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BOROUGH OF WALTHAMSTOW

REPORT

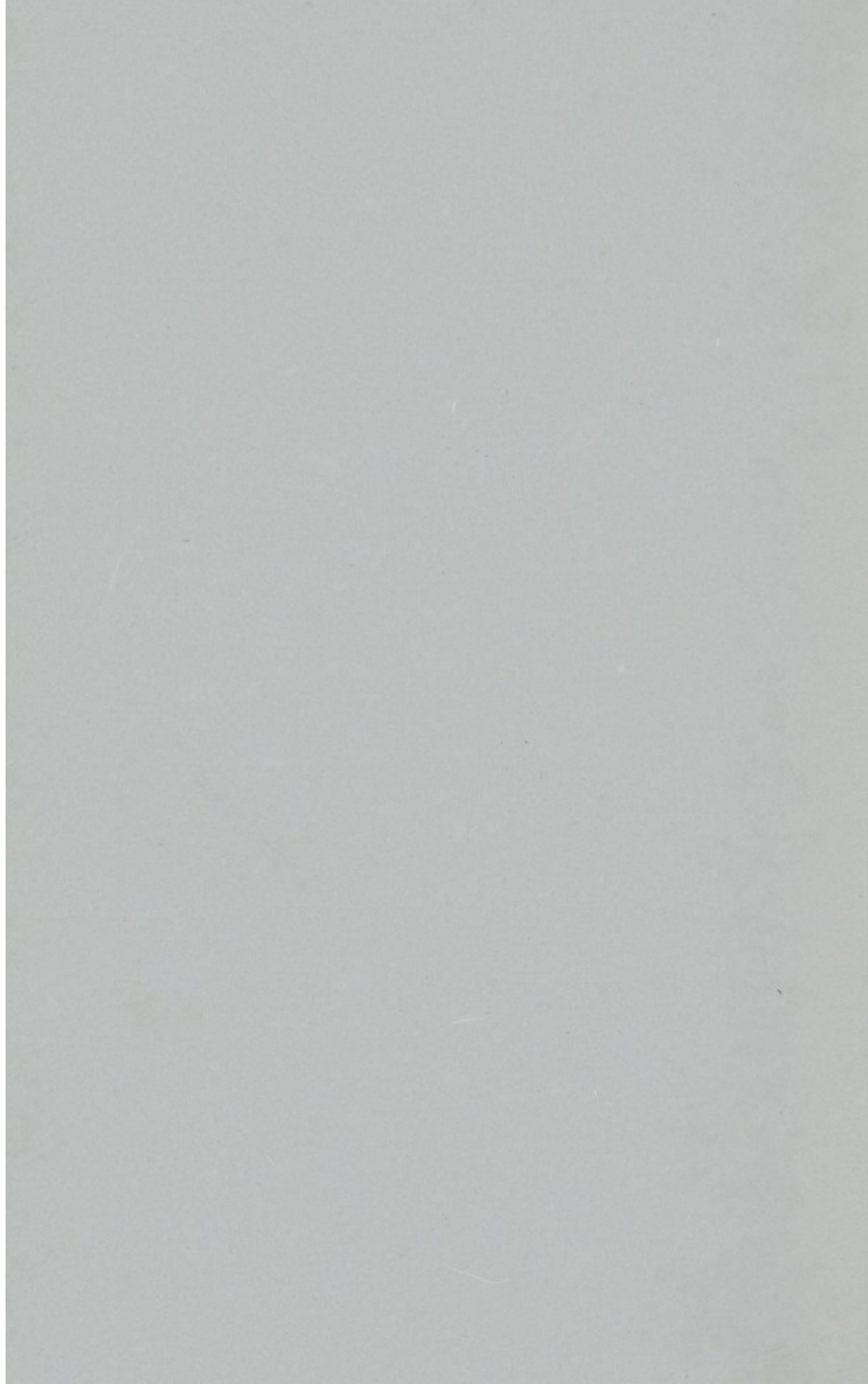
OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH**

FOR THE YEAR
1952

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

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



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BOROUGH OF WALTHAMSTOW

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1952

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HEALTH COMMITTEE

1952-53

Chairman:

ALDERMAN LADY McENTEE, J.P.

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR MRS. S. CANDY.

Ex-officio:

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR—COUNCILLOR W. F. SAVILL, J.P.

THE DEPUTY MAYOR ALDERMAN LORD McENTEE, C.B.E.

CHAIRMAN OF FINANCE COMMITTEE—ALDERMAN ROSS WYLD,
O.B.E., J.P.

ALDERMAN MRS. L. P. BAILEY, J.P.

„ W. GILLET.

„ A. E. MANNING.

„ W. H. SHAW.

COUNCILLOR F. A. BURTON.

„ A. W. ELLIS.

„ A. G. GREEN.

„ MRS. M. E. MARCHANT.

COUNCILLOR E. G. RICHARDS.

„ M. SHARLAND.

„ A. F. WHICHER.

„ J. M. WIGHT.

Town Clerk:

G. A. BLAKELEY, ESQ.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

LADY McENTEE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present in the following pages a report on the Health Services in the Borough during 1952. I am required by the Minister of Health to deal generally with matters regarding public health and preventive medicine. The report therefore includes reference to the personal health services, which, in July, 1948, were transferred to the County Council as the Local Health Authority. These matters are referred to in my capacity as Acting Area Medical Officer and by courtesy of the County Medical Officer.

The population remained fairly static at 120,400, a decrease of 500 on the previous year, and on this basis vital statistics were again good, and once more compared very favourably with the rates for England and Wales, London and Greater London.

The crude birth and death rates were 12.6 and 10.8 respectively. The infant mortality rate was 24.5 as compared with 27.6 for England and Wales and 23.8 for the London Administrative County. Of 66 illegitimate live births none died under one year of age. The still-birth rate fell and the neo-natal death rate rose slightly, the number of deaths being the same. The tuberculosis death rate was only 0.18 per thousand population, as compared with 0.24 for England and Wales, and 0.31 for London Administrative County. The rate for Walthamstow for 1951 was 0.31.

The total of notifications of infectious disease was less than in 1951, especially in regard to whooping cough, measles, meningitis and dysentery, but there were more notifications of scarlet fever, pneumonia, puerperal pyrexia (due largely to the new regulations), and food poisoning. Again there was no confirmed case of diphtheria.

Although the notifications of tuberculosis remained fairly static, the continued fall in deaths from this disease is striking, and stresses the need to render as many as possible non-infectious, otherwise the infecting pool of cases will increase. Approximately half of new cases investigated were infectious on notification or soon after.

Reference is made in the report to the disquiet at the revocation of the old tuberculosis regulations. Preventive measures against tuberculosis are fully referred to in the text.

An increasing amount of time became necessary in dealing with the aged and chronic sick, especially in investigating cases for possible compulsory removal to hospital and in assisting the

requests made by family doctors for admission to hospital, and with particular reference to social grounds. The need for special laundry facilities for the incontinent became apparent, and a scheme is now under consideration. More time was also devoted in investigating and advising on the medical aspects of re-housing applications.

At the end of the year Chingford Hospital, formerly the "Sanatorium," became a "General" Hospital, thus ending over fifty years' fine service to the Borough as a hospital for infectious diseases.

The work of the sanitary inspectorate again continued on the high level of previous years.

Turning to the Part III Services administered by the Walthamstow Health Area Sub-Committee, two capital building projects were considered and approved—a Health Services Clinic at Priory Court and an extension to the District Nurses' Training Home.

The General and the Priority Dental Services were well maintained and included the recruitment of an additional dental surgeon and a part-time dental hygienist. The dental workshop was employed about equally on work for the Priority and the General Dental Services, and these facilities were made available to the Hospital Service and to the Leyton Committee for Education.

The arrangements for pre-school child guidance continued with success.

In spite of pronouncements in various quarters suggesting the demise of the child welfare centres 88% of infants under one year attended the centres, and each infant made over 17 attendances during the year.

District midwifery and maternity cases fell from 440 in 1951 to 348 in 1952, but "district" or home nursing rose from 1,621 new cases and 51,798 attendances in 1951 to 1,671 new cases and 59,166 visits in 1952. The average number of visits per equivalent whole-time nurse was 3,698. The percentage of mothers given gas and air analgesia on the district was nearly 70. The services were improved by the opening of the Branch Nurses' Home at "Hillcrest," Highams Park, in April. A scheme for the extension of the main Nurses' Home at Carisbrooke Road was approved at an estimated cost of approximately £3,500.

