

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

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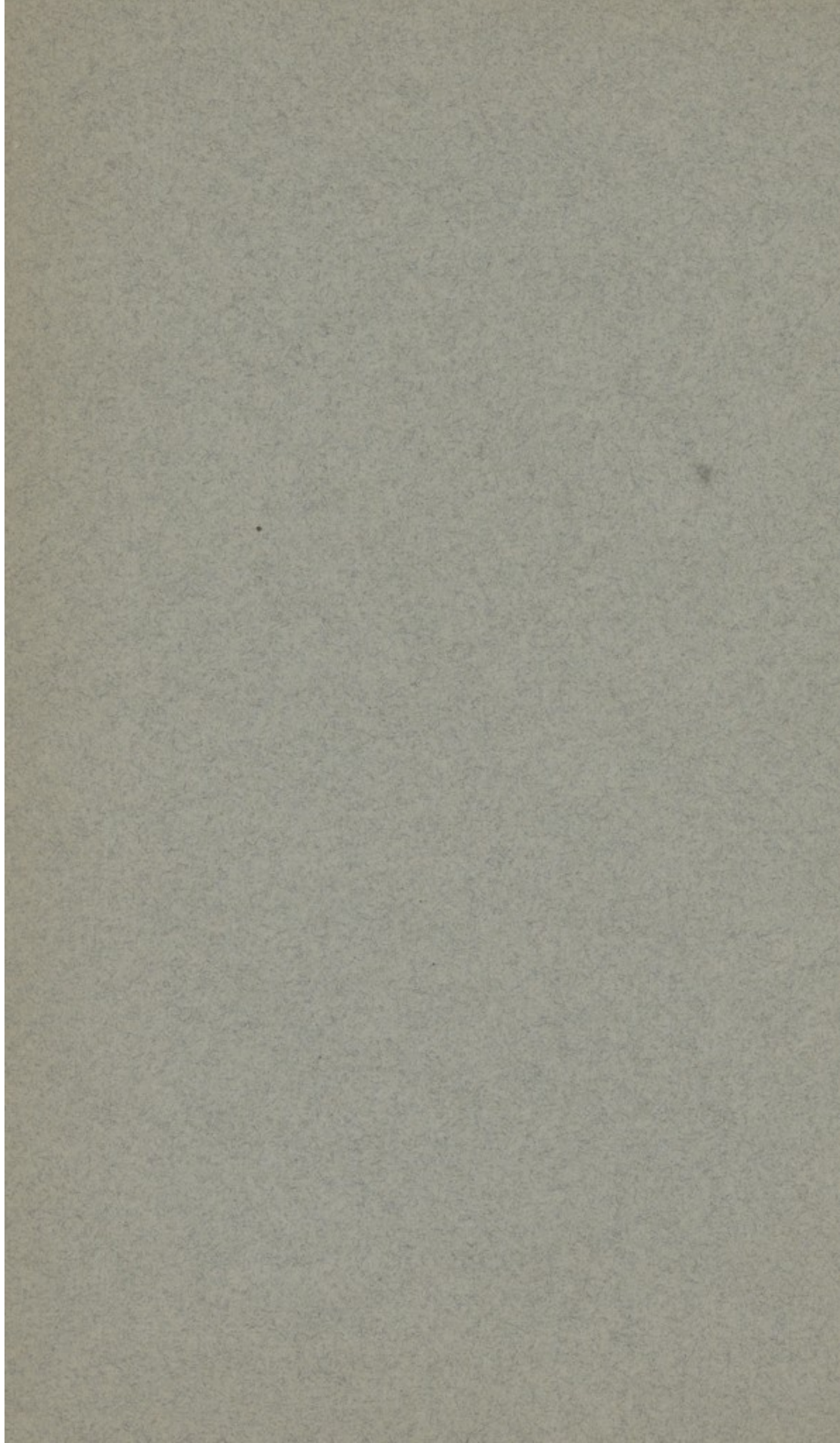
Borough of Walthamstow.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH

For the Year 1931.





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REPORT

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For the Year 1931.

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PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANATORIUM VISITING COMMITTEES.

Chairman:

ALDERMAN MRS. C. McENTEE, J.P.

Ex-officio:

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR—COUNCILLOR G. H. SPACKMAN, J.P.

THE DEPUTY MAYOR—ALDERMAN T. W. SMITH.

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HENDERSON.	„ MRS. E. RICHARDS.
	„ R. SMITH.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present herewith a Report on the work of the Public Health Department during 1931. The Report is presented as suggested by Circular 1206 of the Ministry of Health. The Report on Maternity and Child Welfare work is given as a separate section.

The routine work of the Department shows an increase under most headings and, in addition, to the visits recorded by the Sanitary Staff, a total of 2,967 visits were paid by the Medical Staff—mostly by myself.

Additional work was involved by the inauguration of the Foot Clinic and the Women's Clinic. The former has proved an unqualified success, but an opinion on the latter must be deferred because only two sessions were held before the close of the year. The administration of the Nursing Homes Registration Act also increased the Departmental duties.

The Staff of the Department was increased by the appointment of an additional Sanitary Inspector.

The Census returns showed that Walthamstow was the most populous Municipal Borough in the country, while the Registrar-General's table of comparative Vital Statistics is generally favourable to the Borough.

Reviewing the incidence of infectious disease there was, happily, a diminished incidence in respect of the three main diseases. Thus, Smallpox only showed one-third of the incidence of 1930, Scarlet Fever three-quarters, and Diphtheria some three-fifths. Enteric Fever, however, accounted for a total of 38 cases, 33 of which were a part of the "Epping" outbreak. As a result of this experience I have no hesitation in stressing the necessity for the compulsory pasteurisation of all raw and ungraded milk. At least two important cities in the country intend to promote the necessary legislation. The position may well be summed up in an extract from a recent article from the Public Health press:—

"The Americans, who are ahead of all nations in the hygiene of food handling, insist upon pasteurisation of all milk except of what corresponds to our certified milk, and, be it noted, the American drinks five times as much milk as the Englishman. But, be it noted also, in the States pasteurising plants are as closely watched by the health authorities as distilleries are

watched by the revenue officers in England. In England, pasteurisation has many opponents; for one thing it is often inefficiently done, but its unpopularity here is mainly due to prejudice. Theoretically the process is open to objection, but there is a growing feeling that the drawbacks of pasteurisation are a small matter indeed when weighed against the obvious advantages of getting an abundant supply of milk which, if not perfect, is yet good and quite trustworthy."

Fourteen deaths were recorded from Whooping Cough, a fact which should stress the high mortality from this dangerous disease.

I gratefully acknowledge the support I have invariably received from the Chairman and Members of your Committee and the co-operation of my colleagues in other Departments. Mr. Furness has again contributed those sections dealing with the following—Water, Rivers and Streams, Drainage, Sewerage and Scavenging, and new Housing Statistics.

The Staff of the Department have all worked well and have assisted in the compilation of the Report. The Senior Sanitary Inspector has contributed the following sections—Closet Accommodation, Sanitary Inspection of the Area, Smoke Abatement, Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Byelaws or Regulations, Inspection of houses, Inspection and Supervision of Food (excluding Food Poisoning).

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

A. T. W. POWELL,

Medical Officer of Health, etc.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer and Medical Superintendent, Isolation Hospital:

A. T. W. POWELL, M.C., M.B., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers:

D. BRODERICK, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., Barrister-at-Law.

MISS MARY C. SHEPPARD, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

MISS MARY C. CLARKE, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

Resident Medical Officer—Isolation Hospital:

MISS MARY HAMILTON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

Consultants (Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia Regulations):

MR. G. F. GIBBERD, M.S., F.R.C.S.

MRS. M. H. F. IVENS-KNOWLES, C.B.E., M.S. (also in charge of Women's Clinic).

MR. W. McKIM H. McCULLAGH, D.S.O., M.C., F.R.C.S.

Matron—Isolation Hospital:

MISS L. PRATCHETT, S.R.N.

Infectious Disease Nurse:

MISS I. H. JENNINGS, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Foot Clinic:

Chiropodist:—MISS M. McCALLUM, S.R.N., C.S.M.M.G.

Clerk (part-time):—MRS. N. MOGER.

Senior Sanitary Inspector, Petroleum Inspector and Chief Inspector, Diseases of Animals Acts.

M. E. DUNCAN, M.R.S.I. (a), (b).

District Sanitary Inspectors:

T. J. BARNES, (b), (c). W. R. ROBINSON, (b), (d).

F. W. KEMP, (a), (b), (c). T. VAUGHAN, (b), (c), (e).

F. NORTHCOTE, (b), (c), (from 1-5-31). H. A. WHIPP, (b), (c).

(a) Cert. S.I.E.B. (London).

(b) Cert. Inspector Meat and other Foods.

(c) S.I. Cert. of R.S.I.

(d) S.I. Cert. of R.S.I. and S.I.J.B.

(e) Cert. of Sanitary Science, R.S.I.

In addition some of the Inspectors hold special Certificates.

Veterinary Surgeon (part time):

BERNARD MOSS, M.R.C.V.S. (Lond.).

Public Analyst (part time):

DR. BERNARD DYER.

Chief Clerk:

R. ROSE.

Clerks:

G. W. WEST, L. R. W. KEMP, R. C. BLAND, R. A. C. GREEN,
L. RUSHTON, F. J. AYLWARD.

Ambulance Drivers and Disinfecting Staff:

W. H. DUNN, E. E. HARBER, R. HIGH, B. WINTER.

I.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	.. .. .	4,343
Population (Census, 1931)	.. .. .	132,965
,, (Registrar-General's Estimate, mid-year 1931)		134,420
No. of inhabited houses of resident population (Census, 1921)	.. .. .	25,526
No. of families or separate occupiers (Census, 1921)	..	29,461
Rateable value	.. .. .	£663,694
Sum represented by penny rate	.. .. .	£2,700

Population.—The population as shown by the Census taken on the 26th-27th April, 1931, was 132,965, which ranks thirty-fifth in England and Wales, including London (City and Administrative County). The intercensal increase was 3,570 or 2.8 per cent. of the 1921 population.

The same relative position in England and Wales was occupied by Walthamstow as a result of the 1921 Census and now, as then, Walthamstow remains the third largest town in Essex, being exceeded only by the County Boroughs of East and West Ham. Walthamstow was, on Census night, the largest Municipal Borough in England and Wales as regards population.

At the moment of writing only the Preliminary Report of the Census is to hand and the full available comparisons with the 1921 figures are given below:—

Year.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Parliamentary Electors. Autumn Register, 1930.		
				Persons.	Males.	Females.
1931 ..	..132,965	63,522	69,442			
1921 ..	..129,395	61,824	67,571			
1931, East Parliamentary Division ..	63,023	29,628	33,395	40,324	18,890	21,344
1931, West Parliamentary Division ..	69,942	33,894	36,048	42,314	20,748	21,566

Social Conditions.—The social conditions have not changed to any material extent since those detailed in last year's Report which recapitulated the main occupations of the inhabitants as disclosed by the 1921 Census and which emphasised the industrial nature of the Borough.

There is no known particular occupation which has any influence on public health.

Unemployment.—The degree of unemployment in the area during 1931 may be estimated from the following data kindly supplied by Mr. W. H. Goodfellow, Manager of the Local Employment Exchange.

The total insured workpeople of both sexes in Walthamstow is approximately 24,000, and a test showed that roughly two-thirds of the figures given below related to persons residing in Walthamstow (excluding Juveniles).

The following data refer to the whole Exchange Area:—

Date.	No. remaining on Register.			Amount of benefit paid. £
	Men.	Women.	Total.	
26-1-31 ..	5,950	1,893	7,843	6,078
23-2-31 ..	6,148	1,863	8,011	6,280
23-3-31 ..	6,098	1,881	7,979	6,467
27-4-31 ..	5,907	1,883	7,790	6,181
18-5-31 ..	5,743	1,876	7,619	5,950
22-6-31 ..	5,848	1,817	7,665	5,965
27-7-31 ..	5,739	1,826	7,565	6,022
24-8-31 ..	5,960	1,724	7,684	6,029
21-9-31 ..	6,257	1,610	7,867	6,268
26-10-31 ..	7,012	1,740	8,752	6,226
23-11-31 ..	7,194	1,447	8,641	6,302
21-12-31 ..	6,971	1,194	8,165	5,997

Between 30th December, 1930, and 21st December, 1931, a total of £312,872 was paid out in benefits, two-thirds of this amount (approximately representing the Walthamstow proportion) being £208,580.

The corresponding figures for 1930 were £117,935 and £78,623 respectively and the very large increases during 1931 plainly show the increased unemployment with its consequent menace to the public health.

Mr. Dempsey states that the following were the registrations at the Juvenile Employment Bureau:—

Fresh Applications:—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Insured (over 16 years)	540	429	969
Not insured (under 16 years) ..	551	560	1,111

Re-registrations:—

Insured	693	416	1,109
Not insured	550	611	1,161
Employment was obtained for 1,104 boys and girls.			

Parks and Recreation Grounds.—In addition to those specified in the 1930 Report, the North Walthamstow Sports Ground was purchased during the year by the Education Authority, a loan of £2,700 being raised for the purpose.

A further loan of £1,887 was sanctioned for the provision of children's playground equipment at Lloyd and St. James' Parks and at the Higham Hill, Queens Road and Selborne Road Recreation Grounds and Chestnuts Farm. The equipment included slides, ocean waves, rowing pendulum swings, whirling platforms and cradle swings.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.—The Registrar-General's mid-year, 1931, estimate of population (viz., 134,420) has been used for the calculation of all vital statistics:—

		Males.		Females.		
Live Births	{ Legitimate	1,898	949	949	Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ..	14.5
	{ Illegitimate	49	17	32		
	{ Total ..	1,947	966	981		
Stillbirths ..	59	Rate per 1,000 total (live and stillbirths) births				29.4
Deaths ..	1,403	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population				10.4
Percentage of total deaths occurring in Institutions						45.1
Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth { From sepsis ..						1
{ .. other causes						Nil

Death-rate of infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	56
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	54
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	122
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	Nil
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	14
,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	8

The Zymotic Disease Death-rate, i.e., the rate per 1,000 population of deaths from the following diseases:—Enteric Fever, Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Diarrhoea, etc., under two years, was 0.27 against 0.50 in 1930.

The Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death-rate was 0.70 per 1,000 population, and the Non-Pulmonary Death-rate was 0.097 per 1,000 population.

The natural increase of population, i.e., excess of births over deaths was 544.

The Registrar-General's comparative figures for towns in the 'Outer Ring' cannot be given as they have not been issued in time.

The usual comparison of vital statistic rates with those for the whole country is shown in the following table:—

STATE		COUNTY		TOWNSHIP		SECTION		RANGE		TOWNSHIP		COUNTY		STATE	
100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
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100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
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100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	10			

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1931.
(Provisional figures.)

(The mortality rates for England and Wales refer to the whole population, but for London and the Towns to civilians only.)

	RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION.		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.										RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.			
	Live Births.	Still-Births.	All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).	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	15.8	0.67	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.01	0.06	0.07	0.36	0.54	6.0	66	91.18	6.17	1.70	0.95	
107 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London ..	16.0	0.67	12.3	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.01	0.07	0.08	0.33	0.48	8.4	71	91.43	5.84	2.24	0.49	
159 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000—50,000) ..	15.6	0.73	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.01	0.05	0.05	0.36	0.43	4.0	62	92.17	5.49	1.25	1.09	
LONDON	15.0	0.50	12.4	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.02	0.07	0.06	0.26	0.57	9.7	65	89.52	6.23	4.24	0.01	
Walthamstow	14.5	0.43	10.4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.10	0.07	0.14	0.52	4.1	56	89.68	7.55	2.70	0.07	

The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales were as follows:		Per 1,000 Live Births	..	Puerperal Sepsis.	1.66	Others.	2.45	Total.	4.11
		 Total Births	..		1.59		2.35		3.95
" " " Walthamstow " "		 Total Births	..		0.49		—		0.49
		 Live Births	..		0.51		—		0.51

Causes of and Ages at Death during the year 1931.

Whole District and Wards.

No.	CAUSES OF DEATH	Net Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the district										WARDS					
		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 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards	St. James Street	High Street	Hoe Street	Wood Street	Hale End	Higham Hill
		M.	F.	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10						
1	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fevers	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
2	Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
4	Whooping Cough	9	5	7	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	1	—	2	6
5	Diphtheria	5	6	1	—	4	4	1	1	—	—	4	1	—	—	3	3
6	Influenza	8	12	—	3	1	6	2	3	1	4	5	4	2	1	4	4
7	Encephalitis Lethargica	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—
8	Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	63	32	—	1	1	—	22	46	22	3	20	21	17	9	11	17
10	Other Tuberculous Diseases	5	8	1	2	—	2	6	2	—	—	3	1	1	3	2	3
11	Syphilis	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	1	1	1	1	—	2
12	General Paralysis of the Insane, tabes dorsalis	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	1	1	1	—
13	Cancer, malignant disease	85	91	—	—	—	1	—	14	86	75	32	17	36	23	27	41
14	Diabetes	3	7	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	6	2	3	3	—	—	2
15	Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	35	48	—	—	1	—	—	1	21	60	18	11	15	16	13	10
16	Heart Disease	122	191	4	—	1	8	6	25	71	198	60	33	78	45	49	48
17	Aneurysm	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	1	—	3	2	1	—
18	Other Circulatory Diseases	15	22	2	4	—	1	—	1	8	21	5	7	8	6	6	5
19	Bronchitis	37	49	2	—	1	—	1	1	18	63	15	7	18	16	16	14
20	Pneumonia (all forms)	63	45	20	4	3	1	1	12	27	40	19	10	29	14	15	21
21	Other Respiratory Diseases	6	8	—	—	1	—	—	3	4	6	3	3	3	3	2	—
22	Peptic Ulcer	9	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	9	3	2	3	2	4	1	1
23	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	5	3	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	2	3
24	Appendicitis	4	4	—	—	—	1	2	1	2	2	1	3	1	1	2	—
25	Cirrhosis of Liver	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	1	1	1	—
26	Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27	Other Digestive Diseases	15	20	—	—	4	—	6	3	9	13	4	7	5	8	7	4
28	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	19	25	—	—	—	1	2	4	17	20	9	5	10	7	7	6
29	Puerperal Sepsis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
30	Other Puerperal Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31	Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth, etc.	37	21	58	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	12	8	8	11	9
32	Senility	16	28	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	44	1	8	13	6	9	7
33	Suicide	22	9	—	—	—	—	1	12	14	4	8	6	4	3	4	6
34	Other Deaths from Violence	29	11	3	2	—	7	9	7	4	8	10	3	6	5	5	11
35	Other Defined Causes	61	52	6	1	2	7	5	11	27	54	23	16	23	13	22	16
36	Causes ill-defined or unknown	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals		693	710	110	25	20	41	66	154	354	633	266	185	291	197	224	240

The 1931 total deaths (1,403) compares with 1,160 during 1930, the respective death-rates per 1,000 population being 10.4 and 9.3.

The chief differences in the classification of deaths—those for 1930 being given in parentheses—were as follows:—

Whooping Cough, 14 (2); Diphtheria, 11 (22); Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 95 (80); Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 13 (9); Cancer, 176 (167); Cerebral Haemorrhage, 83 (51); Heart Disease, 313 (224); Bronchitis, 86 (42); Nephritis, 44 (37); Congenital Debility, etc., 58 (45); Suicide, 31 (14); Violence, 40 (34).

Infant deaths are analysed by causes, ages and wards under the Maternity and Child Welfare Section of the Report.

Institutional Deaths.

