toneum.	Glands.	Joints.	Spine.	Other Forms.	All Causes.
1928 ..	263	10	8	17	11	5	11	325
1929 ..	250	7	7	16	11	6	5	302
1930 ..	244	6	5	18	15	3	8	299
1931 ..	229	11	5	18	8	2	7	280
1932 ..	235	6	6	11	8	5	12	283
1933 ..	207	7	4	14	10	4	6	252
1934 ..	219	8	6	12	9	2	13	269
1935 ..	209	5	2	10	5	4	7	242
1936 ..	217	4	10	11	4	3	4	253
1937 ..	228	5	4	9	8	2	8	264

It will be noted that there has been a progressive decline in the number of notifications received year by year, but it must be realised that in spite of this continual fall, both in notifications and death rates, the amount of work connected with each patient has steadily increased owing to the development of surgical forms of treatment which have to be controlled by more frequent X-ray examinations and the closer supervision of each patient.

Notified cases of tuberculosis occurred in the various wards of the borough as follows, the first figure being that for pulmonary disease and the second that for non-pulmonary :—

Dockyard, 10 and 2 ; St. Mary's, 7 and nil ; River, 23 and 2 ; St. George's, 8 and nil ; Burrage 14 and 1 ; Herbert, 16 and 1 ; Glyndon, 14 and 2 ; St. Margaret's, 15 and 1 ; Central, 14 and 3 ; St. Nicholas, 22 and 2 ; Abbey Wood, 13 and 3 ; Well Hall, 11 and 3 ; Avery Hill, 26 and 8 ; and Sherard, 35 and 8.

- (2) Every endeavour is made to keep the Tuberculosis Register correctly, and this necessitates the deletion of all those who have died, been lost sight of, or who have removed to other areas, or who are regarded as cured, or those in whom the diagnosis has not been confirmed. Additions to the register consist of new cases, lost cases who have been traced,

patients who relapse after having been removed as cured, and also transfers from other areas. Woolwich received 29 transfers from other areas, and outward transfers numbered 68. Table No. 57 which follows shows the changes in the register between the 1st January, 1937 and 31st December, of that year.

TABLE No. 57.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Totals.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Number on Register on 1st January, 1937 ..	454	335	91	88	968
Number of new Cases notified	123	105	21	15	264
Number of Cases restored	7	11	1	1	20
Other additions	12	9	5	1	27
Deletions	165	119	35	32	351
Number on Register on 31st December, 1937	431	341	83	73	928

- (3) Weekly and quarterly returns were furnished during the year to the County Medical Officer.

The County of London (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, enable the County Council to maintain or arrange for the maintenance, otherwise than in their homes, of children living in London in houses where, owing to overcrowding or otherwise, they are, in the opinion of the County Medical Officer, in danger of being infected with tuberculosis; or whose parent or parents are receiving institutional treatment for tuberculosis and for whose care adequate arrangements cannot otherwise be made. During the year under review the County Council made arrangements for nine children under these regulations.

The Regulations of 1925 provide for the compulsory discontinuance of a person suffering from infectious respiratory tuberculosis from employment involving the handling or treatment of milk, and are enforceable by the local authority. One such case was dealt with during the year without formal resort to the regulations.

Bacteriological Examination of Sputum.—During the year 506 specimens of sputum were examined at the Dispensary, and 78 of these were positive and 428 negative. A further 536 specimens sent either by general practitioners or by the Dispensary staff during holiday periods were examined at the War Memorial Hospital and of these 69 were positive and 467 negative. The total number of specimens examined was 1,042.

Out-door Shelters at the Homes of Patients.—The Council maintain twelve shelters for use by patients who return from sanatorium and are willing to continue open-air treatment in their own gardens. Nine were in constant use during the year. No charge is made for these shelters.

The Work of the Dispensaries.—The main Dispensary is at Maxey Road, Plumstead and the branch dispensary in Eltham. The branch dispensary, opened in 1931 in one of the hutments in Well Hall Road, had to be transferred temporarily to 11, Carnecke Gardens, in July, 1936, as the hutments were being demolished. Plans for a new and more convenient building were under consideration at the close of the year. Eight separate clinical sessions in all are held for men, women and children five at Woolwich and three at Eltham; the Eltham clinics being held on Monday afternoons for men and Wednesday and Friday mornings for women and children. One evening session a week is held on Thursdays from 4.30 to 7.30 p.m. A medical officer is in attendance at the main dispensary each week-day.

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, the dispensary figures are shown for the borough as a whole and not for individual dispensaries. The total number of attendances at the dispensaries during 1937 was 5,751. Of the new patients (257) notified during the year, 205 attended the dispensary, i.e., 79.7 per cent. The corresponding percentages in 1935 and 1936 were 77.2 and 73.5.

A return of the work of the dispensaries is given in Table No. 58.

Home Visiting of Tuberculous Cases.—On receipt of a notification the home is visited by one of the tuberculosis visitors who advises as to any re-arrangement of sleeping and other accommodation that is desirable and possible in the interests of the family as a whole. After an interval a second visit is made by one of the medical staff to ascertain how far the recommendations have been adopted. For the purpose of supervising the homes of patients the borough is divided into three areas, each tuberculosis visitor being responsible for about 300 families. These are visited as a routine measure once in three months, but if necessary more frequent visits are paid and the relatives are invited to the dispensary to see the Care Committee Secretary in case of any difficulty.

Cases of Doubtful Diagnosis.—The routine employment of X-rays in the examination of new patients has reduced the number of doubtful cases, but there still remain a number—especially children—who have to be kept under observation for a time. By a routine review of the case papers of all such patients control is maintained and non-attenders are urged to come up again by the tuberculosis visitors.

TABLE No. 58.

Return showing the work of the dispensaries for 1937.

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY.				TOTAL.				GRAND TOTAL.	
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
A.—NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts) :—														
(a) Definitely tuberculous	129	90	6	2	12	11	5	7	141	101	11	9	262	
(b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	
(c) Non-tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	187	214	96	82	579	
B.—CONTACTS examined during the year :—														
(a) Definitely tuberculous	4	12	3	6	—	—	—	—	4	12	3	6	25	
(b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	4	
(c) Non-tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	115	175	126	104	520	
C.—CASES written off the Dispensary Register as:—														
(a) Recovered	40	26	2	—	10	11	8	—	50	37	10	—	97	
(b) Non-tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the Dispensary Register as tuberculous)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	310	398	225	186	1119	
D.—NUMBER OF CASES on Dispensary Register on December 31st :—														
(a) Definitely tuberculous	366	319	28	25	40	48	23	24	406	367	51	49	873	
(b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	1	6	

TABLE No. 58—*continued.*

Return showing the work of the Dispensaries for 1937.

1. Number of cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st	877
2. Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years	8
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the tuberculosis scheme, and cases "lost sight of"	83
4. Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes)	99
5. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts) ..	5,751
6. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December	227
7. Number of consultations with medical practitioners :—	
(a) Personal	133
(b) Other	987
8. Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officers to homes (including personal consultations)	397
9. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes	4,000
10. Number of :—	
(a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined	506
(b) X-ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work	1,050
11. Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A (a) and A (b) above	10
12. Number of "T.B. plus" cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st	337

Number of Dispensaries for the treatment of Tuberculosis (excluding centres used only for special forms of treatment).