Health Visiting Staffing was reasonably adequate, but the establishment was not fully maintained. Particular difficulty continued in regard to the recruitment of tuberculosis health visitors. An increasing amount of time of the health visitors was needed for the care of the aged and chronic sick, and in regard to the multiplicity of investigations now required.

The various protective measures, i.e., vaccination against small-pox and immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough were well maintained, and with the ready assistance of family doctors. The percentages represented by completed cases in children under one year of age were: Vaccination—34.0%, Immunisation against Diphtheria—47.8%, Immunisation against Whooping Cough—21.6%. The Minister's target of 75% completed immunisations against diphtheria by one year has not been reached in most parts of the country, and was 47.8 for Walthamstow. Although the percentage for the age group 0/15 years was nearly 80, complacency continues in the absence of diphtheria, but there have been several sharp reminders elsewhere, not only as to the need for primary immunisation, but also for the "boosting" immunisation, preferably at entry to school, and ideally again before transfer to the primary school. It must never be forgotten that "DIPHTHERIA STILL KILLS."

The services in regard to the prevention of illness, care and after-care and the domestic help service were well maintained, especially in regard to the tuberculous.

The lack of extended chiropody facilities is still to be deplored, especially as foot defect is a major cause of rendering old people non-ambulant.

Dr. Sheppard and Miss Keenan (Superintendent Health Visitor) retired during the year, after long and faithful service.

Once again I have to record the good work of the departmental staff, the help and consideration of the members of the Committees concerned, and particularly of the Chairman, Alderman Lady McEntee. I would also record the help of the other chief officers concerned and last, but not least, of the family doctors practising in the Borough.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

A. T. W. POWELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH SERVICES

Appointments and Resignations during 1952

WALTHAMSTOW BOROUGH COUNCIL

Appointments.

MRS. A. D. SHARP	Clerical Staff	7. 1.52
L. JOYCE	Sanitary Inspector	28. 7.52
B. G. GOODE	Clerk/Pupil Sanitary Inspector	1.12.52
Resignations.	Nil	

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

Appointments.

MISS C. BERRY	Student Nursery Nurse	1. 1.52
MRS. E. LEVIS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.	Health Visitor/School Nurse (part-time)	1. 1.52
MRS. M. ROBINSON	Domestic Assistant	9. 1.52
MISS J. BUSHBY, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.	District Nurse/Midwife	14. 1.52
MISS W. HAILS, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.	District Nurse/Midwife	14. 1.52
DR. J. L. COLLMANN, M.B., B.S.	Assistant County Medical Officer	21. 1.52
MISS D. HOOPER	Clerical Staff	21. 1.52
MISS M. FITZPATRICK, S.R.N., S.C.M.	District Nurse/Midwife	7. 2.52
MRS. E. RUDELHOFF	Domestic Assistant	7. 2.52
MISS M. CRONSHEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.	Assistant Superintendent	1. 3.52
MISS B. YELLAND	Day Nursery Warden	10. 3.52
MRS. F. HART	Domestic Assistant	18. 3.52
MRS. E. RICHARDSON	Whole Time Domestic Help	18. 3.52
MISS E. SULLIVAN	Whole Time Domestic Help	18. 3.52
MISS A. MOONEY	Domestic Assistant	24. 3.52
MISS D. ANKLESARIA, L.D.S., R.C.S.	Dental Officer	3. 4.52
MRS. H. EVERITT	Clerical Staff	21. 4.52
MRS. R. RIOPEDE, S.R.N.	District Nurse (part-time)	27. 4.52
MISS I. MOORE	Nursery Nurse	26. 5.52
MISS J. HALL	Student Nursery Nurse	16. 6.52
MRS. D. HUGHES	Domestic Assistant	18. 6.52
MISS I. MOORE	Deputy Matron	30. 6.52
W. SETFORD	Temporary Caretaker/Cleaner	7. 7.52
MISS E. LONGWORTH, S.R.N., S.C.M.	District Nurse/Midwife	1. 8.52
MISS M. McDONNELL, S.R.N., S.C.M.	District Nurse/Midwife	1. 8.52
MISS M. WROE, S.R.N., C.M.B.(I)	District Nurse	1. 8.52
MISS H. HARRIS	Student Nursery Nurse	5. 8.52
MRS. H. TAYLOR	Temporary Domestic Assistant (part-time)	11. 8.52
MISS K. MITCHELL, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N., H.V.	Tuberculosis Visitor	18. 8.52
MISS B. ALLINGHAM	Student Nursery Nurse	1. 9.52
MISS E. CARTER	Student Nursery Nurse	1. 9.52

MISS R. HYLAND	Student Nursery Nurse	1. 9.52
MRS. M. MARRIOTT	Domestic Assistant	8. 9.52
G. ALLEN	Dental Technician	15. 9.52
DR. J. BEATTIE, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.	Temporary Asst. Medical Officer	22. 9.52
W. TAYLOR	Stoker/Gardener	13.10.52
MISS D. ORR, S.R.N., S.C.M.	District Nurse/Midwife	1.11.52
MRS. A. DUNFORD, S.R.N.	School Nurse	10.11.52
MISS M. CROWLEY, S.R.N., S.C.M.	District Nurse/Midwife	1.12.52
MISS A. STACEY, S.R.N., S.C.M.	District Nurse/Midwife	1.12.52
MISS A. STEWART, S.R.N., S.C.M.	District Nurse/Midwife	1.12.52
MRS. L. WOOD	Domestic Assistant	14.12.52
MRS. A. DANIELS, B.D.S.	Dental Officer	15.12.52
MRS. I. MONTAGUE	Domestic Assistant	17.12.52
MRS. E. COOPER, S.R.N.	Part-time Relief District Nurse	19.12.52
D. WARDER	Clerical Staff	22.12.52
MRS. J. FOULKES, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.	Superintendent Health Visitor	29.12.52

Resignations.

DR. M. SHEPPARD, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., Barrister-at-Law	Assistant County Medical Officer	18. 1.52
MRS. D. MCLENNAN, R.S.C.N.	Deputy Matron, Day Nursery	23. 1.52
MRS. E. SIMMONS	Whole-time Domestic Help	23. 1.52
MRS. E. BASSETT	Domestic Assistant	30. 1.52
MISS D. IZOD	Student Nursery Nurse	31. 1.52
MRS. N. NEWSON	Domestic Assistant	7. 2.52
MISS K. BURTON	Warden, Day Nursery	15. 2.52
MRS. F. HART	Whole-time Domestic Help	18. 3.52
MISS E. RAWLINGS	Clerical Staff	31. 3.52
MISS S. OLIVER	Student Nursery Nurse	9. 4.52
MRS. I. STERN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.	Health Visitor/School Nurse	15. 4.52
MRS. M. MATTHEWS, S.R.N.	School Nurse	25. 4.52
MISS R. TAYLOR	Student Nursery Nurse	30. 4.52
MRS. I. MONTAGUE	Domestic Assistant	7. 5.52
MISS I. MOORE	Nursery Nurse	29. 6.52
MISS G. MARTIN	Student Nursery Nurse	30. 6.52
MISS M. SELF	Nursery Nurse	30. 6.52
DR. T. CURRIE, M.B., B.S.	Assistant County Medical Officer	4. 7.52
MRS. D. HUGHES	Domestic Assistant	9. 7.52
W. SETFORD	Temporary Caretaker/Cleaner	19. 7.52
H. EDMONDS	Dental Technician	31. 7.52
MISS J. PHILLIPS	Student Nursery Nurse	31. 7.52
MRS. I. SMITH, S.R.N.	District Nurse	31. 7.52
MRS. M. OWEN	Whole-time Domestic Help	17. 8.52
MISS J. CLARK	Student Nursery Nurse	15. 8.52
MRS. M. CHRISTMAS, S.R.N.	District Nurse	30. 8.52
MRS. E. CAWSTON	Domestic Assistant	2. 9.52

MISS K. MUNDAY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.	Health Visitor/School Nurse	13. 9.52
MRS. D. PURVES, S.R.N.	Tuberculosis Visitor	15. 9.52
MISS J. BUSHBY, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.	District Nurse/Midwife	17.10.52
MISS W. HAILS, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.	District Nurse/Midwife	17.10.52
MRS. J. HAYNES, S.R.N., S.C.M.	School Nurse	3.10.52
MISS D. LUCAS	Student Nursery Nurse	12.10.52
MISS M. WROE, S.R.N.	District Nurse	18.10.52
MISS G. GIBBONS	Student Nursery Nurse	26.10.52
B. GOODE	Clerical Staff	30.11.52
MRS. I. BALL, S.R.N.	District Nurse	10.12.52
MISS P. DUNNAGE	Student Nursery Nurse	10.12.52
DR. J. BEATTIE, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.	Temporary Assistant County Medical Officer	21.12.52
MISS S. STOTHART	Student Nursery Nurse	21.12.52
MRS. E. COOPER, S.R.N.	Part-time Relief District Nurse	22.12.52
MISS A. C. KEENAN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.	Superintendent Health Visitor	24.12.52
MRS. H. EVERITT	Clerical Staff	28.12.52

STAFF—GENERAL

1. Miss A. C. Keenan, S.R.N., S.C.M., retired in December, 1952, after serving the Borough Council (and later the County Council) as Superintendent Health Visitor since 1926. The Council recorded its appreciation of Miss Keenan's long and faithful service.