Whipps Cross Hospital, Leytonstone	..	..	..	..	220
Central Homes, Leytonstone	..	..	..	..	160
Connaught Hospital, Walthamstow	..	..	..	..	32
Brentwood Mental Hospital	..	..	..	..	28
Prince of Wales's Hospital, Tottenham	..	..	..	..	19
Forest Gate Sick Home	..	..	..	..	19
Walthamstow Isolation Hospital	..	..	..	..	14
London Hospital, Stepney	..	..	..	..	13
London Fever Hospital, Islington	..	..	..	..	12
Queen's Hospital, Bethnal Green	..	..	..	..	12
St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London	..	..	..	..	10
Queen Mary's Hospital, Stratford	..	..	..	..	6
German Hospital, Hackney	..	..	..	..	4
Middlesex Hospital, St. Marylebone	..	..	..	..	4
Great Ormond Street Hospital	..	..	..	..	4
St. Joseph's Hospice, Hackney	..	..	..	..	3
"Brookcroft," Forest Road, Walthamstow	..	..	..	..	3
Forest Hydro, Forest Road, Walthamstow	..	..	..	..	3
Severalls Hospital, Colchester	..	..	..	..	3
Royal Northern Hospital, Islington	..	..	..	..	3
Chest Hospital, Bethnal Green	..	..	..	..	2
Central London Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital	..	..	..	..	2
London Jewish Hospital, Stepney	..	..	..	..	2
St. Peter's Hospital, Stepney	..	..	..	..	2
St. John and St. Elizabeth Hospital, St. Marylebone	..	..	..	..	2
Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, St. Pancras	..	..	..	..	2
St. Columba's Hospital, Hampstead	..	..	..	..	2
North Middlesex Hospital, Edmonton	..	..	..	..	2
Guys' Hospital, Southwark	..	..	..	..	2
Other Hospitals	..	..	..	..	43
Total	..	..	..	..	633

II. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. Public Health Officers of the Authority.—The names and qualifications of officers employed by your Authority are given at the beginning of the Report and also in the Maternity and Child Welfare Section. All are whole-time officers unless otherwise stated.

2. Nursing in the Home.

(a) *General.*—The Walthamstow District Nursing Association took over the Nursing Home and the Staff formerly provided by the Essex County Nursing Association. The work done in 1931 is reviewed in the Maternity and Child Welfare Section of the Report. As a rule the Nurses do not attend cases of infectious disease.

(b) *Infectious Diseases.*—No home nursing is provided by your Council, but a whole-time Infectious Disease Nurse supervises all home-nursed cases of notifiable infectious disease and the School Nurses visit all cases of non-notifiable infectious diseases of school age.

3. Midwives.—On taking over the administration of the Midwives Acts from the County Council on 1st April, 1931, there were 17 trained and qualified midwives practising in the area. During the year three further qualified midwives gave notice of intention to practice. The work involved under the Midwives Acts is detailed in the Maternity and Child Welfare Section.

4. Public Assistance.—Out-relief and institutional treatment is provided by the Essex County Council. Mr. Pegram, Clerk to the Essex County Council South-West Area Guardians Committee, kindly states that the amount of relief provided in Walthamstow during the year ended 31st December, 1931, was £28,796 1s. 4d. The average weekly number in receipt of relief was—Men, 450; Women, 837; Children, 700; Total, 1,987.

5. Laboratory Facilities.—These facilities are detailed under the Infectious Diseases Section of the Report.

6. Legislation in Force (additional).

(a) The Walthamstow (Chicken Pox) Regulations, 1931, dated 2nd November, 1931, and made by the Ministry of Health, were brought into force on that date.

The effect of the Regulations was to continue to make Chicken Pox a notifiable disease, except those cases under 10 years of age who had been vaccinated.

The previous compulsory notification of Chicken Pox was thus continued except that the vaccinated cases, who could therefore not be suffering from Smallpox, were excluded from notification and so leading to economy of money and of time previously wasted by the medical staff in verification of diagnosis.

When the Regulations came into force copies were sent to all practitioners in the Borough. They have answered their purpose well.

(b) The Walthamstow Corporation Act, 1931, which received Royal Assent on 27th March, 1931, was an Act promoted to make provision for the annual audit.

(c) The Walthamstow (Supervision of Midwives) Order, 1931.

7. Hospitals.—There were no changes during 1931 in the Hospital services used by the inhabitants of the Borough.

Public Assistance in Walthamstow is now provided by the South-West Area Committee of the Essex County Council, which retains a certain proportion of beds in each of the local Institutions.

Mr. Pegram, the Clerk to the Committee, has kindly supplied the following particulars of Walthamstow residents admitted to the various Institutions during the year ended the 31st December, 1931:—

Institution.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Central Home	176	219	72	467
Whipps Cross Hospital ..	553	585	312	1,450
Forest Gate Hospital ..	10	125	5	140
Aldersbrook Home ..	—	—	62	62

Fifty-eight children were born to Walthamstow mothers in Forest Gate Hospital, in addition to 7 stillbirths.

The number of patients from Walthamstow in Mental Hospitals on the 31st December was 385 (335 at Brentwood and 50 at Severalls).

The Connaught Hospital.

Captain Ellison has kindly supplied the following information:—

“Of the total number of in-patients admitted during the year, 684 were residents of the Borough.

“The following comparative figures show the progress of the Hospital from the year 1927 to 1931:—

	Patients admitted.	Average stay in Hospital.	Beds occupied daily.	Out-patients New Cases.	Department Attendances.
1931	1,515	21.29	88.3	11,186	50,201
1930	1,406	22.84	88.10	13,470	49,988
1929	1,341	23.98	87.29	19,177	44,472
1928	1,151	22.93	70.57	10,098	41,761
1927	865	20.35	47.0	9,698	32,752

“Twenty-three highly qualified honorary Specialists are in regular attendance and there are three Resident Medical Officers. The Nursing Staff consists of the Matron, the Sister Tutor, 12 Sisters, 5 Staff Nurses and 30 Probationers.

“The complement of 100 beds is allocated as follows:—Medical cases, 21; Surgical, 32; Children, 34; Private Beds, 10; Observation Beds, 3.

“There are facilities for operative surgery, X-Ray work, dental, ophthalmic and massage treatment. Pathological work is carried out partly at the Hospital and partly at other Institutions.

“During 1931, 609 major, and 2,822 minor operations were performed, a total of 3,431. 5,544 radiographs were taken, and 6,928 massage treatments were given. There were also 6,192 electrical treatments, and 3,287 artificial sunlight treatments given during the year at Comely Bank Annexe.

“A Gynaecological Out-Patient Department will be opened early in 1932 with Mr. Alistair Galletly, M.C., F.R.C.S., as Honorary Surgeon-in-Charge.”

The returns of the various Hospitals show that full use was made of the facilities available. There is no question that if more beds were available at the Connaught Hospital and Whipps Cross Hospital, full use could be made of the added facilities. Co-operation exists between the Local Authority and the Connaught Hospital chiefly in respect of the schemes for the admission of the Education Committee's Tonsils and Adenoid cases, and the Borough Council's Enteric Fever cases.

Future plans for the improvement of the Hospital services include the provision of a Municipal Maternity Home and of an additional 12 beds at the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

The Walthamstow Dispensary.

The Dispensary is a Charity founded in 1873, and which, during 1931, gave treatment to 976 cases, who made 3,162 attendances. In addition, 285 operations for removal of Tonsils and Adenoids were done for your Education and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees.

8. Maternity and Nursing Homes.—The application made by your Council some time ago to the Essex County Council, i.e., for the delegation of powers of administration under the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927, was successful. The administration of the Act was taken over on the 1st October on which date the following Homes were registered:—

Address.	Particulars of Registration.
*Kingswood Maternity Nursing Home, Forest Rise, Whipps Cross.	Registered as Maternity Home. (5 beds.)
*The Forest Hydro, Forest Road	Registered as a Nursing Home for the reception of general as well as maternity cases, provided that for general cases a resident qualified Nurse is employed, and that for maternity patients a resident qualified Nurse (with Doctor) or a certified Midwife is employed for each confinement and the subsequent 10 days' nursing. (7 beds, including 2 maternity.)
St. Margaret's Maternity Home, 3, East Avenue.	Registered as Maternity Home. (3 beds.)
Heathfield Nursing Home, 91, Falmouth Avenue, Highams Park.	Registered as Nursing and Maternity Home. A certified Midwife or doctor should attend each confinement. (10 beds, including 6 maternity.)
Walthamstow District Nursing Association, 19, Carisbrooke Road.	Registered as Maternity Home. (2 beds.)

* These Homes were registered under Part II of the Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926, and therefore became automatically registered under the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927.

The approved number of beds at the Walthamstow District Nursing Association was increased to four, with effect from the 27th November.

The total number of beds registered under the Act at the close of the year was, therefore, 29, of which 20 were for maternity and 9 for general cases.

A review of the maternity work carried out in the Homes is given under the Maternity and Child Welfare Section of the Report.

Towards the end of the year your Council approved the adoption of Byelaws under the Act and made application for confirmation to the Ministry of Health.

The following table gives information required by the Ministry of Health:—

1.	No. of applications for registration..	1 (for additional beds).
2.	No. of Homes registered	No new registrations.
3.	No. of orders made refusing or cancelling registration	Nil.
4.	No. of appeals against such orders ..	Nil.
5.	No. of cases in which such orders have been made:—	
	(a) Confirmed on appeal	Nil.
	(b) Disallowed	Nil.
6.	No. of applications for exemption from registration	Nil.
7.	No. of cases in which exemption has been	
	(a) Granted	Nil.
	(b) Withdrawn	Nil.
	(c) Refused	Nil.

Periodical quarterly inspections are made to each Home, in addition to any visits necessary for special inquiries.

The Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade carried out a detailed inspection of the fire appliances at each Home during the year.

9. Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants and Homeless Children.—There is no change to record from the provision detailed in the 1930 Report.

10. Ambulance Facilities.

(a) *For Infectious Diseases.*—The ambulance facilities remained as detailed in the 1930 Report. All the ambulances were either repainted or revarnished during 1931. New garage accommodation was erected during the year on the site of the old garage.

(b) *For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.*—Your Council provided no facilities for non-infectious cases. A proposal to enter into an agreement with the St. John Ambulance Brigade proved abortive, and a scheme for the provision of two ambulances to be located at the Fire Station has now been approved.

1. Mr. A. G. Mattacks, the Corps Secretary of the Walthamstow and District Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, reports as follows:—

“We have two Motor Ambulances, the day drivers being the only paid men in the Walthamstow Corps. Otherwise our services

are entirely voluntary. Our headquarters at Willow Walk, High Street, are open both day and night for the service of the public. We have also a sub-station at Highams Park doing valuable work and another station on the Epping Road during week-ends and holidays and in the summer months.

“During 1931, the number of cases receiving First Aid treatment was 1,811, and the number of cases removed to hospitals 1,057. Mileage incurred by Motor Ambulance in these cases was 17,259.

“The number of road accidents in this District receiving treatment was 226, and the mileage incurred on these cases alone, 1,258. We have also organised several First Aid classes and also classes in Home Nursing which have been exceedingly successful, and we hope of great benefit to those who qualified for certificate and to the firms by whom they are employed, be it factory or office.”

2. Removal of patients to Whipps Cross Hospital is carried out by the Hospital's Ambulances.

11. Clinic and Treatment Centres.—In addition to the Clinics detailed in the 1930 Report, all of which were continued, the following were provided during 1931:—

Nature.	Day and Time.	Situation.	Accommodation.	By whom provided.
Rheumatism ..	Th., 2-4 p.m...	Lloyd Park ..	Waiting, Consulting and Treatment Room	Walthamstow Education Committee.
Consultant Ophthalmic	1st Th., 10-12 noon, monthly	Blind School ..	Classroom ..	“ “
Maternity and Child Welfare	Tu., 2-4 p.m...	(a) The Institute, St. Andrew's Road, Higham Hill	Waiting, Weighing and Consulting Rooms	Borough Council.
“ “	“ “	(b) The Memorial Hall, Winchester Road, Highams Park	“ “	“ “
Foot ..	Mon., Tu., Th., Fri., 2-4.30 p.m., 5.30-8 p.m., Wed. & Sat., 9.30-12 noon	69, Hoe Street..	Waiting Room, Treatment Room	“ “
Women's ..	1st Wed., 2-4 p.m., monthly.	“ “	Waiting Room, Consulting Room, Examination Room	“ “

11a. Foot Clinic.—The Foot Clinic is apparently the second Municipal Clinic to be set up in the country.

The authority for setting up the Walthamstow Clinic was obtained under Section 131 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

Suitable premises were available at 69, Hoe Street, which had previously been acquired by your Council for the purpose of using its forecourt for street widening purposes. The Foot Clinic suite is situated on the ground floor of the house, which is situated in a main street and on tramway and omnibus routes. Such ground floor facilities and accessibility are essential.

The suite consists of a waiting-room which also accommodates a lady clerk, a treatment room of three cubicles and a staff rest room. The adaptation and redecoration of the premises amounted to £270 and included the erection of a platform along one side of the room to take three ordinary heavy armchairs for patients, who are screened from one another by wooden partitions. Suitable lighting on a flexible arm, a cupboard and a sink, supplied with running hot and cold water, are the only other essentials.

The equipment required for one chiropodist consisted of a Tan-sad operating chair, an electric nail drill, an electric vibrator, a heat lamp, an instrument table, and minor accessories. The total cost was just over £20.

Staffing was considered both from the whole-time and part-time aspect. The whole-time arrangement was finally adopted and the Clinic was placed in charge of Miss Mary McCallum who trained as a chiropodist at the Chelsea School and is, in addition, a trained nurse and masseuse, both of which qualifications are of very great value. A lady clerk was appointed on a part-time basis and her duties are to record the names and addresses of patients attending, to fill in simple treatment record cards, and to collect fees. A part-time woman cleaner is also employed.

Ten weekly sessions of two and a half hours each are held and after various trials these have been fixed on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons and evenings and Wednesday and Saturday mornings. The attendances have been found to vary considerably on similar sessions in successive weeks.

The maximum number of patients treated by one chiropodist should not exceed 10, which allows 15 minutes for each. During a recent week, however, 121 patients were treated, but this number is far more than it is fair to expect one chiropodist to treat and has already, after only four months' experience, raised the question of employing additional assistance.

Although only one chiropodist is at present employed the two spare cubicles are frequently occupied by patients receiving foot baths or radiant heat.

The conditions treated include corns, warts, bunions, ingrowing toenails, dropped arches, inflamed bursae, minor foot injuries and rheumatic conditions of the feet.

Treatment is limited to residents in the Borough, and a fee of 1s. per attendance is charged, but is remitted in the case of old-age pensioners and unemployed persons. On the other hand, patients are invited to pay more than the fixed fee if they can afford it.

Miss McCallum stresses the very real need for skilled treatment for foot ailments and states that the amount of avoidable suffering is far greater than is commonly realised. A surprising experience has been the number of school children attending for treatment in respect of multiple warts on the soles of the feet—a crippling condition and a painful one to treat. Frequently cases of an orthopaedic nature have attended and have been referred elsewhere for appropriate treatment. It has not been uncommon again to find patients suffering from interdigital ringworm—a condition often mistaken for soft corns.

The chiropodist also advocates the provision of additional facilities for foot bathing and states that many patients attend who could afford to pay bigger fees which, in any case, should be charged if any considerable amount of dressing is required or if radiant heat is given.

Reviewing the working of the Clinic from its inception on 19th September, 1931, up to the end of the year, 347 new patients attended and made 697 re-attendances or a total of 1,044 in 15 weeks.

The total receipts were £50 12s. 6d., an average of nearly 1s. per attendance, in spite of a considerable number of remitted fees.

The cost of equipment and maintenance is briefly summarised below and, on the basis of the 15 weeks' working, the nett cost was just over £91. The actual gross cost of each treatment was 2s. 6d.

<i>Equipment, etc.</i>				<i>Maintenance (15 weeks).</i>			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Appliances, etc. ..	20	8	6	Salaries:—			
Drugs and Dressings ..	12	2	11	Chiropodist ..	69	4	7
Miscellaneous ..	8	16	3	Part-time Clerk ..	20	5	0
Advertising ..	2	10	2	„ Cleaner ..	13	10	0
Furnishing ..	39	13	0	Drugs ..	7	19	0
Part Cost of Adapta- tion and Redecora- tion ..	270	0	0	Rates.. ..	9	12	5
				Heat, Light and Water ..	6	14	10
				Miscellaneous ..	1	1	9
Total ..	£353	10	10	Total ..	£128	7	7
				Receipts ..	50	12	6
				Nett Cost ..	£77	15	1

11b. Women's Clinic.—Your Council decided during the year to set up a Women's Clinic, and the first floor of the Foot Clinic premises at 69, Hoe Street, was adapted and redecorated for this purpose.

A monthly session was provided for in the scheme and the first session was held in November. The Clinic was placed in charge of Mrs. Ivens-Knowles, C.B.E., M.S., one of the Consultants under the Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia Regulations.

The functions of the Clinic are as follows:—

- (a) Ante and Post-Natal consultations.
- (b) Consultant advice and treatment for women suffering from gynaecological conditions.
- (c) Provision of advice on contraceptive methods for married women who attend the Clinic for such medical advice or treatment and in whose cases pregnancy would be detrimental to health.

12. Maternal Mortality.—Maternal Mortality is fully discussed in the Maternity and Child Welfare Section.

13. Children Act, 1908.—The administration of Part I of the Act was taken over from the late Board of Guardians on 1st April, 1930. The arrangements then made for discharging the necessary functions were that the Medical Officer of Health was appointed the person to whom the required Notices must be sent and the Health Visitors were appointed as Infant Protection Visitors.

All applicants for registration are visited and reports made to a Sub-Committee of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee which meets weekly to deal with applications.

Full details of the number of registrations and visits paid are given in the Maternity and Child Welfare Section of the Report.

III. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.—New mains have been installed in the following roads—Hollywood Way, Malvern Avenue, The Avenue, Minerva Road, Cogan Avenue, Valognes Avenue, Manor Road, roads (not yet named) on Highams Park Estate (No. 2 Section), Waller Avenue, Warwick Road, Harman Avenue, Nesta Road, The Charter Road, and St. Peter's Avenue.

The supply has been entirely satisfactory in quality and quantity. No action has been necessary in respect of any form of contamination.

Rivers and Streams.—No action has been necessary to check the pollution of rivers and streams. Periodical cleaning of Dagenham Brook was carried out and certain works were carried out for the Essex Sewers Commissioners.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.—No extension of the sewerage system other than minor ones necessitated by the development of various building estates, were carried out.

Consequent on the publication of the 1931 Census figures the permissible discharge of the London County Council Mains Drainage System has been increased to 6,648,250 gallons per day.

The outlet from the storm-water beds at the Sewage Works has been reconstructed in an improved form.

Closet Accommodation.—The number of premises draining to cesspools has been increased by four (one a sports pavilion).

Fifty-five earth closets were in use at Sports Grounds at the end of the year.

Scavenging and Refuse Disposal.—No alterations in the former of the above services have been carried out. The purchase of two house-refuse collection vehicles of an improved type, is at present under consideration, tenders for these having been received.

With regard to refuse disposal, an additional (4-grate) unit has been installed at the existing Destructor to act as a stand-by when one or other of the original units is closed down for repairs or inspection. This is capable of destroying 54 tons of crude refuse per 24 hours. The house and trade refuse received at the Destructor amounted to 25,800 tons.

Except in the case of the refuse destroyed in the new unit the tins, metal, etc., were recovered from the refuse before destruction and, so far as possible, sold.

Your Council decided to take legal proceedings against any person found contravening Section 42 of the Public Health Act, 1875, which prohibits unauthorised persons from removing matter from dustbins placed out for collection, a practice more popularly known as "totting."

Warning posters were exhibited and the attention of the Police and all Outdoor Staff of the Corporation was drawn to the matter.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

	No. of inspections made.	No. of nuisances detected.	No. of complaints received.	No. of Informal Notices.		No. of Statutory Notices served.	Total visits.
				Served.	Complied with.		
1931	9992	12924	1461	2641	2705	165	25760
1930	8904	7336	1703	2379	2206	119	22823

Of the 165 Statutory Notices served during 1931, 108 were complied with.