Provided by the Council	2
Provided by Voluntary Bodies	Nil

The Examination of Home Contacts.—On the occurrence of a new case of tuberculosis every endeavour is made to get the other inmates of the house to attend for examination. The most difficult contacts are the young adolescents, who cannot always be persuaded of the necessity for attendance. In cases of non-attendance the efforts of the tuberculosis visitor are supplemented by a visit from one of the medical officers. During the year 555 contacts were examined.

The result of the Mantoux test on 269 children again shows a very much higher percentage of positive results where children are in contact with a positive case.

TABLE No. 59.

<i>Contacts.</i>	0-5 <i>years.</i>	5-10 <i>years.</i>	10-15 <i>years.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Percentage.</i>
Positive result	18	26	29	73	45.62
Negative result	29	37	21	87	54.38
<i>Non-Contacts.</i>					
Positive result	3	9	6	18	16.51
Negative result	44	28	19	91	83.49

Work for the Ministry of Pensions.—Although it is now rare for official reports to the Ministry to be asked for, assistance is occasionally rendered in the case of pensioners in conjunction with the British Red Cross or United Services Fund, etc.

Extra Nourishment.—Adequate nourishment is now generally recognised as being the basis on which other assistance to tuberculous patients must be founded, and extra nourishment in the form of butter, eggs and milk is supplied when required on the certificate of the Tuberculosis Officer. The expenditure on this service is limited to £2 per 1,000 of the population, and under the regulations it is supplied to such cases where it will definitely help progress and it is not supplied where there is no reasonable prospect of improvement. Those who are in receipt of Public Assistance are not dealt with as regards extra nourishment under the Borough Council's scheme, but by the Public Assistance Committee, and it is a great pleasure to record the whole-hearted co-operation given by this Committee and its officers.

X-ray Examinations.—Every new adult patient examined at the dispensary is also X-rayed as a matter of routine. The importance of this procedure cannot be over-stressed, and it is possible that in the future neglect to take an X-ray where the diagnosis is in doubt will be considered by the Courts as negligence, as is the present position with regard to bone injury where a fracture may be present. The supervision of definite cases of tuberculosis necessitates the taking of X-ray films at intervals, and during the year 1,050 X-rays were taken. The examinations are carried out at the War Memorial Hospital and at St. Nicholas Hospital, Plumstead.

In addition X-rays taken of tuberculous patients in St. Nicholas Hospital are sent to the Tuberculosis Officer on their discharge and are filed with the records at the dispensary. Furthermore, it has to be noted that all patients receiving artificial pneumothorax refills are X-rayed and screened at the hospital where the treatment is given and so the exact number of these examinations is not available.

Co-operation with London County Council Local Hospital.—The Tuberculosis Officer acts as Honorary Consultant for tuberculosis at St. Nicholas Hospital. This appointment is subject to review each year. He attends at St. Nicholas Hospital once weekly and sees all cases in the tuberculosis wards and such other cases in the hospital as may be referred to him for opinion by the medical staff. Patients in all stages of the disease are admitted to the wards and on the Tuberculosis Officer's advice are transferred where desirable to other institutions—sanatoria, colonies, etc. This coming and going of patients has a good psychological effect and prevents the wards becoming a repository for advanced cases only.

Finsen Light and other Light Treatment.—In 1921 the Council entered into an agreement with the London Hospital for the treatment of persons suffering from lupus. Finsen and other forms of light treatment are carried out at a fee of 5s. 0d. per treatment for Finsen light and 1s. 0d. per attendance for other forms. One patient is at present receiving treatment.

Light treatment other than Finsen is also provided for patients at the War Memorial Hospital, and a fee of 1s. 0d. per attendance is paid. One patient is receiving treatment.

Artificial Pneumothorax.—This treatment consists of collapsing the diseased lung or portion of the lung and so resting it. Air is induced through a needle into the pleural cavity in the affected side and in time becomes absorbed and has to be replaced at varying intervals. The present tendency is for refills to be given in smaller quantities and at more frequent intervals, with the object of maintaining a constant degree of collapse. The Council pays a fee of 10s. 6d. for each refill at Brompton and other voluntary hospitals and also when the procedure is carried out at London County Council general hospitals. The number of patients so treated during the year was 61 and the number of refills given was 977.

Dental Treatment.—Dental treatment is carried out under the Council's scheme at the School Clinic, Brewer Street. During the year 23 cases received treatment and the number of attendances was 60. Arrangements have been made with the London County Council for an X-ray examination in dental cases whenever the Dental Surgeon considers this necessary, at a cost of 7s. 6d. per attendance.

Dental treatment is free except when dentures are supplied and then patients are assessed according to their means.

Fourteen patients received full or partial dentures at a cost of £43 15s. 0d. and payments by patients amounted to £12 10s. 6d. Where patients are entitled to dental benefits from approved societies these sums are taken into account. Repairs to dentures were made in two cases.

Home Nursing.—The nursing in their own homes of patients with advanced disease who cannot be persuaded to enter hospital, becomes an essential part of any Tuberculosis Scheme, and arrangements have been made with all the local nursing associations whereby the cost of nursing such patients is defrayed by the Borough Council when the Tuberculosis Officer certifies the necessity for such service. During the year 1,549 visits were paid at a cost to the Council of £96 16s. 3d.

Co-operation with Maternity and Child Welfare Service.—Interchange of information between the two departments is constantly taking place. Any non-tuberculous but debilitated or ailing child under five years of age is referred to the Maternity and Child Welfare department, and vice versa, the Tuberculosis Dispensary is informed of any child attending the Health Centres whose condition suggests that there is a possibility of a tuberculous infection.

Co-operation with the School Medical Service.—The relationship between the School Medical Service and the dispensary is very close. The school medical officers frequently refer doubtful cases for opinion, and all the child contacts of school age living in association with positive sputum cases are referred to the school medical service for special observation and supervision. Where children when examined are found to be non-tuberculous but to be suffering from minor ailments, or unsatisfactory dental conditions, they are referred to the School Clinic for necessary treatment. The School Care Organiser is a member of the Tuberculosis Care Committee and thus very close contact is maintained between the dispensary and the School Care Committees, and where necessary free dinners and free milk are provided by the school service.

Co-operation with the Public Assistance Committee.—Arrangements have been completed by which the Tuberculosis Dispensary is in frequent consultation with the Public Assistance Committee on questions relating to tuberculous people who are in receipt of relief. The Public Assistance Committee refer such patients to the Tuberculosis Officer for the necessary certificates as to extra nourishment, and where such patients are physically unable, or where it is undesirable for them to attend at the offices of the Public Assistance Committee, they are exempt from doing so on a certificate from the Tuberculosis Officer. In other matters, such as fares for relatives to visit patients in sanatoria, and hospitals, clothes, etc., there is the closest co-operation between these bodies.