2. Mr. L. Joyce, a former member of the clerical staff, and later a pupil Sanitary Inspector, obtained his certificate in July, and was appointed a District Inspector.

Another member of the clerical staff was then appointed to succeed him as pupil Inspector. At the end of the year four former members of the clerical staff were employed in the Sanitary Inspectorate.

3. Difficulty has been experienced in recruiting nursing staff. One contributory cause is the application of the limit of £50 to the Superannuation liability. This seems to affect many married nurses who wish either to join or return to the service of a Local Authority after a break in service.

A.—STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	4,343
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate, mid-year, 1952)	...	...	...	...	...	120,400
Number of Assessments (31st December, 1952)	...	...	...	...	...	36,839
Rateable Value (31st December, 1952)	...	...	...	...	...	£909,942
Sum represented by penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£3,690

Population.—The Registrar-General's Estimate of the home population at mid-year, 1952, is 120,400, a decrease of 500 on the previous year.

Employment.—According to information kindly supplied by Mr. Percy C. Graham, Manager of the Local Employment Exchange, approximately 550 men and 350 women were placed in employment every month during the year 1952 through the placing machinery of the Employment Exchange. The number of persons insured under the National Insurance Acts employed in the whole area covered by the Exchange, comprising the Boroughs of Walthamstow, Leyton, Chingford, and Wanstead and Woodford, was approximately 82,000. Of this number, it is estimated that about 40,000 were employed in Walthamstow. During 1952, the average number of persons unemployed in the whole area was 900 men and 450 women; these included approximately 90 disabled men and 30 disabled women.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.—The Registrar-General's mid-year, 1952, estimate of the home population (viz., 120,400) has been used for the calculation of all vital statistics.

Live Births	{	Legitimate	Total	Males	Females	Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated home Population ...	12.6
		Illegitimate	66	36	30		
		Total ...	1,512	775	737		
Stillbirths	...	29	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...				18.8
Deaths	...	1,304	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated home population ...				10.8
Deaths from puerperal causes:—							
		Puerperal Sepsis Deaths	...	...	Nil		
		Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	3		
Death rate of infants under one year of age:—							
		All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	24.5	
		Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	25.6	
		Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	Nil	
		Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil	
		Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	1	
		Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	1	
		Pulmonary Tuberculosis death rate	...	...	...	0.18	
		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis death rate	...	...	...	Nil	

The natural increase of population, i.e., excess of births over deaths was 208.

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

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

The total number of deaths in 1952 (1,304), compares with 1,309 in 1951, the death rates for each year being 10.8 per 1,000 population.

Comparability Factor.—The comparability factors for Walthamstow are given by the Registrar-General as follows :—

Comparability factor for births ...	...	0.96
Comparability factor for deaths ...	...	1.04

The above factors, when applied to the crude rates, produce the following adjusted rates :—

Live births ...	...	...	...	12.1
Deaths ...	...	...	...	11.3

Birth-Rates, Death-Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality, and Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1952. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	160 County Borough and Great Towns (including London)	160 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000-50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Administrative County	Walthamstow		
Rates per 1,000 Home Population							
BIRTHS:—							
Live Births	15.3	16.9	15.5	17.6	12.6		
Still Births	0.35	0.43	0.36	0.34	0.24		
	22.6*	24.6*	23.0*	19.2*	18.8*		
DEATHS:—							
All Causes	11.3	12.1	11.2	12.6	10.8		
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—		
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—		
Tuberculosis	0.24	0.28	0.22	0.31	0.18		
Influenza	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.02		
Smallpox	0.00	—	—	—	—		
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	—		
Pneumonia	0.47	0.52	0.43	0.58	0.77		
NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected):—							
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Paratyphoid Fever	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.02		
Meningococcal Infection	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02		
Scarlet Fever	1.53	1.75	1.58	1.56	3.47		
Whooping Cough	2.61	2.74	2.57	1.66	1.57		
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01	—		
Erysipelas	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.14	0.27		
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—		
Measles	8.86	10.11	8.49	9.23	13.06		
Pneumonia	0.72	0.80	0.62	0.57	0.83		
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis):—							
Paralytic	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.07		
Non-paralytic	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.02		
Food Poisoning	0.13	0.16	0.11	0.18	0.18		
Puerperal Pyrexia	17.87*	23.94*	10.22*	30.77*	47.37*		
Rates per 1,000 Live Births							
DEATHS:—							
All causes under 1 year of age ..	27.6†	31.2	25.8	23.8	24.5		
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.1	1.3	0.5	0.7	0.7		
MATERNAL MORTALITY:							
	A.115 Sepsis of Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium	A.116 Abortion with Toxaemia Other Toxaemias of Pregnancy and the Puerperium		A.117 Haemorrhage of Pregnancy and Childbirth	A.118 Abortion without mention of Sepsis or Toxaemia	A.119 Abortion with Sepsis	A.120 Other Complications of Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium
Number of Deaths:							
Walthamstow	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
England and Wales	61	13	147	59	31	47	138
Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births:							
Walthamstow	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.95
England and Wales	0.09	0.02	0.21	0.09	0.04	0.07	0.20

* Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

† Per 1,000 Related Live Births.

Causes of Death as given by the Registrar-General for the year 1952

Whole District

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Total	1951
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	16	6	22	33
2. Tuberculosis, Other	—	—	—	4
3. Syphilitic Disease	3	4	7	7
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	1	1	—
6. Meningococcal Infections	1	—	1	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—	1
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	1	2	8
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ..	19	19	38	32
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	33	5	38	39
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ..	—	27	27	18
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ..	—	7	7	6
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	61	62	123	106
15. Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	3	5	8	5
16. Diabetes	3	4	7	10
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	58	82	140	127
18. Coronary Disease, Angina ..	132	69	201	157
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease ..	18	17	35	47
20. Other Heart Disease	78	128	206	221
21. Other Circulatory Disease	17	28	45	22
22. Influenza	2	1	3	21
23. Pneumonia	43	50	93	100
24. Bronchitis	73	30	103	126
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	10	6	16	13
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ..	5	2	7	19
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa ..	—	4	4	5
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	7	4	11	10
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	20	—	20	13
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ..	—	3	3	2
31. Congenital Malformations	8	3	11	8
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	43	54	97	119
33. Motor vehicle accidents	9	1	10	7
34. All other accidents	7	5	12	13
35. Suicide	5	—	5	10
36. Homicide and operations of war ..	1	—	1	—
Totals, 1952	676	628	1,304	—
Totals, 1951	668	641	—	1,309

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
—	—	—	—	—	7	90	136

INFANT DEATHS, NEO-NATAL MORTALITY AND STILLBIRTHS

Year	Live Births	Birth Rate	Stillbirths			Neo-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
1952 ..	1,512	12.6	29	19.2	0.24	23	15.2	37	24
1951 ..	1,637	13.5	38	23.2	0.31	23	14.0	37	23
1950 ..	1,598	13.0	37	23.1	0.30	33	20.6	42	26
1949 ..	1,836	14.9	27	14.7	0.22	31	16.9	54	29
1948 ..	2,068	16.8	46	22.2	0.37	24	11.1	43	20

The death rate from Diarrhoea and Enteritis in children under one year of age per 1,000 live births was 0.7.

The table showing the classification of infant deaths is given in the section of the report dealing with the care of mothers and young children (Section 22).

MATERNAL MORTALITY

During 1952 there were three deaths classified as being due to pregnancy, childbearing or associated therewith. The details are included in the following table :—

Case No.	Date of Death	Certified Cause of Death	Age	Ward
1	5.2.52	Sub-acute Obstruction and Partial Volvulus	36	Hi
2	7.5.52	Anæmia—Prolonged Labour (recent delivery)	27	H.H.
3	9.8.52	Pulmonary Embolism. Thrombosis of Uterine Veins (recent full-term delivery)	30	W.

