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AC 4411(1) WALTHAMSTOW WAL 23

BOROUGH OF WALTHAMSTOW

R E P O R T
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the year
1940.

A.T.W. POWELL, M.C., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT - THORPE COOMBE MATERNITY
HOME AND ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICE OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1907

A. T. F. FOWELL, M.D., M.P.H., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICE OF HEALTH, SCHOOL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

NEW YORK, N.Y. - 1907

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PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANATORIUM VISITING

COMMITTEES.

Chairman:

ALDERMAN Mrs.E.N.Miller

The Worshipful the Mayor - Councillor R.W.A.Russell, J.P.

The Deputy Mayor - Alderman H.Frost, J.P.

Chairman of Finance Committee - Alderman Ross Wyld, J.P.

Alderman A.G.Bottomley, O.B.E. Alderman Miss E.M.Pracy, B.Sc.

" G.Gibbons, J.P.(Deed.) " Mrs.E.M.Richards

" Mrs.C.McIntee, J.P., E.C.C. " W.H.Shaw

Alderman Mrs.L.P.Bailey, J.P. Councillor G.S.Mace

Councillor Mrs.B.M.Friedberg " A.E.Manning

" F.W.Gentle " Mrs.A.L.Meadows

" W.Gillett " R.E.Smith

" G.J.R.Holt " Mrs.E.A.Smith

" J.W.Lis " Mrs.E.B.Toynebee

" G.R.Lowton " A.H.Williams.

Town Clerk:

F.G.GARNER, ESQ.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Report for 1940 has been curtailed as far as possible and has been duplicated as a measure of economy.

The year is notable for the maintenance of a high standard of health in spite of the abnormal conditions of night shelter life during the last three months. Thus a comparison of the vital statistics with those of the whole country and with any portion thereof is very favourable to Walthamstow.

Diphtheria immunisation was resumed in the schools and a new low record of Diphtheria incidence is to be noted.

Public Health Services have been maintained as near the normal as possible in spite of the large amount of time and energy given by many members of the Staff to Civil Defence duties.

It is again my pleasure to record your kindly consideration and the good work of the Staff.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

A.T.W.POWELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF.- The following members were on active service:-

Miss M. McCallum, S.R.N. (Senior Chiropodist).
 Mr. R.A.C. Green - Clerk
 " A.T. Wade - "
 " F.J. Aylward - "
 " W.H. Dunn - Ambulance Staff,

and the following temporary appointments were made:-

Miss E.H. Page - Clerk
 " V.H. Prime - "
 Mrs. M.W. Grimwood - "
 Mr. M. Hellman - "

A.- STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	4,343.
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate, mid-year 1940)	109,400.
Number of Assessments, 1st April, 1940.	36,205.
Rateable value	£381,962.
Sum represented by penny rate	25,423.

POPULATION.- The Registrar-General's estimate of the population at mid-year, 1940, is 109,400, a decrease of 20,600 on the previous figure.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.- The Registrar-General's mid-year, 1940, estimate of population (viz., 109,400) has been used for the calculation of all vital statistics.

	Total	Males	Females	
(Legitimate ..	1535	800	735	Birth rate per 1000 of
Live (Illegitimate..	40	20	20	the estimated resident
Births (Total.....	1575	820	755	population

Stillbirths 42. Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births 25.9

Deaths 1607. Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.. 14.6

Deaths from puerperal causes:- Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births.

Puerperal Sepsis Deaths	0	-
Other Puerperal Causes	1	0.61
Total	1	0.61

Death rate of infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births	40.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	41.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	25.0

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	-
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	8

(All rates are per 1,000 of estimated residential population.)

Comparability factor	1.07
Adjusted death rate	15.6
Ratio of local to national crude death rate	0.91
Zymotic disease death rate	0.10
Pulmonary Tuberculosis death rate	0.53
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis death rate	0.12

The natural decrease of population, i.e., excess of deaths over births, was 32.

The usual comparison of vital statistics rates, with those for the whole country, is shown in the table on the following page.

BIRTHS.— Births are dealt with under the Maternity and Child Welfare Section of the Report.

DEATHS.— The Registrar-General's classification of causes of death by sex totals is given.

The total number of deaths in 1940 (1,607) compares with 1,312 during 1939, the respective death-rates per 1,000 population being 10.5 and 14.6.

BIRTH-RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY, AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1940. PROVISIONAL FIGURES BASED ON WEEKLY AND QUARTERLY RETURNS.

England and Wales, London, 126 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns.

	England & Wales	126 County Boroughs & Great Towns (including London)	148 Smaller Towns (Resi- dent Popul- ation 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census.	London Adminis- trative County	Waltham- stow.
* Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:—					
Births:—					
Live Births	14.6	16.0	15.7	13.7	14.3
Still "	0.55	0.64	0.55	0.44	0.38
Deaths:—					
All Causes	14.3	15.8	12.8	17.8	14.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.01	0.01
Influenza	0.32	0.29	0.30	0.18	0.15
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00
Notifications.					
Enteric	0.07	0.06	0.10	0.06	0.02
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.32	0.33	0.29	0.28	0.05
Scarlet Fever	1.63	1.53	1.57	0.82	0.76
Whooping Cough	1.34	1.29	1.35	0.22	0.11
Diphtheria	1.16	1.29	1.21	0.61	0.14
Erysipelas	0.33	0.36	0.30	0.35	0.24
Smallpox	0.00	—	—	—	—
Measles	10.24	9.23	9.99	1.78	0.71
Pneumonia	1.20	1.37	1.00	0.87	0.82
Rates per 1,000 Live Births:—					
Deaths under 1 Year of Age	55	61	54	50	40
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of Age.	4.6	5.9	4.4	5.8	5.07
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still):—					
Maternal Mortality:— (Excluding Abortion)					
Puerperal Infection (No. 147)	0.52)	Not available			
Others	1.64)				
Total	2.16)				
Notifications:—					
Puerperal Fever)	11.96	13.90	9.73	Including Puerperal Fever.	
" Pyrexia)					

CAUSES OF DEATH AS GIVEN BY THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL
FOR THE YEAR 1940.

WHOLE DISTRICT.

Causes of Death.	Males	Females	Total
1. Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers	1	-	1
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	2	3
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
5. Diphtheria	1	1	2
6. T.B. of respiratory system	34	24	58
7. Other Forms of Tuberculosis	7	7	14
8. Syphilitic disease	5	2	7
9. Influenza	9	8	17
10. Measles	-	-	-
11. Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis	1	-	1
12. Acute infectious encephalitis	3	2	5
13M. Cancer of buccal cavity & oesophagus (Males only)	9	-	9
13F. Cancer of Uterus	-	17	17
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	25	20	45
15. Cancer of breast	-	17	17
16. Cancer of all other sites	66	46	112
17. Diabetes	5	14	19
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	58	80	138
19. Heart disease	187	206	393
20. Other diseases of the circulatory system	15	29	44
21. Bronchitis	99	63	167
22. Pneumonia	35	37	72
23. Other respiratory diseases	9	11	20
24. Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum	18	5	23
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	4	4	8
26. Appendicitis	3	1	4
27. Other digestive diseases	18	25	43
28. Nephritis	11	18	29
29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	-	-	-
30. Other maternal causes	-	1	1
31. Premature birth	9	7	16
32. Congenital malform. birth injury, infantile disease	3	16	19
33. Suicide	11	6	17
34. Road traffic accidents	9	5	14
35. Other violent causes	56	63	119
36. All other causes	78	70	148
Totals..	790	317	1607
Totals for 1939..	678	634	1312

The age distribution of Cancer Deaths was as follows:-

Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 yrs. and over.
1	-	-	-	-	18	83	98.

B. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

FOOT CLINIC.- Total attendances were 11859, and of these 997 were by new patients and 10862 were re-attendances by old patients. The receipts were £422.10.6.

Two part-time chiropodists were employed when necessary in addition to the two full-time chiropodists, and for certain periods all four were fully employed.

WOMEN'S CLINIC.- Sessions were held weekly, with one consultant session monthly.

Miss Helen Rodway, M.R.C.O.G., submits the following report:-

The number of patients attending the Clinic was well maintained until the end of August, from which time there was a definite decrease.

The total number of attendances during the year was 1,443; this includes attendances by 260 new patients, 230 of whom attended during the first seven months of 1940.

Number of sessions held:-

(a) Consultant's Clinics	11
(b) Assistant Medical Officer's Clinics	53
(c) Senior Sister's Clinics	12
Total	<u>76</u>

Comparison with previous years.

(a) Consultant's Clinics, (b) Assistant Medical Officer's Clinics, (c) Senior Sister's Clinics.

	<u>1940</u>		<u>1939</u>		<u>1938</u>		<u>1937</u>		<u>1936</u>	
	New	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New	Old
	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases
(a)	1	124	7	115	21	125	14	124	17	108
(b)	259	1031	329	1077	298	1048	251	833	259	589
(c)	-	28	-	42	-	6	-	-	-	-
	<u>260</u>	<u>1183</u>	<u>336</u>	<u>1234</u>	<u>319</u>	<u>1179</u>	<u>265</u>	<u>957</u>	<u>276</u>	<u>697</u>

Average attendance per session:-

	New Cases	Old Cases
(a) Consultant's Clinics	.090	11.27
(b) Assistant Medical Officer's Clinics	4.88	19.45
(c) Senior Sister's Clinics	-	2.33

Summary of New Cases.

Ante-natal	43	Surgical	193
Post-natal	5	Medical	19
Gynaecological	137	Contraceptive	26
Sterility	8	Not classified	12
	<u>193</u>	Total	<u>260</u>

Referred to Clinic from Private Doctors	25
Referred to Private Doctors	10
Referred to the South London Hospital for Women	6
Referred to the South London Hospital	
(Operations performed)	2

<u>Diagnosis and Operation</u>	<u>Admitted</u>	<u>Discharged</u>	<u>No. of days.</u>
Papilloma of Bladder)	20.4.40	24.4.40	4
Diathermy to Papilloma of)			
Bladder)			
Ditto	6.9.40	11.9.40	5
Uterine Fibroid-Hysterectomy	18.6.40	2.7.40	<u>14</u>
		Total	<u>23</u>

Referred to other hospitals 8.