The nature and variety of the work done during 1931 is shown in the following tables:—

Drains tested	357
,, reconstructed or repaired	248
,, obstructions removed	249
,, means of access provided	42
,, ventilation provided or improved	41
,, ventilation repaired	171
Soil pipes repaired	26
,, ,, new provided	25
Rain water pipes, renewed	220
,, ,, ,, disconnected from drains	42
Roofs repaired or renewed	711
Gutterings repaired or renewed	375
W.C. pans or traps provided	405
Gully traps provided	59
W.C. flush cisterns provided	29
,, ,, ,, repaired	227
W.C. floors concreted	73
W.C.'s repaired and cleansed	502
Waste pipes renewed or trapped	171
,, ,, repaired	107
New sinks provided	80
Water supply reinstated	4
,, ,, taken off main	13
Cisterns cleansed and covered	64
Conveniences cleansed and covered	29
Sculleries paved	91
Yards and forecourts paved and repaired	466
Dirty houses cleansed	172
,, rooms cleansed	4,001
Floors repaired	290
Ventilations under floors provided	180
New damp-proof courses provided	276
Sites concreted	2

Offensive accumulations removed	47
Animals improperly kept, removed	10
Manure receptacles provided	3
Stables cleansed, paved and drained	43
Manholes repaired or re-sealed	69
Other cases of dampness remedied	361
Separate Sanitary Conveniences provided to shops where both sexes are employed	3
Miscellaneous repairs	1,605

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Visits to premises	1,500
Re-visits to premises	154
Visits in connection with Smallpox	3,690
Premises disinfected	1,067
Articles disinfected at Low Hall	12,138
,, destroyed at Low Hall	219

DAMPNESS IN HOUSES.

Sites concreted	2
Damp-proof courses provided	276
Yards and forecourts paved and drained	466
Roofs made watertight	711
Rain-water pipes made good	220
Guttering repaired or renewed	375
Other cases of dampness remedied	361
Ventilation under floors provided	180
House-to-House Inspections	1,015

SPECIAL PREMISES.

	Number.	Visits paid.
Slaughterhouses	13	576
Butchers' Shops	79	673
Bakehouses	45	153
Fishmongers (fish frying and curing), etc.	62	410
Eating-houses and Coffee Stalls	61	128
Ice Cream Vendors	111	87
Cowsheds	2	22
Milkshops	202	391
Laundries	31	49
Rag and bone dealers	7	36
Elementary Schools	28	44
Private Schools	13	
Piggeries	6	56
Street Stalls	Numerous	108
Greengrocers	,,	181
Factories .. .. .	.. .. .	392
Workshops .. .. .	.. .. .	356
Outworkers .. .. .	.. .. .	322

As a result of the regular periodical visiting of the Special Premises the following works were carried out:—

BUTCHERS' SHOPS AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Special cleansings, 56; Paving repaired, 8; Accumulations removed, 8; New Galvanised Bins provided, 19; Drains repaired, 3; W.C.'s repaired and cleansed, 7; Drains cleared of obstructions, 5; Yard paving repaired, 9; Floors repaired and Ventilated, 7.

BAKEHOUSES.

Special cleansings, 69; Drains repaired, 2; W.C.'s cleansed and doors repaired, 13; Yards repaved, 4; Obstructions from drains removed, 1; W.C. cisterns repaired, 1; Floors repaired, 4; New ceilings fixed, 4; Roofs repaired, 2; Premises general repair, 7.

FISHMONGERS.

Special cleansings, 34; Drains cleared of obstruction, 3; Yards repaved, 7; Accumulations removed, 7; Gutters renewed, 2; Roofs repaired, 1; Other improvements, 7.

COFFEE AND EATING HOUSES.

Special cleansings, 18; Yard pavings repaired, 7; W.C. cisterns repaired, 1; Floors renewed, 1.

ICE CREAM VENDORS.

Special cleansings, 7; Special cleansing of Utensils, 5; Yard paving repaired, 5.

COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Special cleansings, 24; Pavings relaid, 6; Fittings and other improvements, 4; Roofs repaired, 2; Drains repaired, 4;

STABLE PREMISES.

Cleansings, 40; Accumulations removed, 23; Roofs repaired, 6; Pavings repaired, 9; Manure receptacles provided, 1; Drains reconstructed, 1; Other repairs, 1.

LAUNDRIES.

Special cleansings, 11; Roofs repaired, 1; Other improvements, 6.

RAG AND BONE DEALERS.

Cleansings, 14; Pavings repaired, 1; Accumulations removed, 3.

PIGGERIES.

Cleansings, 5; Paving relaid, 1.

Smoke Abatement.—Seven instances of nuisances arising from smoke have been observed and dealt with.

Personal visits to the factories concerned have proved that in six cases bad stoking and/or wrong fuel was the cause of the nuisances. The persons responsible carried out all suggestions made to abate the nuisances.

One Factory Bakehouse was the cause of repeated complaints of Smoke Nuisance and several observations were made by your Senior Sanitary Inspector between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. when the factory was in use and serious nuisances were observed.

In this instance it was found that the life of the furnace was past, and legal proceedings were authorised but suspended, due to the owners' promise to provide new ovens and furnaces without delay.

This was done and no complaints have since been made.

Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Bye-Laws or Regulations.—The number of Offensive Trades in the area was:—

(a) Fish Curers	..	..	..	..	24
(b) Fish Friers	..	..	..	..	40
(c) Rag and Bone Dealers	..	..	..	..	7
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	13
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	46

(35 of these are Factory premises.)

Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.—There are four areas in Higham Hill Ward where numerous van dwellers have congregated and to which the Byelaws apply.

The total number of vans in the area is 53.

In addition, certain areas of land are used periodically by showmen as Fair Grounds, and at such times the Byelaws are put into operation in respect thereof.

The "permanent" caravan sites have been repeatedly inspected.

Schools.—The sanitary condition of schools is more fully discussed in the School Medical Officer's Report. A detailed sanitary survey is made of each school by the School Medical Inspector at the conclusion of Medical Inspection. Recommendations made are sent to the Director of Education.

The School Medical Officer's Report gives a detailed account of the sanitary improvements effected during 1931.

The Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.—There are no known premises in the Borough on which rag flock is manufactured or sold.

IV. HOUSING.

(a) Statistics.

The particulars of new houses erected during 1931 are given in the form prescribed by Circular 1119 for the 1930 Report in view of the absence of any prescribed form for the current report. In addition, the Engineer and Surveyor has kindly given separate particulars as to houses erected up to and following the Census night, viz., 26th/27th April. When the detailed Census returns become available it will then be possible to estimate at the end of each year the number of inhabited houses in each Ward—due allowance being made for any demolitions, either Statutory or voluntary.

The total of 695 houses erected during 1931 compares favourably with the 663 houses built during 1930.

The following are the figures and notes supplied by the Engineer and Surveyor:—

Number of New Houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)):—

	1.1.31 to 26.4.31.	27.4.31 to 31.12.31.	1.1.31 to 31.12.31.
(i) By the Local Authority ..	40	66	106
(ii) By other Authorities ..	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
(iii) By other bodies and persons ..	158	431	589

(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts:—

(i) By the Local Authority:—

(a) For the purpose of Part II of the Act of 1925 .. Nil. Nil. Nil.

(b) For the purpose of Part III of the Act of 1925 and under the Housing Financial Provision Act, 1924 .. 40 *66 *106

(c) For other purposes.. Nil. Nil. Nil.

(ii) By other bodies or persons .. Nil. Nil. Nil.

The 695 houses were situated as follows:—

	1.1.31 to 26.4.31.	27.4.31 to 31.12.31.	1.1.31 to 31.12.31.
Hale End Ward ..	141	340	481
High Street Ward ..	2	—	2
Higham Hill Ward ..	44	*102	*146
Hoe Street Ward ..	—	13	13
St. James Street Ward ..	—	—	—
Wood Street Ward ..	11	42	53

* Includes four Flats, counted as two Houses.

The number of Council houses in course of erection (or about to be erected) at the end of the year was 76, these being on the Spion Kop (No. 2) Site; while preparation is being made for a further 70 houses at Higham Hill No. 1 Site (Millfield Avenue) (1930 Act), and for 136 houses at Essex Hall Site. The erection of 90 houses at Kimberley Road Site and 136 houses at The Chestnuts Estate is under consideration.

The following information is given in the form required by the Ministry of Health (Circular 1206):—

I.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected (for housing defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	4,273
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	16,749
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	1,015
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	4,038
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3
(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	1,668

II.—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	2,705
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III.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

A. *Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1930:—*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.. ..	145
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	86
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners (at a cost of £17 10s. 9d.) ..	3

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 20 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:— | |
| (a) By owners | 20 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |

C. *Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930:—*

- | | |
|---|------|
| (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 | Nil. |

D. *Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930:—*

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

E. *Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.*

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.. .. . | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:— | |
| (a) By owners | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close | Nil |

F. *Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.*

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made | Nil |
|--|-----|

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit | Nil |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | Nil |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | Nil |

(b) General.

Your Council decided during the course of the year to allocate, for special consideration in respect of rehousing, on medical grounds, 10 per cent. of the new houses erected.

Up to the end of the year recommendations had been confined to urgent cases of infectious pulmonary tuberculosis (i.e., T.B. plus cases). Dr. Sorley, the Tuberculosis Officer, has co-operated heartily in providing the fullest information about the housing conditions of the patients.

At the end of the year four tuberculous cases had been rehoused, one case had been rejected, whilst in two cases the rent of a Council house could not be paid.

Unfortunately, the most needy cases, both on grounds of health and overcrowding, are only too frequently those which cannot pay the necessarily higher rent. The provision of accommodation at between eight and ten shillings per week is an increasingly urgent problem for such cases.

In addition to cases recommended for rehousing on medical grounds, 112 letters of application for Council houses which have been sent to the Public Health Department have been replied to and forwarded for the attention of the Housing Committee.

Plans are now before the Ministry of Health, awaiting approval, in respect of 70 houses (20 special type for aged couples, 24 of two bedrooms, 20 of three bedrooms, and 6 of four bedrooms), for the purpose of rehousing tenants to be displaced from the various areas and individual houses which have been scheduled for clearance under Part I of the Housing Act, 1930.

No new applications for Council houses had been accepted for some years until the register was reopened on 1st October.

Mr. J. E. West, your Council's Housing Manager, has kindly supplied the information for the following:—

No. of tenancies on Rental Register, 31.12.31	..	1,096
No. of applicants on Housing Register, 31.12.31	..	1,948*
<i>Deduct</i> —No. of applicants allotted houses	..	61
No. of applications remaining on Register	..	1,887

(* Including 114 applications brought forward from the old register.)

Early in 1932 a new scheme of analysing applications was brought before the Housing Committee by Mr. West and was adopted. Briefly, each category defines the average number of persons per room (including kitchen, but excluding scullery) in the existing accommodation. An analysis of the 1948 applications on 31st December, 1931, showed the position to be as follows:—

Category A.	(Over 3 persons per room)	..	..	109
„ B.	(„ 2 „ „)	..	..	236
„ C.	(„ 2 „ „)	..	..	244
„ D.	(Less than 2 persons per room)	..	..	1,091
„ O.	(Ample existing accommodation, unmarried persons or childless couples)	..	..	153
„ E.	Applicants allotted houses	..	..	61
„ F.	Deferred cases	..	..	9
„ G.	Cancelled applications	..	..	45
Total	..	..	..	1,948

By the 11th January, 1932, the Category A cases had increased to 106 out of a total of 1931 applications and an analysis of these cases made by Mr. West on this date was as follows:—

Unsuitable	Not clean	..	..	..	..	37
	Unable to pay minimum rent of approximately 15s.	..	..	..	..	17
	Doubtful ability to pay rent	..	..	..	..	10
	Transferred to other categories	..	..	..	..	10
	Unsatisfactory enquiries—no reply after two visits	..	..	..	..	8
						82
Allotted houses handed over during enquiry period						10
Suitable for allotment subject to satisfactory references						14
						24
Total	..	..	..	..	..	106

The analysis given above cannot be viewed with equanimity inasmuch as 82 out of 106 applicants were found to be unsuitable for

tenancies. When it is remembered that each was a Category A case, i.e., over three persons per room, the practical difficulties in abating overcrowding will be apparent.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The average type of house contains three bedrooms, kitchen and scullery. The primary defects found were dirty premises, general dilapidations and dampness. How far dampness was prevalent in houses was evidenced by the number of houses in which new damp courses were inserted during the year, viz., 276. The neglect to insert proper damp proof courses in main, dwarf and sleeper walls during construction of houses was more apparent than ever, and a considerable amount of good and sound work of a structural nature in this connection was accomplished during the year under review. These works were of a costly nature and much patience had to be shewn and many interviews with property owners were necessary to accomplish such improvements.

V. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

The average number of cows kept in the district was 14. The cowsheds numbered two and 22 visits were paid by the Sanitary Inspectors in addition to special visits paid by your Senior Sanitary Inspector.

The number of retail purveyors of milk is 202, most of whom carry on a general shop and sell milk in bottles as they receive it.

Three hundred and ninety-one visits were paid to the registered premises of purveyors of milk during the year and there was a general improvement in the standard of cleanliness observed.

During the year 72 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological count and of these 36 were biologically tested for the presence of the tubercle bacillus. In addition, two samples of Pasteurised Milk were tested for tubercle only.

The samples taken are summarised below:—

<i>Grade of Milk.</i>	<i>No. of Samples.</i>	<i>No. tested for T.B.</i>
Grade A (T.T.)	14	10
Grade A (Pasteurised)	1	1
Grade A	2	1
Pasteurised	36	12
Raw	19	14
Total	72	38

Only one sample—a raw milk—proved tuberculous. The necessary information was sent to the County Medical Officer of

Health, as a result of which a herd in another area was inspected and the diseased animal was slaughtered.

The following table gives the actual bacteriological findings in the 72 samples:—

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF MILK SAMPLES.

Date.	Grade of Milk.	Total Bacteria per c.c.	Bacillus Coli absent in.	Presence of Tubercle Bacillus (biological test).	Remarks.
20.1.31	Raw	38,000	0.001 c.c.	No test	Satisfactory.
"	"	36,000	0.001 c.c.	Present ..	Satisfactory count.
"	"	21,000	0.01 c.c.	No test ..	Satisfactory.
"	"	240,000	0.0001 c.c.	Absent ..	Unsatisfactory.
"	"	19,000	0.01 c.c.	" ..	Satisfactory.
"	"	28,000	0.01 c.c.	" ..	"
27.1.31	Grade A (T.T.) ..	17,000	0.01 c.c.	" ..	"
"	Pasteurised ..	19,000	0.1 c.c. ..	No test ..	"
"	"	16,000	0.01 c.c.	" ..	"
"	"	31,000	0.01 c.c.	" ..	"
3.2.31	Grade A (T.T.) ..	5,200	0.01 c.c.	Absent ..	"
"	"	310,000	0.001 c.c.	" ..	Unsatisfactory count.
"	Pasteurised ..	420,000	0.00001 c.c.	" ..	" "
5.2.31	"	6,300	1.0 c.c. ..	" ..	Satisfactory.
"	"	300,000	0.00001 c.c.	" ..	Unsatisfactory count.
"	"	210,000	0.001 c.c.	" ..	" "
"	"	240,000	0.01 c.c.	No test ..	" "
5.3.31	Raw	22,000	1.0 c.c. ..	Absent ..	Satisfactory.
"	"	21,000	1.0 c.c. ..	" ..	"
"	"	17,200	1.0 c.c. ..	" ..	"
"	"	15,600	0.1 c.c. ..	" ..	"
"	"	26,000	0.01 c.c.	" ..	"
23.4.31	Grade A. (T.T.) ..	63,000	0.01 c.c.	" ..	"
28.4.31	Raw	34,000	0.01 c.c.	" ..	"
"	"	15,000	1.0 c.c. ..	" ..	"
"	Grade A. (Past.) ..	6,700	0.1 c.c. ..	" ..	"
"	Pasteurised ..	26,000	0.1 c.c. ..	" ..	"
"	"	31,000	0.1 c.c. ..	No test ..	"
"	"	16,000	0.1 c.c. ..	Absent ..	"
"	"	24,000	0.1 c.c. ..	" ..	"
"	"	44,000	0.01 c.c.	" ..	"
"	Grade A. ..	35,000	0.01 c.c.	" ..	"
"	Grade A. (T.T.) ..	13,000	0.01 c.c.	" ..	"
12.5.31	Pasteurised ..	410,000	0.001 c.c.	No test ..	Unsatisfactory.
"	"	22,000	0.1 c.c. ..	" ..	Satisfactory.
"	Grade A. (T.T.) ..	310,000	0.001 c.c.	Absent ..	Unsatisfactory.
21.5.31	Pasteurised ..	73,000	1.0 c.c. ..	" ..	Satisfactory.
"	"	53,000	0.1 c.c.	No test ..	"
"	Grade A. (T.T.) ..	26,000	0.01 c.c.	Absent ..	"
"	Pasteurised ..	72,000	0.01 c.c.	No test ..	"
"	Grade A. (T.T.) ..	44,000	0.01 c.c.	Absent ..	"
28.5.31	Raw	54,000	0.01 c.c.	No test ..	"
"	Grade A. (T.T.) ..	17,000	0.01 c.c.	" ..	"

Date.	Grade of Milk.	Total Bacteria per c.c.	Bacillus Coli absent in.	Presence of Tubercle Bacillus (biological test).	Remarks.
28.5.31	Pasteurised ..	25,000	1.0 c.c. ..	No Test ..	Satisfactory.
"	" ..	31,000	0.1 c.c. ..	" ..	"
18.6.31	Grade A. (T.T.)	11,000	0.01 c.c.	" ..	"
"	Pasteurised ..	11,500	1.0 c.c. ..	" ..	"
"	Raw ..	179,000	0.0001 c.c.	" ..	"
7.7.31	Pasteurised ..	9,300	Not stated	" ..	"
"	" ..	11,000	"	" ..	"
"	" ..	300,000	"	" ..	Unsatisfactory.
"	" ..	3,200	"	" ..	Satisfactory.
23.7.31	" ..	58,000	"	" ..	"
"	" ..	13,600	"	" ..	"
"	Grade A. ..	91,000	0.001 c.c.	" ..	Unsatisfactory.
"	Pasteurised ..	54,000	Not stated	" ..	Satisfactory.
27.8.31	Grade A. (T.T.)	9,800	0.01 c.c.	" ..	"
"	Pasteurised ..	32,000	1.0 c.c. ..	" ..	"
"	Grade A. (T.T.)	16,000	0.01 c.c.	" ..	"
"	Pasteurised ..	14,900	1.0 c.c. ..	" ..	"
29.10.31	" ..	6,400	Not stated	" ..	"
"	" ..	4,900	"	" ..	"
"	" ..	3,900	"	Absent ..	"
"	Raw ..	36,000	"	" ..	"
"	" ..	6,100	"	" ..	"
14.11.31	Pasteurised ..	180,000	"	No test ..	Unsatisfactory.
"	" ..	320,000	"	" ..	"
3.12.31	Grade A. (T.T.)	13,800	0.01 c.c.	Absent ..	Satisfactory.
"	" ..	20,300	0.01 c.c.	" ..	"
"	Pasteurised ..	9,400	1.0 c.c. ..	No test ..	"
22.12.31	Raw ..	100	1.0 c.c. ..	Absent ..	"
"	" ..	120	1.0 c.c. ..	" ..	"
29.12.31	" ..	—	—	" ..	"
"	Pasteurised ..	—	—	" ..	"

Eight samples of Ice Cream were analysed with one unsatisfactory result. The manufacturer was warned and his premises were improved and cleansed with the result that later samples proved satisfactory.

The following were the analyses of the samples:—

Date.	Total Bacteria per c.c.	Remarks.
23.7.31 ..	7,200,000	Excessive number of bacteria; not a clean product.
" ..	150,000	Bacterial count not excessive, but less than 100,000 can readily be obtained.
" ..	170,000	" ..
" ..	15,800	Satisfactory product.
" ..	23,000	" ..
27.8.31 ..	31,000	" ..
" ..	45,000	" ..
" ..	210,000	Bacterial count not excessive, but would be too high for a pasteurised product.

The County Medical Officer states that samples of milk were taken in the Borough by the County Food and Drugs Inspector and submitted to biological examination during 1931 with the following results:—

29 were found to be free from tubercle bacilli.

5 gave inconclusive results owing to the death of the guinea-pigs from intercurrent infection.

Your Council during the year supported a resolution made by another Authority to the effect that all vendors of Ice Cream should be compulsorily registered, but added that a definite standard of bacteriological purity should be defined by the Minister of Health.

One important Authority is already presenting a Bill seeking powers of registration in respect of all premises manufacturing or selling "processed" food of any kind.

Support was also given to a further resolution by another Authority urging the Minister of Health to state a definite bacteriological standard for raw milk.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Much attention was again directed to this Order during the year with a view to minimising the risk of contamination, infection and alteration of the milk supply to the town and as a result five summonses under Section 31 (2) of this Order were issued against offenders.