The maternal mortality rates (per 1,000 total births) for the past five years have been given as follows :—

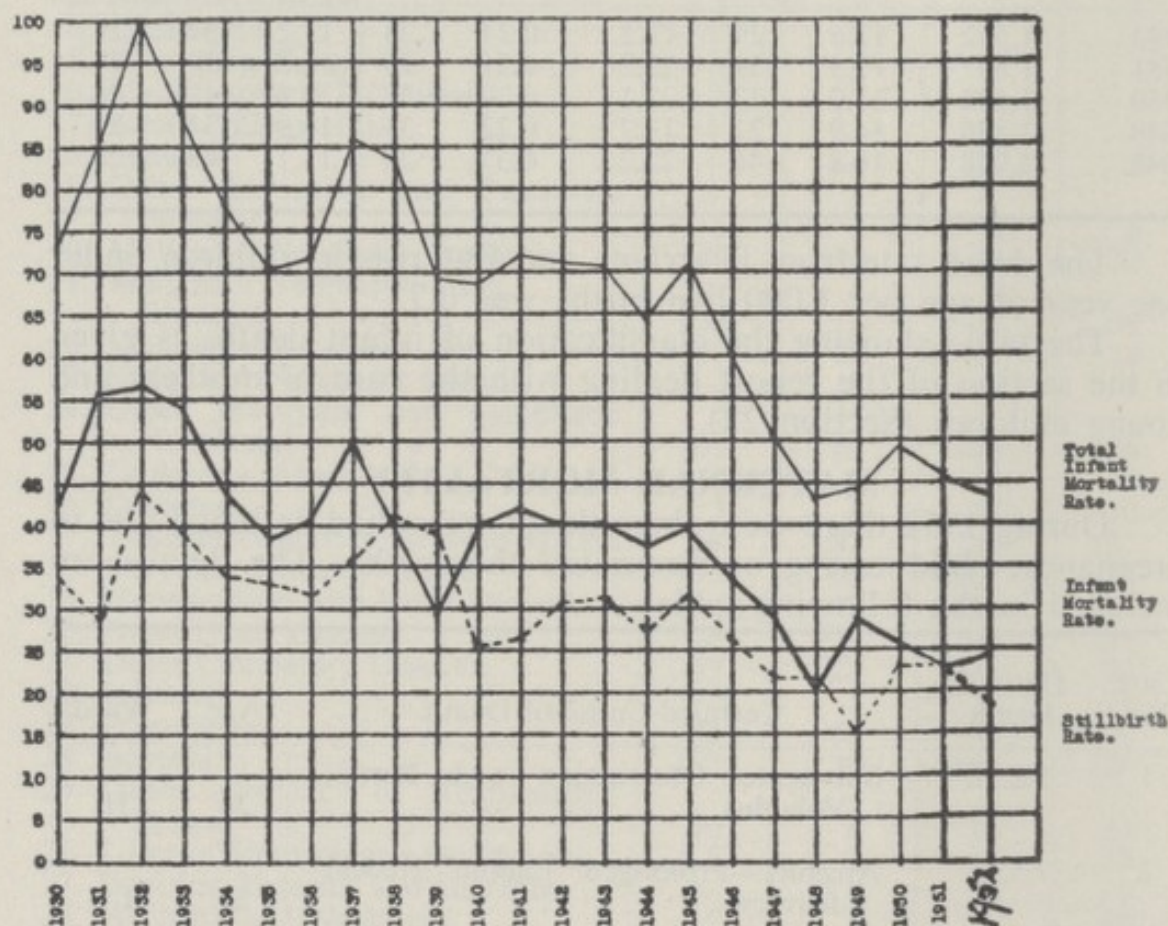
Year	Total Births Registered	Deaths			Rates per 1,000 Births (Live and Still)		
		Puer-peral Sepsis	Other Puer-peral Causes	Total	Puer-peral Sepsis	Other Puer-peral Causes	Total
1952 ..	1,541	—	3	3	—	1.95	1.95
1951 ..	1,675	2	—	2	1.19	—	1.19
1950 ..	1,635	—	—	—	—	—	—
1949 ..	1,863	—	2	2	—	1.07	1.07
1948 ..	2,114	—	—	—	—	—	—

TOTAL INFANT MORTALITY

This is defined as the sum of the deaths that occur during child-birth and during the first year of life.

The attached graph shows the position since 1930 :—

RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS



MATERNAL MORTALITY, STILLBIRTHS & NEO-NATAL DEATHS

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

Rate (per 1,000 live births)	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948
Maternal Mortality ..	1.98	1.22	—	1.09	—
Stillbirths	19.2	23.2	23.1	14.7	22.2
Neo-Natal Mortality ..	15.2	14.0	20.6	16.9	11.1

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS

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

(a) Live Births.				Males	Females	Totals
Legitimate	...	...		739	707	1,446
Illegitimate	...	...		36	30	66
				775	737	1,512

The stillbirth rate per 1,000 population was 0.24.

Of the 1,553 local registrations, 397 belonging to other areas are excluded, leaving a net total of 1,156. There were no non-notified births during 1952.

	St. James Street		High Street		Hoe Street		Wood Street		Hale End		Higham Hill		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Totals	71	83	64	60	94	95	86	91	137	126	129	120	581	575
Grand Totals	154		124		189		177		263		249		1,156	

B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. Public Health Officers of the Authority

The names and qualifications of the officers employed by the Authority were given at the beginning of the 1951 Report. The changes during 1952 are specified at the beginning of this Report and all are whole-time officers unless otherwise stated.

2. Laboratory Facilities

Laboratory investigations are done at the Public Health Laboratory, at St. Margaret's Hospital, Epping. There is a morning collection Mondays to Fridays, with a special collection on Saturdays on request. Specimens are taken by van to the Laboratory at Epping. There is a collecting box at the Town Hall for specimens from family doctors.

Dr. Frank Marsh, Pathologist in charge of the Laboratory at Epping, has kindly supplied the following information in regard to work done for Walthamstow:—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Faeces and rectal swabs	13	4	8	3	5	—	3	1	5	9	1	2	54
Agglutinations	6	6	8	4	7	5	10	2	1	13	4	4	70
Rhesus, Group and Kahn ...	19	9	17	3	7	14	15	14	12	8	9	11	138
Urine ...	6	2	1	2	1	3	4	2	3	7	2	5	38
Nose & Throat Swabs ...	4	19	15	16	4	12	2	2	11	11	6	7	109
Ear Swabs ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Food ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Haemoglobin estimation ...	15	6	11	3	5	10	10	11	14	7	8	6	106
Hairs ...	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Wash Water ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Patches ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
TOTAL ...	63	46	62	31	33	44	44	34	46	55	30	36	524

In December, 1952, a new and well-equipped laboratory was provided by the Regional Hospital Board in the former school premises adjoining Connaught Hospital.

3. Ambulance Facilities

These are available from a local depot in Walthamstow which is administered centrally from Chelmsford, via the Control Centre at Ilford.

4. Scabies Clinic

The arrangements at the Special Treatment Centre detailed in previous reports were continued.

One session per week is held at the Clinic premises which are situated at the back of the Public Baths in High Street. Treatment is by appointment only, i.e., through the family doctor or the Health Department.

The number of cases treated during 1952 was 44, involving 69 treatments.

Facilities remained available to Leyton patients on the same basis as those from Wanstead/Woodford and the Forest Division, i.e., at a fee of 7/6d. per treatment, payable by the Local Sanitary Authority. There were 42 such treatments in 1952 out of the total specified above.

5. Hospital Accommodation

(a) ACUTE CASES.—There were no major changes in 1952 in regard to the hospital accommodation available for the inhabitants of the Borough.

(b) CHRONIC CASES.—Regional Hospital Boards have asked that Medical Officers of Health shall support when necessary on “social grounds,” the recommendations of medical practitioners for the admission of the chronic sick to hospital. All possible help was given when requested, and only two outstanding cases remained at the end of the year.

The following table shows the position in regard to hospital admissions considered and supported on “social” grounds.

No. of cases at end of 1951 awaiting Hospital admission ...	1
No. of new cases considered during 1952 for Hospital admission ...	15
No. of admissions to Hospital ...	13
No. of cases who died before admission ...	1
No. of cases outstanding at end of 1952 ...	2

It is a pleasure to record the unfailing help and consideration experienced from the Senior Medical Officer (Dr. DeLargy) at Langthorne Hospital.