The 3 in-patients spent a total of 23 days in hospital.
In addition, 4 out-patients made 10 attendances.

The Council made a grant of £30 to the Hospital.

HOSPITALS.-

Mr. Pegram, the Clerk to the Public Assistance Committee (South-Western Area), has kindly supplied the following particulars of Walthamstow residents admitted to the various institutions during the year ended 31st. December, 1940:-

Institutions	Men	Women	Children	Total
Central Home	114	102	-	216
Whipps Cross Hospital	682	714	145	1541
Forest Gate Hospital	3	66	2	71
Harold Wood Hospital	-	8	-	8
Forest House	17	4	-	21
Albansbrooke Children's Homes	-	-	73	73

43 infants were born to Walthamstow mothers in Forest Gate Hospital during the year.

The number of patients from Walthamstow in Mental Hospitals was 425 on the 31st. December, 1940.

THE CORNHAUGHT HOSPITAL.-

In-Patients				Out-Patients	
No. Admitted	Average Stay	Daily Average	New Cases	Attendances	
1940 1,406	16.07	60.64	9,378	57,841	
1939 1,390	20.96	83.10	8,448	56,632	

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.-

		1940			1939		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Total amount of out-relief granted to Walthamstow residents during year ended 31st. December		49,562.	0.	7.	52,360.	1.	10.
Average weekly number of Walthamstow residents in receipt of relief during year ended 31st. December		Men 604			735		
		Women 1007			1171		
		Children 329			536		
		Total.. 1940			2440		

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.- See Section H. of the Report.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 - NURSING HOMES.

	No. of Homes.	No. of Patients provided for		
		Maternity Patients.	Others.	Totals.
Homes first registered during the year	Nil	-	-	-
Homes on Register at the end of the year	4	25 ^x	10	35

^x14 of these are not in use during the period of the War.

In addition, three further beds have been registered, but have never been brought into use.

No applications were refused, cancelled or appealed against. 13 quarterly inspections were made by the Medical Staff.

Routine enquiries are made with regard to unregistered Homes. No difficulties in regard to supervision arose.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ACT.- One licence to practise chiropody was granted by your Council.

C.- SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER.- No new mains have been installed during the year 1940.

(ii) DRAINAGE & SEWAGE.- No works of this character have been carried out during 1940.

2. RIVERS & STREAMS.- Periodical cleaning of the Dagenham Brook was carried out to the requirements of the Lea Conservancy Catchment Board.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.- There has been no change in the number of cesspools which exist within the area.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING.- Mr. Eric Bell, M.I.P.C., A.R.San.I., Cleansing Superintendent, reports as follows:-

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION.

In spite of air-raids and the evacuation of many people, the total weight of refuse collected during the past year was 25612 tons, 5 cwts; this is a slight reduction in weight compared with 1939.

The analysis of the refuse still shows that large quantities of tinned foods are being consumed; a drop in the ash and cinder content; and still a large amount of waste paper being mixed with the refuse, despite the many appeals made for this to be kept separate, so that it may be used to the full advantage in the production of articles for the war effort.

Separation and incineration has always been maintained in this Borough, and since the war tremendous efforts have been made to extend the salvage activities of the Department, to ensure that even the smallest scrap of any value be returned to industry.

Special salvage films have been shown throughout the Borough, lectures have been given to the various Women's organisations, and women have been appointed as Street Salvage Officers in almost every street; they have been advised on the subject of materials most urgently needed and the point has been stressed very clearly that paper, cardboard and rags must not be put into the bins, but bundled and placed either by the side of the bin or in the sacks provided at the Street Salvage Officer's house. All other refuse may be placed in the bins as the contents are mechanically sorted at these Works.

TRADE REFUSE.

The contract system for the charges re collection of Trade Refuse from business premises within the Borough continues to operate most satisfactorily, and despite the war, has been further extended.

Every trader who comes under this scheme, from the smallest shop to the largest factory, has had an allowance made in his contract rate for any salvageable materials collected by the Council, i.e. cardboard, paper, tins, etc.

The amount of Trade Refuse delivered by traders to the Works for disposal for the year 1940 has shown a reduction on previous years.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

During the past year it has been found possible to dispose of the refuse, working only $1\frac{1}{2}$ shifts per day instead of 2 - this has been brought about by the reduction in weight of refuse collected, and the extensive salvage system now in operation.

The plant as a whole has proved very efficient, and has effected a considerable financial saving.

The national appeal for every ounce of salvageable material to be extracted for the war effort and the opening up of the various markets has enabled us to move the accumulation of various grades of scrap that have been stored at these Works while the markets were dead.

STREET CLEANSING.

Despite the black-out conditions and the reduction in sweepers, every endeavour has been made to maintain the present standard of street cleansing.

The frequency of sweepings has naturally had to be reduced, and various pre-war schemes such as building sub-depots, have had to be cancelled. The interchanging of street orderly bins has proved a great success.

The sweepers' trucks have been converted so that in the event of an emergency they could be used as stretcher carriers. They are now distributed to the various First Aid and Cleansing Centres throughout the Borough.

GULLEY CLEANSING.

The periodical cleansing, disinfecting and scaling of the gulleys has been carried out mechanically, and the machine has now been adapted so that it can be used for Decontamination work and fire-fighting.

GENERAL.

Despite the war and the damage sustained at these Works through enemy action, the normal work of the Department has been carried out regularly.

Considerable loss was caused on one occasion when a fire, resulting from a number of Incendiary Bombs gutted the garage and stores, but, fortunately, owing to the scattered policy which operated, all the vehicles were saved.

Various plots of land previously laid out as gardens have now been cultivated as allotments, and good crops of vegetables have been obtained during the past year.

A new and up-to-date salvage building has been erected, also a garage whereby the whole of the Department's vehicles will be under cover, and practically every type of repair executed under decent working conditions.

The installation of an electrically controlled road and rail weighbridge, capable of weighing the heaviest loads we are ever likely to handle, was completed during this year, and has proved to be a great asset to the Department

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Mr.M.E.Duncan, Chief Sanitary Inspector, reports as follows:-

No. of inspections made.	No. of nuisances detected	Number of complaints received.	No. of Informal Notices		No. of Statutory Notices		Total Visits
			Served	Complied with	Served	Complied with	
7306	1817	1271	1193	1178	82	80	16117

Failing compliance with Statutory Notices by the owners, the Council carried out these requirements to 13 houses involving an expenditure of £234.8.1.

The nature and variety of the work done during 1940 is shown in the following tables:-

Drains tested, 220; Drains reconstructed or repaired, 297; Drains, obstructions removed, 141; Drains, means of access provided, 27; Drains, ventilation provided or improved, 14; Drains, ventilation repaired, 97; Soil pipes repaired, 40; Soil pipes, new, provided, 36; Rain-water pipes renewed, 194; Rain-water pipes disconnected from drains, 5; Roofs repaired or renewed, 633; Gutterings repaired or renewed, 294; W.C.pans or traps provided, 359; Gully traps provided, 35; W.C.flush cisterns provided, 111; W.C.flush cisterns repaired, 151; W.C.floors concreted, 34; W.C.'s repaired and cleansed, 295; W.C.'s light and ventilation improved, 10; Waste pipes renewed and trapped, 142; Waste pipes repaired, 162; New sinks provided, 53; Water supply re-instated, 1; Cisterns cleansed and covered, 105; Conveniences cleansed or repaired, 11; Sculleries paved, 31; Yards and forecourts paved and repaired, 158; Dirty houses cleansed, 7; Dirty rooms cleansed, 1568; Floors repaired, 131; Ventilation under floors provided, 132; New damp-proof courses provided, 66; Sites concreted, 3; Offensive accumulations removed, 39; Animals improperly kept, removed, 1; Manure receptacles provided, 4; Stables cleansed, paved and drained, 82; Manholes repaired or re-sealed, 89; Other cases of dampness remedied, 262; Miscellaneous repairs, 1504.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Visits to premises, 430; Re-visits to premises, 234; Premises disinfected, 175; Articles disinfected at Low Hall, 3005; Articles destroyed at Low Hall, 105. Bedding dried from 17 bombed houses.

DAMPNESS IN HOUSES.

Sites concreted, 3; Damp-proof courses provided, 66; Yards and forecourts paved and drained, 158; Roofs made water-tight, 633; Rain-water pipes made good, 194; Guttering repaired or renewed, 294; Other cases of dampness remedied, 262; Ventilation under floors provided, 132.

SPECIAL PREMISES.

	Number.	Visits paid.
(a) Power	284	450
Factories (b) Non-Power	140	109
(c) Other premises	23	31
Cutworkers	448	438
Slaughterhouses	9	13
Butchers' Shops	92	340
Bakohouses	47	115
Fishmongers, Fish Fryers and Curers, etc.	51	124
Eating-houses and Coffee Stalls	94	96
Ice Cream Vendors	178	53
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	232	122
Laundries	9	6
Rag and Bone Dealers	4	23
Piggeries	4	20
Stables	76	101
Street Stalls	Numerous	38
Greengrocers	"	65

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

BUTCHERS' SHOPS AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Special cleansings, 10; Paving repaired, 1; Accumulations removed, 5; New galvanised bins provided, 12; Drains repaired, 1; W.C.'s repaired and cleansed, 5; Yard paving repaired, 2; Floors repaired and ventilated, 1; Roofs repaired, 16; Drains cleared, 7;

BAKEHOUSES.

Special cleansings, 62; W.C.'s cleansed and doors repaired, 22; W.C.cisterns repaired, 5; Roofs repaired, 6; Premises, general repairs, 7; Obstructions from drains removed, 1; New ceilings fixed, 5; Floors repaired, 3; Drains repaired, 2.

FISHMONGERS.

Special cleansings, 22; Yards re-paved, 3; Accumulations removed, 3; Roofs repaired, 11; Drains cleared, 7; Gutters renewed, 7; Other improvements, 3.

COFFEE AND EATING HOUSES.

Special cleansings, 30; Yard pavings repaired, 2; W.C.cisterns repaired, 3; Drains repaired, 1; W.C.pan and trap renewed, 1.

ICE CREAM VENDORS.