Co-operation with Local Practitioners.—During the year 133 patients were seen by the Tuberculosis Officer at home in consultation and 410 were referred to the dispensary by local practitioners for opinion.

Tuberculosis Care Committee.—At the end of the year the Committee was constituted as follows :—

<i>Bodies.</i>	<i>Representatives.</i>
Woolwich Borough Council.. .. .	Alderman Mrs. E. Brooks; Councillors R. Campbell, Mrs. L. E. Driver, G. Greenwood, C. J. Keedy and S. W. Lister.
Trade Unions	Mr. W. H. Fairchild, Mr. E. Ware.
Employers	Miss L. Ames, Mrs. D. B. Baldwick, Mr. A. J. Golding.
Friendly Societies	Mr. W. A. Lyon, Mr. A. J. Rourke, Mr. L. R. Williams.
London County Council	Dr. H. R. Kidner, Miss C. F. Aves.
London County Council (Public Assistance Committee)	Mr. R. Campbell, Mrs. B. G. Dickinson, Mr. T. Moran.
London Insurance Committee	Mr. S. H. Brown
Panel Committee for the County of London	Dr. H. M. Wise
British Red Cross Society	Mr. J. O'Connell.
Woolwich Invalid Children's Aid Association	Mrs. J. B. Great-Rex.
Late Tuberculosis Dispensary Committee..	Mr. W. Dashwood, Mr. E. G. Dixon, J.P.
United Services Fund	Mrs. A. Evans.
EX-OFFICIO.	
Voluntary Visitors	Miss E. Fletcher, Miss D. A. Frye, Miss M. Ross.
Tuberculosis Officer	Dr. F. J. C. Blackmore.
Medical Officer of Health	Dr. J. MacMillan, D.S.O., M.C.

The Committee are concerned with all the economic and environmental circumstances of a tuberculous patient, and endeavour to remove or mitigate any condition which may tend to prevent the carrying out of such treatment as is advised in each case. It will be readily understood that there are many such difficulties when the mother of young children, or the breadwinner in a house, is incapacitated by tuberculosis. The activities of the Committee comprise, inter alia, the provision of clothing to necessitous patients entering institutions, payment of fares to relatives to visit them in hospital, the provision of all nursing requisites, and assistance towards the purchase of such surgical apparatus as is necessary. Where patients in hospital have no means the Committee supply a little pocket money for the small necessaries such as papers, cigarettes, etc.

It is a matter of no small satisfaction that the Occupational Therapy Centre continues to work satisfactorily and performs the objects for which it was started. During the year seven patients were able to go back to normal industry. One patient, a lad of 21, who was very depressed and had developed a marked inferiority complex and who was threatening suicide as a result of his tuberculosis, became an entirely different lad after working in the Occupational Therapy Centre. He has returned to work very greatly improved in health and mentally happy. Experience had shown that it was desirable in the interests of the men to provide some mechanical assistance and in April, the Borough Council having placed another shed at the disposal of the Care Committee, a circular saw and a planing machine were installed and have been very much appreciated.

Institutional Treatment.—The following Table, No. 60, shows the number of admissions to special hospitals, sanatoria, public general hospitals, institutions and training colonies.

TABLE No. 60.
Admissions to Hospitals, etc., 1937.

	Special Hospitals.	Sanatoria.	Public General Hospitals.	Training Colonies.
Insured	114	95	92	5
Uninsured	26	29	59	5
Children	37	3	8	—
	177	127	159	10

These figures refer to 376 patients and the monthly admissions were as follows :—

January	38	May	30	September	35
February	51	June	48	October	37
March	42	July	45	November	33
April	44	August	42	December	28

It is now the practice of the London County Council to pay the travelling expenses of necessitous patients suffering from tuberculosis admitted to certain hospitals, and the Woolwich Borough Council advance the fares to these patients, the amounts so advanced being re-imbursed in due course by the County Council. The Borough Council pay fares, when necessary, for out-patient treatment at certain hospitals.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION AND THE EXTENT OF THEIR USE.

Disinfection.—The Council's Disinfecting Station is situated at White Hart Road, Plumstead, where there are installed two Washington Lyon steam disinfectors, one high-pressure steam washing disinfecter, and one room for disinfecting articles which cannot be subjected to heat.

The Station is used for the disinfection of articles after the ordinary infectious fevers and for the disinfestation of bedding and kindred articles infested with vermin.

Disinfestation work has grown enormously in recent years and in consequence a heavy demand on the station has been maintained throughout the year.

The Station is sometimes used for special disinfection at the request of inhabitants. A small charge is made for these disinfections and during the year

43 such disinfections were carried out, and charges amounting to £13 5s. 6d. were paid

In tabular form is shown below the amount of disinfection which was carried out during the year :—

TABLE No. 61.

Rooms disinfected after ordinary fevers	782
Rooms disinfected after tuberculosis	260
Rooms disinfected after verminous cases	1,377
Rooms disinfected for other reasons	29
Articles disinfected	48,476

Disinfestation.—In accordance with the terms of an agreement with the London County Council, disinfestation of school children is carried out at the Cleansing Station, White Hart Road. Disinfestation of adults is carried out at times when the children are not there.

The following Table No. 62 shows the number of persons cleansed each year since 1933.

TABLE No. 62.

Year.	CHILDREN.			ADULTS.			Grand Total.
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1933	550	1,579	2,129	7	11	18	2,147
1934	611	1,715	2,326	6	1	7	2,333
1935	603	1,818	2,421	10	3	13	2,434
1936	632	1,747	2,379	4	3	7	2,386
1937	660	2,047	2,707	9	17	26	2,733

Scabies.—The number of cases of scabies coming to the knowledge of the Department during the year was 144. In 1936 the corresponding figure was 100, in 1935 it was 64 and in 1934 it was 77.

Fifty-nine of these cases occurred in Eltham and 85 in the rest of the Borough. The incidence of the disease per thousand population is much higher, therefore, in Eltham, and this proportion of the general increase in the Borough indicates the necessity for the early establishment of a cleansing station in this part of the Borough.

Bed Bug Infestation.—A report on the disinfestation of bug-infested premises and furniture and the methods adopted to prevent the infestation of new premises will be found in Section IV.

SECTION VIII.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

AREA.

The area of the Borough is 8,282 square acres. Parts of the River Ward, where there were 3,529 inhabitants at the time of the Census in 1931, are situate on the North side of the River Thames. The Borough was originally divided into three parishes—Woolwich, Plumstead and Eltham. The acreage of Woolwich parish is 1,135, and of its wards as follows :—Dockyard, 139, St. Mary's 99, River 572, St. George's 325. The acreage of Plumstead parish is 3,387, and its wards as follows :—Burrage 184, Herbert 245, Glyndon 302, St. Margaret's 552, Central 115, St. Nicholas 1,207, Abbey Wood 782. The acreage of Eltham parish is 3,760, and its wards as follows :—Well Hall 687, Avery Hill, 1,824, Sherard 1,249.