(c) MATERNITY.—The effect of the transfer of Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital to the Regional Hospital Board has, somewhat naturally, been to restrict the admission of Walthamstow patients who were expected to have a normal confinement other than the first and in favour of patients from other parts of the Hospital Group, and presumably requiring admission on obstetric and/or “social” grounds. At the same time it must be stated that no patient booking late and requiring hospital accommodation either on obstetric and/or “social” grounds has been refused admission to some other maternity hospital by arrangement made at Thorpe Coombe.

The percentage of Walthamstow residents admitted to Thorpe Coombe prior to the appointed day was of the order of 98—99. In 1949 it fell to 88.4, in 1950 to 77 and in 1951 to 64.1. During the year under review Walthamstow admissions rose to approximately 75%.

(d) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The Regional Hospital Board decided that after the 31st December, 1952, cases of infectious diseases would not be admitted to Chingford Hospital and that patients from Walthamstow would be admitted to St. Ann’s Hospital, Tottenham.

It is eventually intended that Chingford Hospital will become a General Hospital, but the immediate policy will be to transfer post-operative and certain medical cases from the other hospitals in the Group and to continue the admission of light medical cases from the surrounding area.

There will be 64 beds available at the beginning of 1953, and it is hoped, a further 20 beds will be available in 1954.

This decision closes a memorable chapter in the history of this Hospital which was provided by the then Urban District Council of Walthamstow at the beginning of the century. The change of user is a reflection of the progress which has been made in the control of these diseases.

6. **Aged and chronic Sick.**

National Assistance Act, 1948 (Section 47).

Application was made to the Stratford Court for the compulsory removal to hospital of an aged male living by himself under grossly insanitary conditions. The hearing was adjourned, the Bench declining an invitation to visit the premises to see the actual conditions. Subsequent to the second adjournment the man was found dead in his "home."

In a second case authority was given by the Council to make application to the Court for an order. The person concerned was a woman of some 85 years of age, the owner-occupier of a house, who was blind and cardiac and who sub-let to two other elderly and infirm tenants.

Part-time domestic help and "Meals on Wheels" had been provided since May 1949, following a refusal of her family doctor's advice to accept institutional treatment which had been arranged.

At a visit paid in November 1949 the general conditions were bad, and there was considerable danger through the use of oil lamps for heating and cooking. It was felt, however, that from previous experience in regard to Section 47 procedure that an order might not be granted by the Court. The position remained static until May 1951, when the domestic help reported Mrs. "C" to be unwell, and that she would not call the family doctor through fear of removal to hospital.

Later there was some improvement, but in August 1950, the family doctor reported Mrs. "C" to be "falling about" increasingly and that she had again refused hospital treatment. Later there was again improvement, but in January 1952, domestic help was again increased together with home nursing, and the family doctor was in daily attendance. The patient still refused hospital treatment.

By February 1952, the patient was obviously permanently bed-ridden and the family doctor urged compulsory removal to hospital. Following the Council's resolution to make application to the Court, the only known relative, a niece in Wales, was asked to come to Walthamstow to persuade her aunt to go to hospital, a bed at Langthorne having been made available by the transfer of a patient to Part III accommodation by the Welfare Officer. Fortunately, when the ambulance called, the niece was able to persuade the old lady to go to hospital and without recourse being made to the Court.

National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

The Medical Officer of Health is authorised by the Council to make application for the necessary orders in cases to which the Act applies.

7. Public Health Act, 1936—Nursing Homes :—

	No. of Homes	No. of Patients provided for		
		Maternity Patients	Others	Totals
Homes first registered during the year	—	—	—	—
Homes on register at the end of the year	2	4	18	22

There were no refusals or appeals.

Four inspections of each home were made by the medical staff. No difficulties in regard to supervision arose.

Routine enquiries are made with regard to unregistered homes.

8. Essex County Council Act, 1933 (Establishments for massage and special treatment).

One new licence was granted under the Act.

C.— SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water.—The authority responsible is the Metropolitan Water Board. Routine tests are carried out by the Board, and the usual practice was continued of notifying the Board of all actual or suspected cases of enteric fever. The Board then arranged special tests at the addresses concerned. All were negative in 1952. All dwelling houses in the area are supplied direct with running water.

The information included in the report for 1951 in respect of Ministry of Health Circular 42/51, also applied to 1952.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Mr. F. W. Kemp, Chief Sanitary Inspector reports as follows :—

No. of Inspections Made	No. of Nuisances Detected	No. of Complaints Received	No. of Intimation Notices		No. of Statutory Notices		Total Visits
			Served	Complied With	Served	Complied With	
15,857	5,203	2,402	1,434	1,619*	234	297*	22,114

* Includes Notices outstanding from previous year.

Of the 1,434 intimation notices served, 295 were in respect of business premises and the remainder (1,139) related to defects in private houses. Of the latter figure, 906 were complied with without resort to statutory procedure.

Owing to the failure of Owners to comply with Abatement Notices served under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, it was necessary to institute legal proceedings in nine cases. Orders were made by the Justices in two instances, Costs of £1 1s. 0d. and £5 5s. 0d. respectively being awarded. Owing to further default on the part of one Owner, the Council subsequently carried out the work at a cost of £30 17s. 11d. In seven cases the Summonses were withdrawn on payment of Costs ranging from £1 1s. 0d. to £2 2s. 0d., the required work having been undertaken before the date of Hearing.

The following table shows the nature of work executed and improvements effected during the year:—

Drains tested, 294; Drains reconstructed or repaired, 409; Drains, obstructions removed, 121; Drains, means of access provided, 44; Drains, ventilation provided or improved, 70; Drains, ventilation repaired, 76; Soil pipes repaired or renewed, 106; Rain-water pipes repaired or renewed, 134; Rain-water pipes disconnected from drains, 8; Roofs repaired or renewed, 582; Gutterings repaired or renewed, 319; W.C. pans or traps provided, 257; Gully traps provided, 94; W.C. flushing cisterns repaired or renewed, 214; W.C. floors concreted, 76; W.C.s repaired and cleansed, 234; W.C.s light and ventilation improved, 44; Waste pipes repaired, renewed or trapped, 197; New sinks provided, 78; Stoves and firegrates repaired or renewed, 257; Water supply reinstated, 16; Water supply taken off main, 6; Cisterns cleansed and covered, 25; Sculleries paved, 34; Yards and forecourts paved or repaired, 76; Dirty houses cleansed, 31; Dirty rooms cleansed, 418; Floors repaired, 396; Ventilations under floors provided or improved, 131; New damp proof courses provided, 35; Sites concreted, 1; Offensive accumulations removed, 20; Animals improperly kept, removed, 4; Stables repaired and cleansed, 20; Manholes repaired or re-sealed, 142; Other causes of dampness remedied, 527; Miscellaneous repairs, 2,044.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Visits to premises, 671; Re-visits to premises, 14.

DISINFECTIONS.

Rooms disinfected, 169; Articles disinfected, 479; Articles destroyed, 54.

SPECIAL PREMISES.

	Number	Visits paid
Factories (a) Non-power	89	157
(b) Power	463	842
(c) Other premises	45	133
Outworkers	572	826
Butchers—80; Horseflesh only—3 ...	83	450
Bakehouses	36	189
Fishmongers, Fish Fryers and Curers, etc.	41	193
Cafes and Caterers	115	509
Grocers, etc.	268	770
Ice Cream Manufacturers and Vendors ...	276	360
Dairies and Milksellers	133	149
Laundries	3	14
Hairdressers	74	84
Rag and Bone Dealers	4	20
Piggeries	2	4
Street Stalls	Numerous	294
Greengrocers	94	160
Stables	21	128
Schools	—	120
Conveniences	—	77

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

BUTCHERS.

Special cleansings, 53; Pavings repaired, 8; Accumulations removed, 7; New galvanised bins provided, 18; Drains repaired, 1; W.C.s repaired and cleansed, 10; Floors repaired and ventilated, 5; Light and ventilation improved, 1; Other improvements, 41;

BAKEHOUSES.

Special cleansings, 48; New ceilings fixed, 2; Floors repaired, 6; Light and ventilation improved, 4; Roofs repaired, 1; Other improvements, 17.

FISHMONGERS.

Special cleansings, 24; Yards repaved, 5; Accumulations removed, 8; Drains cleared, 5; Other improvements, 16.

GROCERS.

Store rooms cleansed, 101; Washing accommodation improved, 27; Other improvements, 54.

CAFES AND CATERERS.

Special cleansings, 94; Light and ventilation improved, 6; Floors repaired, 5; Other improvements, 52.

ICE CREAM MANUFACTURERS AND VENDORS.

Special cleansings, 4; Other improvements, 2.

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Special cleansings, 24; New fittings and other improvements, 9; Pavings relaid, 1.