Special cleansings, 14; Special cleansing of utensils, 10; W.C.flush improved, 3.

COSSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Special cleansings, 13; Fittings and other improvements, 2; Roofs repaired, 18; W.C.'s repaired, 3; Drains reconstructed, 1.

STABLE PREMISES.

Cleansings, 55; Accumulations removed, 17; Roofs repaired, 8; Pavings repaired, 1; W.C.'s repaired, 1.

LAUNDRIES.

Special cleansings, 3; Other improvements, 1.

RAG AND BONE DEALERS.

Cleansings, 10; Paving repaired, 1.

PIZZERIES.

Cleansings, 4; Paving relaid, 1; Redrained, 1.

(iv). SHOPS AND OFFICES.- 64 inspections have been made in reference to infringements under the Shops Act, as reported by the Shops Act Inspector, and the necessary action taken for the abatement of such infringements.

(v). CAMPING SITES.- There are no sites in the area used as camping sites. There are, however, several van dwellers in the Higham Hill area, and the Council have authorised these to be dealt with under the Essex County Council Act.

(vi). SMOKE ABATEMENT.- 4 complaints of nuisances caused by smoke were investigated, and were found justified. 11 observations were carried out and the cause of complaints were remedied.

Unsuitable coal and/or bad stoking were the causes of smoke emission, and consultations with those responsible brought about the cessation of the nuisance.

(vii). SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.- 8 samples were taken from four baths and all were satisfactory.

(viii). ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.- As for 1938.

D.- HOUSING.

(a) Statistics.

The particulars of new houses erected during 1940 are given in the form used in previous years.

The following are the figures supplied by the Engineer and Surveyor:-

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

(1)	By Local Authority	...	Nil
	By other authorities	...	Nil
	By other bodies or persons...	...	29 houses
			2 flats

The 31 houses and flats are situated as follows:-

Hale End Ward	...	29(a)
High Street Ward	...	Nil
Higham Hill Ward	...	Nil
Hoe Street Ward	...	2
St. James Street Ward	...	Nil
Wood Street Ward	...	Nil

(a) Includes 2 flats.

(b) Inspection.

The following information is given in the form required by the Ministry of Health, and is supplied by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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) ... 1870
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 7881
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... 191
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 1098
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... Nil
(N.B.) These comprise individual unfit houses.
- (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 ... 1272

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 ... 1326

III.- ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:-

A. Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 75
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:-
(a) By owners ... 60
(b) By local authority in default of owners (at a cost of £234.8.1.) ... 13

B. Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:-

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 7
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:-
(a) By owners ... 7
(b) By local authority in default of owners ... Nil

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

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... Nil

- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... Nil
- D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-
- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made..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

IV.- HOUSING ACT, 1936, PART IV. - OVERCROWDING:-

- A.(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... 127
- (2) Number of families dwelling therein ... 127
- (3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... 997
- B. Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... 15
- C.(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... 26
- (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 165
- D. Cases of overcrowding occurring during the year after the Council had re-housed an overcrowded family ... Nil

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE INSPECTION.

During the year 191 house-to-house inspections were carried out.

(c) Housing Act, 1936.

Unfit Houses.

No action was taken under this heading.

(d) Housing Act, 1936 - Overcrowding.

Total number of houses in the Borough scheduled as overcrowded on 1st January, 1939 ... 138

Additional cases added during the year ... 15

Cases abated during the year:-

Rehoused by the Council ... 18

Removals, altered accommodation, decrease of family units, etc. ... 6

26

This leaves a total of 138 cases of overcrowding remaining on the schedule at the end of the year.

The 15 cases added to the schedule are classified as follows:-

Increasing age of existing children ... 7

Family increased ... 6

Combined age advance and family increase... -

Adjustment of "permitted number" allowed... 1

Re-tored to schedule... 1

Total 15

Permitted Numbers.- A total of 222 visits were paid by the District Sanitary Inspectors in connection with the Housing Act, 1936, as it relates to overcrowding.

(e) General.

Mr.J.E.West, your Council's Housing Manager, kindly contributed the following statement:-

Overcrowding cases brought forward 1st. January, 1940 .. 138
 Additional cases reported from Jan. to Dec. 1940 14
152

Overcrowding cases rehoused from
 Jan. to Dec. 1940 23
 Abated 26
49

Overcrowding cases as at Dec. 31st. 1940 103

Number of Council Property vacancies created 99

Analysis.

(a)	Cases rehoused from O/Crowding schedule	23	
(b)	" " by re-distribution	10	
(c)	" " from housing register	22	
(d)	" " " insanitary areas	6	
(e)	" " " future O/C. M.C.H. list	2	
(f)	" " under Rehousing of the Civil Population Scheme	48	
			<u>111</u>

(a) This figure includes 3 cases of Council House overcrowding.

(f) This figure is in no way connected with the overcrowding schedule, and is quoted solely for the purpose of showing how the vacant Council properties were re-let.

ANALYSIS OF CASES ON THE OVERCROWDING SCHEDULE.

(a) Number of cases on schedule at Jan. 1st. 1940 in 133 dwellings involving 1040 persons 138

(b) New cases reported during year ending Dec. 31st. 1940 involving 54 persons 14

(c) Number of cases relieved.

23	cases involving 143 persons rehoused	
26	" " 157 " by abatement, removals etc.	
49	" " 300 " relieved.	

Analysis of Requirements.

1	case requiring 1 bedroom type house
3	" " 2 " " "
12	" " 3 " " "
36	" " 4 " " "
41	" " 5 " " "
9	" " 6 " " "
1	" " 7 " " "

Eradication of the Bed Bug.

Number of cases treated during January to Dec. 1940 14

D.- INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

The following is contributed by the Chief Sanitary Inspector:-

Routine phosphatase tests were carried out on samples of pasteurised milk, more particularly to control the efficiency of the two plants licensed in the Borough.

The average number of cows kept in the district is seven. There is only one cowshed, and 9 visits were paid by the Sanitary Inspectors, in addition to special visits paid by your Chief Sanitary Inspector.

The number of retail purveyors of milk is 231 most of whom carry on a general shop and sell milk in bottles as they receive it. Visits were paid to maintain the general standard of cleanliness.

During the year, 24 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination. Four gave unsatisfactory results.

The samples are summarised as follows:-

	No. of Samples.	
	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Tuberculin tested	4	1
Pasteurised	16	3
	20	4

THE MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1936.

Attention was again directed to this Order during the year with a view to minimising the risk of contamination, infection and adulteration of the milk supply of the Town.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

The number of licences granted for the sale of Milk under Special Designations classified in the above Order was as follows:-

Dealers' Licences.

In respect of:-

Pasteurised Milk 30
Tuberculin Tested Milk 11

Supplementary Licences.

Pasteurised Milk 2
Tuberculin Tested Milk 2

Bottling Licences.

In respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk, 2; Pasteurised Milk, 2.

ICE CREAM.

Under the requirements of the Essex County Council Act, 1933, all Ice Cream Vendors or Manufacturers in the Town must be registered.

There are 178 Vendors of Ice Cream in this Town, the majority of whom sell a proprietary article.

During the year registration was granted in 3 cases. All productive plants were kept under constant supervision.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOOD.

During January 43 animals intended for human consumption were slaughtered in the Town.

All were inspected at time of slaughter, and for this purpose 13 visits were paid to the slaughterhouses.

No further slaughtering was carried out during the year due to the operation of the Live Stock (Restriction of Slaughtering) Order, 1940.

The following table indicates the number of each type of animal slaughtered, the percentage of such affected with tuberculosis and other diseases.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	18	2	6	5	12
Number inspected	18	2	6	5	12
All diseases except Tuberculosis:-					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	1	-	2	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	5.55	50.00	-	40.00	-
Tuberculosis only:-					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	1	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	11.11				

In addition to the meat involved in the above table, the following articles were condemned as unfit for food:-

18 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Pork
 14 " Beef
 1 lb. Mutton trimmings
 1 hindquarter Beef
 9 Ox livers
 2 " lungs
 1 " heart
 1 " fats
 1 " head & tongue
 4 Sheep's kidneys
 4 Lambs' livers
 1 box Mixed Fish
 3 boxes Kippers
 1 box Dabs
 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ stone Catfish
 4 " Plaice
 6 Dog Fish
 3 stone Whiting
 3 " Skate
 9 fresh Haddocks

704 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Bacon
 9 " Green Bacon
 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Ham
 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Tinned Ham
 7 Pork pies.
 1 Steak & Kidney pie
 6 lbs. Butter
 330 Eggs
 11 tins Food (various)
 12 doz. Fish Cakes
 4 jars Fish & Meat Paste
 3 tins Salmon
 2 jars Mixed Pickle
 10 Rabbits
 4 Ducks
 10 lbs. Cabbages
 4 boxes Tomatoes
 2 tins Peas
 2 " Plums

(c) ADULTERATION, etc.- FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

During the year 373 samples of a variety of food and drugs have been taken and submitted for analyses. One sample was abortive by reason that it was destroyed by fire due to enemy action.

Eighteen samples were unsatisfactory and the particulars are as follows:-

Description of Article.	Result of Analysis.	Decision taken.
Carbonate of Soda (informal)	Not Carb. but Bi-carb. of B.P. standard	No action -believed genuine mistake by vendor.
Chocolate Roll (informal)	No evidence of appreciable quantity of cocoa.	Further sample obtained 16th.Feb.-satisfactory.
Beef Sausages	Genuine, but contained preservative (sulphur dioxide).	Warned re vendor's non-declaration re preservative.
Sausages (long)	do.	do.
Beef Sausages	do.	Legal proceedings taken re non-declaration. Result - dismissed, but manager fined 20/- on summons by defendants.
Haricot Beans	Objectionably large quantity cyanogenetic glucoside generating 0.05% hydrocyanic acid.	Enquiries made Lon. Port Area Grain Com. Result - Actually Rangcons & supplied to trade as such. No further action by Council.
Malt Vinegar	Of full strength but artificial vinegar.	Believed to be mistake by vendor - letter of explanation received. Vendor cautioned.
Ammon.Tinct.of Quinine (Informal)	Deficient in ammonia by 0.3%	Further sample(formal) taken from vendor - see next item.
do.	do.	Warned.
Glauber Salts.(Informal)	Dry sodium sulphate 95.3% Strong - due to evaporation.	No action.