The number of persons per acre, in 1931, was 17.7 ; in the Administrative County of London the corresponding figure was 58.7. The present figures for each of the wards in the borough are as follows :—Dockyard, 44.8 ; St. Mary's 56.2 ; River, 17.5 ; St. George's, 22.9 ; Burrage, 38.2 ; Herbert, 36.9 ; Glyndon, 25.4 ; St. Margaret's, 23.9 ; Central, 61.5 ; St. Nicholas, 11.0 ; Abbey Wood, 16.7 ; Avery Hill, 8.7 ; Well Hall, 15.6 ; Sherard, 18.5.

POPULATION.

The Registrar General estimates the population of the Borough at the middle of the year as 149,400, an increase of 2,900 on the previous year. This figure has been used in calculating rates for the purposes of this report. It should be noted that it includes non-civilians, the pre-war practice in this respect having been returned to from the beginning of 1932. In estimating the population of the wards of the Borough regard has been had to such information as is available from the records of the Housing Department so far as occupants of new Council houses are concerned and from the records of the Treasurer's Department if advances have been made under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts. The estimated population of each of the wards of the Borough at the middle of 1937 is shown in the following Table No. 63.

TABLE No. 63.

<i>Wards.</i>	<i>Population.</i>
Dockyard	6,227
St. Mary's	5,560
River	10,041
St. George's	7,445
Burrage	7,013
Herbert	9,040
Glyndon	7,697
St. Margaret's	13,190
Central	7,070

TABLE No. 63—*continued.*

<i>Wards.</i>	<i>Population.</i>
St. Nicholas	13,301
Abbey Wood	13,086
Avery Hill	15,890
Well Hall	10,750
Sherard	23,090

In the old parishes the estimated populations are therefore :—

Woolwich	29,273
Plumstead	70,397
Eltham	49,730

INHABITED HOUSES.

The number of inhabited houses at the time of the Census in 1931 was 29,870. These were occupied by 38,176 families. At the end of 1937, according to the rate books, the number of inhabited houses was 34,497.

RATEABLE VALUE, ETC.

The rateable value of the Borough in October, 1937, was £1,197,247 and the sum represented by a penny rate at that date was £4,889.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE AREA.

In the physical configuration of the Borough the outstanding feature is Shooters Hill, which rises over 400 feet above sea-level. At a little lower level, on the Woolwich and Plumstead side, there is the well-marked plateau of Woolwich and Plumstead Commons, due to the erosion of local clay from off the pebble beds. Lower down still is the level plain of the Thames. Southward, in Eltham and Lee, the land, after sloping downwards from Shooters Hill, rises slightly again in Eltham and then falls away towards New Eltham and Lee, but rises again as it approaches Chislehurst. In the main this area is composed of London clay although there is a considerable amount of sand and gravel in Avery Hill Ward.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

In my Annual Report for 1936 I published a Table taken from the Census Returns of 1931 which set out under generalised headings the total number of males and females engaged in occupations at ages of 14 years and upwards.

There was little unemployment in Woolwich during the year.

SICKNESS AND INVALIDITY.

There have been no causes of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the area during the year. I am unacquainted with any conditions of occupation which appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health and I have no evidence, statistically or otherwise, that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of children or adults.

SECTION IX.

VITAL STATISTICS.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, the following extracts from the vital statistics of the year are shown below :—

TABLE No. 64.

Live Births—Legitimate	2,060
Live Births—Illegitimate	65
	————— 2,125
Birth Rate	14.2
Still-births	84
Still-births—Rate per 1,000 total births	39.5
Deaths	1,660
Death Rate	11.1
Percentage of total deaths occurring in public institutions	61.8
Deaths from puerperal causes :—	
(a) From Sepsis	—
(b) From other causes	3
Death rate from puerperal causes per 1,000 total births	1.35
Death Rate of Infants one year of age :—	
(a) All infants	40
(b) Legitimate Infants	38
(c) Illegitimate Infants	123
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	245
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	5
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	13

The chief Vital Statistics since 1901 are given in the following Table :—

TABLE No. 65.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Nett.		Under 1 year.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1901	117,652	3,536	30·1	457	129	1,709	14·6
1902	119,285	3,734	31·3	467	125	1,837	15·4
1903	117,842	3,684	31·3	398	108	1,638	13·9
1904	118,456	3,535	29·8	477	135	1,763	14·9
1905	118,589	3,546	29·9	362	102	1,604	13·5
1906	119,143	3,549	29·8	388	109	1,668	14·0
1907	119,704	3,330	27·8	373	112	1,616	13·5
1908	122,258	3,176	26·0	300	94	1,516	12·4
1909	120,227	2,947	24·5	242	82	1,587	13·2
1910	121,197	2,842	23·6	242	85	1,418	11·7
1911	121,487	2,810	23·1	272	97	1,566	12·9
1912	121,932	2,776	22·8	208	75	1,456	11·9
1913	122,382	2,833	23·1	228	80	1,549	12·7
1914	122,431	2,838	23·2	241	85	1,706	13·9
1915	<i>a</i> 138,200	2,839	21·9	268	94	1,837	14·2
	<i>b</i> 129,505						
1916	<i>a</i> 141,783	3,068	23·5	213	69	1,704	13·1
	<i>b</i> 130,313						
1917	<i>a</i> 147,078	2,718	20·6	216	79	1,566	11·9
	<i>b</i> 131,942						
1918	<i>a</i> 150,650	2,548	19·0	270	106	2,100	15·6
	<i>b</i> 134,453						
1919	<i>a</i> 141,918	2,737	20·1	235	86	1,679	12·3
	<i>b</i> 136,237						
1920	<i>a</i> 140,000	3,658	26·9	224	61	1,487	10·9
	<i>b</i> 135,904						
1921	<i>a</i> 141,700	3,197	23·2	197	62	1,594	11·6
	<i>b</i> 137,604						
1922	<i>a</i> 142,350	2,941	21·3	184	63	1,603	11·6
	<i>b</i> 138,254						
1923	<i>a</i> 143,530	2,867	20·5	123	43	1,387	9·9
	<i>b</i> 140,000						
1924	<i>a</i> 144,400	2,590	18·5	168	65	1,543	11·0
	<i>b</i> 139,980						
1925	<i>a</i> 145,440	2,582	18·3	141	55	1,519	10·8
	<i>b</i> 140,740						
1926	<i>a</i> 146,200	2,463	17·4	107	43	1,450	10·2
	<i>b</i> 141,900						
1927	<i>a</i> 144,770	2,242	15·9	95	42	1,491	10·6
	<i>b</i> 140,770						
1928	<i>a</i> 146,600	2,269	16·1	114	50	1,554	11·0
	<i>b</i> 141,100						
1929	<i>a</i> 146,800	2,312	16·3	144	62	1,780	12·6
	<i>b</i> 141,600						
1930	<i>a</i> 146,800	2,188	15·5	91	42	1,547	10·9
	<i>b</i> 141,600						
1931	<i>a</i> 147,400	2,155	15·1	128	59	1,654	11·6
	<i>b</i> 142,600						
1932	<i>a</i> 146,400	2,054	14·0	123	60	1,635	11·1
1933	<i>a</i> 146,200	1,857	12·7	116	62	1,634	11·2
1934	<i>a</i> 145,520	2,000	13·7	127	63	1,650	11·3
1935	<i>a</i> 146,400	2,053	14·0	91	44	1,500	10·2
1936	<i>a</i> 146,500	2,017	13·8	121	59	1,649	11·2
1937	<i>a</i> 149,400	2,125	14·2	86	40	1,660	11·1

a Total Population.

b Civil Population.