In addition to the convictions detailed under "Legal Procedure" the Council issued two warnings to dairymen in connection with breaches of this Order by their employees.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1922 (SECTION 4).

One summons was issued against an employee of a dairy firm for an offence under this Section, and although no actual sample of the milk so adulterated was obtained, the Justices imposed a penalty of 50s. and 6s. costs on the defendant. (See "Legal Procedure.")

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1923.

The number of licences granted for the Sale of Milk under Special Designations classified as in the Fourth Schedule of the above Order was as follows:—

<i>Dealers' Licences.</i>			<i>Supplementary Licences.</i>		
In respect of:—			In respect of:—		
Certified Milk	..	6	Certified Milk	..	1
Grade A (T.T.) Milk	..	15	Grade A (T.T.) Milk	..	3
Grade A Milk	..	2	Grade A Milk	..	3
Pasteurised Milk	..	13	Pasteurised Milk	..	5

Bottling Licences:—

In respect of Grade A (T.T.) Milk, 2; Pasteurised Milk, 4.

(b) Meat and other Foods.

A total of 576 visits were paid to slaughterhouses. The following were condemned and destroyed:—

(1) Tuberculosis.

173 Ox Lungs.
42 Ox Livers.
14 Ox Heads.
17 Sets Ox Fats.
5 Sets Ox Tripes.
5 Forequarters Beef.
2 Hindquarters Beef.
25 Ox Hearts.
1 Ox Skirt and Mesentery.
24 Ox Skirts.
4 Rumps Beef.
1 Ox Mesentery.
1 Side Beef.
2 Sets Ox Intestines.
1 Carcase Beef and all Organs.
1 Brisket Beef.
22 Pigs' Heads.
9 Sets Pigs' Fats.
4 Pig Carcases, all Organs and Fats.
32 Pigs' Livers.
4 Pigs' Lungs.
5 Pigs' Hearts.
3 Pigs' Mesenteries.
2 Pigs' Plucks.
2 Forequarters Pork.
2 Hindquarters Pork.
4 Cow Carcases, all Organs and Fats.
2 Forequarters Cow Beef.
3 Sets Tripes.
1 Set Mesenteric Fats.
1 Cow's Udder.
2 Cows' Heads.
1 Thick Skirt.
1 Calf's Pluck.

(2) Other Reasons.

27 Ox Livers.
2 Ox Kidneys.
2 Sets Ox Fats.
1 Hindquarter of Chilled Beef.
4 Forequarters of Beef.
3 Flanks Beef.
1 Ox Head.
3 Thick Flanks Beef.
2 Ox Loins.
144 Pigs' Lungs.
2 Pigs' Heads.
2 Forequarters Pork.
22 Pigs' Livers.
2 Joints Pork.
1 Whole Pig and Offal.
1 Pig's Belly.
143 Sheeps' Lungs.
57 Sheeps' Livers.
1 Sheep's Carcase.
1 Lamb's Pluck.
5 stones Fresh Haddocks.
11 stones Skate.
5 stones Monk Fish.
2 stones Cod.
31 Sacks Potatoes.
30 Californian Plums.

(c) Adulteration, etc. (Food and Drugs Adulteration Act, 1928.)

Eighty-nine samples of milk were submitted for analysis during the year.

Of these, 81 were genuine, and 8 were not up to the standard. One prosecution involved five of these latter samples, and the others were of a minor character and were followed up and further samples proved genuine.

(d) Food Poisoning.

Particulars were received by your Medical Officer of Health on 25th July from H.M. Coroner of a fatal case of suspected food poisoning. Arrangements were made for obtaining post-mortem specimens and these, on examination at the Ministry of Health's Laboratory, showed death to have been due to food poisoning caused by *Bacillus Aertrycke*.

Detailed enquiries showed that the patient, his wife, his married daughter and her daughter (the latter from a separate household) all suffered from gastro-enteritis. The articles of food most under suspicion were pork, veal, and ducks' eggs, and the relevant information is set out in tabular form below.

	Deceased.	Deceased's wife.	Deceased's single daughter.	Deceased's married daughter.	Deceased's son-in-law.	Deceased's grand-daughter.
Pork eaten ..	11th & 13.7.31	11.7.31 ..	11.7.31 ..	Nil ..	Nil ..	Nil.
Veal eaten ..	12.7.31 ..	12.7.31 ..	12.7.31 ..	Nil ..	Nil ..	Nil.
Ducks' eggs eaten	Two on 13.7.31	Nil ..	Nil ..	One on 12th & 13.7.31	Two on 12 & 13.7.31	(?).
Illness began ..	13.7.31 ..	12.7.31 ..	Nil ..	21st.7.31	Nil ..	Yes.
Investigations ..	P.M. specimens B. aertrycke	Blood agg. 1/120 faeces B. aertrycke	Faeces negative	Blood negative faeces negative	Nil done	Faeces B. aertrycke.

Infection was probably carried by the pork and ducks' eggs and not by the veal (the single daughter ate most of this). The deceased had not only eaten a double quantity of pork, but had also consumed two ducks' eggs. The finding of *Bacillus Aertrycke* (one colony only) in the grand-daughter's faeces is inexplicable—unless she was given a spoonful of duck's egg.

No other cases of suspicious illness were found in spite of enquiries at the shops where each of the three articles of food were sold.

The pork was from a pig slaughtered locally on the 9th July and passed for consumption when inspected after slaughter. It was one of a batch bought in an adjoining area, removal of which had been sanctioned by the Local Authority of the area under the Regulation

of Movement of Swine Order of 1922. A case of swine fever had occurred at an adjoining piggery some time previously.

The ducks' eggs had been freshly delivered on 7th and 8th July to the local multiple shop which had supplied them and were from Suffolk and Ireland respectively.

The veal had been supplied from Smithfield Market.

The occurrence of swine fever at the piggery adjoining the one from which the pig slaughtered in the Borough was supplied is suggestive, but even if this was the source of infection there would be little likelihood of naked eye evidence of contamination or of unfitness for food.

Ducks' eggs have frequently been proved to be a common vehicle of infection for B. Aertrycke and here again there would probably be no signs of unfitness.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

During the year the Council sanctioned the establishing of the following:—

Fish Curer, 1; Fish Frier, 1; Rag and Bone Dealer, 1; and granted renewal licences as follows:—

Fish Friers, 4.

During the year one licensed establishment for rag and bone trading was permanently closed down.

During the year the Council refused to sanction the following Offensive Trades:—

Fish Friers, 4; Fish Curer, 1.

Proceedings were instituted against a fish curer for carrying on the trade without a Licence from the Council. A penalty of 20s. was imposed and a licence refused.

Legal Procedure.

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928:—

	Fine.	Costs.
Sample of Milk containing 6% of added water	20s.	12s.

The Milk and Dairies Order, 1926 (Section 31) (2):—

Information against three employees for filling bottles with Milk other than on registered premises	20s.	—
	50s.	6s.
	40s.	—
Information against two Dairymen for filling bottles with Milk otherwise than on registered premises	20s.	—
	20s.	—

The Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922
(Section 4):—

	Flne.	Costs.
Information against employee for adding water to Milk with the intent that it would be sold as Milk	50s.	6s.

The Public Health Acts, 1875 (Section 112) and 1925 (Section 44), and the Byelaws, 1913:—

Information against a Fish Curer for establishing the trade of a Fish Curer without the sanction of the Council	20s.	—
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The Petroleum Consolidation Act, 1928:—

Information against Garage Proprietor for Storing Petroleum Spirit without a Licence from the Council	£5	£2 7s. 0d.
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**THE RENT AND MORTGAGE RESTRICTIONS ACTS,
1920-1923.**

During the year 16 certificates were granted to tenants and 7 certificates have been issued to owners upon completion of the scheduled works.

In all cases work which can be enforced by the Housing Acts has been carried out, but the Rent Acts permit of requirements in excess of those which can be demanded under the Housing Acts and which cannot be enforced under them. If owners do not comply fully with requirements specified on the certificate granted to the tenants, no clearance certificates are issued.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1894-1928.

Great Britain (Foot and Mouth Disease) Regulation of Movement Order, 1931.—The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries issued the above Order in June, and as a result the following animals were allowed into the Borough under Licence as follows:—

Sheep and Lambs	430
Cattle	112
Pigs	128
Total	670

All the above Licences were issued by your Inspector under the above Acts.

Twenty-one milch cows were admitted under an Occupation Licence under this Order.

Sheep Scab Order, 1920.—No cases of this disease occurred in the Borough during the year.

The Council adopted the Sheep Scab Order of 1928 during the year, and under licence of this Order 496 sheep were admitted into this Town for slaughter. The requirements as to dipping have been carried out.

The Regulation of Movement of Swine Order, 1922.—Under this Order 1,468 pigs for slaughter were admitted into this Borough during the year. All notices of such movements have, as far as practicable, been followed up.

In addition, 7 pigs were admitted on detention licences and the periods of detention carried out.

Tuberculosis Order, 1925.—Routine quarterly inspections were carried out by your Veterinary Surgeon and three samples of Milk from a suspected cow were submitted for biological tests, but each gave a negative result.

Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908.—No licences were issued during the year.

The following tables show the work done under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901:—

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prose- cuted. (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries.)	427	11	Nil.
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries.)	335	9	Nil.
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises.)	56	2	Nil.
Total	818	22	Nil.

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	29	29	—	—
Want of ventilation	5	5	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ..	6	6	—	—
Other nuisances	28	28	—	—
Sanitary accommodation {	insufficient ..	5	5	—
	unsuitable or defective	25	23	—
	not separate for	1	1	—
	sexes			
<i>Offences under the Factory and Work- shops Acts:—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
Total	99	97	—	—

NUMBER AND TRADES OF OUTWORKERS NOTIFIED DURING 1931.

Wearing Apparel, making of	352	Furniture and Upholstery	2
Brush making	26	Fur Pulling	2
Paper, etc., Boxes, Paper		Artificial Flowers	2
Bags	21	Umbrellas, etc.	1
Carding, etc., of Buttons	5	Stuffed Toys	1
Cosaques, Christmas Crackers and Stockings	3		
Total	415		

OUTWORKERS WERE NOTIFIED FROM THE
FOLLOWING AREAS:—

City of London	..	..	128	Leyton	..	..	..	41
Bermondsey	..	..	3	Poplar	..	..	..	6
Bethnal Green	..	..	18	St. Marylebone	..	..	..	4
Battersea	..	..	3	Stoke Newington	..	..	..	5
Finsbury	..	..	29	Stepney	..	..	..	5
Hackney	..	..	56	Shoreditch	..	..	..	13
Islington	..	..	5	Tottenham	..	..	..	5
Walthamstow	..	..	63	Westminster	..	..	..	9

A total of 337 visits were paid in connection with outworkers, as follows:—To Homes, 282; Factories, 37; Workshops, 18.

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

General.—The accompanying tables show the age and ward incidence of the various infectious diseases which are discussed separately in later pages of the Report:—

Disease.	All ages.		Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 & over.	
	1931	1930								
Smallpox	67	189	—	2	24	18	17	6	—	
Scarlet Fever	451	607	3	92	269	48	36	3	—	
Diphtheria	324	509	7	65	203	30	14	5	—	
Enteric Fever	38	5	—	9	14	6	6	2	1	
Pneumonia	211	139	3	30	37	37	50	36	18	
Puerperal Fever	11	14	—	—	—	4	7	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia	30	8	—	—	—	7	23	—	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	8	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas	61	57	—	3	4	2	11	37	4	
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Chicken Pox	1260	693	29	282	912	32	4	1	—	
Tuberculosis	190	159	3	6	20	63	72	21	5	
Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals {	1931 ..	2655	—	53	490	1484	247	242	111	28
	1930 ..	—	2393	43	420	1329	335	233	96	35

Disease.	St. James Street.	High Street.	Hoe Street.	Wood Street.	Hale End.	Higham Hill.
Smallpox	12	4	20	13	4	14
Scarlet Fever	120	48	57	28	85	113
Diphtheria	58	54	47	40	47	78
Enteric Fever	11	7	5	2	4	9
Pneumonia	59	44	16	19	32	41
Puerperal Fever	2	1	1	2	2	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	3	8	3	8	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum..	3	1	3	—	—	1
Erysipelas	10	14	7	6	5	19
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	—	—	—	—	2	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	1
Chicken Pox	133	228	89	108	220	482
Tuberculosis	28	36	33	18	38	37
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals { 1931..	439	440	286	239	447	804
{ 1930..	592	430	381	260	286	444

Disease.	Total.	Removed to Hospital.	Per cent. removed to Hospital.	Deaths.	Deaths per cent. notified.
Smallpox	67	67	100.0	Nil.	Nil.
Scarlet Fever	451	359	79.6	2	0.44
Diphtheria	324	303	93.3	11	3.4
Enteric Fever	38	37	97.3	1	2.6
Pneumonia	211	41	14.6	108	51.2
Puerperal Fever	11	7	63.6	1	2.4
Puerperal Pyrexia	30	20	66.6	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum..	8	1	12.5	Nil.	Nil.
Erysipelas	61	19	31.1	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	2	1	50.0	1	50.0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1	1	100.0	Nil.	Nil.
Chicken Pox	1260	2	0.01	Nil.	Nil.
Tuberculosis	190	138	72.2	108	56.8
Poliomyelitis	1	1	100.0	Nil.	Nil.

The 1930 totals are inserted for the purpose of comparison and show welcome decreases, except in respect of Enteric Fever, Pneumonia, Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia and Chicken Pox. The very large increase in the incidence of the latter was of minor importance as regards the public health, but took up a great amount of time which could have been employed far more profitably in other directions.

Of the total notifications the following were made by the Staff of the Department:—

Smallpox, 28; Diphtheria, 93; Non-Clinical Diphtheria, 22; Scarlet Fever, 22; Chicken Pox, 313; Enteric Fever, 3.

Infectious Disease Clinic.—This Clinic was held weekly as in previous years but, owing to alterations in times of other Clinics, it is now held on Tuesday at 2 p.m. instead of 9 a.m. as before. The statistics for 1931 are shown in tabular form:—

Number of sessions held	52
Number of patients attended	2,481
Number of attendances made	2,824
Average attendance per session	54.3
Number of Scarlet Fever cases discovered	6
Number of Clinical Diphtheria cases discovered	19
Number of Non-Clinical Diphtheria cases discovered	22
Number of patients given antitoxin at Clinic	27
Number of virulence tests taken in Diphtheria carriers	21
Number of tonsillectomies performed on chronic virulent Diphtheria carriers	4
Number of Children recommended for Rheumatism Clinic	43
Number of Children recommended for Convalescent Home Treatment	20

The number of contacts attending was 2,481 against 1,780 last year. Attendances were 2,824 against 2,352, the average attendance per session increasing from 45.2 in 1930 to 54.3 in 1931.

The value of the Clinic was proved beyond doubt by the number of actual cases of infectious disease discovered. The 27 cases to which antitoxin was given were ‘bacteriological’ cases who either could not or would not enter Hospital. Virulence tests totalling 21 were done in all chronic carriers, and following proved virulence four cases had their tonsils removed with successful results in terminating the carrier state. All these operations were done in the cubicle block of the Sanatorium.

The establishment of the Rheumatism Clinic by the Education Authority has proved a very real advantage for the purpose of referring cases of Rheumatism and Heart Disease following infectious disease.

Altogether, since June, 1931, 40 cases were referred as follow:—

Disease.	No. of Hospital discharges from which selected.	No. of cases referred.	No. with early Rheumatic Heart Disease.
Scarlet Fever ..	198	30	11
Diphtheria ..	200	10	5

There is every reason to hope that cardiac crippling will be reduced to a minimum by the supervision and treatment given at the Rheumatism Clinic.

MUNICIPAL LABORATORY.

The following work was carried out during the year:—

	Total.	Positive.	Negative.	Medical Practitioners.	Health Dept.
Diphtheria Swabs ...	3,119	294	2,825	1,487	1,632

The number of swabs examined during the previous year was 3,936.

In view of the number of Diphtheria swabs which were found to give negative results after 24 hours incubation and positive results after 48 hours, it was decided, in October, 1931, to incubate all specimens for the longer period.

If, after 48 hours incubation, the specimen shows the presence of Klebs Loeffler Bacillus, a corrected report is sent immediately.

The results have more than justified the additional work involved.

During 1931 a total of 5,770 culture media were made by Mr. West, the Laboratory Assistant, as compared with 7,840 during 1930.

In addition to Diphtheria swabs, the following specimens were also examined:—

Urine, 97; Ringworm, 4; Tuberculosis, 1; Gonococcus, 1.

The Essex County Council also provide facilities for examination of pathological specimens and the County Medical Officer states that 1,161 specimens were examined for local Practitioners during 1931 as follows:—

Diphtheria Swabs, 213; Sputa, 749; Typhoid Specimens, 144; Ringworm Specimens, 33; Miscellaneous Specimens, 22; Total, 1,161.

The total of the previous year was 882.

(A) SMALLPOX.

A total of 67 cases were notified during 1931 and of these 31 occurred during January and February in several different portions of the Borough and suggesting spread by Christmas festivities. Thirty-four cases were notified by private Practitioners and 33 by the Staff of the Public Health Department. In particular, there were during these months, two definite series of cases originating from Winns Avenue Senior Girls' School and Wood Street Junior Boys' School.

The first case from Winns Avenue School had attended there while in an infectious condition between the 12th and 16th January

and gave rise to six secondary school cases—four of which showed a prolonged incubation period of 16 days.

The Wood Street case had attended school while infectious between 16th and 21st January, and gave rise to two further school cases. One of these cases in turn gave rise to four further cases at his home.

During the same period two other families (unconnected with the school cases detailed above) showed multiple cases—five in one instance and four in another.

Later in the year another school child had attended Mission Grove Infants' School for five days whilst infectious but no further cases apparently arose.

In each of the schools the detailed supervision outlined in the 1930 Report was adopted and worked admirably with the co-operation of the School Attendance Department.

Four other scholars had attended their various schools on the day of onset only of their Smallpox, but in each case no further cases were found.

The table shows the monthly incidence by ages and wards:—

		All ages.	Under 1 yr.	1-5 years.	5-15 years.	15-25 years.	25-45 years.	45-65 years.	65 & over.
January	..	13	—	1	4	4	2	2	—
February	..	18	—	—	11	2	4	1	—
March	..	5	—	—	1	2	1	1	—
April	..	5	—	—	1	2	2	—	—
May	..	3	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
June	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
July	..	5	—	—	—	3	2	—	—
August	..	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
September	..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
October	..	8	—	—	4	1	2	1	—
November	..	3	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
December	..	4	—	—	1	1	2	—	—
Totals	{ 1931 1930	67 189	— 1	2 11	24 71	18 56	17 34	6 14	— 2

		St. James' Street.	High Street	Hoe Street.	Wood Street.	Hale End.	Higham Hill.
January	..	—	2	—	7	—	4
February	..	—	—	5	5	1	7
March	.. ..	1	—	2	1	—	1
April	.. ..	—	—	3	—	2	—
May	.. ..	1	1	1	—	—	—
June	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
July	.. ..	5	—	—	—	—	—
August	.. ..	2	—	—	—	—	—
September	..	1	—	—	—	—	—
October	.. ..	2	—	5	—	1	—
November	..	—	—	3	—	—	—
December	..	—	1	1	—	—	2
Totals { 1931		12	4	20	13	4	14
{ 1930		57	25	44	13	11	39

Of the 67 cases, 58 were unvaccinated, the ages of the remaining 9 (vaccinated in infancy) being 61, 60, 55, 55, 52, 51, 40, 30 and 21 years. Thirty-four patients were infected by previous cases in the Borough and 12 cases were infected outside the Borough, leaving 21 unaccounted for.

Of the 12 outside infections, 4 were probably at a billiard saloon in an adjoining area and gave rise to 2 further cases in Walthamstow. One of this series was actually sent to the Isolation Hospital as a case of Scarlet Fever. Presumably a scarlatiniform prodromal rash had been present. Fortunately the patient was only in a general ward for some two hours before he was transferred to the cubicle block where the correct diagnosis soon became obvious. All contacts not recently vaccinated were either vaccinated or revaccinated and no further cases arose.

Three cases were infected at one place of employment outside the Borough.

Only 2 of the 12 cases infected elsewhere had previously been notified as having been contacts at their place of employment.