HAIRDRESSERS.

Special cleansings, 29; Other improvements, 8.

STABLE PREMISES.

Cleansings, 14; Accumulations removed, 10; Pavings repaired, 3; Other improvements, 3.

LAUNDRIES.

Special cleansings, 4.

RAG AND BONE DEALERS.

Cleansings, 4; Accumulations removed, 1.

PIGGERIES.

Cleansing, 1.

STREET TRADERS.

Stalls improved, 14; Storerooms improved, 6.

PUBLIC HOUSES.

Special cleansings, 12; Hot water supply improved, 3.

Caravans.

There are no authorised sites in the borough.

During the year considerable trouble was experienced from unauthorised campers on the verge in Folly Lane, but with the co-operation of the police authorities and the Borough Architect, Engineer and Surveyor's Department they were removed, only to return later and again to be removed.

Smoke Abatement.

Complaints of smoke nuisance were received and investigations carried out in respect of eleven premises, seven of which were factories.

Ten smoke observations were carried out.

Five written intimations were sent.

A cyclone grit-arrestor was fitted to one factory boiler plant and one bakehouse changed from solid fuel to gas.

Eradication of Bed Bugs, etc.

The number of houses reported to be verminous still remains comparatively small.

Seventy-six rooms were fumigated with DDT smoke or sprayed with DDT solution. Insecticides were issued free of charge to tenants of seventy-one premises.

Hydrogen Cyanide (Fumigation of Buildings) Regulations, 1938 :—

No notifications were received during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

The model bye-laws of the Ministry of Health were adopted in 1938.

(a) MUNICIPAL BATHS, HIGH STREET.—This is a covered swimming bath. Mr. W. Cantes kindly contributes the following report :—

“From January 1st to December 31st, 1952, the Baths were open on 294 days. Number of Swimming Bath Bathers during this period was 111,670.

“Maximum load was on July 1st, when we had 1,137.

“During this period we also had 125,155 Slipper Bath Bathers.”

Sampling was carried out on seven occasions, with generally satisfactory results.

(b) WHIPPS CROSS BATHING POOL.—This is a large open-air pool situated in Epping Forest, in the area of the Borough of Leyton and a few hundred yards from the Walthamstow boundary.

It is administered by a joint Committee representing the two Boroughs.

The pool is supervised by the Medical Officer of Health for Leyton, who kindly sends a copy of the analytical findings when samples are taken.

(c) SOUTH-WEST ESSEX TECHNICAL COLLEGE.—Sampling was carried out, with satisfactory results.

(d) FOREST SCHOOL.—This is a small swimming bath with a capacity of approximately 65,000 gallons. Sampling was carried out with satisfactory results.

(e) WOODFORD COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL.—Sampling was carried out with satisfactory results.

(f) KINGFISHER POOL.—The Managing Director kindly gives the following particulars:—

“ Normal turnover of between 6 and 8 hours.

“ Approximately 19,500 people passed through during the season.

“ The new chlorination plant was very satisfactory, and except when the pool was very heavily loaded and a boost of liquid chlorine used, produced an average of .5 ppm in the shallow end and .3 ppm in the deep end.

“ Several times it was necessary to run the plant all night due to a heavy load the previous day. This was partly due to night swimming which the inception of floodlighting produced.”

Bacteriological and chemical analyses were carried out on five occasions with satisfactory results.

D.—HOUSING

Statistics

The Borough Architect, Engineer and Surveyor, F. G. Southgate, Esq., A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., has kindly contributed the following:—

Houses erected by the Local Authority during 1952:—

Hoe Stree Ward	18 Flats	12 Houses
St. James Street Ward		2 Houses
Higham Hill Ward	93 Flats	12 Houses
High Street Ward		Nil
Hale End Ward	34 Flats	3 Houses
Wood Street Ward	20 Flats	21 Houses
TOTAL	165 Flats	50 Houses

Houses erected by Private Enterprise during 1952 :—

Hoe Street Ward	Nil
St. James Street Ward	2 Houses
Higham Hill Ward	Nil
High Street Ward	6 Houses
Hale End Ward	10 Houses
Wood Street Ward	6 Houses
TOTAL	24 Houses

Note: All were permanent houses or flats.

HOUSES ERECTED DURING 1952

During the calendar year 1952, 50 new houses and 165 flats have been erected.

Twenty-four houses were erected by private enterprise.

The principal schemes completed by the Council during the year include 24 flats at Gordon Avenue, 5 houses and 20 flats at Wyatts Lane, 12 flats and 8 maisonettes at Chingford Road/Evesham Avenue, 68 flats and 5 houses, Bulls Farm, Billet Road, and 5 shops with maisonettes over have also been completed at this Estate. Fifty-one houses and 4 flats are at present under construction at Bulls Farm, and the completed scheme will provide a total of 133 houses and flats and 5 shops.

Development is proceeding on a number of smaller sites throughout the Borough and 31 houses for the higher income group are in course of erection at Gordon Avenue.

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)	2,799
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	7,763
(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	256
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	309

- | | |
|---|---|
| (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 8 |
|---|---|

(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 | 1,131 |
|--|-------|

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	906
--	-----

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

A. *Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—*

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (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 |
| (c) Withdrawn — premises vacated and undertaking not to allow future occupation | Nil |

B. *Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:—*

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 233 |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:— | |
| (a) By owners | *295 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | 1 |

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

* Includes those outstanding from previous year.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	1
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	4

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	4
(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

Housing Act, 1936

UNFIT HOUSES

The following premises were dealt with as follows:—

Demolition Orders :

258, Hale End Road

Closing Orders :

23, Church Hill (Basement)
172, Wood Street
174, Wood Street
3, Eldon Road (Basement)

Houses Demolished :

36, Elm Grove
38, Elm Grove
1, Eden Road
110, Upper Walthamstow Road

Unfit Houses :

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government (Form P.13 (HSG)/53)—Return for the period 1st April, 1952, to 31st December, 1952.

Part B.—Houses not included in Clearance Areas.

Demolition and Closing Orders

	No. of houses	No. of persons dis- placed
(1) Housing Act, 1936		
(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11	3	9
(b) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 11, and still in force	1	2
(c) Parts of buildings closed (Section 12)	1	2
(2) Housing Act, 1949		
(a) Closing Orders made under Section 3 (1)	—	—
(b) Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Section 3 (2)	—	—
(3) Repairs		
Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts		1,263
(4) Public Health Acts		
Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—		
(a) By owners		220*
(b) By local authority in default of owners		1
(5) Housing Act, 1936		
Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices—		
(a) By owners		—
(b) By local authority in default of owners		—

* Includes those brought forward from preceding year.

Marlowe Road Redevelopment Area

In February, the Council decided to investigate the possibility of declaring a redevelopment area in the Wood Street Ward. This involved the detailed inspection of some 300 houses, 256 of which were completed by the end of the year.

Rent and Mortgage Restriction Acts

During the year thirteen certificates were granted to tenants. No applications were received for clearance certificates.

Housing Act, 1936, Section 62

Applications for "permitted number" were received from landlords and certificates issued during the year respecting 85 lettings. Thirty special enquiries from the Housing Manager were also dealt with.

Local Land Charges

Particulars relating to outstanding sanitary notices were supplied in reference to 1,527 enquiries.

General

Mr. C. W. Rayner, the Council's Housing Manager, kindly gives the following details of rehousing carried out by his Department in 1952 :—

No. of new properties made available for letting	...	...	...	197
Normal vacancies	...	...	...	40
TOTAL	...	...	...	237
Families rehoused :—				
1-bedroom group	...	...	...	47
2-bedroom group	...	...	...	104
3-bedroom group	...	...	...	74
4-bedroom group	...	...	...	12
TOTAL	...	...	...	237

Of the total number of families rehoused, in 18 instances there was a medical recommendation made in respect of tuberculosis.

The following extract is taken from a Report made to the Sub-Committee on housing policy held in January, 1952, and showing the housing situation in Walthamstow, at the 31st December, 1951.

“ Categories

“ To make an intelligent assessment of the housing needs of the Borough the Housing Department has analysed the applications with the following results :—

(a) Families living in dwellings where there is overcrowding in excess of $1\frac{1}{2}$ persons per room	...	...	...	700
(b) Families in dwellings considered to be fully occupied, viz., $1\frac{1}{2}$ persons per room	...	...	...	474
(c) Families in dwellings where there is $\frac{1}{2}$ unit of under-occupation	...	...	...	824
(d) Families in dwellings where there is 1 unit of under-occupation	...	...	...	709
(e) Families in dwellings where there is $1\frac{1}{2}$ units of under-occupation but more than one person per room	...	...	...	1,210
(f) Cases of one person per room or less	...	...	...	2,473
				6,390

“ As indicated in the above statement a dwelling is regarded as ‘ overcrowded ’ if there are more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ persons per living or

bedroom. Kitchens and bathrooms are ignored, and children count as $\frac{1}{2}$ persons. The Ministry's official overcrowding figure is two persons per room.