The chief Vital Statistics for 1937 for the Wards of the Borough are given in the following Table :—

TABLE No. 66.

Wards.	Popula- tion.	Births.		Deaths under 1.		Deaths at all ages	
		Number	Rate.	Number	Rate.	Number	Rate.
Dockyard	6,227	92	14·7	5	54	72	11·5
St. Mary's	5,560	91	16·3	4	44	47	8·4
River	10,041	138	13·8	12	87	150	14·9
St. George's	7,445	130	17·5	9	69	79	10·6
Woolwich	29,273	451	15·4	30	66	348	11·9
Burrage	7,013	101	14·4	6	59	109	15·5
Herbert	9,040	142	15·8	4	28	108	11·9
Glyndon	7,697	102	13·2	2	19	123	15·9
St. Margaret's	13,190	195	14·7	6	30	175	13·2
Central	7,070	115	16·2	2	17	89	12·5
St. Nicholas	13,301	213	16·0	3	14	158	11·8
Abbey Wood	13,086	183	13·9	6	32	115	8·7
Plumstead	70,397	1,051	14·9	29	27	877	12·4
Well Hall	10,750	115	10·7	4	34	92	8·5
Avery Hill	15,890	167	10·5	9	53	159	10·0
Sherard	23,090	341	14·7	14	41	184	7·9
Eltham	49,730	623	12·5	27	43	435	8·7
BOROUGH	149,400	2,125	14·2	86	40	1,660	11·1

If the rates in St. Mary's, River and St. George's Wards and in Woolwich parish are compared with those of previous years, it must be borne in mind that from 1915 to 1931, these rates were calculated on the civilian population and not on the total population.

BIRTHS.

During the year 2,414 births were registered in the Borough, 1,254 being males and 1,160 females. Corrected by outward (307 males and 321 females) and inward (163 males and 176 females) transfers, these numbers become 2,125, 1,110 and 1,015 respectively.

The birth-rate was 14.2, compared with 13.8 in 1936 and 14.0 in 1935.

Illegitimate Births.—The number of illegitimate births registered was 40. There were 27 inward transfers and 2 outward transfers, making a nett figure of 65, equivalent to 31 per 1,000 births.

Natural Increase of Population.—This term means the excess of births over deaths. In 1933 it was 223 ; in 1934, 350 ; in 1935, 553 ; in 1936, 368 ; and in 1937, 465.

Notification of Births.—During the year 2,423 live births were notified. This is at the rate of 100.4 per cent. of the registered births and compares with 99.4 per cent. last year. The births were notified as shown in the following Table :—

TABLE No. 67.

British Hospital for Mothers and Babies	..	..	..	884
Midwives	..	..	..	560
St. Nicholas Hospital	..	..	..	435
War Memorial Hospital	..	..	..	180
Military Families' Hospital	..	..	..	202
Medical Practitioners	..	..	..	51
Eltham Cottage Hospital	..	..	..	43
Parents	..	..	..	15
Midwives' Homes	..	..	..	14
Other persons	..	..	..	39

In addition to these, 137 notifications were received from the Medical Officer of Health, Lewisham ; 111 from the Medical Officer of Health, Greenwich, and 68 from other Medical Officers of Health ; 618 births were transferred to other areas. Ninety-nine still-births were notified, 24 of which were transferred to other areas. It is known that 1,419 Woolwich births took place in institutions, either within or without the Borough, so that the percentage of institutional midwifery for the Borough was 66.8.

The following Table No. 68 shows the number of corrected births each year since 1933, the number of live and still-births notified ; the percentage of notified births and the birth rates for the same period for Woolwich, London, and England and Wales.

TABLE No. 68.

Year.	No. of Births.	No. of Live Births. Notified.	No. of Still-Births Notified.	Per-centage of Births Notified.	Birth Rate.		
					Wool-wich.	London.	England and Wales.
1933	1,857	2,154	59	99	12·7	13·2	14·4
1934	2,000	2,334	75	99	13·7	13·2	14·8
1935	2,053	2,405	81	99	14·0	13·3	14·7
1936	2,017	2,349	55	99	13·8	13·6	14·8
1937	2,125	2,423	75	100	14·2	13·4	14·9

MARRIAGES.

There were 1,496 marriages (1,422 in 1936). The marriage rate was 20.0, as compared with 17.90, 18.19, 17.70 and 15.79 in the four preceding years.

DEATHS.

The total number of deaths registered in the Borough was 1,290. This figure includes 164 non-residents who died in the district but does not include 534 residents who died outside the Borough. When allowance is made for inward and outward transfers, the nett figure of 1,660 is obtained. The death-rate for the year was 11.1, compared with 11.2 in 1936, and 10.2 in 1935.

In order to make the local death-rate comparable from a mortality point of view with the crude death-rate of the country as a whole or with the mortality of any other area, the Registrar General supplies a factor by which the crude death-rate should be multiplied, based upon the age and sex constitution of the population. This adjusting factor for Woolwich is 1.06, so that the adjusted death-rate for 1937 is 11.7.

In 1937 the death-rate for England and Wales was 12.4, for London 12.5, and the mean death-rate for 125 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London) was 12.5.

The seasonal mortality in the four quarters of the year was as follows :—First quarter 13.8 ; Second quarter, 10.2 ; Third quarter, 8.9 ; Fourth quarter, 12.2.

Deaths over 45 years of age.—The number of deaths which occurred at 45 years of age and over was 1,288, or 77.6 per cent. of the total deaths.

Deaths in Public Institutions.—In tabular form is shown below the number of deaths of Woolwich residents which took place in various institutions during the year :—

TABLE No. 69.

<i>Hospitals or Institutions.</i>	<i>Number of Deaths.</i>
Public General Hospitals	730
St. Nicholas	455
Lewisham	136
St. Alfege's	39
St. George's in the East	30
Voluntary General Hospitals	99
War Memorial	32
Miller	24
Infectious Diseases Hospitals	43
Brook	31
Park	10
Mental Hospitals	69
Tooting	26
Bexley	22
Special Hospitals	42
Cottage Hospitals and Nursing Homes	36
Sanatoria and Tuberculosis Institutions	8
	1,027

As the total number of deaths was 1,660, the percentage of institutional deaths to total deaths was 61.8.

The following tables show the birth rates, death rates and analysis of mortality, the nett deaths (including non-residents in institutions in the Borough), and the nett deaths classified by sex and wards.

TABLE No. 70.