One patient, aged 21 years, and successfully vaccinated in infancy, was notified as suffering from Chicken Pox. Onset was on the 8th April, the rash appeared on the 10th, and she was removed to Hospital with a tentative diagnosis of Smallpox on the 11th and revaccinated as a precautionary measure on the same day. Although the revaccination was successful the case was counted as one of Smallpox.

Eight cases were sent into Hospital during their prodromal illness, i.e., before the appearance of the rash, which appeared in due course. In this way dissemination of infection in the home was reduced to an absolute minimum.

The number of contacts notified by other Authorities was 134 as compared with 1,175 during 1930—a very welcome decrease.

The following Authorities sent notifications of contact in respect of Walthamstow residents employed in their areas:—City of London, 12; Borough of Hackney, 10; West Ham, 8; Shoreditch, 8; Finsbury, 8; Poplar, 4; Stepney, 2; Leyton, 2; Bethnal Green, Southend-on-Sea, Holborn, Ilford, Chelsea, Islington and Chelmsford, 1 each; Loughton U.D.C., 1; and Merton and Morden U.D.C., 1.

The series of 67 cases represented 46 households with 63 families and 299 "home" contacts. Multiple cases occurred in 10 of these households thus:—6 cases (once), 5 cases (twice), 4 cases (once), 2 cases (in 6 households). In 11 of these cases vaccination had been performed (and successfully in 9), but not sufficiently early to prevent the development of Smallpox. The earliest date at which these vaccinations had been done was 8 days before the onset of symptoms (3 cases), so that it is fair—assuming the average incubation period to be 12 days—to claim that successful vaccination within 3 days of the initial exposure to infection protected these contacts.

From a perusal of the case papers the most infectious period appeared to be the day of the appearance of the rash and only 2 cases appeared to have been infected on the day preceding the rash. No evidence was found pointing to infectivity before this period.

The general scheme of control was detailed in the 1930 report. Unfortunately, some of the confidential information contained in the circulars sent to other areas was misused with the result that not only were many contacts (living in Walthamstow but working elsewhere) suspended from work without pay, but some were dismissed.

Frequently contacts are aware of the risk attending the disclosure of the nature and place of their employment, and in one case information as to contact was deliberately withheld with the result that Smallpox was carried into an adjoining area. This case

was reported to your Committee, but legal proceedings were not deemed to be advisable and a written caution was sent. A notice was later exhibited in the local press drawing attention to the penalties for failure to give information.

A total of 879 visits was made by the Medical Staff and 3,690 by the Sanitary Staff.

HOSPITAL TREATMENT OF SMALLPOX.

Sixty-seven cases of Smallpox were admitted for Isolation and treatment, and 5 further cases for observation—the diagnosis not being confirmed in the latter. All the observation cases were vaccinated either before or immediately after admission.

The average stay in Hospital was 20.2 days for actual cases, 10.2 days for observation cases, and 19.3 days for all cases.

Although several cases showed a semi-confluent eruption, only one case caused any anxiety. This patient, on his 16th day in Hospital, developed Appendicitis and one of the small huts was hastily improvised as an operating theatre. The appendix, on examination after removal, showed a small area of early inflammation due to a single thread worm. The patient made an uneventful recovery.

The only complication of note was conjunctivitis, of which 13 cases occurred. Some were severe but responded to treatment and there was no apparent impairment of vision.

The Hospital was closed for two hours on 23rd March; for 31 days from 23rd May; for 24 days from 4th September, and for two days from 24th December.

The longer periods of closure were utilised for renovation and redecoration, for which special provision, amounting to £100, was made.

The approximate cost of Smallpox treatment during the calendar year was estimated to be £1,476.

Grateful acknowledgment must again be made to the Matron and the Nursing Staff for the smooth and efficient working of the Hospital.

Vaccination.—Mr. E. Sharp, Vaccination Officer for the area, has furnished the following return for 1931:—

Births Registered.	Successfully Vaccinated.	Unsusceptible.	Exemptions.	Deaths before Vaccinated or exempted.
1,637	274	1	932	51

In addition to the above, 386 primary and 152 revaccinations were recorded.

The percentage vaccinated during 1931 represented 16.7 of the births registered against 18.0 during 1930. There were 1,886 primary and 1,802 revaccinations in 1930, the decrease during 1931 being probably almost entirely due to the lowered incidence of Smallpox.

The number of vaccinations done by your Medical Staff was 10 primary and 11 revaccinations.

Detailed vaccinal returns were obtained in respect of the three school outbreaks and the findings were as follows:—

School.	No. on Books.	No. Vaccinated.	Percentage Vaccinated.
Winns Avenue Senior Girls ..	249	67	26.9
Wood Street Boys	411	109	26.5
Mission Grove Infants.. ..	213	47	22.6

(B) SCARLET FEVER.

The total incidence of Scarlet Fever during 1931 amounted to 451 cases, as compared with 607 during 1930.

The weekly incidence was remarkably constant throughout the year. Thus, while the average incidence was 8.5 per week, the highest was 18 and the lowest 2. At no time was there any epidemic prevalence.

The tables following show the incidence by months, ages and wards:—

Month.	All ages.	Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 & over.
January	35	—	8	21	6	—	—	—
February	34	—	6	23	3	2	—	—
March	39	1	10	18	7	2	1	—
April	39	—	9	22	2	6	—	—
May	37	1	3	27	—	5	1	—
June	45	—	8	29	5	3	—	—
July	42	—	10	25	6	1	—	—
August	30	—	9	17	2	2	—	—
September	40	—	8	27	2	2	1	—
October	28	—	7	15	2	4	—	—
November	34	—	6	22	5	1	—	—
December	48	1	8	23	8	8	—	—
Totals ; 1931	451	3	92	269	48	36	3	—
1930	607	1	104	413	56	32	1	—

Month.	St. James' Street.	High Street.	Hoe Street.	Wood Street.	Hale End.	Higham Hill.
January	9	1	5	2	6	12
February	6	2	9	2	3	12
March	13	1	6	1	11	7
April	12	3	7	3	6	8
May	7	8	2	2	9	9
June	16	5	—	2	3	19
July	17	6	2	4	8	5
August	12	1	3	2	4	8
September	9	10	3	1	7	10
October	4	6	6	1	7	4
November	6	2	5	1	11	9
December	9	3	9	7	10	10
Totals { 1931 ..	120	48	57	28	85	113
{ 1930 ..	162	101	73	65	80	126

The percentage of cases removed to Hospital during 1931 was 79.6 against 68.2 in 1930. No cases were refused admission.

The death rate for Scarlet Fever during 1931 (per 1,000 population) was 0.01. Seventy-seven visits were paid by the Medical Staff in connection with Scarlet Fever.

Reference to the use of the Dick test (i.e., for susceptibility to Scarlet Fever) is made later, but no active immunisation was carried out.

Eleven cases were notified following Tonsillectomy at various Hospitals, the eruptions occurring respectively after one day in two cases, after two days in two cases, after three days in six cases, and after five days in one case.

With the prevailing mild type of Scarlet Fever all cases which can be adequately isolated and nursed at home should be so treated in preference to removal to Hospital, where relapse frequently occurs. There now seems to be no doubt that such relapses are due to re-infection with a different type of scarlatinal streptococcus and, frequently, the new attack is more serious and is attended by more complications than the original one.

In order to hospitalise cases ideally and adequately, all admissions should be to cubicles, after which the cases should be grouped according to the bacteriological typings of their infecting organism.

Scarlet Fever at Brookfield Orthopaedic Hospital.—From the 7th October onwards a troublesome outbreak of Scarlet Fever occurred at Brookfield Hospital, and up to the end of the year a total of 9 definite cases had been notified. Following the notification

of the second case (21 days after the first) the Hospital was visited and the Cook was found to have suffered from a sore throat which proved to be streptococcal. Pending the result of a swab she was suspended from duty. On the occurrence of the third case 11 days later all the patients and staff were swabbed and of 34 swabs 16 showed streptococci to be present. These 16 cases, and the 3 cases in the Isolation Hospital, were re-swabbed and the swabs were sent to Dr. F. Griffith, who had kindly offered to type them at the Ministry of Health's laboratory.

Prophylactic doses of Scarlet Fever Antitoxin were given to 15 of the patients on 8th October and Dick testing was attempted on the 10th, but the results were probably vitiated by the antitoxin given two days before.

Case 4 occurred seven days after Case 3 and this again proved to be a Type 2 infection. Case 5 was notified on 8th December (23 days after Case 4) and Cases 6, 7, 8 and 9 on the 9th, 11th, 12th and 17th December respectively, all these cases, except the last, being again Type 2 infections.

Following the notification of the cases on and after 8th December, the nursing and domestic staffs were re-swabbed and the swabs were again typed by Dr. Griffith, who found that two of the Nurses were carrying Type 2 scarlatinal haemolytic streptococci. These Nurses were suspended from duty until, after local treatment, they had given negative swabs. One of the Nurses later proved to be a persistent carrier.

Nothing further occurred until the 13th January, 1932, when a new case of an indefinite type was notified, and this was followed by a Type 2 case on 4th February and an indefinite type case on 8th February. The nursing and domestic staff were again swabbed for typing by Dr. Griffith on each occasion; on the first, both Nurses were again carrying Type 2 streptococci, and on the second occasion one of the Nurses only (i.e., the one who had proved a persistent carrier during 1931). Both were suspended for as long as necessary, while later the persistent carrier was sent away for three weeks' holiday and, proving to be still a carrier, she has recently had tonsillectomy performed with the termination of the carrier state.

(C) DIPHTHERIA.

The incidence of Diphtheria showed a welcome decrease from 509 cases during 1930 to 324 during 1931. The weekly incidence was at an average rate of 6.62 cases with a maximum of 17 for the week ending 18th July. The monthly incidence is given in the following table:—

Month.		All ages.	Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 & over.
January ..	..	34	1	6	25	1	1	—	—
February ..	..	40	—	9	21	4	4	2	—
March ..	..	20	—	4	13	1	1	1	—
April ..	..	29	2	9	13	4	1	—	—
May ..	..	21	—	6	12	1	2	—	—
June ..	..	18	—	—	14	3	1	—	—
July ..	..	41	1	7	28	3	—	2	—
August ..	..	17	1	2	11	2	1	—	—
September ..	..	27	—	6	19	2	—	—	—
October ..	..	26	1	7	17	1	—	—	—
November ..	..	15	—	3	9	2	1	—	—
December ..	..	36	1	6	21	6	2	—	—
Totals	1931	324	7	65	203	30	14	5	—
	1930	509	4	113	322	41	26	3	—

Two small localised outbreaks, one of 11 cases at Blackhorse Road Girls' School in July, and one of 8 cases at Coppermill Road Junior School in December, both of nasal type, were controlled by repeated "class" inspections and the swabbing of all suspects.

The percentage of cases removed to Hospital increased to 93.5, a figure higher than any since 1926. During 1931 no cases were refused admission. Three cases of Diphtheria were notified 4, 10 and 4 days after tonsillectomy. Eleven deaths were due to Diphtheria, representing a death rate of 0.08 per 1,000 population.

The monthly incidence by Wards was as follows:—

Month.		St. James' Street.	High Street.	Hoe Street.	Wood Street.	Hale End.	Higham Hill.
January ..	..	4	3	8	7	8	4
February ..	..	7	3	3	5	13	9
March ..	..	2	3	2	3	6	4
April ..	..	7	4	2	4	6	6
May ..	..	5	2	1	3	5	5
June ..	..	7	2	5	1	1	2
July ..	..	5	11	2	2	—	21
August ..	..	3	4	2	5	1	2
September ..	..	4	4	7	4	2	6
October ..	..	5	6	4	4	5	2
November ..	..	1	1	6	—	—	7
December ..	..	8	11	5	2	—	10
Totals	1931 ..	58	54	47	40	47	78
	1930 ..	118	93	89	50	60	99

Sixty-four visits in connection with Diphtheria were paid by the Medical Staff.

No use was made of the Schick test (for susceptibility to Diphtheria) nor of immunisation.

Sir George Newman, Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health, has stated that "no Local Authority responsible for the health of children should be satisfied that it has done its duty until every parent knows that children can be protected against Diphtheria with safety and reasonable certainty of complete protection."

The adoption of a comprehensive scheme of immunisation should be carried out as soon as possible. The cost of testing and immunising each child can be put at approximately 5s. for the cost of materials.

Antitoxin is available for free issue to local medical practitioners at the Public Health Offices: at the Fire Station and at 10, The Avenue, Highams Park. During 1931 a total of 173 phials representing a total of 1,096,000 units were issued.

(D) ENTERIC FEVER.

Thirty-eight cases of Enteric Fever were notified during the year—37 being Paratyphoid B.

The first case, in which full information as to its variety was not available, was probably infected outside the Borough. The series—Case 2 (notified on 6th February) to Case 34 (notified on 13th March), i.e., 33 in all—represented the local portion of the great "Epping" outbreak, although in three of these the milk supply appeared to be unconnected.

Investigation of Cases 2 and 3 (notified 9th February) showed that milk was obtained from the same dealer, and inquiries were at once made as to his sources of supply, and when these proved to be from Epping Rural District it was apparent that a milk-borne epidemic was imminent. This information was immediately sent to the Ministry of Health and the County and District Medical Officers of Health concerned.

All milk purveyors in the Borough were immediately circularised advising the pasteurisation of all milk from Epping and neighbourhood, or, if this were not possible, asking them to instruct their customers to boil all milk before use. All medical practitioners were the same day circularised drawing their attention to the prevalence of Para-typhoid Fever in the Borough and requesting early notification.

By the 11th February all available beds in the Connaught Hospital had been filled, and arrangements were made with the

London County Council to admit cases to their Hospitals at a charge of 10s. 6d. per day, plus 1s. per mile ambulance fee.

On 14th February two cases were notified which were apparently connected with a fresh milk supply, and in view of this fact, notices were issued to the Press advising the public to boil all milk before use, and drawing attention to the symptoms of the disease. In addition, it was decided to allocate a Scarlet Fever Ward at your Isolation Hospital for the treatment of cases of Enteric, and cases were admitted on the 17th February, 1931.

All the central dairy hands of both milk firms were seen, and Widal tests were taken. In one case a man who had been away for seven days with Influenza had returned to work on the 15th February, 1931, gave a positive Widal on the 18th inst., and was immediately suspended from work. A faeces test proving positive, he was sent to Hospital, but the source of his infection could not be traced.

Of the four remaining, notified from May to October, nothing definite could be made out except that cases 37 and 38 appeared to have become infected in a local Institution from a common source which could not be traced.

The 38 cases were treated at the following Institutions, etc.:—

Chingford Sanatorium.	L.C.C. Hospitals.	Connaught Hospital.	Whipps Cross Hospital.	Prince of Wales Hospital.	Home Isolation.
13	13	9	1	1	1

Sixteen cases occurred during the week ended 14th February, 8 during the week ended 21st February, and 5 during the week ended 28th February.

One fatal case occurred in a patient aged 70 years—the real cause of death being due to pulmonary complications.

Twenty-four of the 34 cases of the Epping series, in which Widal results are known, showed uniform agglutination titres of 1 in 50 against B. Paratyphosus B.

A total of 157 specimens were examined in connection with Enteric Fever and the results are summarised below:—

Public Health Department.				Sanatorium.			Private Practitioners.			
Blood.		Faeces.		Blood.	Faeces.	Urine.	Blood.		Faeces.	
Pos.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.				Pos.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.
9	62	2	6	1	18	9	13	23	2	11

and 78 visits were paid by the Medical Staff.

The milk-borne series of cases emphasises the need for the compulsory pasteurisation of all raw milk (except, possibly, graded

milk) and for compulsory periodical tests to ensure freedom from Enteric infection in all persons engaged in the production and distribution of milk.

Your Council agreed to the latter suggestion and have asked the Ministry of Health to consider the advisability of making the necessary regulation.

The following table shows the ward and age incidence during the year:—

	All ages.	Un- der 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 & over.	Re- moved to Hos- pital.
St. James Street ..	11	—	4	4	2	1	—	—	11
High Street ..	7	—	1	3	1	1	—	1	7
Hoe Street ..	5	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	5
Wood Street ..	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2
Hale End ..	4	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	3
Higham Hill ..	9	—	2	5	—	1	1	—	9
Totals ..	38	—	9	14	6	6	2	1	37

(E) PNEUMONIA.

The tables following show the incidence by months, ages and wards:—

Month.	All ages.	Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 & over.
January ..	36	2	8	3	5	8	8	2
February ..	33	—	4	8	4	9	5	3
March ..	17	—	1	1	2	7	5	1
April ..	20	—	3	4	6	3	3	1
May ..	10	—	—	4	3	3	—	—
June ..	6	—	1	—	1	3	1	—
July ..	9	—	—	1	3	3	1	1
August ..	11	—	2	2	2	2	1	2
September ..	5	—	—	1	1	2	1	—
October ..	11	—	2	1	—	2	4	2
November ..	21	—	4	5	4	4	1	3
December ..	32	1	5	7	6	5	5	3
Totals { 1931	211	3	30	37	37	51	35	18
{ 1930	139	3	17	22	10	33	32	22

Month.	St. James Street.	High Street.	Hoe Street.	Wood Street.	Hale End.	Higham Hill.	Removed to Hospital.
January ..	7	9	1	3	10	6	7
February ..	10	9	—	4	4	6	9
March ..	5	3	2	—	3	4	1
April ..	11	6	—	—	—	3	5
May ..	6	2	—	—	—	2	2
June ..	3	—	1	1	1	—	1
July ..	4	2	1	1	—	1	3
August ..	5	2	1	1	—	2	1
September ..	—	—	3	1	—	1	—
October ..	1	4	4	—	—	2	2
November ..	4	2	2	2	4	7	5
December ..	3	5	1	6	10	7	5
Totals { 1931 ..	59	44	16	19	32	41	41
{ 1930 ..	31	25	16	11	25	31	31

(F) PUERPERAL FEVER AND PYREXIA.

See Maternity and Child Welfare Section.

(G) OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

See Maternity and Child Welfare Section.

(H) ERYSIPELAS.

The tables following show the incidence by months, ages and wards:—

Month.	All ages.	Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 & over.
January ..	8	—	—	—	—	2	6	—
February ..	10	—	1	1	—	2	6	—
March ..	6	—	—	2	—	1	3	—
April ..	4	—	—	—	—	1	3	—
May ..	7	—	—	1	—	2	3	1
June ..	3	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
July ..	9	—	2	—	—	—	5	2
August ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
September ..	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
October ..	4	—	—	—	1	—	2	1
November ..	6	—	—	—	1	1	4	—
December ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals { 1931	61	—	3	4	2	11	37	4
{ 1930	57	2	—	—	6	18	22	9

Month.	St. James Street.	High Street.	Hoe Street.	Wood Street.	Hale End.	Higham Hill.	Re-moved to Hospital.
January ..	2	1	1	—	1	3	3
February ..	2	3	1	2	1	1	1
March ..	1	1	—	—	—	4	2
April ..	—	1	—	1	—	2	1
May ..	2	4	—	—	—	1	5
June ..	—	—	1	—	—	2	—
July ..	1	1	2	2	1	2	5
August ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
September ..	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
October ..	1	1	—	—	—	2	1
November ..	—	1	2	—	1	2	1
December ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals { 1931 ..	10	14	7	6	5	19	19
{ 1930 ..	11	7	9	14	5	11	22

(I) ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

Two cases, both females resident in the Hale End Ward, and aged 26 and 33 years, were notified. One case was removed to Hospital and recovered. The other case died at home.

(J) CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

One case, aged 6 years and resident in Higham Hill Ward, was notified and removed to Hospital.

(K) CHICKEN POX.

The compulsory notification of all cases of Chicken Pox was continued during 1931 up to 1st November, 1931, when the Walthamstow (Chicken Pox) Regulations, 1931, came into force. The effect of the Regulations was to exclude from notification vaccinated cases under 10 years of age.