"The 'hard core' of the housing register is probably to be found in the following categories :—

1½ persons or more per room	1,174
Three families per dwelling	330
Families with 2 or more children living with in-laws	556
Priority I	<u>2,060</u>

"There will also be some exceptional cases (not covered above) requiring special treatment.

"To these ought to be added if possible :—

Over 1 person per room	2,743
Priority II	<u>2,743</u>

"The remainder are chiefly those who already have as many rooms as we would allot them or those who want a change of landlord or a house with present-day comforts and improvements. While such desires are natural, the Council cannot hope to be able to cater fully for these last groups.

"The basic need, therefore, is 2,060 dwellings, to which should be added (if possible) a further 2,743."

Rehousing of Medical Cases

During 1952, 91 cases claiming priority of rehousing for tuberculosis were investigated and reported upon. Of these, 16 cases were added to the list of cases and classified in order of urgency.

The position at the end of 1952 was as follows :—

	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Total
On List, at end of 1951 ...	12	17	9	37	75
Added to List during 1952	7	3	5	1	16
	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>91</u>

Rehoused or removed from					
List during 1952 ...	17	6	1	13	37
On List at end of 1952 ...	2	14	13	25	54

In addition to the tuberculosis cases, 48 cases were recorded as needing special investigation on medical grounds, and 57 on general housing grounds.

A grand total of 263 investigations were made during the year. In order to assess medical and rehousing claims, the necessary enquiries were made from the Chest Clinic and the Housing Department, from which the closest co-operation has been received. Duplication of enquiries was thus prevented.

E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply.

The following is contributed by the Chief Sanitary Inspector :—

Designated Milk.

During the year 144 samples of milk were submitted to the Counties Laboratories for bacteriological examination, including Phosphatase, Methylene Blue and Turbidity tests.

These samples of milk were taken from roundsmen during the course of delivery or on arrival at Schools. They include the bi-monthly sampling of the two dairymen holding Pasteuriser's Licences.

The following tables gives details of samples taken :—

Grade	No. of Samples	Results	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory (Methylene Blue Test)
Pasteurised	115	114	1
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised	22	22	—
Sterilised	7	7	—
Totals	144	143	1

Biological Test.

Four samples of Pasteurised milk were examined, all of which were satisfactory.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED & STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949 & 1950.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATION, 1949.

Licences for the sale of milk under Special Designations were granted as follows :—

Dealers' Licences.

Pasteurised	...	...	45
Sterilised	...	...	114
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	26

Supplementary Licences.

Pasteurised	...	...	9
Sterilised	...	...	11
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	9

Licences (Plant).

Pasteurisers 2 Tuberculin Tested (Dealers) 2

There are no Cow-keepers in the district.

The number of Retail Milk Distributors is 133.

One hundred and forty-nine visits were paid to registered premises and a satisfactory standard of cleanliness was maintained.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (SPECIFIED AREAS) ORDER, 1951.

The above Order came into operation on the 1st October, 1951. All milk retailed within the Borough must be either Pasteurised or Sterilised.

(b) Ice Cream.

Fifty-one applications for Registration were received.

New licences were granted as follows :—

Vendors, New	...	...	...	...	...	27
Vendors, Transfers	...	...	...	...	...	20
Refused	...	...	...	...	...	4
Number on Register at end of year	...	...	...	...	...	276
Number of premises used for manufacturing	...	...	...	...	...	9

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS, 1947-51.

The trade has continued to co-operate and a good standard has been maintained.

FOOD STANDARDS (ICE CREAM) ORDER, 1951.

Four samples were taken and submitted to the Public Analysts who reported the following satisfactory results :—

Fat content

12.3%

10.9%

8.7%

5.5%

MEDICAL EXAMINATION—TYPHOID, ETC., CARRIERS.

The scheme of voluntary medical examination and blood testing of employees in the ice cream trade has now reached its sixth year.

A session is held one afternoon a week and forty-nine employees presented themselves for the purpose of having blood specimens taken by the Medical Officer of Health.

No "Carriers" were found during the period under review.

BACTERIAL QUALITY AND GRADING OF ICE CREAM.

One hundred and twenty-six samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and for grading in accordance with the provisional test of the Ministry of Health.

The following summary gives the comparative results as between the old standard test and the new (provisional) test. Grades I and II of the latter are considered satisfactory.

Plate Count	Coliform Reaction (in 1/10 ml.)	Bacterium Coli (in 1/10 ml.)	Very Satisfactory	Passable	Not Passable	Methylene Blue Reduction Time	Test Grade
400	—	—	X			Not in 4 hrs.	I
4,000	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
500	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
5,000	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
1,000	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
9,000	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
2,000	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
4,500	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
1,400	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
1,200	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
3,800	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
7,000	x1 tube	—	X			" 4 "	I
900	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
2,800	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
4,600	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
2,500	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
800	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
2,000	x1 tube	—	X			" 4 "	I
6,000	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
200	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
400	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
2,800	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
1,800	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
3,200	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
9,000	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
400	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
100	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
1,200	x1 tube	—	X			" 4 "	I
500	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
100	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
3,500	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
6,500	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
4,400	x2 tubes	—		X		" 4 "	I
1,600	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
8,000	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
3,800	x1 tube	—	X			" 4 "	I
300	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
1,800	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
1,600	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
300	—	—	X			" 4 "	I
2,500	—	—	X			" 4 "	I

Plate Count	Coliform Reaction (in 1/10 ml.)	Bacterium Coli (in 1/10 ml.)	Very Satisfactory	Passable	Not Passable	Methylene Blue Test Reduction Time	Grade
1,200	x1 tube	—	x			Not in 4 hrs.	I
300	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
6,000	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	I
200	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
1,200	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
1,900	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
600	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
1,600	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
1,800	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	I
1,200	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
2,700	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	I
5,500	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	I
3,000	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
900	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
1,500	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
4,500	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	I
400	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	I
100	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
300	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
200	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	I
800	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
100	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
6,000	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	I
3,000	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
15,000	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
1,400	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
9,000	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	I
1,700	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
1,700	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
700	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
200	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
100	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
200	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	I
300	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
100	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
3,600	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
2,200	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
2,800	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
1,000	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
800	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
2,200	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
4,400	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
400	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
500	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
1,800	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
1,200	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
4,800	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
4,000	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
2,800	—	—	x			" 4 "	I
2,700	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	I
800	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	I
8,000	x1 tube	—	x			In 4 "	II
3,600	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	II
3,200	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	II
13,000	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	II
250	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	II
8,800	x1 tube	—	x			" 4 "	II
18,000	—	—	x			" 4 "	II
7,000	x1 tube	—	x			" 3½ "	II

Plate Count	Coliform Reaction (in 1/10 ml.)	Bacterium Coli (in 1/10 ml.)	Very Satisfactory	Passable	Not Passable	Methylene Blue Reduction Time	Test Grade
18,000	x2 tubes	—		x		In 3½ "	II
1,500	—	—	x			" 3½ "	II
100	x1 tube	—	x			" 3½ "	II
3,200	x1 tube	—	x			" 3½ "	II
6,400	x1 tube	—	x			" 3½ "	II
9,500	—	—	x			" 3½ "	II
700	—	—	x			" 3½ "	II
9,000	—	—	x			" 3½ "	II
23,000	x1 tube	—	x			" 3½ "	II
9,000	—	—	x			" 3½ "	II
4,000	x2 tubes	—		x		" 3½ "	II
13,200	x3 tubes	—		x		" 3 "	II
1,500	x3 tubes	—		x		" 3 "	II
28,000	x2 tubes	—		x		" 2½ "	II
24,000	x2 tubes	x2 tubes			x	" 2½ "	II
300	x2 tubes	—		x		" 2½ "	II
56,000	x3 tubes	—		x		" 2½ "	II
2,600	x3 tubes	—		x		" 2½ "	II
22,000	x2 tubes	—		x		" 2½ "	II
28,000	—	—	x			" 2½ "	II
70,000	x3 tubes	x1 tube			x	" 2½ "	III
3,400	x3 tubes	x3 tubes			x	" 2 "	III
18,000	x2 tubes	—		x		" 2 "	III
14,000	x3 tubes	—		x		" 1½ "	III
12,000	x3 tubes	—		x		" 0 "	IV
110,000	x3 tubes	—			x	" 0 "	IV

By the old test, of a total of 126, 109 were in the categories "Very Satisfactory" or "Satisfactory" and 13 "Passable." In the latter group the bacteriologists invariably amplified their classification with a special note.