Description of Article	Result of Analysis	Decision taken.
Atera Suet	Adulterated by 7% excess of flour.	No legal proceedings - due to delayed action.
Rangron Beans	Objectionably large quantity cyanogenetic glucoside generating 0.057% hydrocyanic acid.	No action - see Haricot Beans mentioned above.
Milk	Added water at least 1 1/2%.	See two samples of milk recorded below.
Suet	Adulterated by 4% excess of flour.	No action.
Do.	Adulterated by 2% excess of flour.	do.
Milk	Added water at least 1 1/2%.	(These, together with the one referred to above, were from same vendor. Two other samples taken in course of delivery were genuine. Legal proceedings. Result - vendor fined £4 plus (£1.1.0 costs. (8.1.41)
Do.	" " " " 1%.	
Butter	Genuine, but so seriously impregnated with mould growths that considered unfit for food.	Voluntarily submitted by retailer as specimen of small quantity he had for sale. On analyst's report considered advisable to condemn the stock (approx. 6 lbs.)

RENT AND MORTGAGE RESTRICTIONS ACTS, 1894-1928.

During the year 6 Certificates were granted to tenants and 3 Certificates have been issued to owners upon their application and completion of the scheduled works. Two completion certificates were refused.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1894-1928.

Regulation of Movement of Swine Order, 1922. - Two Isolation Notices affecting 21 swine were received. The Licences were in all cases duly observed.

Foot and Mouth Disease (Infected Areas Restrictions) Order, 1938. Walthamstow was included as an infected area in April, but no applications were made for Movement Licences.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

Much has been done in combating the rodent nuisance, and where necessary poison - barium carbonate in biscuit form - has been issued gratis.

As a result of investigation carried out upon complaints being received, action has been taken as follows:-

Notices Served	14	Cyanogas pump used	4
Drains tested	152	Accumulations removed	8
Drains & manholes repaired	171	Sheds lifted or removed	3
Poison issued	136	Pavings lifted & runs traced	24
		Premises rat-proofed	13

PETROLEUM (MIXTURES) ORDER, 1929.

Legal proceedings were instituted regarding this Order made under the Petroleum Act, 1929. Convictions were obtained against a firm on two counts, (1) storing petroleum mixture without a licence, (2) storing petroleum mixture in unlabelled receptacles. Defendants were fined a total of £25 plus 10/6d. costs.

1.- INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, ETC.
 FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The following table shows the work done under this Act:-

1.- INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, ETC.

Including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
Factories with mechanical power	450	16	Nil
Workshops without mechanical power	109	5	Nil
Other premises under the Act	31	3	Nil
Total	590	24	Nil.

2.- DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, ETC.

Particulars	Number of Defects			No. of Offences in respect of which prosecu- tions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	53	53	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	2	2	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (insufficient	-	-	-	-
Sanitary (unsuitable or	-	-	-	-
Conveniences (defective	72	74	-	-
(not separate for	-	-	-	-
(sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences	30	30	6	-
Total	159	161	6	Nil.

NUMBER AND TRADES OF OUTWORKERS NOTIFIED DURING 1940.

Wearing Apparel, making of ..	300	Pencils	1
Brush Making	78	Artificial Flowers	5
Boxes	25	Toys	2
Carnival Hats	1	Handbags	2
Envelopes	2	Novelties	6
Furniture	1	Feathers	2
Furs	4	Shoes	19
Total	448.		

Outworkers were notified from the following areas:-

City of London	107	Stepney	8
Bethnal Green	4	Shoreditch	8
Finsbury	69	Tottenham	17
Hackney	75	Walthamstow	24
Holborn	6	Wanstead and Woodford ..	6
Islington	4	Westminster	5
Leyton	103	Other Areas	12
Total	448.		

A total of 708 visits were paid in connection with outworkers.

E.- PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS & 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 1940	All Ages 1939	Under 1Yr.	1-5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 & over
Scarlet Fever	39	192	2	24	47	7	8	1	-
Diphtheria	17	35	1	8	6	2	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	3	3	-	2	-	1	-	-	-
Pneumonia	90	147	2	6	4	13	26	27	12
Puerperal Pyrexia	35	38	-	-	-	5	30	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	27	54	-	-	-	1	7	15	4
Encephalitis Lethargica	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1
Polio-encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	6	3	-	-	2	2	1	1	-
Anterior Poliomyelitis	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	78	10	6	36	28	8	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	14	-	2	7	4	-	1	-	-
Dysentery	1	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	156	141	1	6	12	43	67	22	5
Totals	1940 526	1939 631	18	91	103	92	141	69	22
			13	74	176	101	146	87	34

Disease	St. James Street	High Street	Hoe Street	Wood Street	Hale End	Higham Hill	Totals
Scarlet Fever	3	7	12	5	35	22	89
Diphtheria	2	3	3	3	5	1	17
Enteric Fever	-	1	1	1	-	-	3
Pneumonia	23	9	10	10	23	15	90
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	4	7	4	11	4	35
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	1	-	-	-	3	4
Erysipelas	2	3	5	2	5	12	27
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	2	1	-	1	-	5
Polio-encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	-	1	1	-	1	3	6
Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Measles	6	6	10	4	10	42	78
Whooping Cough	2	4	-	1	-	7	14
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Tuberculosis	25	15	33	14	30	39	156
Totals	1940 75	1939 97	56	83	44	120	526
			89	106	79	123	631

The statistics given in the foregoing table are those for the calendar year 1940.

The Registrar-General gives the statistics for the 52 weeks ended 23th. December 1940, and these are given in the following table together with the case rates per 1,000 population both for England and Wales and for Walthamstow:-

Disease	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Enteric Fever	Pneu- monia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas
Number	84	16	3	90	34	27
Case Rate -						
Walthamstow	0.76	0.14	0.02	0.82	0.31	0.35
England and Wales	1.63	1.16	0.07	1.20	(Not available)	0.33

The rate for Puerperal Pyrexia is better expressed in relation to the number of births (i.e. live and still-births) registered than to population. When calculated on this basis the rate is:-

Walthamstow	21.0
England and Wales	11.96

Disease	Total Notified	Removed to Hospital	Per cent removed to Hospital	Deaths	Deaths per cent of cases notified
Scarlet Fever	91	70	76.9	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	17	17	100	2	11.7
Enteric Fever	3	3	100	1	33.3
Pneumonia	92	28	30.4	72	78.2 (1)
Puerperal Pyrexia	35	1	2.8	Nil	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	2	50	Nil	Nil (2)
Erysipelas	27	7	25.9	Nil	Nil (2)
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	6	3	50	3	50
Anterior Polio-myelitis	1	1	100	1	100
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	5	- (3)
Measles	88	7	7.9	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	14	2	14.3	Nil	Nil
Dysentery	1	1	100	Nil	Nil
Tuberculosis	156	47	31.2	72	46.1 (4)

1. All cases not notified.
2. Not a registrable cause of death.
3. Not notified.
4. Includes those notified in previous years.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES CLINIC:-

Number of clinics held in connection with Infectious Diseases and Immunisation 53
Number of attendances made 696
Average attendance per session 13.1
Number of children recommended to Rheumatism Clinic 8
Number of children recommended to Ear Clinic 12

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Immunisation was carried out at the weekly clinic on Tuesdays, but was discontinued at the infant schools owing to the uncertainty of events. It was, however, re-commenced towards the end of the year.

Total number of immunisations completed during 1940:-

(a) School age 129
(b) Pre-school age 220
(c) Over school age -
Total 349.

Number not completing immunisation or left district .. -
Number of Schick Tests following immunisation 5
Number of attendances made at Clinic for immunisation. 540

Immunisation at schools (included above):-

Number completely immunised 31
Number partly immunised -
Number having extra dose, immunised in previous years 12.

First Birthday Letters.- 1088 letters were sent to the parents of all children following their first birthday, advising them to have their infants protected against diphtheria. 165 children were brought and protected and 25 others were immunised by their private practitioners.

Immunisation by General Practitioners.- Diphtheria prophylactic is available to general practitioners. During 1940, 45 c.cs. of alum precipitated toxoid were issued: this quantity is sufficient to protect 45 children.

Scarlet Fever Immunisation.- There were no Dick Tests for Scarlet Fever during 1940.

MUNICIPAL LABORATORY.

The following numbers of diphtheria swabs were examined during 1940:-

Swabs	Negative	Positive	Totals.
Private Practitioners	178	8	136
Health Department	92	-	92
School Medical Department	46	-	46
Totals....	316	8	324

The total number of diphtheria specimens examined in 1939 was 891.

Direct examinations were done on 12 diphtheria specimens, and one was positive.

In addition, 158 specimens of urine were examined, as compared with 156 in 1939.

A total of 850 tubes of culture media were made and of these, 312 were sent to the Sanatorium.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL SCHEME.

The Essex County Council also provides facilities for examination of pathological specimens, and the County Medical Officer states that 1985 specimens were examined for local practitioners during 1940 as follows:-

Diphtheria swabs, 81; Sputa 778; Typhoid specimens, 36; Ringworm specimens, 8; Miscellaneous, 1028, Milk and Ice Cream, 30; Water, 6.

VACCINATION.

Mr. E. Sharp, Vaccination Officer for the Area, has furnished the following return for 1940:-

Births Registered	Successfully Vaccinated	Percentage Vaccinated	Insusceptible	Exemptions	Death before Vaccinated	Postponed
1,391	195	14.01	1	687	37	35

In addition to the above, 21 primary vaccinations were recorded and 13 re-vaccinations.

During 1940 the vaccinal condition of all school children examined at Routine Medical Inspection was recorded, and a summary of the findings for the year showed that 21.2 per cent. were vaccinated.

FOOD POISONING.

Note on Cases of Cadmium Poisoning.

In May, 1940, three adults and five children were found to have become acutely ill some 15 minutes after consuming 'lemonade ices' prepared by freezing 'lemonade' in the metal trays of a reconditioned refrigerator. All were sick, four had diarrhoea, but recovery was generally complete within 24 hours.