The following tables show the incidence during the year:—

Month.	All ages.	Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 & over.
January ..	45	—	13	20	2	—	—	—
February ..	60	—	10	48	2	—	—	—
March ..	45	2	18	25	—	—	—	—
April ..	75	—	20	51	4	—	—	—
May ..	68	1	11	53	3	—	—	—
June ..	228	2	42	183	1	—	—	—
July ..	165	9	40	112	3	1	—	—
August ..	88	—	19	66	2	1	—	—
September ..	52	2	15	35	—	—	—	—
October ..	119	2	8	107	2	—	—	—
November ..	192	4	52	128	6	1	1	—
December ..	123	7	34	74	7	1	—	—
Totals ..	1260	29	282	912	32	4	1	—

Month.	St. James Street.	High Street.	Hoe Street.	Wood Street.	Hale End.	Higham Hill.
January	10	6	5	6	2	16
February	13	1	7	5	19	15
March	4	1	5	4	20	11
April	2	7	3	1	21	41
May	6	12	5	1	11	33
June	2	54	13	21	44	94
July	4	28	16	24	55	38
August	1	4	7	12	17	47
September	8	8	5	5	11	15
October	33	45	9	12	3	17
November	34	44	7	14	11	82
December	16	18	7	3	6	73
Totals	133	228	89	108	220	482

The heaviest incidence of Chicken Pox was during the four weeks ending 27th June, when 274 cases were notified—87 of these being during the first week.

Two cases of Chicken Pox were admitted to Hospital because of special circumstances in the homes.

Except for a few secondary cases in the same household, every case was visited by a Medical Officer of the Department for verification of diagnosis and a total of 1,265 visits were paid. One case notified as Chicken Pox was removed to Hospital for observation as a case of suspected Smallpox.

The following table gives information as to cases of associated Shingles and Chicken Pox which were found:—

<i>Primary Case.</i>	<i>Secondary Case.</i>
Mother had Shingles—2.3.31.	Child developed Chicken Pox—17.3.31.
Mother had Shingles—1.3.31.	Child developed Chicken Pox—29.3.31.
Mother had Shingles at beginning of March.	Three children developed Chicken Pox—27 & 28.3.31.
Herpes some days previous to 23.3.31.	Brother developed Chicken Pox—8.4.31.

One interesting feature is that three of the four cases apparently occurred within a few days and in widely separated portions of the Borough.

(L) MEASLES.

Measles was not a notifiable disease during 1931, which was an inter-epidemic year. Only 37 cases were notified by Head Teachers as having occurred amongst children of school age. No deaths were certified as having been caused by Measles.

At the time of writing the biennial epidemic has got well under way, and your Council have decided to make notifiable the first case in each household under five years of age. Arrangements have been made for 13 beds at the Isolation Hospital to be made available for severe cases of complicated Measles. A certain number of cases have also been admitted to Whipps Cross Hospital.

(M) WHOOPING COUGH.

Whooping Cough was not notifiable during 1931, but 520 school cases were notified by Head Teachers. The total number of deaths was 14, or a mortality of 2.7 per 100 cases. This mortality compares with 11 deaths from Diphtheria amongst 324 cases notified (or 3.4 per 100 cases) and 2 deaths from Scarlet Fever amongst 451 cases notified (or 0.44 per 100 cases). No requests for Hospital removal were received, and it must again be stressed, as with Measles, that the seriousness of this disease is not sufficiently appreciated.

(N) TUBERCULOSIS.

The table given below shows particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of all deaths from the disease in the Borough during 1931:—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 yr. ..	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—
1—5 yrs. ..	1	1	3	1	1	1	—	2
5—10 yrs. ..	1	2	3	8	—	—	—	—
10—15 yrs. ..	1	—	3	2	—	—	1	1
15—20 yrs. ..	11	9	5	3	5	3	—	2
20—25 yrs. ..	19	14	1	1	9	5	2	2
25—35 yrs. ..	28	13	4	—	14	14	1	1
35—45 yrs. ..	19	7	—	1	12	6	—	—
45—55 yrs. ..	9	2	1	1	12	3	—	—
55—65 yrs. ..	7	1	—	—	7	—	—	—
65 yrs. and upwards	1	4	—	—	3	—	—	—
Totals	97	53	23	17	63	32	5	8
	150		40		95		13	
	190				108			

The 108 deaths represent a death rate of 0.80 per 1,000 population:—

The returns for the past two years are compared below:—

Year.	New Cases.					Deaths.				
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
1931	97	53	23	17	190	63	32	5	8	108
1930	72	57	18	16	159	62	21	4	2	89

The periods elapsing between notification and death, and the number of cases not notified were as follows:—

Under 3 months.		3 to 6 months.		6 to 9 months.		9 to 12 months.		Over 12 months.		Not Notified.		Notified after death.	
Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.
23	5	4	1	5	—	8	—	39	—	13	4	3	3

The ratio of non-notified Tuberculosis cases plus notifications after death to total Tuberculosis deaths was 23 to 108, or 1 to 4.7.

Appropriate action with regard to non-notification was taken, when necessary.

The table given below shows the number of cases on the Register at the beginning and end of 1931:—

	Pulmonary.		Total.	Non-Pulmonary.		Total.	GRAND TOTAL.
	M.	F.		M.	F.		
No. on Register 1st January	905	825	1,730	447	442	889	2,619
Notified during 1931	97	53	150	23	17	40	190
Total ..	1,002	878	1,880	470	459	929	2,809
Removed from Register, 1931	64	40	104	4	10	14	118
No. on Register 31st December	938	838	1,776	466	450	916	2,691

The 118 removals from the Register were made up as follows:—

Deaths.				Removals.			
Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
48	30	1	2	16	10	3	8
78		3		26		11	
81				37			
118							

The discrepancy between the number of deaths recorded here and the number of registered deaths during the calendar year is accounted for by transferable deaths and by cases not notified prior to death.

Treatment of Tuberculosis.—Treatment is given under the Essex County Council's scheme. The admissions to Hospital during 1931 were:—

		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.
		M.	F.	M.	F.	
Adults	..	69	29	13	5	116
Children	..	5	2	9	6	22

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

Prevention of Blindness.—No action was necessary under Section 66 of the Public Health Amendment Act, 1925, for the prevention of blindness or the treatment of persons suffering from any disease of or injury to the eyes.

VII. INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

The situation, accommodation and staffing of the Infectious Diseases Hospital was fully described in the 1930 Report.

Improvements.—Gas utensil sterilisers were installed in five blocks.

Two new bathrooms and 8 new washbasins were provided in the cubicle block.

A new Kelvinator refrigerator, with automatic control, was installed at a cost of £265.

Preparations were made for laundry extensions by the removal of disused plant from the engine room.

A new electric incubator was provided at a cost of £14 10s. 0d.

Extensions.—Good progress was made during the year on the extension to the Administrative Block. The estimated cost is £9,669, which will provide 24 extra bedrooms, 8 bathrooms, store-room and a general office, and a large dining and rest room for the domestic staff.

On completion of the extension the existing accommodation can be re-allocated for improved staff quarters and to provide a nurses' lecture room for training purposes.

The Council, during the year, decided to apply to the Ministry of Health for sanction for a loan of £1,117 in order to complete the top floor of the new wing, so adding a further 10 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms.

The completion of this extension will enable the Hospital to be more adequately staffed, so reducing the working hours of all staff to approximately 48 hours per week. It will also enable the small E Block now used for staff sleeping quarters to be adapted for 8 additional patient beds and will liberate the convalescent room in F Block (now also used as staff sleeping quarters) for some 6 patient beds. The additional 14 beds will be of great value for the reception of bad cases of Measles and Whooping Cough.

General.—Paratyphoid cases were admitted during the milk-spread epidemic in the spring of the year, the convalescent Scarlet Fever Ward being cleared in order to accommodate them.

For the latter half of the year, the convalescent Diphtheria Ward remained closed. This has continued during 1932 and has enabled a limited number of cases of severe measles with complications to be admitted.

The agreement with the Loughton Urban District Council to receive and treat their cases was renewed for a period of two years from March, 1932.

Notification was received during the year from the Essex County Council stating that the County Council were of opinion that a Joint Hospital Board should be constituted for the Boroughs of Walthamstow and Leyton and that your Council's Sanatorium should be taken over by the proposed Board and extended. Your Council decided to give notification of opposition to the formation of a Joint Hospital Board.

Financial Statement.—A financial statement for the year ending 31st March, 1931, is given below:—

LOAN CHARGES.				£	s.	d.
Amount of Loan outstanding on						
31st March, 1931				2,586	9	9

EXPENDITURE.						
Repayment of Loan	..	..	..	239	17	0
Interest on Loan	..	..	..	88	10	11
Structural repairs	..	..	..	1,062	0	0
Food for Patients and Staff	..	..	..	5,167	0	0
Establishment and other Expenses ..	..	..	..	11,376	0	0
				£17,933	7	11

INCOME.						
Patients	..	..	..	533	0	0
County Council Grant	..	..	..	3,165	0	0
Other sources	..	..	..	37	0	0
				£3,735	0	0

The statistics given include cases from other Authorities.

The following table shows the admissions, discharges and deaths during 1931:—

	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Enteric Fever.	Other Diseases.	Tuber- culosis.	Totals.
Remaining in Hos- pital 1st January ..	61	53	—	5	20	139
Admitted during year	393	311	13	2	58	777
Discharged during year	394	330	12	7	53	796
Died during year ..	4	10	1	—	5	20
Remaining in Hos- pital 31st December	56	24	—	—	20	100

The total admissions during 1931 were lower than any preceding year as far back to 1926, when the total was 661.

DAILY AVERAGE NUMBER OF PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL
(including Tuberculosis cases).

January	128.9	July	101.4
February	123.5	August	98.0
March	103.3	September	89.4
April	81.4	October	91.5
May	100.4	November	89.2
June	95.0	December	72.0
Average whole year		98.2	

Dr. Hamilton has contributed the following report :—

AGES AND SEX OF PATIENTS ADMITTED DURING 1931.

Disease.	Under 5 years.		5 to 10 years.		10 to 15 years.		Over 15 years.		Total.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Scarlet Fever ..	41	51	83	95	31	29	20	43	175	218	393
Diphtheria ..	39	32	66	71	25	32	14	32	144	167	311
Para-typhoid Fever	2	2	2	1	—	1	2	3	6	7	13
Chickenpox ..	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Tuberculosis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	58	—	58	58
Totals	82	85	153	167	56	62	36	136	327	450	777

AGE AND SEX AT DEATH.

	Under 5 years.		5-10 years.		10-15 years.		Over 15 years.		Total.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Diphtheria	2	2	—	4	—	—	1	1	3	7	10
Enteric Fever & Broncho- Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Scarlet Fever	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	3	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	5	5
Totals	3	3	—	5	—	—	1	8	4	16	20

The deaths occurred after the following periods in Hospital:—

Diphtheria—14 hours, 35 hours, 36 hours, 27 hours, 48 hours,
5 days (2), 8 days, 8 weeks.

Diphtheria and Broncho-pneumonia—23 hours.

Enteric Fever and Broncho-pneumonia—4 days.

Scarlet Fever—4 days, 10 hours, 65 days, 56 days.

MONTHLY ADMISSIONS OF DIPHTHERIA CASES.

	Under 5 years.		5 to 10 years.		10 to 15 years.		Over 15 years.		Total.		Total.
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
January ..	7	3	7	10	4	9	2	4	20	26	46
February ..	6	1	6	5	2	4	1	4	15	14	29
March ..	3	3	5	1	—	1	1	2	9	7	16
April ..	—	7	7	2	2	1	1	4	10	14	24
May ..	3	1	2	3	1	4	1	3	7	11	18
June ..	—	—	6	6	3	1	2	3	11	10	21
July ..	3	6	8	11	5	2	1	3	17	22	39
August ..	1	3	3	6	4	—	—	2	8	11	19
September ..	6	1	6	10	1	1	—	2	13	14	27
October ..	4	4	8	5	1	3	1	—	14	12	26
November ..	3	—	2	7	—	—	2	2	7	9	16
December ..	3	3	6	5	2	6	2	3	13	17	30
Totals ..	39	32	66	71	25	32	14	32	144	167	311

Of the cases notified as Diphtheria, one proved to be a case of Perforated Gastric Ulcer notified as Haemorrhagic Diphtheria, and one a Glossal abscess. One case developed Acute Appendicitis during convalescence. Three cases notified as Diphtheria proved, on admission, to have both Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever.

Cross Infection.—38 cases were transferred from the Diphtheria blocks to cubicle block—10 cases with Scarlatiniform rashes (2 confirmed as Scarlet Fever), 5 cases with desquamation, 10 observation cases, 4 Smallpox contact cases, 5 Chickenpox contact cases, 2 Measles contact cases, 2 with venereal complications.

Complications.—Cardiac Paralysis, 5; other types of Paralysis, 15.

MONTHLY ADMISSIONS OF SCARLET FEVER CASES.

	Under 5 years.		5 to 10 years.		10 to 15 years.		Over 15 years.		Total.		Total.
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
January ..	3	3	7	12	4	1	2	5	16	21	37
February ..	2	3	3	5	3	3	—	1	8	12	20
March ..	4	6	5	2	3	3	1	4	13	15	28
April ..	2	1	12	7	1	3	2	2	17	13	30
May ..	1	2	10	2	1	5	—	3	12	12	24
June ..	10	8	4	12	6	4	3	4	23	28	51
July ..	3	4	5	9	1	1	5	2	14	16	30
August ..	4	4	11	6	2	2	2	2	19	14	33
September ..	2	7	5	8	3	3	1	1	11	19	30
October ..	2	7	4	13	1	—	—	5	7	25	32
November ..	2	3	9	8	2	1	1	5	14	17	31
December ..	6	3	8	11	4	3	3	9	21	26	47
Totals ..	41	51	83	95	31	29	20	43	175	218	393

In the case of one patient who was admitted suffering from Scarlet Fever, death was directly due to Congenital Heart Disease, Scarlet Fever being only a remote contributory cause.

Complications.—Otitis, 23; Mastoid Disease, 2; Pyaemia, 1; Chorea, 1; Suppurative Adenitis, 10 (some degree of Cervical Adenitis was present in practically all cases); Recurrent Erysipelas, 1; Purulent Rhinitis, 12 (Diphtheritic, 8, Streptococcal, 4); Septic Foot, 2.

In one case the Scarlatiniform rash proved to be the Prodromal rash of Smallpox.

One case notified as Scarlet Fever proved to be Acute Rheumatic Fever with Erythema Nodosum.

Cross Infection.—During the year 53 cases were transferred from the Acute Scarlet Fever block to the cubicle block, and 16 from the convalescent Scarlet Fever block.

The patients were transferred for the following reasons:—Ringworm, 1; K.L.B. Throat or Nose, 17; Erysipelas, 1; Severe Septic Scarlet Fever, 1; Impetigo Contagiosa, 9; Mastoiditis, 2; Vaginal Discharge, 6; Adenitis, 10; Contact with Chickenpox, 2; contact with Diphtheria, 2; observation cases, 2.

From Convalescent Block—Chorea, 1; Otorrhoea, 4; Adenitis, 4; K.L.B., 5; observation cases, 2. Total, 16.

Relapses of Scarlet Fever occurred in seven cases. In one of these cases fatal ear complications supervened.

Staff.—Members of the Staff were admitted to Hospital beds suffering from the following complaints:—Tonsillitis, 4; Rheumatism, 1; Influenza, 1; Diphtheria, 1; Sprained Ankle, 1. Total, 8.

Swabs.—1,306 swabs were taken and examined during the year in the laboratory at the Hospital.

Operations at Hospital.—Tonsillectomy, 4; Wilde's operation, 1; Deep Abscesses, 2; Specialist Consultants were called in on seven occasions.

Number of Outside Authorities' Cases and Nature:—

	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Total.
From Whipps Cross Hospital ..	4	1	3	8
From Edmonton and Enfield Joint Hospital District ..	—	6	—	6
From Epping U.D.C. ..	6	21	—	27
From Loughton U.D.C. ..	—	3	—	3
Total ..	10	31	3	44

The following cases were transferred to Whipps Cross Hospital:—
Erysipelas, 1; Pyaemia supervening on Septic Scarlet Fever, 1;
Perforated Gastric Ulcer, 1; Mastoid Disease, 2; Pyogenic Cervical
Adenitis, 1; Septic Foot, 2; Rheumatism, 1; Paratyphoid
Fever, 1; Appendicitis (to Connaught Hospital), 1.

Duration of Treatment.—The average duration of treatment
in Hospital was as follows:—

Diphtheria	40.4 days.
Scarlet Fever	35.2 days.
Paratyphoid Fever.. .. .	26.5 days.
Chickenpox	21.0 days.
Mixed Infections	37.5 days.

The County Medical Officer has kindly furnished the following
return of patients treated in the Tuberculosis Pavilion during 1931:—

Classification in accordance with Ministry of Health Memorandum 37.T. (Rev.).	In Hospital on 1st January, 1931.	Admitted during year.	Discharged during year.	Died during year.	In Hospital on 31st December, 1931.
T.B. Minus	2	13	12	—	3
T.B. Plus Group I ..	3	3	5	—	1
T.B. Plus Group II ..	13	36	31	2	16
T.B. Plus Group III	2	6	5	3	—
Totals	20	58	53	5	20

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

During the year 56 examinations were carried out by the
Medical Staff in respect of the Superannuation Scheme and 103 in
respect of the Sick Pay Scheme.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR MISS B.A. HENDERSON.

Ex-Officio:

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR—COUNCILLOR G. H. SPACKMAN, J.P.

THE DEPUTY MAYOR—ALDERMAN T. W. SMITH.

COUNCILLOR ROSS WYLD	}	Chairmen—Finance Committee.
„ E. C. REDHEAD		

ALDERMAN A. EVE, J.P.	COUNCILLOR H. C. DOWELL.
„ G. GIBBONS, J.P.	„ P. FRIEDBERG.
„ J. C. HAMMOND.	„ MISS N. W. HIX.
„ MRS. C. McENTEE,	„ MRS. E. M.
J.P.	MILLER.
„ MRS. M. NORRISH.	„ G. M. PAGE.
COUNCILLOR MRS. L. P. BAILEY.	„ MRS. E. M.
„ B. COLE.	RICHARDS.
	„ T. H. TEE.

Co-opted Members:

MRS. V. COSSEY.	MRS. W. H. KINDELL.
MRS. M. A. CROSS.	MRS. J. H. LESTER.
MRS. I. M. JACKSON.	MRS. W. J. SHARP.
MR. W. H. KINDELL.	MRS. W. F. TOYNBEE.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health and Administrative Maternity and Child Welfare Officer:

A. T. W. POWELL, M.C., M.B., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H.

Medical Officer and Inspector of Midwives:

MISS MARY C. SHEPPARD, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Obstetric and Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia Consultants:

MR. G. F. GIBBERD, M.S., F.R.C.S.

MRS. M. H. F. IVENS-KNOWLES, C.B.E., M.S.

MR. W. McKIM McCULLAGH, D.S.O., M.C., F.R.C.S.

Health Visitors:

MISS A. C. KEENAN, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V. Cert. (Superintendent).

MISS M. B. CASSIDY, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V. Cert.

MISS C. R. DOUGLAS, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V. Cert.

MISS D. G. LEGG, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V. Cert. (from 28-9-31).

MISS M. PAGE, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V. Cert.

MISS O. J. PANTHER, Cert. S.I.E.B. (Lond.) (Half-time).

Masseuse (Part-time):

MISS KATHLEEN M. HILL, C.S.M.M.G.

Record Clerk:

MISS F. A. RICHARDS (to 4-7-31).

MISS E. OGILVIE (from 23-6-31).

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE
 TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE MATERNITY
 AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present herewith a report of the work performed for your Committee during 1931.

A considerable expansion of the service occurred during the year—thus the Staff was increased by the appointment of an additional Health Visitor; new centres were opened at Higham Hill and Highams Park and the services of a Consultant Obstetrician were made available.

Home visits increased by 1,113 under the Municipal Scheme, and 835 under the Voluntary Scheme, while attendance at Clinics increased by 3,517 and 1,531 respectively, as compared with 1930.

Your Council became the Local Supervising Authority under the Midwives Acts during the year. The work involved has meant a very considerable increase in the work of the Department.

The Infant Mortality figure is, unfortunately, not so favourable as that of last year which was inexplicably low.

A series of cases of Pemphigus Neonatorum occurred towards the end of the year.

Notifications of Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia were much increased—probably due to better notification rather than to increased incidence. On the other hand, only one maternal death was certified as being due to Puerperal Sepsis as against 6 in 1930.