Birth Rates, Death Rates and Analysis of Mortality in the Year 1937.

	Rate per 1,000 Population.		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population.										Rate per 1,000 Live Births.		Percentage of Total Deaths.			
	Live Births.	Still-Births.	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 yrs.)	Total Deaths under 1 year.	Certified by Registered Medical Practitioners.	Inquest Cases.	Certified by Coroner after P.M. No Inquest.	Uncertified Causes of Death.	
England and Wales ..	14.9	0.60	12.4	0.01	—	0.03	0.01	0.04	0.07	0.45	0.56	5.5	58	90.4	6.1	2.5	1.0	
125 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	14.9	0.58	12.5	0.01	—	0.03	0.01	0.05	0.08	0.41	0.54	7.4	62	90.8	5.5	3.2	0.5	
148 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931).	15.1	0.64	11.8	0.01	—	0.03	0.01	0.04	0.07	0.44	0.57	4.6	56	92.1	5.1	1.7	1.1	
London	13.4	0.46	12.5	0.00	—	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.05	0.40	0.56	12.3	60	87.5	5.9	6.6	0.0	
WOOLWICH	14.2	0.56	11.1	—	—	—	—	0.33	0.67	0.44	0.38	6.1	40	87.0	7.7	5.2	0.1	

TABLE No. 71.

Nett Deaths during the calendar year 1937, but including non-residents in Institutions in the Borough.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the district.												Deaths in Public Institutions.		
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 35 years.	35 and under 45 years.	45 and under 55 years.	55 and under 65 years.	65 and under 75 years.	75 years and upwards.	In Borough.		Out-lying Institutions.
													Resi-dents.	Non-Resid'ts.	
All Causes	1660	86	9	12	32	56	75	102	168	296	395	429	519	149	508
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Measles .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	5	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Diphtheria	10	1	1	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	8
Influenza	66	..	..	..	1	1	4	3	5	19	12	21	14	..	21
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	5	..	1	..	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	3
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	105	..	2	..	1	18	20	19	18	20	7	..	39	16	32
Other Tuberculous Diseases	14	..	..	1	3	5	2	..	1	1	1	..	3	1	9
Syphilis	8	2	..	..	2	1	..	..	2	..	..	1	3	..	5
General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	..	4
Cancer	245	..	..	..	1	..	3	17	34	61	83	46	94	17	75
Diabetes	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4	9	3	5	..	7
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	64	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	7	20	16	19	22	1	14
Heart Disease	467	..	..	..	3	4	10	18	32	70	145	185	124	18	111
Aneurysm	12	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	4	6	..	2	1	7
Other Circulatory diseases	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	13	15	20	17	6	13
Bronchitis	56	2	..	..	1	..	1	1	4	5	19	23	5	4	14
Pneumonia	105	12	3	1	2	2	3	4	12	19	24	23	34	9	32
Other Respiratory diseases	11	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	3	2	4	1	1	5
Peptic Ulcer	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	9	7	2	..	13	8	7
Diarrhoea, etc.	16	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	1	2	10
Appendicitis	12	..	..	..	2	2	1	3	1	3	..	..	10	..	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	1	1	2	4
Other diseases of Liver, etc.	6	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	3	1	2	1	1
Other Digestive diseases	30	2	1	..	..	..	5	..	4	3	9	6	17	7	8
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	38	..	..	..	1	1	4	2	3	9	6	12	10	3	7
Puerperal Sepsis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Puerperal Causes	3	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	..
Congenital Malformation, Premature Birth, Malformation, etc.	42	41	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	13	14
Senility	36	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	32	7	..	13
Suicide	23	..	..	..	1	1	3	7	3	4	3	1	2	2	3
Violence	57	4	..	..	3	10	8	4	7	4	6	11	22	16	21
Other defined Diseases	120	5	..	4	7	7	5	14	18	21	20	19	46	16	52
Causes ill-defined or unknown	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..

TABLE No. 72.
 Nett Deaths during 1937, classified by Sex and Wards.

Causes of Death.	THE BOROUGH.		WOOLWICH.				PLUMSTEAD.						ELTHAM.			
	Males.	Females.	Dockyard.	St. Mary's	River.	St. George's	Burrage.	Herbert.	Glyndon.	St. Margaret's.	Central.	St. Nicholas.	Abbey Wood	Well Hall.	Avery Hill.	Sherard.
All Causes	862	798	72	47	150	79	109	108	123	175	89	158	115	92	159	184
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	3	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	1
Diphtheria	3	7	—	—	1	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Influenza	26	40	2	2	9	4	7	2	10	9	3	2	4	1	7	4
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	3	2	1	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	64	41	6	5	8	5	8	5	3	6	2	13	9	8	9	18
Other Tuberculous Diseases	7	7	2	—	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	3	1
Syphilis	4	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cancer	123	122	10	7	15	11	9	14	21	37	14	25	22	17	21	22
Diabetes	3	17	—	—	1	2	2	3	3	1	1	2	—	4	—	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	25	39	1	—	4	6	7	3	6	3	2	7	8	2	6	9
Heart Disease	233	234	20	9	47	15	29	28	39	58	32	54	30	17	50	44
Aneurysm	8	4	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	5
Other Circulatory Diseases	29	21	2	—	2	1	6	3	5	4	4	—	3	4	11	5
Bronchitis	23	33	1	3	4	3	1	5	3	6	4	7	5	2	5	7
Pneumonia	62	43	10	1	3	7	10	10	5	9	3	14	6	4	10	13
Other Respiratory Diseases	6	5	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	3	1
Peptic Ulcer	17	5	1	1	3	—	1	1	2	1	1	—	5	1	1	4
Diarrhoea, etc.	9	7	2	1	2	1	1	2	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	3
Appendicitis	5	7	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	—	—	2	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	1	5	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Other Digestive Diseases	16	14	—	3	1	3	1	3	3	3	3	2	2	5	—	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	22	16	1	1	6	—	3	5	2	6	—	4	2	3	2	3
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Puerperal causes	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformation, etc.	26	16	1	2	7	3	3	2	1	2	—	1	4	3	6	7
Senility	16	20	1	1	3	2	1	4	3	7	5	1	2	3	—	3
Suicide	17	6	—	2	—	1	3	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	4
Violence	38	19	4	2	9	3	5	2	1	5	1	5	1	5	6	8
Other Defined Diseases	67	53	4	5	18	6	5	9	7	10	5	10	7	7	12	15
Causes ill-defined or unknown	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

Causes of Death.—Table No. 71 shows that 467 deaths were due to heart disease, 245 to cancer, 119 to tuberculosis, 105 to pneumonia, 66 to influenza, 64 to cerebral haemorrhage, 56 to bronchitis and 50 to diseases of circulation. There were 42 deaths from congenital debility and prematurity. Seventy-seven per cent. of all deaths occurred in persons over 45 years of age.

Respiratory Diseases.—The following Table No. 73 shows the number of deaths each year since 1933 from respiratory diseases, the annual death-rate, the number of deaths under five years of age, and the percentage of deaths occurring in children under five years of age :—

TABLE No. 73.