The remains of the unconsumed 'lemonade ices' were not available but the method of preparation was repeated. This consisted of dissolving a popular brand of lemonade crystals, (consisting of citric acid and sugar) in boiling water and freezing overnight in the refrigerator.

Analysis showed that the trays had been plated with cadmium on copper and that there was up to 279 p.p.m., of cadmium in solution. This roughly represented one-twentieth grain of cadmium per 'ice' block. It therefore appears that amounts of about one-twentieth grain of cadmium may cause somewhat severe poisoning.

The refrigerator was of a well known make but had been supplied on a second-hand basis by another firm. It had then acquired cadmium plated copper trays not supplied originally when new.

The supplying firm was instructed to warn all its customers as to the danger of making 'lemonade ice' in similar trays. The original manufacturers were naturally most anxious to investigate the matter, but the supplying firm, unfortunately, proved non-co-operative in regard to tracing back the persons responsible for the re-plating of the trays with cadmium.

The quantitative toxicity of cadmium has apparently not yet been clearly established but it is sufficiently dangerous for its use to be prohibited in colouring matters for foodstuffs.

F.- INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

RENOVATIONS, ETC.- Various works of renovation and maintenance were carried out during 1940.

	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Other Diseases	Tuber- culosis	Totals.
Remaining in Hospital 1st. January	3	9	1	11	24
Admitted during year	128	90	43	25	284
Discharged during year	121	93	31	12	257
Died during year	Nil	3	3	10	16
Remaining in hospital 31st. December.	10	3	10	12	35

DAILY AVERAGE NUMBER OF PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

(Including Tuberculosis cases).

January ... 28.2	April ... 22.0	July 35.8	October .. 39.3
February .. 31.9	May 32.4	August 36.2	November.. 33.3
March 28.2	June 33.1	September.. 33.5	December.. 29.5
Average whole year 31.9.			

CLINICAL REPORT.

Dr. Hamilton, Resident Medical Officer, reports as follows:-

AGE AND SEX OF PATIENTS ADMITTED DURING 1940.

Disease	Under 5 yrs.		5-10 yrs.		10-15 yrs.		Over 15 yrs.		Total		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Scarlet Fever	17	16	35	24	9	7	9	11	70	58	128
Diphtheria	20	15	11	10	3	5	4	22	38	52	90
Measles	7	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	7	8	15
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	-	23	23
Staff	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	17	17
Other diseases	9	8	5	5	6	5	6	5	26	23	49
Totals	53	46	51	40	18	17	19	78	141	181	322

AGE AND SEX AT DEATH.

Sixteen deaths occurred, details of which are given below:-

10 Pulmonary Tuberculosis		10 Females aged 53, 40, 19, 22, 37, 20, 43, 25, 37, 44.
2 Laryngeal Diphtheria		1 Male - 2½ years, and 1 Male - 8 months.
1 Faucial Diphtheria		1 Female aged 17 years.
1 Heart Disease		1 Female aged 61 years (Staff).
1 Broncho-pneumonia		1 Female aged 3 years.
1 Anterior poliomyelitis		1 Male aged 2½ years.

NUMBER OF OUTSIDE AUTHORITIES' CASES AND NATURE.-

	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Other Diseases	Totals.
From Leyton B.C.	46	56	26	128
" Chingford B.C.	-	-	1	1
" Whipps Cross Hospital	-	1	2	3
Total . . .	46	57	29	132

"Other diseases" covers a wide range of cases viz: Whooping cough, rubella, measles, adenitis, typhoid fever (5) diarrhoea, observation cases, i.e. croup, sore throat, "colds" and ophthalmia.

Two cases were transferred to Whipps Cross Hospital:-
1 Cerebral abscess; 1 old standing case of anterior poliomyelitis returned for continuation of treatment.

SWABS.- 276 swabs were taken and examined during the year in the laboratory at the hospital.

DURATION OF TREATMENT.- The average duration of treatment in Hospital was as follows:-

Diphtheria	37.6 days.
Scarlet Fever	24.6 days.
Other diseases	17.1 days.

The County Medical Officer has kindly furnished the following return of patients treated in the Tuberculosis Pavilion during 1940:-

Classification in accordance with Ministry of Health Memorandum 37.T.(Rev.)	In Hospital on 1st. Jan.1940.	Admitted during year.	Discharged during year.	Died during year.	In Hospital on 31st. Dec.1940.
Observation	-	-	-	-	-
T.B. Minus	1	3	2	-	2
T.B. Plus Group I.	-	5	2	-	3
T.B. Plus Group II.	10	14	8	10	6
T.B. Plus Group III.	-	1	-	-	1
Totals	11	23	12	10	12

11 of the 23 admissions were Walthamstow cases.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

During the year, 30 examinations were carried out by the Medical Staff in respect of the Superannuation and Sick Pay Schemes.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Your Council made the following grants during the year to voluntary organisations:-

Invalid Children's Aid Association	£100
Walthamstow Association of Tuberculosis Care Helpers	£25

MORTUARY.- A Coroner's Court, mortuary (with special provision for Infectious Disease cases) and a post-mortem room is provided by your Council at Queen's Road Cemetery.

The Cemetery Superintendent reports that the number of inquests and post-mortems were as follows:-

Inquests only	206
Post Mortems	157
Post Mortems and Inquests (not included in above).	26
	<u>389</u>

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR MRS. E.A. SMITH.

Ex-Officio:

The Worshipful the Mayor - Councillor J.H. Williams, J.P.

The Deputy Mayor - Councillor R.W.A. Russell, J.P.

Chairman of the Finance Committee - Alderman Ross Wyld, J.P.

Alderman A.G. Bottomley, O.B.E. Councillor W. Gillett

" Mrs. C. McEntee, J.P., *E.C.C.* " G.R.J. Holt

" Miss E.M. Pracy, B.Sc. " G.R. Lowton

" Mrs. E.M. Richards " G.S. Mace

" W.H. Shaw " Mrs. A.L. Meadows

ALDERMAN Mrs. L.P. Bailey, J.P. " G.H. Spackman

COUNCILLOR Mrs. S. Candy " Mrs. E.A. Smith

" Mrs. B.M. Friedberg " R.E. Smith

" F.W. Gentle " Mrs. E.B. Tcynbee

Councillor A.H. Williams

Co-opted Members:

Dr. Helen Watson Mr. W.H. Kindell

Mrs. S. Candy Mrs. W.H. Kindell

Mrs. Riley Mr. J. DeVries

Mrs. Jarmon.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Report for 1940 records another low infant mortality rate (40), as compared with 55 for England and Wales and 50 for London Administrative County. The maternal mortality rate is the lowest so far recorded and Welfare attendances were well maintained.

The total number of admissions to Thorpe Coombe - in spite of the evacuation of expectant mothers in the latter part of the year - was the highest recorded.

I have pleasure in again recording your continued help and the goodwill of the Staff.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

A.T.W. POWELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF.

As for 1939.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

1,543 births (82 of which belonged to other areas) were notified during the year under the Public Health Act, 1936. Notifications were received as follows:- doctors and parents, 243; midwives, 1300.

Included in the above are 170 births which were notified as having occurred outside the Borough.

Also included are 45 stillbirths, 3 of which did not belong to the area. 14 were notified by doctors and 31 by midwives. Of the total, nine occurred outside the area.

The stillbirth rate per 1,000 population was 0.37.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS.

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

(a) LIVE BIRTHS.

	Males	Females	Totals.
Legitimate	800	735	1535
Illegitimate	20	20	40
	<u>820</u>	<u>755</u>	<u>1575</u>

(b) STILLBIRTHS.

	Males	Females	Totals.
Legitimate	21	20	41
Illegitimate	-	1	1
	<u>21</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>42</u>

Of the 1504 birth registrations received in the Department between 31st. December, 1939 and 28th. December, 1940, a total of 15 were not notified in this area, but some may possibly have been notified elsewhere. Appropriate action was taken when necessary.

Of the 1504 local registrations, 120 belonging to other areas are excluded, leaving a nett total of 1384.

The local registrations for 1940 were 22 more than in 1939.

INFANT MORTALITY.

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

	Males	Females	Totals.
Legitimate	24	32	56
Illegitimate	2	2	4
	<u>26</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>60</u>

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 are therefore:-

Legitimate, 41; Illegitimate, 25; Total 40.

The Infant Mortality Rate for other areas during 1940 was as follows:-

England and Wales	55
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	61
148 Smaller Towns (25,000 to 50,000)	54
London	50

NEC-NATAL MORTALITY.

The nec-natal mortality is the number of deaths of infants under one month per 1,000 live births. During 1940, 39 infants died in the first four weeks of life, yielding a rate of 24.7.

The following rates refer to Walthamstow:-

INFANT DEATHS, NEC-NATAL MORTALITY AND STILLBIRTHS.

Year	Live Births	Birth Rate	Stillbirths			Nec-Natal Deaths		Infant Deaths	
			No.	Per 1,000 live births	Per 1,000 population	No.	Per 1,000 live births	No.	Per 1,000 live births
1940	1575	14.3	42	26.6	0.38	39	24.7	60	40
1939	1606	12.3	62	39.6	0.47	23	17.4	45	29
1938	1617	12.3	70	43.2	0.53	28	17.3	66	40
1937	1675	12.7	60	35.8	0.45	35	20.8	87	51
1936	1715	12.8	54	31.4	0.40	29	16.9	72	42
1935	1670	12.4	57	34.1	0.42	36	21.5	62	37
1934	1715	12.6	60	35.8	0.44	35	20.4	77	44
1933	1670	12.3	65	37.4	0.47	49	29.3	89	53
1932	1789	13.2	82	45.8	0.60	55	30.8	103	57
1931	1947	14.5	59	29.4	0.43	51	26.2	110	56

The nec-natal mortality for England and Wales for the decennium 1921-30 was 33.

The death-rate from Diarrhoea and Enteritis in children under one year of age per 1,000 live births was 3.17.

CHILD WELFARE.

The equivalent of whole-time Municipal Health Visitors at the end of the year was 7.5, equal to one whole-time Health Visitor per 205 notified births, and one whole-time Health Visitor per 210 registered births during 1940.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

As for 1938.