Grateful acknowledgment must be made of the co-operation of your Committee, of the help given by the voluntary helpers at the Clinics, and to the good work of the Staff.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

A. T. W. POWELL,

Medical Officer of Health, etc.

1. NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

One thousand six hundred and sixty-two births (61 of which were excluded) were notified during the year under the Notification of Births Acts, 1907 and 1915, as follows:—

Doctors, 931. Midwives, 683. Parents, etc., 48.

Included in the above are 333 births which were notified as having occurred outside the Borough.

In addition 59 stillbirths were notified, 6 of which did not belong to the area. Forty were notified by Doctors, 18 by Midwives and 1 by a parent. Of the total, 16 occurred outside the area.

The stillbirth rate per 1,000 population was lower than for 1930, viz., 0.43 against 0.54.

2. REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS.

The Registrar-General's returns show the following registrations during the calendar year:—

(a) Live Births.

			Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate..	..	..	949	949	1,898
Illegitimate	..	..	17	32	49
Total	..	..	966	981	1,947

(b) Stillbirths.

			Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate..	..	..	37	22	59
Illegitimate	..	..	—	—	—
Total	..	..	37	22	59

Of 1,640 birth registrations received in the Department between 4th January, 1931, and 2nd January, 1932, a total of 267 were not notified in this area, but some may possibly have been notified elsewhere, especially in view of the fact that of the 1,640 registrations 95 referred to births which belonged to other areas. In addition it will be seen that the Registrar-General's figure (1,947) is 307 more than the local registrations. Presumably these were births registered and possibly notified in other areas.

The early visiting of newly-born infants by the Health Visitors is entirely dependent upon efficient notification.

Of the 1,640 local registrations 95 are excluded, leaving a net total of 1,545, which are allocated to wards as follows:—

Births Registered Locally, 1931.	St. James Street.		High Street.		Hoe Street.		Wood Street.		Hale End.		Higham Hill.		Totals.		Grand Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
January	9	10	12	5	12	12	16	8	9	7	15	10	73	52	125
February	5	9	12	12	16	6	11	15	8	9	8	15	60	66	126
March	7	5	11	7	15	10	7	8	14	6	19	7	73	43	116
April	8	11	6	11	9	10	5	8	14	15	8	12	50	67	117
May	12	12	5	10	18	12	13	9	8	7	15	10	71	60	131
June	16	11	13	12	5	7	8	10	18	14	16	13	76	67	143
July	10	9	8	7	8	8	6	9	16	17	17	16	65	66	131
August	16	19	14	15	11	16	7	15	18	18	17	20	83	103	186
September	7	10	9	11	4	8	9	3	7	10	8	9	44	51	95
October	17	18	9	12	8	11	8	10	13	10	15	13	70	74	144
November	14	21	8	10	8	10	4	2	13	10	5	12	52	65	117
December	7	7	8	9	13	7	6	9	9	13	12	14	55	59	114
Totals ..	128	142	115	121	127	117	100	106	147	136	155	151	772	773	1,545
GRAND TOTALS	270		236		244		206		283		306		1,545		

3. INFANT MORTALITY.

The deaths of infants under one year of age were:—

	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Legitimate	63	41	104
Illegitimate	4	2	6
Total	67	43	110

The death-rates of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births when calculated on the totals given by the Registrar-General in paragraph 2 are therefore:—

Legitimate, 54. Illegitimate, 122. Total, 56.

The Infant Mortality Rate for other areas during 1931 was as follows:—

England and Wales	66
107 County Boroughs and Great Towns ..	71
159 Smaller Towns	62
London	65

The increased infant mortality for 1931 as compared with 1930 is, unfortunately, in accordance with the increased general death rate.

The chief increases for 1931 compared with those for 1930 (given in parentheses) were as follow:—

Whooping Cough, 7 (Nil); Convulsions, 12 (5); Pneumonia, 20 (13);

which account for 21 of the additional deaths during 1931 out of a total increase of 32.

The following table shows the causes of death of children under one year of age during 1931:—

SUMMARY, 1931.

Causes of Death of Children under 1 year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks 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 One Year.	WARDS.					
											St. James Street	High Street	Hoe Street	Wood Street	Hale End	Higham Hill
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chickenpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	5	7	1	1	1	—	1	3
Diphtheria and Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis (b)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	4	1	1	1	7	1	1	2	1	12	—	3	1	2	3	3
Laryngitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	1	—	—	—	1	4	8	3	4	20	—	2	—	8	2	7
Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	—
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	4	—	—	2	—	—	2
Gastritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inattention at Birth, wilful neglect	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, overlaying	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
Injury at Birth	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—
Atelectasis	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4	1	2	1	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—
Premature Birth	20	—	1	—	21	—	—	—	—	21	2	6	1	3	4	5
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	1	3	—	—	4	4	4	—	1	13	3	2	2	1	4	1
Inanition	1	1	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	1	1	—
Heart Failure	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	1	2	1	—
Other Causes	3	2	—	—	5	1	—	2	1	9	4	1	—	2	—	2
Totals	40	7	3	1	51	14	18	13	14	110	16	18	19	16	22	19

The death-rate from Diarrhoea and Enteritis per 1,000 live births was 4.1.

4. CHILD WELFARE.

The arrangements for Child Welfare were fully detailed in the 1930 Report.

An additional Health Visitor was appointed during the year and assumed duty on 28th September. The additional appointment was chiefly made in order to staff the extra clinics which your Council decided to open at the Institute, St. Andrew's Road, Higham Hill and the Memorial Hall, Winchester Road, Highams Park. One session per week was held at each Clinic on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. and the first sessions were held on 13th October.

(a) **Municipal Scheme.**—The normal staff of Health Visitors is six, one of whom devotes approximately half-time to the supervision of outworkers under the Factory and Workshops Acts.

Your Council also have an arrangement with the Woodford Urban District Council, under which, for a payment of £20 per annum, their Health Visitor carries out the necessary visiting in the Woodford portion of your area. In addition, one of your Visitors carries out supervisory visits.

Dr. R. A. Vere Hodge, Medical Officer of Health, kindly states that the Woodford Nurse paid the following visits during 1931:—Children under 1 year—first visits 22, subsequent visits 179, total 201; Children 1 to 5 years, 54. Total, 255.

Initial visits are paid as soon as possible after the Doctor and Midwife have ceased attending—usually about the tenth day. Children who progress favourably are, as far as possible, visited once a quarter during the first year of life and half-yearly afterwards until attaining the age of five. Infants and children who do not progress favourably are visited as frequently as possible.

In addition, visits in connection with the following matters are also carried out:—Supervision of Nurse Children, enquiries in connection with applications under the Assisted Milk Scheme, Ante-natal work, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia, provision of home helps and enquiries as to Maternal Deaths, Stillbirths and Neo-natal deaths.

Circular 1167 and Memorandum 156—M.C.W.—The following extensions of the Maternity and Child Welfare services were sanctioned by your Committee during the year:—

1. Weekly Infant Welfare sessions at Higham Hill and Highams Park and increased massage facilities.

Appointment of an additional Health Visitor.

2. An arrangement for the admission of certain cases of Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia to Queen Charlotte's Hospital Isolation Block at Hammersmith provided the patient pays the necessary fees.

3. The payment of a subsidy to the Walthamstow District Nursing Association for the provision of

(a) Home nursing in certain cases of Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia.

(b) An emergency midwife.

4. Provision of a Consulting Obstetrician in case of difficulty during pregnancy, labour, or the puerperium.

5. The provision of a monthly consultative Ante-Natal Clinic (provided under the Public Health Act).

6. Assistance in the provision of qualified midwives in order to eliminate the handywoman.

The service cannot be considered to be really complete until the proposed Maternity Home has been brought into use. The appointment of a municipal midwife has been postponed until the home is ready.

The detailed findings at first visits paid during 1931 are given in the following table:—

From the above table it will be seen that of 1,939 children, 1,577, or 81.3 per cent., were breast fed on first being visited, but 338, or 17.4, had no separate sleeping accommodation. The particulars in respect of Housing accommodation show that only 583 of the families visited had a house to themselves, while 113 families were living in one room. The 1930 figures were 612 and 168 respectively.

WARD.	How Fed.			Kind of Food.			Sleeping Accommodation.		Condition of Baby.			Accommodation.					
	Breast.	Breast and Hand.	Hand.	Cow's Milk.	Patent Foods.	Condensed Milk.	With Mother.	Cot or Cradle.	Good.	Fair.	Bad.	Whole House.	Flat.	Half-house.	3 Rooms.	2 Rooms.	1 Room.
St. James Street	303	17	53	17	32	21	80	293	316	40	17	83	30	72	33	111	44
High Street	244	6	21	4	16	7	47	224	235	32	4	46	74	59	21	54	17
Hoe Street	250	16	48	19	33	12	49	265	275	35	4	78	23	127	22	53	11
Wood Street.. ..	196	12	44	21	24	11	53	199	215	27	10	70	14	89	13	53	13
Hale End	247	30	53	32	35	16	37	293	264	55	11	138	7	77	35	56	17
Higham Hill	337	16	46	28	22	12	72	327	354	42	3	168	97	59	30	34	11
Total	1,577	97	265	121	162	79	338	1,601	1,659	231	49	583	245	483	154	361	113

Visits to children increased from 9,230 in 1930 to 10,030 in 1931, while the total visits increased from 13,242 to 14,355.

WARD.	Visits to Children under 1 year.			Visits to Children 1-5 years.	Grand Total.	Unsuccessful Visits.			Visits to Nurse Children.	Visits re Milk Scheme.	Ante-Natal Visits.			Ophthalmia Neonatorum Visits.	Puerperal Fever etc., Visits.	Special Visits.	Total Visits.
	First.	Re-visits.	Total.			Not at home.	Dead.	Removed.			First Visits.	Subsequent Visits.	Total Visits.				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			11	12	13	14	Cols. 5-14.
St James Street	373	265	638	666	1,304	185	10	69	134	150	25	9	34	5	2	19	1,912
High Street ..	271	519	790	1,039	1,829	185	10	118	181	97	28	1	29	7	1	6	2,463
Hoe Street ..	314	428	742	930	1,672	279	5	223	65	75	22	5	27	11	—	5	2,362
Wood Street .	252	430	682	874	1,556	247	11	107	71	164	22	—	22	—	3	1	2,182
Hale End ..	330	591	921	894	1,815	201	5	82	175	194	35	5	40	—	6	7	2,525
Higham Hill ..	399	536	935	919	1,854	406	7	111	207	251	48	13	61	—	4	10	2,911
Total 1931..	1,939	2,769	4,708	5,322	10,030	1,503	48	710	833	931	180	33	213	23	16	48	14,355
Total 1930..	1,961	2,096	4,057	5,173	9,230	1,381	98	803	647	786			221	40	18	14	13,242

The following table shows the number and nature of visits paid by Wards during 1931 :—

CLINICS.

Dr. Sheppard reports as follows :—

“The work carried out at the Welfare Centres was of the usual routine character during 1931. The masseuse attended 105 patients and gave 1,073 treatments. Sixteen cases were seen by Mr. Friel for your Committee, 2 children were sent to Brookcroft and 41 children attended the Orthopaedic Clinic.

“The numbers attending the Welfare sessions continue to be large as can be seen by the following tables:—

Markhouse Road:—

	New Cases.		Old Cases.		Toddlers.	Totals.
	Under 1 year.	Over 1 year.	Under 1 year.	Over 1 year.		
January	41	30	910	370	193	1544
February	46	22	618	433	176	1295
March	70	29	915	370	225	1609
April	85	19	1051	618	300	2073
May	73	13	838	479	245	1648
June	60	10	954	416	261	1701
July	79	25	1178	550	305	2137
August	59	20	898	367	303	1647
September	74	15	1192	586	312	2179
October	55	20	780	742	283	1880
November	93	32	1026	571	321	2043
December	50	11	886	470	319	1736
Totals	785	246	11246	5972	3243	21492

Higham Hill:—

	New Cases.		Old Cases.		Toddlers.	Totals.
	Under 1 year.	Over 1 year.	Under 1 year.	Over 1 year.		
October	10	4	37	12	20	83
November	14	8	92	55	29	198
December	4	—	95	51	39	189
Totals	28	12	224	118	88	470

Highams Park:—

	New Cases.		Old Cases.		Toddlers.	Totals.
	Under 1 year.	Over 1 year.	Under 1 year.	Over 1 year.		
October	18	2	14	4	3	41
November	21	7	65	21	17	131
December	16	8	83	40	43	190
Totals	55	17	162	65	63	362

“**Ante-Natal.**—The Ante-Natal Clinic takes place each Monday at Low Hall Lane. 285 new cases attended, and these made 1,050 attendances, or an average attendance of 21.8 per session as against 15.7 in 1930 and 9.0 in 1929.

“There was no maternal death among mothers attending the Clinic, and it was only found necessary to refer two cases to Hospital.

“Fifteen sterilised accouchement outfits were supplied during 1931 at cost price, and one was supplied free of cost.”

Part I, Children Act, 1908.—At the end of 1931 there were 143 nurse children on the Register as compared with 139 at the end of 1930. During the year 59 removed, 4 were adopted, 1 died and 21 reached the age of 7 years and consequently ceased to come under the Act.

One hundred and fourteen foster parents were registered at the beginning of the year and 109 at the end.

Your Committee instructed that the following conditions should be fulfilled by foster parents:—

1. The foster parent shall not be aged or decrepit.
2. She shall take only one child.
3. A cot must be provided.
4. A fireguard must be provided.
5. There must be a cupboard for storing food.
6. The foster mother must attend the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre with the infant.
7. The Sanitary Inspector must visit the home.
8. No case of Tuberculosis shall be accommodated.

The following figures show the work done at the Centres during the past year:—

SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCES AT WELFARE CENTRES.

Centre.	First Attendances of New Cases.			Re-attendances.			Grand Total.
	Under 1 yr. of age.	1-5 yrs. of age.	Total.	Under 1 yr. of age.	1-5 yrs. of age.	Total.	
Low Hall Lane ..	785	246	1031	11246	9215	20461	21492
Higham Hill ..	28	12	40	224	206	430	470
Highams Park ..	55	17	72	162	128	290	362
Total ..	868	275	1143	11632	9549	21181	22324

N.B.—Only 12 sessions each were held at Higham Hill and Highams Park during 1931.

Sale of Milk, etc., at Clinics.—The quantity and value of Milk and Foods sold and issued free during 1931 was as follows:—

				Sales.	Value.			Free
					£	s.	d.	Issue.
Virol	..	..	..	1,541 lbs. 4 ozs...	161	14	4	5½ lbs.
Prune and Banana Syrup ..	..	..	..	154 lbs. 5 ozs. ..	20	11	2	—
Parrish's Food	..	..	..	238 lbs. 14 ozs...	11	18	3	10 ozs.
Malted Honey	..	..	..	9 lbs	7	6		12 lbs.
Cod Liver Oil	..	..	..	114 lbs. 4 ozs. ..	7	12	0	4 ozs.
Cod Liver Oil Emulsion ..	..	..	..	475 lbs. 11 ozs...	31	1	3	7 lbs.
Glaxo and Ambrosia	..	..	..	1,005 lbs. ..	65	18	4	214 lbs.
Virol Containers	..	..	..	1,884	7	16	7	5
Ostermilk	..	..	..	672 lbs.	50	11	8	65 lbs.
Almata	..	..	..	682 lbs.	64	11	4	86 lbs.
Roboleine	..	..	..	891 lbs.	61	14	6	68 lbs.
Cod Liver Oil and Malt								
Extract	..	..	..	310 lbs.	12	17	6	1 lb.
Cow and Gate	..	..	..	10,133 lbs. ..	767	6	8	925 lbs.
Lacta and Lactogen	..	..	..	23 lbs.	1	1	8	10 lbs.
Dunne's Milk	..	..	..	144 lbs.	8	14	0	28 lbs.
					£1,273	16	9	

5. TREATMENT.

(a) **Orthopaedic.**—The facilities provided by the Education Authority's Orthopaedic Scheme is available for all children attending the Welfare Centres.

Miss Theobald has kindly furnished the following information with respect to children under five years of age:—

CASES SEEN AT ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

Anterior Polio-myelitis ..	2	Pseudo-hypertrophic	
Rickets	40	Paralysis	1
Congenital Dislocation of		Spastic Paralysis	2
Hip	1	Scoliosis, Kyphosis, Lor-	
Talipes	12	dosis	3
Torticollis	1	Congenital Defects	2
Kohlers Disease	1	Miscellaneous	9
Total	74		

ADMISSIONS TO BROOKFIELD ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL.

Talipes	1	Genu Valgum	3
Torticollis	1	Genu Varum	4
Spastic Hemiplegia ..	2	Anterior Poliomyelitis ..	1
Total	12		

NUMBER AND CLASSIFICATIONS OF OPERATIONS AT BROOKFIELD HOSPITAL.

(Including Cases remaining over from 1930.)

Osteoclasis	4	Osteotomies	4
Manipulations	1	Reductions of Congenital	
Tenotomies	4	Dislocation of Hip ..	5
		Others	1
Total	19		

The foregoing figures refer to all children under five years of age and include those children who have already commenced school.

(b) **Dental.**—The following work was done by the Education Committee's Dental Surgeons—Mrs. W. Rosa Thorne and the late Mr. G. Picton Evans:—

	Mothers.	Children under 5.
Cases treated	36	141
Attendances	55	185
Fillings	19	107
Extractions	108	310
General Anaesthetics ..	30	149
Local	2	4
Scalings	9	1
Dressings	4	11

(c) **Tonsils and Adenoids.**—Thirteen cases were operated on under the arrangement made by the Education Committee with the Walthamstow Dispensary and three cases at the Connaught Hospital.

(d) **Ophthalmic Defects and Minor Ailments** are given any necessary treatment either at the School Clinics or by special appointment.

WALTHAMSTOW CHILD WELFARE SOCIETY.

The organisation, staff and accommodation of the Society were fully detailed in the 1930 report.

Clinics are held as follows:—

Tuesday and Friday, 2—4.30 p.m. Massage and Sunlight Treatment.

Wednesday, 1.30—4.30 p.m. Weighing Clinic and Dispensary Treatment.

Thursday, 1—6 p.m. Infant Consultations.

The work done during the calendar year is shown in the following table compiled from information kindly supplied by Miss Coulston:—

	First Attendances of New Cases.			Re-attendances.*			Grand Total.
	Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	Total.	Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	Total.	
1931	455	111	566	5270	4535	9805	10371
1930	453	106	559	4688	3593	8281	8840

	Visits to Children under 1 year.			Visits to Children 1-5 years.	Grand Total.
	First.	Subsequent.	Total.		
1931	409	1093	1502	2146	3648
1930	—	—	—	—	2813

	Home Visits to Children.	Attend- ances at Lectures.	Massage Treat- ments.	Sun- light Treat- ments.	Total cases admitted to Observation Ward.	Local Authority's cases admitted to Observation Ward.
1931 ..	3548	1420	1650	2080	28	2
1930 ..	2813	1740	992	2215	32	2

No Ante-Natal work is carried out by the Society and no dried foods are supplied at the Clinics.

Summary.—The following tables give the total number of attendances at Clinics and home visits:—

ATTENDANCES AT CLINICS.

	First Attendances.			Re-attendances.			Grand Total.
	Under 1 year of age.	1-5 years of age.	Total.	Under 1 year of age.	1-5 years of age.	Total.	
Municipal Scheme	868	275	1143	11632	9549	21181	22324
Voluntary Scheme	455	111	566	5270	4535	9805	10371
Total ..	1323	386	1709	16902	14084	30986	32695

HOME VISITS.

	To Children under 1 year of age.			To Children 1-5 years of age.	Total.
	First.	Subsequent.	Total.		
Municipal Scheme ..	1961	2948	4909	5376	10285*
Voluntary Scheme ..	409	1093	1502	2146	3648
Total	2370	4041	6411	7522	13933*

* Includes 255 visits paid by Woodford U.D.C. Health Visitor.

Average attendance of children per session	{ 1931 .. 117.5
at all Centres during year	{ 1930 .. 110.0

Percentage of notified live births represented by number of children under one year of age who attended the Centres for the first time (i.e., new cases) 74.6

Percentage of total notified births represented by number of expectant mothers attending Ante-Natal Clinics ..	{ 1931 .. 16.5
	{ 1930 .. 16.7

6. ASSISTED MILK SCHEME.

Milk is supplied under this Scheme to expectant and nursing mothers and to children under three years of age. It is not a condition that applicants should attend the Welfare Centre, although, in practice, many do so.