Year.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Other Respiratory.	Total.	Death-Rate.	Number under 5 years.	Percentage under 5 years.
1933	52	86	16	154	1.0	21	13.6
1934	58	126	14	198	1.3	47	23.7
1935	45	84	15	144	0.98	31	21.5
1936	72	101	21	194	1.1	41	21.1
1937	56	105	11	172	1.0	19	11.4

Cancer.—The total number of deaths was 245, of which 123 occurred in males and 122 in females. In the following Table No. 74 is shown the number of deaths certified as due to Cancer and Malignant Disease, each year since 1933 :—

TABLE No. 74.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Rate.	Percentage of Total Deaths.
1933	105	103	208	1.42	12.72
1934	119	103	222	1.52	13.45
1935	106	107	213	1.45	14.20
1936	133	126	259	1.57	15.71
1937	123	122	245	1.64	14.75

The following Table No. 75 shows the seat of primary disease in all deaths from Cancer, including all other specified malignant tumours.

TABLE No. 75.

Seat of Primary Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Deaths in Hospital.
Tongue	3	—	3	2
Mouth	4	1	5	3
Jaw	3	—	3	1
Pharynx	1	—	1	1
Oesophagus	7	4	11	8
Stomach	23	20	43	30
Liver and Gall Bladder	3	6	9	3
Pancreas	5	10	15	12
Intestines	20	13	33	22
Rectum	22	10	32	27
Larynx	1	3	4	3
Lung	4	2	6	1
Bronchus	3	1	4	4
Ovary	—	3	3	2
Uterus	—	16	16	11
Breast	—	19	19	12
Kidney	—	2	2	1
Bladder	6	2	8	5
Prostate	4	—	4	4
Skin	5	3	8	5
Others and unspecified	5	2	7	5
Sarcoma	4	5	9	7
	123	122	245	169

No knowledge is available as to the extent to which use is made of increased facilities now provided in National Radium Centres and no local investigations have been undertaken in pursuance of the suggestions contained in the Ministry's circulars of previous years. Investigations are not made into cancer deaths.

Maternal Mortality.—The number of deaths from Puerperal Sepsis was nil, and from other accidents and diseases of pregnancy, 3, making a total of 3 maternal deaths, compared with 5 in 1936. The maternal death-rate per 1,000 births was 1.35 as against 2.47 in 1936.

The Table which follows would appear to show a steady lowering of the maternal mortality rate in this Borough :—

TABLE No. 76.

Maternal Mortality, Woolwich, 1912-1937.

Year.	Abortion.	Ectopic Gestation	Placenta Praevia.	Other Puerperal Haemorrhage.	Other Accidents of Child-Birth.	Child-Birth with Secondary Causes.	Puerperal Eclampsia	Puerperal Phlebitis and Embolism	Puerperal Fever.	Totals.
1912	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	4
1913	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	5
1914	1	—	1	2	—	1	1	1	4	11
1915	1	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	3	8
1916	—	1	1	1	4	—	1	—	7	15
1917	—	1	—	2	—	1	2	1	7	14
1918	1	—	—	2	1	—	1	1	9	15
1919	—	2	1	2	—	—	2	1	5	13
1920	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	3	5	11
1921	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	5	10
1922	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	3	6
1923	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	5
1924	—	—	2	1	1	—	3	1	2	10
1925	—	—	1	2	1	1	1	—	3	9
1926	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	1	2	6
1927	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	6
1928	—	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	8	13
1929	2	2	—	—	2	1	3	1	3	14
1930	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	4	8
1931	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	6	8
1932	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	4	6
1933	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	2	6
1934	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	3
1935	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	3
1936	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	5
1937	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	3
Totals	8	14	7	18	16	8	32	18	96	217

Inquests.—There were 129 inquests held on Woolwich residents during the year, compared with 145 in 1936.

Deaths of Children, 1—5 years of age.—The number of deaths of children between 1 and 2 years of age was 21, and between 2 and 5 years, 44. In 1936 these figures were 23 and 21. The causes of death are given in detail in Table No. 71.

The following Tables show the variation in the rate of mortality at these ages in the last five years. These rates have been calculated on the estimated population at these ages and from stated groups of diseases.

TABLE No. 77.

Child Mortality (1—2 years).

Death-rates per 1,000 estimated age population from stated Groups of Diseases.

Period.	Estimated mean Population.	Infectious Fevers.	Tuber- culosis.	Respira- tory Diseases.	Diarr- hoeal Diseases.	All other Causes.	Total Deaths.
1933	1,927	2·07	—	3·11	1·55	—	6·75
1934	1,726	5·21	—	4·63	—	3·47	13·32
1935	1,879	1·59	—	1·59	0·53	1·59	5·30
1936	1,942	2·58	1·54	3·09	—	4·63	11·84
1937	1,902	1·05	1·05	1·52	—	1·05	4·73

TABLE No. 78.

Child Mortality (2—5 years).

Death-rates per 1,000 estimated age population from stated Groups of Diseases.

Period.	Estimated mean Population.	Infectious Fevers.	Tuber- culosis.	Respira- tory Diseases.	Diarr- hoeal Diseases.	All other causes.	Total Deaths.
1933	6,188	0·97	0·80	0·48	—	1·62	3·88
1934	5,953	1·01	0·67	0·50	—	1·34	3·52
1935	5,623	0·88	0·35	1·06	—	—	2·29
1936	5,478	1·83	0·18	0·91	—	0·91	3·83
1937	5,504	0·91	0·18	0·36	—	0·73	2·18

INFANT MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 86, compared with 121 in 1936 and 91 in 1935. The rate of infant mortality resulting from these deaths (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 births), was 40, compared with 59 in 1936, and 44 in 1935. The rates for the different wards in the Borough are shown in Table No. 66.

The rate for the Administrative County of London was 60, and for England and Wales, 58.

The following Table No. 79 shows the distribution of infant mortality throughout the year, calculated on a varying year basis.

TABLE No. 79.

				<i>Deaths under</i>		
				<i>Births.</i>	<i>1 year.</i>	<i>Rate.</i>
First Quarter	..	..	..	482	24	53
Second Quarter	..	..	..	570	27	57
Third Quarter	..	..	..	532	15	29
Fourth Quarter	..	..	..	502	20	38

Causes of Death.—The causes of infant mortality are set forth in Tables Nos. 81 and 82, which show the incidence of mortality from each cause for infants classified by age, sex and wards. It will be noted from these Tables that the chief causes of death were :—Premature birth, 24 ; Diarrhoea, 13 ; Pneumonia, 12 ; and Congenital Malformation, 8.

The number of deaths occurring in the first week of life was 33.

Deaths of Illegitimate Children.—Eight illegitimate children died, compared with 8 in 1936 and 9 in 1935. The infant mortality rate figure for illegitimate children was 123, compared with 38 for legitimate children.

Institutional Deaths.—In tabular form is shown below the number of deaths of Woolwich infants which took place in various institutions during the year. These figures are included in those shown in Table No. 69.