The following table shows the number and nature of visits paid during 1940:-

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			Other Visits	Total Visits
	First	Re-visits	Total						First Visit	Subsequent Visits	Total Visits		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	-	-	9	10	Cols.5-10.
St. James Street	223	443	666	884	1550	521	8	110	69	18	87	172	2,448
High Street	143	345	488	498	986	338	29	37	24	-	24	41	1,455
Hee Street	207	460	667	667	1334	491	23	148	31	10	41	73	2,110
Wood Street	165	205	370	274	644	241	16	77	46	3	49	53	1,080
Hale End	315	869	1184	947	2131	440	21	97	33	14	47	57	2,793
Higham Hill	319	716	1035	1412	2447	790	50	135	47	3	50	196	3,668
Totals 1940	1372	3038	4410	4682	9092	2821	147	604	250	48	298	592	13,554
Totals 1939	1483	3461	4944	6703	11647	2273	386	1062	294	71	365	580	16,313

CLINICS.

Dr. Sheppard reports as follows:-

"The Welfare Centres continued their good work as usual during 1940. In September the numbers temporarily went down but even then many of the mothers attended regularly.

Up to the end of 1940 war conditions had not noticeably affected the health of the 'under fives', and it is hoped that this happy state of affairs will continue.

The National Milk Scheme is especially good for the toddlers, but does not adequately meet the requirements of those babies whose mothers are unable to feed them naturally. Your Committee, therefore, continues to supply these babies with the appropriate baby foods.

The Committee's thanks are again due to the Voluntary Workers who, in spite of difficulties, continue to give their valuable services.

The Ante-Natal Clinics continue to be well attended and in fact at the close of the year showed a tendency to increase.

The health of the mothers, in spite of air-raids etc. showed no deterioration.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL SERVICES.

The following table summarises the attendances at the Clinics held:-

New Patients:-	Ante-Natal	Post-Natal
Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital	750	330
Low Hall Lane Clinic	353	3
	<u>1103</u>	<u>333</u>
Total Attendances:-		
Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital	7429	470
Low Hall Lane Clinic	932	3
	<u>8361</u>	<u>473</u>

SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCES AT WELFARE CLINICS.

Clinic	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	
Markhouse Road	496	236	732	8712	8552	17264	17996
Higham Hill	287	95	382	3370	4209	8079	8461
Hale End	246	34	280	4221	4480	8701	8981
Total 1940	1029	365	1394	16803	17241	34044	35438
Total 1939	1023	259	1282	13493	19143	37641	38923

NURSE CHILDREN.- At the end of 1940 there were 48 nurse children on the register, compared with 58 at the end of 1939. During the year 18 removed, 3 were adopted, and 4 reached the age of nine years. 15 new children were registered and re-registered. There were no deaths among nurse children during 1940.

MASSAGE.- Five massage sessions per week were held at the Welfare Centres, i.e., Low Hall Lane, Monday, Thursday and Friday; Highams Park, Tuesday; and Higham Hill, Wednesday. 168 cases attended for massage, and these made 1,806 attendances.

SALE OF MILK, ETC. AT CLINICS.- The value of milk and food sold and issued free during 1940 was £2245.13.4d.

WALTHAMSTON CHILD WELFARE SOCIETY.

The organisation, staffing and accommodation provided by the Society was fully dealt with in the 1935 Report.

The work done during the calendar year is shown in the following table compiled from information kindly supplied by Miss O.M.Francis.

CLINICS.

	First Attendances of New Cases			Re-attendances			Grand Total
	Under 1 Yr.	1-5 yrs.	Total	Under 1 Yr.	1-5 yrs.	Total	
1940	444	74	518	7195	3661	10856	11374
1939	521	87	608	8368	4484	12852	13460
1938	496	115	611	9387	5066	14453	15064
1937	469	94	563	7524	3737	11261	11824
1936	427	81	508	5483	3402	8885	9395

SPECIAL TREATMENT, ETC.

	Massage Treat- ments	Sun- light Treat- ments	Total cases admitted to Observation Ward	Local Authority's cases admitted to Observation Ward.
1940	985	719	-	-
1939	1489	1224	10	4
1938	2314	1949	35	1
1937	2468	1847	24	2
1936	2107	1461	28	10

HOME VISITS.

	Visits to Children under 1 year.			Visits to Children 1-5 years.	Grand Total
	First	Subsequent	Total		
1940	438	1126	1564	1361	3425
1939	495	1398	1893	1058	2951
1938	508	1691	2199	1097	3296
1937	464	1751	2215	1289	3504
1936	380	1251	1631	2639	4270

SUMMARY OF MUNICIPAL AND VOLUNTARY SCHEMES.

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	1029	365	1394	16803	17241	34044	35438
Brookscroft	444	74	518	7195	3661	10856	11374
Total 1940	1473	439	1912	23998	20902	44900	46812
Total 1939	1544	346	1890	26866	23627	50493	52383

HOME VISITS

	To Children under 1 year of age			To Children 1-5 years of age	Total
	First	Subsequent	Total		
Municipal Scheme	1372	5038	4410	5947	10357
Brockcroft	438	1126	1564	1861	3425
Totals 1940	1810	4164	5974	7808	13782
Totals 1939	1978	4859	6837	7761	14598

Percentage of notified live births represented
by number of children under 1 year of age
who attended the Centres for the
first time (i.e., new cases). } 1940 ... 98.3

Percentage of total notified births represented
by number of expectant mothers attending
Ante-Natal Clinics } 1940 ... 71.6

TREATMENT.

(a) ORTHOPAEDIC.

DEFECTS SEEN AT ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC IN CHILDREN UNDER
FIVE YEARS OF AGE.

Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	1	Torticollis	4
Rickets -		Congenital Dislocation of Hip...	2
(a) Genu Varum	22	Congenital Defects	3
(b) Genu Valgum	18	Miscellaneous	2
Pes Plano Valgus	14		
Spastic Paralysis	3		
Talipes	11		
		Total	86

(b) DENTAL.

The following work was done by the Education Committee's Dental
Surgeons in respect of Maternity and Child Welfare patients:-

	1938		1939		1940	
	Mothers	Children under 5.	Mothers	Children under 5.	Mothers	Children under 5.
Cases Treated	210	130	184	92	87	105
Attendances	521	183	657	180	277	278
Fillings	173	53	221	84	214	116
Extractions	431	279	446	139	288	92
General Anaesthetics	180	96	171	73	107	62
Scalings	63	-	92	-	57	-
Dressings	10	26	34	30	17	14
Dentures	27	-	26	-	11	-

1940 has been a very disappointing year for dental treatment
of maternity cases. The unfortunate interruption of sessions by
air raids has had a serious effect upon the attendance: also
many mothers who were transferred to maternity homes in reception
areas, missed their dental treatment and failed to re-apply for
treatment on returning home.

Appointments were sent to 437 new cases and only 41% attended
the Clinic: not all of these received treatment. Some refused
to have treatment other than extractions, some preferred to wait
until after the birth and then did not return for treatment.
20% had partial treatment, 7% completed their treatment,
10 dentures were fitted.

The failure problem is a difficult one to remedy, the more so
because every expectant or nursing mother in need of treatment
is asked whether she is willing to be treated at the Clinic and
it is at her own express wish that the form is filled in.

It is evident that there is a great deal of apathy about dental
conditions. Sepsis was less marked in the majority of cases.

(c) INVALID CHILDREN'S AID ASSOCIATION.

The Secretary to the local branch of the Invalid Children's Aid Association, kindly reports that the following cases of children under five years of age were dealt with by her Association:-

Referred by:-

1. Medical men, Hospitals and Dispensaries ...	10
2. (a) Medical Officers of Health and Infant Welfare Centres	6
(b) Education Committees and School Medical Officers	1
3. Orthopaedic Care	44
4. Rheumatism Clinic	1
5. Others	1
	<u>63</u>

Suffering from:-

Anaemia and Debility	6
Marasmus and Malnutrition	1
Pneumonia, Bronchitis, Asthma, etc.....	3
Bone Disease (Non-T.B.).....	29
Congenital Deformities	18
Hernia	1
After Infection	1
Varicous	1
Diseases of Digestive Organs	1
Air Raids	1
	<u>62</u>

HELP GIVEN TO OLD AND NEW CASES, 1940.

Sent to Special Hospitals and Convalescent Homes ..	11
Provided with Surgical Boots and Appliances	28
Referred for Visiting and Advice	17
	<u>56</u>

ASSISTED MILK SCHEME.

Number of applications during 1940	3,669.
Number of families assisted	1,013.

Of the 3,669 applications, approximately 28 per cent. were from families where the father was unemployed.

Scale	Amount	Approx. cost to Authority.		
		£.	s.	d.
Free	224 pints	3.	14.	8.
1d. per pint..	23,800 "	347.	1.	8.
1d. " "	77,551 "	969.	7.	9.
Half Cost	11,592 "	96.	12.	0.
	<u>113,167 pints</u>	<u>1,416.</u>	<u>16.</u>	<u>1.</u>

The following is a summary of the applications for milk for the past five years:-

Year	Milk	Dried Milk	Unem- ployed.	Unem- ployed.	Average per week	
					Milk	Dried Milk
1936	5,947	550	2,589	39.8	114.4	10.6
1937	5,882	572	2,414	37.4	113.1	11.0
1938	6,452	508	2,962	42.5	124.1	9.9
1939	5,766	573	2,324	37.0	110.8	11.0
1940	3,154	515	1,046	28.0	101.7	9.9

HOME HELPS

In addition to the 123 Home Helps approved during 1940, many mothers attending the Clinics made their own arrangements to obtain the help of suitable women whose names were supplied by the Health Visitors.

Four applications were rejected and eleven were cancelled by the Reta Committee.

STERILISED MATERNITY OUTFITS.

A total of 268 sets were used in the Borough and 210 outfits were issued below cost price.

INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT, ETC.

Six children were sent to Institutions under arrangements approved by your Committee.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR CONFINEMENTS.

The following numbers of confinements occurred at the Institutions specified (Walthamstow residents only):-

Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital	684
Maternity Homes in Walthamstow	32
Mothers' Hospital, Clepton	65
Forest Gate Hospital	43
Queen Mary's Hospital, Stratford	-
City of London Maternity Hospital	10
Other Maternity Homes	53
	<u>887</u>

WALTHAMSTOW DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION.