Applications are made on special forms which give particulars of income and rent and are scrutinised each week by lady members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee who attend in rotation.

Milk may be either granted free or at reduced cost, and the following shows the amount and approximate cost of milk granted by the Committee during 1931:—

Number of applications during 1931		2,874
Number of families assisted		557
Scale.	Amount.	Cost to Authority.
		£ s. d.
Free	756 pints	9 9 0
$\frac{1}{2}$ d. per pint	51,327 „	534 13 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
1d. „ „	29,048 „	242 1 4
2d. „ „	28 „	2 4
Half-cost	11,977 „	74 17 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total	93,136 „	£861 2 11

7. HOME HELPS.

Applications for the provision of Home Helps are considered by the Milk Rota Committee, and, if approved, a payment of 12s. 6d. per week for two weeks is made. In addition to the three home helps approved during 1931, many mothers attending the Clinic made their own arrangements to obtain the help of suitable women whose names were supplied by the Health Visitors.

8. INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT, ETC.

A total of 22 children were sent to Institutions under arrangements approved by your Committee. The details were as follows:—Brookfield Orthopaedic Hospital, 12 (of these 2 were Education Committee's cases); Brookscroft, 2; Streatham Babies' Hospital, 2; Swanley, Mayfield, St. Margaret's, Cheyne, Sutton and Lennox Hospitals, 1 each.

9. HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR CONFINEMENTS.

(a) Of 1,721 notified births where information was available, 1,263 occurred at home, and 458, or 26.6 per cent., in Institutions.

There is thus no question as to the urgent need of adequate maternity beds in the Borough. The plans for the proposed Municipal Maternity Home are in course of revision to comply with the Ministry's requirements.

The following numbers of confinements occurred at the Institutions specified:—

Mothers' Hospital, Clapton	177
Nursing Homes in Walthamstow	148
Forest Gate Hospital	58
Queen Mary's Hospital	23
Total	406

There are five Nursing Homes in the Borough with a total maximum accommodation of 20 maternity beds.

10. WALTHAMSTOW DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION.

The Walthamstow Nurses' Home of the Essex County Nursing Association was taken over as from 1st July, 1931, by the District Nursing Association, the staff being four qualified midwives.

By this date the Home had been completely redecorated and a two-bed maternity ward and a labour ward had been provided. Later in the year an additional two-bed ward was provided.

Your Council assist the Association by granting £10 worth of tramway tokens per annum and also pay a retaining fee of ten guineas per annum for the services of a Nurse for Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia nursing or emergency midwifery.

Sister Ross states that the following work was done during 1931:—Maternity cases, 63; Midwifery cases, 179; total Confinements attended, 242; Visits paid, 13,266.

During the last six months of 1931, 26 midwifery and maternity cases had to be refused owing to insufficient accommodation.

11. CONSULTANT OBSTETRICIAN.

During 1931 the services of the panel of Consultants under the Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia Regulations (referred to earlier in the Report) were made available to Practitioners in any difficulty arising during pregnancy, labour or the puerperium.

A Consultant's services were provided on eight occasions.

12. MIDWIVES ACTS, 1902—1926.

Your Council took over the supervision of Midwives from the Essex County Council with effect from 1st April, 1931, under the Borough of Walthamstow (Supervision of Midwives) Order, 1931.

The administration of the Order was left to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee which decided to adhere to the County Council's scale of income for assessment or recovery of fees where medical aid is summoned by Midwives in emergency. The scale is as follows:—

Parents' Weekly Income after deducting 5s. in respect of each parent and each dependent member of the household.	Fee to be recovered.
Not exceeding £1 weekly	Nil.
Exceeding £1 and not exceeding £2..	10s. 6d., or actual fee if less than this amount.
Exceeding £2, and not exceeding £3	£1 1s., or actual fee if less than this amount.
Exceeding £3 weekly	Actual fee.

It was agreed that no recovery should be made in cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum and, during the current year, it has been decided that no recovery of fees is to be made in respect of Pemphigus Neonatorum.

An arrangement was made during the year with the Walthamstow District Nursing Association in order to provide a qualified midwife in cases of emergency, e.g., to replace any midwife who might be suspended from duty. The Association agreed to provide these services on condition that a grant of five guineas be paid for the provision of an emergency midwife, plus a fee of one guinea per confinement or 2s. 6d. per visit.

Dr. Sheppard has acted as Inspector of Midwives and has carried out the routine quarterly inspections, the results of which have been generally satisfactory. Additional inspections in respect of emergencies such as Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia, Maternal Mortality, have been made by your Medical Officer of Health.

There were 17 midwives in active practice on the 1st April, and three others gave notice of intention to practice during the year, making a total of 20. All held the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

The following table shows the work done by the midwives during 1931 :—

	Up to 31.3.31.	After 31.3.31.	Total.
No. of confinements attended as a midwife	208	440	648
„ confinements attended as a maternity nurse	51	85	136
„ Medical Aid Notices sent	32	84	116
„ Notifications of Deaths (all children)	3	1	4
„ Twin births	—	3	3
„ Stillbirths	2	5	7
„ Notifications of liability to be a source of infection	1	4	5

During 1930, 680 cases were attended as Midwives and 149 as Maternity Nurses.

The conditions for which Medical Aid was summoned by Midwives up to 31st March has been summarised by Dr. Bullough and were as follows :—

Conditions.	No. of Notices received.	Conditions.	No. of Notices received.
Prolonged or difficult labour	10	<i>Miscellaneous :—</i>	
Ruptured Perineum	6	Gastric pains	1
Discharging Eyes or Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	Prolapse of cord	1
Ante-partum Haemorrhage	3	Slight Convulsions	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	Haemorrhage from Bowels	1
Dangerous feebleness of Infant	2	Pleurisy	1
Total	32		

The reasons for summoning Medical Aid during the remainder of the year were :—

Pregnancy :—

Ante-partum Haemorrhage	4
Hyperemesis	1
Albuminuria	1
Bronchitis	1
Total	7

Puerperium :—

Rise of temperature	3
Weakness of Mother	1
Vomiting	1
Total	5

<i>Labour:—</i>		<i>Child:—</i>	
Prolonged or difficult labour	13	Stillbirth	3
Post-partum Haemorrhage ..	5	Dangerous Feebleness ..	3
Ruptured Perineum ..	13	Discharge from Eyes ..	5
Precipitate Labour ..	1	Jaundice	2
Retained Placenta ..	6	Meningocele and Spina Bifida	1
Premature Labour ..	4	Pemphigus	4
Abnormal presentations ..	2	Convulsions	1
Œdema of Vulva ..	1	Cyst of Penis	1
Œdema of Cervix ..	1	Rash	1
Abortion	1	Haemorrhage	1
Cardiac trouble	1	Death of Baby	1
	—	Partial Asphyxia	1
Total	48	Total	24

Recovery of Fees.—When a midwife summons medical aid a printed form is made out in triplicate. One is retained by the midwife, one is sent to the patient's Doctor, and one is sent to the Medical Officer of Health. On receipt of the latter the midwife is sent a form which she is requested to have completed in her presence by the head of the household, giving particulars as to income and outgoings and then to witness his signature. If the patient wishes to settle the account for himself, the form is endorsed "able and willing to pay," in which case the Doctor recovers his fee direct from the patient. If otherwise, the amount of the husband's weekly income is verified from his employers and an assessment is then made by the Sub-Committee on the scale already detailed.

On several occasions it has been found that midwives have been loth to send for medical aid until the patient's temperature has reached 100.4 degrees as defined by the Rules of the Central Midwives Board. There is no question that the rule should be amended to specify a limit of at least a degree lower. Further reference is made to the matter under Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia.

A contribution of 15s. was paid towards the fee of the midwife in one case.

Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927.—See Public Health Section of the Report (pages 18-20).

13. PUERPERAL FEVER AND PYREXIA.

The following tables give details of the 41 cases of Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia during 1931 by ages, Wards and months:—

Month.	All ages.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.
January	4	—	4	—
February	2	—	1	1
March	5	1	4	—
April	3	1	2	—
May	3	2	1	—
June	3	3	—	—
July	5	—	5	—
August	6	1	5	—
September	6	2	4	—
October	1	—	1	—
November	2	1	1	—
December	1	—	1	—
Total	41	11	29	1

Month.	St. James Street.	High Street.	Hoe Street.	Wood Street.	Hale End.	Higham Hill.	Removed to Hospital.
January ..	—	—	1	1	2	—	1
February ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	2
March	1	1	2	—	1	—	4
April	—	—	2	—	1	—	2
May	—	—	2	—	—	1	2
June	1	—	—	—	—	2	3
July	2	1	—	1	—	1	3
August	—	—	2	—	3	1	5
September ..	—	1	—	2	2	1	3
October ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
November ..	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
December ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Total ..	5	4	9	5	10	8	28

A further table gives particulars of the details given in the various notifications received. Thus, of the 41 cases, a total of 13 were notified from Hospitals outside the area, i.e., 11 from the Mothers' Hospital, Clapton (where the confinements had been carried out) and 2 from Whipps Cross Hospital, following confinement in Walthamstow.

Four cases were notified from Nursing Homes in the Borough leaving 24 notifications of Pyrexia following confinements at homes

of patients. The notifications were endorsed as follows:—Facilities available, 23; removed to Hospital, 10; second opinion required, 8.

Of the 28 cases nursed in Hospital, 14 were admitted to Whipps Cross Hospital, 11 were already at the Mothers' Hospital, and 1 each were admitted to Queen Charlotte's Hospital, University College Hospital and the Sanatorium. The latter case had typical Scarlet Fever which showed on the fourth day after confinement.

Your Council decided to pay a retaining fee of five guineas to the Walthamstow District Nursing Association for the services of a Nurse in any case requiring home nursing. In addition, a fee of 2s. 6d. per visit is payable or three guineas per week for the full-time services of a Nurse. During the year one case only required five nursing visits.

Reference has been made under the appropriate section to the reluctance of some midwives to call in medical aid until the patient's temperature reached 100.4 degrees, the limit prescribed by the Rules of the Central Midwives Board. A revision of this Rule to the effect that medical aid should be called in earlier in cases of Puerperal Pyrexia is urgently necessary. Such a revision would help to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity and would tend to secure the earlier admission of patients to Hospital where more adequate treatment is available.

PUERPERAL FEVER AND PYREXIA—1931.

No. of Case.	Fever or Pyrexia.	Date of Notification.	Date Notification Received.	Age.	Ward.	Facility required as per Notification Form.	Date of Birth of Child or mis-carriage.	Onset of Pyrexia.	Date of admission to Hospital.
1.	Pyrexia	4.1.31	5.1.31	26	W.	Facilities available ..	23.12.30	3.1.31	Not removed.
2.	"	6.1.31	7.1.31	29	Ho.	" " ..	4.1.31	5.1.31	" "
3.	"	24.1.31	26.1.31	29	H.E.	" " ..	18.1.31	20.1.31	" "
4.	Fever	24.1.31	26.1.31	37	H.E.	Removed to Hospital ..	"	23.1.31	24.1.31.
5.	Pyrexia	11.2.31	13.2.31	45	J.	Admit to Hospital ..	9.2.31	11.2.31	13.2.31.
6.	"	15.2.31	16.2.31	40	H.H.	" " ..	11.2.31	10.2.31	15.2.31.
7.	"	8.3.31	9.3.31	42	J.	" " ..	5.3.31	7.3.31	9.3.31.
8.	"	12.3.31	12.3.31	38	H.E.	Second opinion ..	4.3.31	7.3.31	12.3.31.
9.	"	17.3.31	17.3.31	29	Ho.	Facilities available ..	13.3.31	16.3.31	18.3.31.
10.	"	27.3.31	27.3.31	32	Ho.	Admit to Hospital ..	23.3.31	24.3.31	27.3.31.
11.	"	31.3.31	31.3.31	17	Hi.	Facilities available ..	28.3.31	30.3.31	Not removed.
12.	Fever	14.4.31	14.4.31	21	Ho.	Admit to Hospital ..	3.4.31	14.4.31	17.4.31.
13.	Pyrexia	27.4.31	28.4.31	33	Ho.	Facilities available ..	25.4.31	26.4.31	Not removed.
14.	"	21.5.31	22.5.31	24	Ho.	Second opinion ..	30.4.31	13.5.31	" "
15.	"	15.6.31	15.6.31	24	H.H.	Facilities available ..	31.5.31	13.6.31	15.6.31.
16.	"	20.4.31	24.4.31	27	H.E.	" " ..	30.3.31	10.4.31	Already in Hospital.
17.	"	6.5.31	11.5.31	20	Ho.	" " ..	25.4.31	3.5.31	" "
18.	"	25.5.31	28.5.31	30	H.H.	" " ..	19.5.31	21.5.31	" "
19.	"	30.5.31	5.6.31	24	H.H.	" " ..	31.5.31	1.6.31	" "
20.	"	29.6.31	30.6.31	20	J.	Admit to Hospital ..	24.6.31	27.6.31	29.6.31.
21.	Fever	18.7.31	20.7.31	27	J.	Second opinion ..	16.7.31	17.7.31	Not removed.
22.	"	18.7.31	20.7.31	25	J.	Facilities available ..	14.7.31	16.7.31	Already in Hospital.
23.	Pyrexia	22.7.31	23.7.31	26	W.	Second opinion ..	18.7.31	21.7.31	Not removed.
24.	"	27.7.31	30.7.31	29	Hi.	Facilities available ..	14.7.31	16.7.31	Already in Hospital.

25.	Pyrexia	27.7.31	30.7.31	35	H.H.	Facilities available ..	9.7.31	16.7.31	Already in Hospital.
26.	"	3.8.31	5.8.31	25	Ho.	" " ..	29.7.31	30.7.31	" "
27.	"	3.8.31	5.8.31	27	Ho.	" " ..	26.7.31	29.7.31	" "
28.	Fever	8.8.31	10.8.31	35	H.H.	" " ..	4.8.31	4.8.31	" "
29.	"	12.8.31	12.8.31	23	H.E.	Second opinion ..	5.8.31	9.8.31	12.8.31.
30.	Pyrexia	26.7.31	14.8.31	26	H.E.	" " ..	6.7.31	10.7.31	Not removed.
31.	"	26.8.31	29.8.31	28	H.E.	Facilities available ..	18.8.31	21.8.31	Already in Hospital.
32.	Fever	1.9.31	1.9.31	41	Hi.	Admit to Hospital ..	30.8.31	28.8.31	30.8.31.
33.	"	3.9.31	3.9.31	23	W.	Facilities available ..	—	10.9.31	Not removed.
34.	"	10.9.31	11.9.31	23	W.	" " ..	7.9.31	10.9.31	" "
35.	Pyrexia	8.9.31	10.9.31	26	H.E.	" " ..	17.8.31	17.8.31	Already in Hospital.
36.	Fever	23.9.31	24.9.31	38	H.H.	Admit to Hospital ..	17.9.31	21.9.31	21.9.31.
37.	Pyrexia	27.9.31	28.9.31	26	H.E.	Second opinion ..	21.9.31	14.9.31	Not removed.
38.	"	26.10.31	27.10.31	33	Hi.	Admit to Hospital ..	4.10.31	6.10.31	6.10.31.
39.	Fever	31.10.31	2.11.31	30	H.H.	Facilities available ..	28.10.31	30.10.31	31.10.31.
40.	Pyrexia	26.11.31	30.11.31	24	W.	" " ..	8.11.31	18.11.31	Already in Hospital.
41.	"	30.12.31	31.12.31	37	H.E.	Second opinion ..	27.12.31	28.12.31	Not removed.

14. OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

The numbers of cases notified during the last two years were:—

Year.	Totals.	St. James Street.	High Street.	Hoe Street.	Wood Street.	Hale End.	Higham Hill.
1931 ..	8	3	1	3	—	—	1
1930 ..	8	2	—	—	—	1	5

Year.	Treated		Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
1931 ..	7	1	8	—	—	—
1930 ..	5	3	8	—	—	—

One case was admitted to St. Margaret's Hospital (London County Council) and made a good recovery.

Treatment was given either at home or at the Clinics by your Council's Medical Officers and Health Visitors in three of the cases.

15. PEMPHIGUS NEONATORUM.

Six cases of this disease were reported during the year, and three proved fatal.

The first case occurred in May (Midwife C), the second in November (Midwife V) and cases 3, 4, 5 and 6 (Midwife E) in December. There was no connection between any of the midwives and no causative factor could be discovered except that Case 3 had recently been circumcised—the first bleb appeared on the inside of the upper part of the thigh. Midwife E, who acted as a Maternity Nurse in cases 5 and 6, was found to be perfectly normal when examined on three occasions.

All the midwives were suspended until the usual disinfection of person, clothing and equipment had been carried out and, in addition, Midwife E voluntarily agreed not to practice midwifery for one month which was later extended to four months.

Date of Death.	Certified Cause of Death.	Age.	Ward.	No. of Pregnancy.	Previous obstetric History.	Duration of pregnancy (weeks).	Date of Birth or Miscarriage.	Midwife (M.), Mat. Nurse (Mat.) or Handywoman (H.W.).	Character of Labour.	Date Doctor called in.	Date of receipt of any Notification of Pyrexia.	Date of Admission to Hospital.	REMARKS.
18.2.31	1. (a) General Peritonitis and Puerperal Septicaemia following Haemolytic Streptococcal infection of the uterus following full term delivery	25	Hoe Street ..	1	Nil	40	8.2.31	Dr. and M.	Normal	6.2.31	9.2.31	9.2.31	Uterine infarct due to embolus. Pus in left fallopian tube. General Peritonitis due to Haemolytic Streptococcus. Second degree laceration. Rigors 3 hours after delivery.
12.1.31	1. (a) Lobar Pneumonia .. (b) Childbirth; no P.M.	41	Wood Street ..	6	Not obtainable.	?	12.1.31	Dr.	Instrumental Delivery	10.2.31	Nil	11.1.31	Collapsed 5 minutes after delivery. Shoulder presentation. Internal version performed. Premature dead foetus.
14.2.31	1. (a) Debility after parturition (b) Bronchitis (c) Valvular Disease of the Heart 2. Syncope; no P.M.	23	Hale End ..	1	Nil	39	19.1.31	Dr.	Instrumental Delivery	18.1.31	Nil	18.1.31	Left Hospital at own request—7.2.31. Malignant Endocarditis. Perineal Tear Second Degree.
16.8.31	1. (a) Heart Failure (b) Caesarean Section 2. Mitral Stenosis; P.M.	28	Hale End ..	1	Nil	40	16.8.31	Dr. and M.	Caesarean Section * ..	10.8.31	Nil	15.8.31	Old Mitral Stenosis. Passive Congestion of Liver. Acute Oedema of Lungs and Dilation of Heart. Died 2 hours after delivery by Caesarean Section. Seen by Consultant and removed to Hospital.

16. MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Maternal mortality inquiry forms have been completed for the Ministry of Health in each case where the certified cause of death showed any connection with recent childbirth. Thus, during 1931, four inquiry forms were completed and full details are given in the accompanying table. All four deaths occurred in Institutions—one each at four different Institutions outside the area. One of the confinements took place in Walthamstow, the patient being moved to Hospital subsequently.

The Registrar-General, however, under the "Rules for the selection of one from two or more jointly stated causes of death," only allocated one death to puerperal causes. The rates per 1,000 are therefore calculated on this figure.

The following table shows the position with regard to Maternal Mortality compared with England and Wales:—

Births Registered.	Deaths of women due to Pregnancy and Child-Bearing.								
	WALTHAMSTOW.						England and Wales.		
	Puerperal Sepsis.	Other Puerperal Causes.	Total.	Rates per 1,000 Births Registered.			Rates per 1,000 Births Registered.		
				Puerperal Sepsis.	Other Puerperal Causes.	Total.	Puerperal Sepsis.	Other Puerperal causes.	Total.
Live 1,947	1	—	1	0.51	—	0.51	1.66	2.45	4.11
„ and Stillbirths 2,006	1	—	1	0.49	—	0.49	1.59	2.35	3.95

The table facing this page gives full particulars of all the Maternal Deaths.