TABLE No. 80.

<i>Hospitals or Institutions.</i>	<i>Number of Deaths.</i>
Public General Hospitals	29
Voluntary General Hospitals	13
Special Hospitals	13
Cottage Hospitals and Nursing Homes	2
Infectious Diseases Hospitals	12
	69

TABLE No. 81.

Infant Mortality, 1937.

Nett deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year of age.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 month and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
Measles .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	..	..	..	..	—
Whooping Cough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	1	3	..	..	4
Diphtheria and Croup .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	1	..	..	..	1
Tuberculous Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	..	..	..	..	—
Syphilis .. .. .	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	2
Bronchitis .. .. .	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	2
Pneumonia .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	2	5	4	1	12
Diarrhoea .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	4	3	4	2	13
Rickets .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	..	..	..	..	—
Injury at Birth	4	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	4
Atelectasis	4	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	4
Congenital Malformation	1	1	..	..	2	6	..	..	..	8
Premature Birth	22	1	..	..	23	1	..	..	..	24
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	2
Convulsions	1	..	..	..	—	..	..	..	1	2
Other Causes	1	..	..	..	1	2	3	2	..	8
	33	2	—	2	37	20	15	10	4	86

Nett Births registered during the calendar year .. Legitimate, 2,060 ; Illegitimate, 65.

Nett Deaths registered during the calendar year .. Legitimate 78 ; Illegitimate 8.

Tables are set out in the following pages which classify in various ways the causes of infant deaths during 1937.

TABLE No. 82.

Nett Infant Deaths, classified by Sex and Wards.

Causes of Death.	THE BOROUGH.		WOOLWICH.				PLUMSTEAD.						ELTHAM.			
	Males.	Females.	Dockyard.	St. Mary's.	River.	St. George's.	Burrage.	Herbert.	Glyndon.	St. Margaret's.	Central.	St. Nicholas.	Abbey Wood	Well Hall.	Avery Hill.	Sherard.
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	3	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Croup	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	6	6	1	—	—	3	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	2
Diarrhoea	8	5	2	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3
Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	—
Atelectasis	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Congenital Malformation	5	3	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Premature Birth	16	8	—	—	4	2	2	1	—	1	—	1	4	1	2	6
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Other Causes	6	2	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—
	51	35	5	4	12	9	6	4	2	6	2	3	6	4	9	14

APPENDIX.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT THE
ROYAL OBSERVATORY, GREENWICH, DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Week ending.	Temperature of the Air.			Departure from average mean air temperature for 65 years.	Average temperature 4 feet below ground.	Number of days on which rain fell.	Rainfall in inches.
	Highest during week.	Lowest during week.	Mean temperature.				
Jan. 2	52.7	31.0	43.5	+4.8	46.4	3	0.73
" 9	53.5	30.0	43.5	+5.4	46.5	2	0.25
" 16	52.0	29.5	40.7	+2.7	45.7	5	0.37
" 23	52.1	30.2	44.0	+5.3	45.2	7	1.34
" 30	52.6	28.3	38.0	-1.4	45.2	5	0.71
Feb. 6	54.6	35.2	46.9	+7.3	45.0	5	1.06
" 13	53.2	29.3	40.5	+1.5	45.0	5	1.02
" 20	57.4	34.0	45.5	+6.0	44.7	7	0.44
" 27	52.5	31.6	41.3	+1.4	44.7	5	1.59
Mar. 6	50.1	30.5	37.2	-3.4	44.0	4	0.41
" 13	52.1	32.5	37.8	-3.3	45.2	3	1.32
" 20	60.7	29.2	44.0	+2.1	43.0	5	0.90
" 27	50.7	30.2	39.3	-3.2	43.6	6	0.33
Apr. 3	64.8	28.8	42.3	-2.6	43.7	1	0.58
" 10	63.7	36.4	51.4	+5.2	44.7	2	0.35
" 17	57.9	39.1	47.8	+1.3	46.4	5	0.77
" 24	63.0	40.3	50.1	+1.7	47.1	5	0.46
May 1	61.4	36.6	46.7	-2.1	48.0	2	0.27
" 8	71.5	39.1	52.7	+2.5	48.8	2	0.43
" 15	63.2	42.5	50.0	-2.1	49.7	4	1.68
" 22	67.0	43.4	51.2	-2.4	50.1	5	1.11
" 29	81.9	47.0	63.8	+8.1	51.4	2	0.16
June 5	79.3	44.6	60.4	+2.8	53.4	-	0.00
" 12	85.1	44.2	64.4	+6.3	54.5	4	0.42
" 19	72.8	44.9	56.3	-2.6	55.2	5	1.21
" 26	75.2	42.8	58.7	-2.1	55.1	2	0.23
July 3	86.6	51.5	64.7	+3.1	55.7	1	0.01
" 10	74.7	50.1	60.3	-2.0	56.3	2	0.25
" 17	89.5	51.2	66.1	+2.9	57.0	4	0.38
" 24	81.7	51.8	63.8	+0.7	57.9	2	0.06
" 31	72.6	49.4	59.6	-2.7	57.8	-	0.00
Aug. 7	91.9	52.3	68.4	+6.2	58.0	1	0.14
" 14	86.6	52.9	67.3	+4.9	59.0	3	0.34
" 21	76.1	47.4	62.0	+0.1	59.2	1	0.20
" 28	80.2	48.5	63.2	+2.4	59.3	-	0.00
Sep. 4	79.9	47.2	64.1	+4.3	59.4	3	1.13
" 11	82.5	44.8	59.2	+0.4	59.7	2	0.29
" 18	67.8	42.3	54.6	-3.0	58.8	6	0.54
" 25	71.2	37.8	54.1	-1.6	57.9	4	0.28

APPENDIX—*continued.*

Week ending.	Temperature of the Air.			Departure from average mean air temperature for 65 years.	Average temperature 4 feet below ground.	Number of days on which rain fell.	Rainfall in inches.
	Highest during week.	Lowest during week.	Mean temperature.				
Oct. 2	71.9	43.3	58.6	+4.0	57.4	2	0.04
„ 9	62.3	45.1	54.0	+1.5	57.0	2	0.07
„ 16	61.5	37.0	50.5	+0.1	56.1	1	0.01
„ 23	62.7	35.7	49.5	+0.7	55.2	2	1.09
„ 30	63.0	45.5	53.3	+5.8	54.3	5	0.99
Nov. 6	58.9	39.5	48.3	+1.8	53.9	2	0.63
„ 13	52.6	27.1	43.9	-0.4	52.9	2	0.22
„ 20	48.5	29.2	38.7	-3.9	50.6	3	0.20
„ 27	50.7	23.9	39.5	-2.4	49.4	2	0.22
Dec. 4	53.2	27.6	42.5	+1.4	48.2	6	1.64
„ 11	44.7	28.0	35.8	-5.2	47.4	5	0.95
„ 18	43.0	27.6	35.9	-4.6	45.9	5	0.82
„ 25	53.4	25.0	41.6	+2.9	44.9	2	0.17