(In affiliation with the Queen's Institute of District Nursing).

Mrs. Drury, the Honorary Secretary, kindly reports as follows:-

"In spite of financial difficulties, a further reduction in staff and the wartime conditions, no call was neglected throughout the year.

At the beginning of April we undertook the whole of the nursing of Public Assistance cases for the E.C.C. We also, during the early part of the year, assisted in external training for Medical Students.

District Midwifery training was given to 5 Pupil Midwives - each for 3 months.

Lectures on emergency midwifery and first-aid were given by the Superintendent to A.R.P. workers and housewives etc.

The staff on December the 31st. was as follows:-

Superintendent	1 Voluntary Midwife ("Queen's")
4 "Queen's" Nurses (all Midwives)	2 Pupil Midwives
2 Municipal Midwives	2 Voluntary District Nurses.

Cases nursed:-	General	1,200.
	Municipal Midwifery	164
	Non-municipal	" 80.

Visits:-	General	27,266.
	Midwifery	
	(including ante-natal)	2,150.

ANÆSTHETIST'S FEES.

During 1940 recovery on the scale for assisted Maternity and Child Welfare services was made in one case in which this service was approved.

CONSULTANT OBSTETRICIANS.

The services of a Consultant Obstetrician were not required during the year.

MIDWIVES ACTS, 1902-1936.

No. of Notices of Intention to Practise, January, 1940....	27
" " " " " " " " during 1940	8
Total	<u>35</u>

No. of Midwives ceasing to practise during 1940	<u>1</u>
	34
" " " who have left the district	<u>11</u>
" " " practising at the end of 1940	23

There was no change in the arrangements for the employment or subsidy of midwives by the Council.

Non-medical supervision of Municipal Midwives has been carried out by the Assistant Matron at the Maternity Hospital.

The following table shows the work done by midwives (including those employed at Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital) during 1940:-

No. of confinements attended as a Midwife	846
" " " " " " Maternity Nurse	156
" " medical aid notices sent	513
" " notifications of deaths	2
" " twin births notified	11
" " stillbirths notified	4
" " notifications of liability to be a source of infection	8
" " " " laying out of a dead body	-
" " " " artificial feeding	2
" " " " disinfection	9

The above table includes the following numbers with regard to work done at Thorpe Coombe:-

Midwifery cases,	600.
Maternity cases,	111.
Medical Aid Notices,	377.

The percentages of Medical Aid Notices were:-

Maternity Hospital, 62.8; Domiciliary Midwives 55.2; Total 60.6.

The conditions for which medical aid was summoned by midwives in domiciliary practice have been summarised and were as follows:-

For complications during pregnancy:-

Albuminuria	4	Threatened abortion ..	-
Varicose veins	-	Miscarriage	2
Abortion.....	1	Other conditions	<u>14</u>
		Total...	<u>21</u>

For complications during labour:-

Delayed 1st. and 2nd. stage. 9	Ante-partum haemorrhage. 1
Perineal laceration 10	Retained placenta 4
Malpresentation 4	Abdominal pain <u>61</u>
Pyrexia -	
Post-partum haemorrhage 5	Total... <u>94</u>

For complications in regard to the infant:-

Prematurity and feebleness.	5	Cyanosis	-
Discharging eyes	6	Other conditions	9
Melaena	-	Total..	20

Details of medical aid notices issued by midwives employed at Thorpe Coombe are given in the Maternity Hospital report.

MUNICIPAL MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICE.

The table below shows the number of visits done:-

Ante-Natal Visits			Deliveries		Lying-in	Total
Patients' Homes	Midwife's House	Clinic	Mid.	Mat.	Visits	Visits
1694	1367	207	454	74	10256	14052

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. (Nursing Homes). - See Public Health Section of the Report.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

Thirty-five cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified during 1940.

The puerperal pyrexia rate for 1940 was 21.6 per 1,000 births, and there were no deaths from puerperal sepsis.

The notifications and rates for Walthamstow for the past four years have been as follows:-

Per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still)

Year	Puerperal Fever		Puerperal Pyrexia		Total	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1940	Not notifiable		35	21.6	35	21.6
1939	Not notifiable		38	22.78	38	22.78
1938	Not notifiable		35	20.80	35	20.80
1937	4	2.30	34	19.59	38	21.89
1936	5	2.82	30	16.96	35	19.78

ABORTION.

CIRCULAR 1661.- The number of cases in which medical aid notices were issued during 1940 by midwives in accordance with Rule E of the Central Midwives Board was:-

Threatened abortion and miscarriage Nil.
Abortion and miscarriage Nil.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

The number of cases notified during the last two years were:-

Year	Totals	St. James Street	High Street	Hoe Street	Wood Street	Hale End	Higham Hill
1940	4	-	1	-	-	-	3
1939	5	2	-	1	-	1	1

Year	Treated		Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths.
	At Home	In Hospital				
1940	2	2	4	-	-	-
1939	1	4	5	-	-	-

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

During 1940, one death associated however slightly with pregnancy and child-bearing was investigated for the completion of enquiry forms.

The following table shows the maternal mortality rates for 1940 (calculated on the one death assigned by the Registrar-General to Headings 29 and 30).

Deaths of Women due to Pregnancy and Child-Bearing.										
Births Registered	WALTHAMSTOW						England and Wales			
	Puerperal Sepsis (Heading 29 R.G.)	Other Puerperal Causes (Heading 30 R.G.)	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, 1575	-	1	1	-	0.63	0.63	Not available.			
Live & Still -births, 1617	-	1	1	-	0.61	0.61	0.52	1.64	2.16	

The following table sets out the maternal mortality, stillbirth and neo-natal death rates for the past five years:-

Rate (per 1,000 live births)	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936
Maternal Mortality	0.63	1.29	1.85	3.57	1.74
Stillbirths	26.6	38.6	43.2	35.8	31.4
Neo-Natal Deaths	24.7	17.4	17.3	20.3	16.9

The maternal mortality rates for the past five years have been as follows:-

Year	Total Births Registered	Deaths			Rates per 1,000 Births (Live and Still)		
		Puerperal Sepsis	Other Puerperal Causes	Total	Puerperal Sepsis	Other Puerperal Causes	Total
1940	1617	1	1	1	-	0.61	0.61
1939	1668	2	-	2	1.19	-	1.19
1938	1687	1	2	3	0.59	1.18	1.78
1937	1735	4	2	6	2.30	1.15	3.45
1936	1769	1	2	3	0.56	1.13	1.69

THORPE COOMBE MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

ALTERATIONS AND EXTENSIONS.- No alterations of major character were carried out

GENERAL.- (a) Form M.C.W. 96A. (Ministry of Health).

1. Name and Address of Institution - Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital, 714, Forest Road, Walthamstow, E.17.
2. Number of maternity beds in the Institution (exclusive of isolation and labour beds) - 46.
- 2a. Number of beds, if any, under item 2 which have been allocated to, and reserved for, expectant mothers in need of hospital treatment.- Variable according to requirements.
No definite reservation.
3. Number of maternity cases admitted during the year - 817.
(including ante- and post-natal cases).
- 3a. Number of women treated during the year in the beds shown against item 2a. (Included in item 3).- 133.
4. Average duration of stay of cases included against item 3.- 14.24.

5. Number of cases delivered by -
 - (a) Midwives - 609 plus 3 miscarriages.
 - (b) Doctors - 111.
6. Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought by a midwife in emergency - 377.
7. Number of cases notified as -
 - (a) Puerperal fever - Nil.
 - (b) Puerperal pyrexia - 31.
8. Number of cases of pemphigus neonatorum - Nil.
9. Number of infants not entirely breast fed while in the institution - 130 complemented, 27 (artificially fed).
10. Number of cases notified as ophthalmia neonatorum - Nil.
11.
 - (a) Number of maternal deaths - 1.
 - (b) Cause of death - Eclampsia.
12.
 - (a) Number of infant deaths:-
 - (i) Stillborn - 23.
 - (ii) Within 10 days of birth - 6.
 - (b) Cause of death in each case, and results of post-mortem examination (if obtainable).- See Clinical Report.

The stillbirth rate was 32.8 per 1,000 live births, and the neo-natal mortality within 10 days of birth was 8.5 per 1,000 live births.

(a) Occupation of Beds.- The average daily occupation of beds was as follows:-

January	27.0	July	26.0
February	29.3	August	36.3
March	35.2	September	33.1
April	35.4	October	26.9
May	38.4	November	16.5
June	25.7	December	16.6

The average for the whole year was equal to 62.9 per cent. beds occupied (based on 46 beds).

(b) Emergency Unit.- The services of the emergency unit were required on one occasion during the year.

(c) Gas and Air Analgesia.- The Maternity Hospital is approved by the Central Midwives Board for the purpose of giving special instruction in gas and air analgesia. No examination was held during the year.

(d) Training of Pupil Midwives.- The Hospital is approved by the Central Midwives Board, jointly with the Middlesex Hospital, for the training of pupil midwives in both Part I. and Part II of the training under the new rules.

During 1940, 32 pupils from Thorpe Coombe obtained the Part I. Certificate of the Central Midwives Board, and 11 obtained the Part II. Certificate.

The following Clinical Report has been compiled by Dr. Helen Redway, M.R.C.O.G., Resident Obstetrician.

THORPE COOMBE MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

CLINICAL REPORT FOR 1940.

This year a greater number of patients have availed themselves of the Hospital Services than in previous years. Owing, however, to the evacuation of expectant mothers following air-raids in September, there was a gradual decrease in the number of patients booking for their confinements at that time with, consequently, fewer admissions in the latter part of the year.

The attendances at the Ante-natal Clinic were splendidly maintained during the year, even at the time when day air-raids were of frequent occurrence. The Post-natal Clinic attendances were not so good, because many mothers left Walthamstow shortly after their confinements.

A series of Motherscraft Instruction Classes was held during the year; these were attended with great enthusiasm by many of our expectant mothers.

Ante-natal and Post-natal Exercise Classes were also held and a teaching film was made of the exercises done by our patients.

DETAILS OF THE WORK OF THE HOSPITAL.

Ante-natal Clinics.

Number of Clinics held:-	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935
(a) Consultant's Clinics	8	8	12	12	12	21
(b) Resident Obstetrician's Clinics	301	176	155	129	117	125
(c) Midwives' Clinics	133	234	294	349	352	225
Totals..	442	418	461	490	481	371
Number of Expectant Mothers who attended Ante-natal Clinics	750	733	702	753	691	752
Total attendances at Ante-natal Clinics:-						
(a) New patients	750	733	702	753	691	762
(b) Old patients	6679	5750	6032	5501	5354	4543
Totals.	7429	6483	6734	6254	6045	5305
Total number of attendances at:-						
(a) Consultant's Clinics	85	117	186	-	-	-
(b) Resident Obstetrician's Clinics	5547	2904	2229	2382	2648	2863
(c) Midwives' Clinics	1797	3462	4319	3872	3397	2437
Totals.	7429	6483	6734	6254	6045	5305
Average attendance per session:-						
(a) Consultant's Clinics.....	8.62	14.62	15.5	-	-	-
(b) Resident Obstetrician's Clinics ...	18.42	16.5	14.58	16.9	-	-
(c) Midwives' Clinics	13.51	14.79	14.69	11.0	-	-

Post-natal Clinics.

Number of Clinics	53
Number of Attendances:-	
(a) New patients	330
(b) Old patients	140
Total..	470

The percentage of new patients relative to the number of confinements in the Hospital was 45.83.

Average attendance per session was 8.86.

ADMISSIONS TO THE HOSPITAL.

The total number of admissions was 817, which includes 20 unbooked cases.

	Number of Admissions.			
	1937	1938	1939	1940.
(a) Ante-natal	109	96	119	126
(33 were delivered before discharge)				
(b) For confinement	316	675	552	684
(c) Miscarriage	3	3	-	3
(d) Post-natal	1	1	4	4
Totals ...	<u>729</u>	<u>775</u>	<u>675</u>	<u>817</u>

REASONS FOR THE ADMISSION OF ANTE-NATAL CASES.

Pregnancy toxæmia	23
(two re-admissions)	2
Eclampsia	1
Chronic nephritis	1
Hyperpiesis	2
Hyperemesis gravidarum	4
Oedema	2
Ante-partum hæmorrhage	11
Heart disease	15
Hæmorrhoids	1
Urinary infection	2
Phlebitis	1
Anaemia	2
For rest	3
Homeless after air-raids	2
For observation and discharged because not in labour	54
Total..	<u>126</u>

REASONS FOR THE ADMISSION OF UNBOOKED CASES.

Delay in progress of labour	4
Obstructed labour	1
Extended breech	1
Hyperemesis	1
Cardiac disease	1
Ante-partum hæmorrhage	4
Home conditions unsuitable following air-raids (admitted with infants after confinement)	3
Homeless following air-raids	2
Difficulty of transport to hospital where bed was booked for confinement	1
Arrangements for confinement not made	2
Total...	<u>20</u>

CONFINEMENTS.

(a) Primigravida	427
(b) Multigravida	<u>293</u>
Total..	<u>720</u>

In 22 cases the patients were delivered by a Private Practitioner; in 82 by the Resident Medical Officer.

In seven cases the operation of Caesarean Section was performed.

PRESENTATION AND POSITION DURING LABOUR.

	<u>Primigravida</u>	<u>Multigravida</u>	<u>Total</u>
Vertex left occipito-anterior....	227	165	392
Vertex left occipito-lateral.....	3	..	3
Vertex left occipito-posterior...	15	9	24
Vertex right occipito-anterior...	131	92	223
Vertex right occipito-lateral....	4	2	6
Vertex right occipito-posterior..	14	9	23
Vertex (no details given).....	7	-	7
Breech	23	16	39
Face	-	1	1
Not stated	5	-	5
Totals	<u>429</u>	<u>294</u>	<u>723</u>

(This includes 3 cases of twin confinement)

INFANTS.

The number born in the Hospital was:- 723.
(This includes 3 cases of twins)

Infants completely breast fed	566.
" complemented with other milk	130.
" not breast fed	27.

FOETAL AND INFANT MORTALITY.

<u>Stillbirths:</u>	<u>Number of cases.</u>
Premature, i.e., under 5½ lbs.....	8
Full term, i.e., over 5½ lbs.....	15
Total	<u>23</u>

Infant Deaths:

Premature	4
Full term	2
Total	<u>6</u>

Mortality rate per 100 births:

(a) Stillbirths	3.2
(b) Infant Deaths	0.83

Total percentage.. 4.

OPERATIONS PERFORMED.

	<u>Number of Cases</u>
Caesarean section:-	7
(a) for pelvic disproportion 5)	
(b) for mitral stenosis and)	
pelvic disproportion 1)	
(c) for pelvic asymmetry 1)	
Forceps delivery	70
Manual removal of placenta .	5
Induction of labour	7
Total	<u>87</u>

MEDICAL AID NOTICES.

In 377 cases medical aid was sought by midwives working in the Hospital. Treatment was given by the Resident Medical Officer.

(a) For Complications during Labour.

Ante-partum haemorrhage	7
Breech presentation	18
Abnormal presentation	1
Cardiac condition	5
Chorea with slow second stage	1
Collapse after second stage	1
Delay in second stage	54
Episiotomy	3
Eclamptic fit in second stage	1
Foetal distress	13
Foetal heart not heard	1
Post-partum haemorrhage	8
Post-partum collapse	1
Premature labour	1
Ruptured perineum	230
Toxaemia - patient in labour	12
Twin pregnancy	2
Unsatisfactory condition	3
Total	<u>362</u>

In addition one medical aid for the District -
Premature Labour.

(b) For Complications in regard to the Infant.

Asphyxia	6
Cyanosis	2
Phimosis	1
Premature	4
Poor Colour	1
Unsatisfactory condition	1
Total	<u>15</u>

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

The standard adopted for the classification of Puerperal Pyrexia is that of the Ministry of Health, namely a temperature of 100.4 deg. or more sustained for twenty-four hours, or recurring within that period.

In 31 cases, notification of pyrexia was made.

<u>Causes of Pyrexia.</u>	<u>Number of Cases.</u>
(a) Flushed or congested breast	9
(b) Mastitis	1
(c) Suppurative mastitis	2
(d) Urinary infection	2
(e) Local genital infection	7
(f) Wound sepsis	3
(g) Influenzal cold	2
(h) Infective arthritis	1
(k) Gastro-enteritis	1
(l) Undiagnosed	2
(m) Thrombo-phlebitis	
Cerebral and pulmonary embolism	<u>1</u>
Total	<u>31</u>

Sepsis rate in all cases - 4.3%.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There was one maternity death in the Hospital this year. This was due to eclampsia.

One ante-natal patient died at home of heart failure.

1940

In addition one medical unit of the hospital
The hospital is located at the corner of the main
road and the river.

Number of cases

1	Unilateral pneumonia
2	Bilateral pneumonia
3	Unilateral pleurisy
4	Bilateral pleurisy
5	Unilateral emphysema
6	Bilateral emphysema
7	Unilateral asthma
8	Bilateral asthma
9	Unilateral bronchitis
10	Bilateral bronchitis
11	Unilateral tuberculosis
12	Bilateral tuberculosis
13	Unilateral cancer
14	Bilateral cancer
15	Unilateral sarcoma
16	Bilateral sarcoma
17	Unilateral leukemia
18	Bilateral leukemia
19	Unilateral lymphoma
20	Bilateral lymphoma
21	Unilateral myeloma
22	Bilateral myeloma
23	Unilateral osteoma
24	Bilateral osteoma
25	Unilateral fibroma
26	Bilateral fibroma
27	Unilateral lipoma
28	Bilateral lipoma
29	Unilateral neurofibroma
30	Bilateral neurofibroma
31	Unilateral schwannoma
32	Bilateral schwannoma
33	Unilateral meningioma
34	Bilateral meningioma
35	Unilateral glioma
36	Bilateral glioma
37	Unilateral astrocytoma
38	Bilateral astrocytoma
39	Unilateral ependymoma
40	Bilateral ependymoma
41	Unilateral medulloblastoma
42	Bilateral medulloblastoma
43	Unilateral oligodendroglioma
44	Bilateral oligodendroglioma
45	Unilateral astrocytoma
46	Bilateral astrocytoma
47	Unilateral glioma
48	Bilateral glioma
49	Unilateral meningioma
50	Bilateral meningioma
51	Unilateral schwannoma
52	Bilateral schwannoma
53	Unilateral neurofibroma
54	Bilateral neurofibroma
55	Unilateral lipoma
56	Bilateral lipoma
57	Unilateral fibroma
58	Bilateral fibroma
59	Unilateral osteoma
60	Bilateral osteoma
61	Unilateral sarcoma
62	Bilateral sarcoma
63	Unilateral cancer
64	Bilateral cancer
65	Unilateral leukemia
66	Bilateral leukemia
67	Unilateral lymphoma
68	Bilateral lymphoma
69	Unilateral myeloma
70	Bilateral myeloma
71	Unilateral glioma
72	Bilateral glioma
73	Unilateral astrocytoma
74	Bilateral astrocytoma
75	Unilateral ependymoma
76	Bilateral ependymoma
77	Unilateral medulloblastoma
78	Bilateral medulloblastoma
79	Unilateral oligodendroglioma
80	Bilateral oligodendroglioma
81	Unilateral astrocytoma
82	Bilateral astrocytoma
83	Unilateral glioma
84	Bilateral glioma
85	Unilateral meningioma
86	Bilateral meningioma
87	Unilateral schwannoma
88	Bilateral schwannoma
89	Unilateral neurofibroma
90	Bilateral neurofibroma
91	Unilateral lipoma
92	Bilateral lipoma
93	Unilateral fibroma
94	Bilateral fibroma
95	Unilateral osteoma
96	Bilateral osteoma
97	Unilateral sarcoma
98	Bilateral sarcoma
99	Unilateral cancer
100	Bilateral cancer

Total 100

There was one fatality death in the hospital this year.
This was due to pneumonia.
One tubercular patient died at home at home.