By the new (provisional) test, 92 were in Grade I, 28 Grade II, 4 Grade III and 2 Grade IV.

When an unsatisfactory sample is obtained the supplies are re-sampled as soon as possible.

In the case of ice cream manufactured other than within the district, copy reports are sent to the appropriate local authority.

Ice Lollies.

Four samples were submitted to the Public Analysts, who reported all free from prohibited dyes and metallic poisoning.

Nine samples were examined for bacterial purity, all of which were of a satisfactory standard.

(c) Meat and Other Foods.

The Live Stock (Restriction of Slaughtering) Order, 1940, continued in force and no slaughtering was carried out.

The following is a summary of food surrendered and con-

demned as being unfit for human consumption. Where possible, the food was salvaged for animal feeding-stuffs, etc.

881 tins	Evaporated Milk	28 tins	Spaghetti
265 „	Full Cream Milk	14 drums	Mustard
65 „	Machine Skimmed	22 bots.	Salad Cream
	Milk	5 jars	Pickles
1 tin	Cream	1 bot.	Sauce
1 „	Malt Beverage	78 tins	Soup
119 tins	Strained Foods	6 pkts.	Soup Squares
503 „	Peas	28 lbs.	Split Peas
391 „	Beans	4 „	Sugar
113 „	Tomatoes	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ „	Tea
55 „	Vegetable salad	1729 „	Prunes
16 „	Carrots	60 „	Currants
14 „	Rhubarb	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ „	Figs
1 tin	Celery Hearts	4320 „	Tomatoes
1626 tins	Cherries	448 lbs.	Sweepfat
735 „	Plums	12 pkts.	Bun Flour
230 „	Apples	8 „	Pudding Mixture
180 „	Strawberries	50 lbs.	Flour
146 „	Raspberries	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ „	Shredded Coconut
103 „	Oranges	2 pkts.	Blanc Mange
101 „	Peaches	3 „	Jellies
71 „	Pineapple	53 lbs.	Cheese
67 „	Greengages	18 „	Macaroon Biscuits
55 „	Apricots	5 „	Cake
35 „	Blackcurrants	144 bars	Peppermint Rock
33 „	Damsons	122 boxes	Chocolate
32 „	Gooseberries	90 lbs.	Confectionery
28 „	Prunes	7 pkts.	Chewing Gum
12 „	Grapes	27 jars	Lemonade Crystals
11 „	Grapefruit	5 doz.	Mineral Waters
6 „	Pears	62 tins	Sardines
7 „	Loganberries	23 „	Fish Paste
5 „	Blackberries	22 „	Roe
4 „	Youngberries	11 „	Herrings
2 „	Bananas	8 „	Salmon
1 „	Mango Slices	7 „	Pilchards
77 „	Jam	5 „	Lobster
22 „	Marmalade	2 „	Crab
2 „	Mincemeat	38 stone	Skate
2 „	Lemon Curd	7 „	Dogfish
2 „	Syrup	6 „	Whiting
9 „	Pease Pudding	3 „	Kippers
48 „	Christmas Puddings	1 „	Bream
6 tins	Milk Pudding	10 lbs.	Cod
1 tin	Plum & Apple	12 cwt.	Mussels
	Pudding	690 tins	Luncheon Meat

87 tins	Stewed Steak	161 lbs.	Geese
38 "	Beef Loaf	4062 "	Lambs' Livers
37 "	Sausages	3091 "	Beef
31 "	Tongue	924 "	Lambs' Kidneys
24 "	Veal & Ham Loaf	412 "	Mutton
19 "	Braised Steak	810 "	Ox Cheeks
13 "	Brawn	294 "	Lambs' Hearts
1 tin	Braised Kidneys	54 "	Pigs' Livers
1 "	Rabbit	20½ "	Pork
2 jars	Meat Paste	14 "	Lamb
1504 lbs.	Ham (tinned)	10 "	Ox Kidney
262 "	Pork (tinned)	6 "	Bacon
248 "	Jellied Veal (tinned)	28 "	Fat (beef)
186 "	Chicken (tinned)		

(d) **Adulteration, etc.—Food and Drugs Act, 1938.**

During the year, ninety-seven samples of food and drugs were submitted to the Public Analysts.

Three were reported as being unsatisfactory, details respecting same are given below:—

Description of Article	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
Pork Sausages ...	Deficient in Meat by 15%	Through Ministry of Food. Fined £10 and £5 5s. 0d. Costs.
Cough Syrup (2) ...	Unfit — contained mould growth	Old stock—1 bottle surrendered.

The following summary gives details of food sampled and results of analyses:—

	No. Examined			No. Unsatisfactory		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Milk ...	17	—	17	—	—	—
Cheese Spread ...	—	3	3	—	—	—
Doughnut ...	1	1	2	—	—	—
Lobster Paste ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Macaroni ...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Meat, potted ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pepper ...	1	4	5	—	—	—
Sausages, Liver ...	2	—	2	—	—	—
Sausages, Pork ...	1	—	1	1	—	1
Self-raising Flour ...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Sweet Pearls for Cake Decorations ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tapioca Wafer Flake ...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Vinegar ...	3	—	3	—	—	—
Epsom Salts ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Eye Ointment ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mercurial Ointment ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Soothing Syrup ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Aspirin Tablets ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Saccharin Tablets ...	—	2	2	—	—	—
Olive Oil ...	—	1	1	—	—	—

	No. Examined			No. Unsatisfactory		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Cough Syrup	1	1	2	1	1	2
Syrup of Figs	—	1	1	—	—	—
Baking Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cake Mixture	—	2	2	—	—	—
Batter Flour	1	—	1	—	—	—
Sponge Mixture	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cream Bun	—	1	1	—	—	—
Swiss Roll	—	1	1	—	—	—
Prepared Milk Food ...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Ice Cream	—	4	4	—	—	—
Ice Lollies	—	4	4	—	—	—
Ice Cream Cones	—	3	3	—	—	—
Jelly	2	1	3	—	—	—
Mincedmeat	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pork Brawn	—	1	1	—	—	—
Beef, Pressed	1	—	1	—	—	—
Linseed, Meal	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cherries in Syrup	—	1	1	—	—	—
Salad Cream	—	1	1	—	—	—
Gravy Powder	1	—	1	—	—	—
Horseradish Relish ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pickled Onions	—	1	1	—	—	—
Spice, Mixed	—	1	1	—	—	—
Welsh Rarebit	—	1	1	—	—	—
Coffee	1	—	1	—	—	—
Custard Powder	1	—	1	—	—	—
Sherbet Sucker	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sweets	—	2	2	—	—	—
Kosher and Vegetarian						
Cooking Fat	—	1	1	—	—	—
Procea Bread	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pudding, Christmas ...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Whisky	4	—	4	—	—	—
Gin	1	—	1	—	—	—
Rum	1	—	1	—	—	—
	44	53	97	2	1	3

(e) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Foods.

Chemical examinations of food samples are carried out by the Public Analysts, Mr. G. Taylor, F.R.I.C., and Dr. J. H. Hammence, F.R.I.C., of 20, Eastcheap, E.C.3, and bacteriological examinations by the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66, Victoria Street, S.W.1.

(f) Clean Food Campaign.

The majority of "Progressive" food-traders now fully realise that "Clean Food" is more than a slogan, and they seriously endeavour to attain a standard suitable to their calling.

For several years their efforts were met with frustration. Fortunately, conditions are now easing; materials for raising the

cleanliness-standard of premises are in more plentiful supply, wrapping papers are available although still comparatively expensive, and suitable washable coats and aprons are readily obtainable.

In fact, the conditions laid down in the Council's Byelaws for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air, can now be attained without great hardship.

The "careless" food-trader should note that the Byelaws contain a Penalty clause for offences, and fines up to £5, and for a continuing offence a further fine not exceeding 40/- per day, may be inflicted on summary conviction of the offender.

Clean Food Guild.

A conference took place during the year with representatives of the Walthamstow Trades Council and of the Walthamstow Chamber of Commerce to consider the possible issue of Certificates of Hygiene to traders, etc., if the conditions of their premises satisfied standards to be laid down by the Borough Council and to consider the issue of a booklet on clean food.

Later, representations were received from the Chamber of Commerce, stating that after consulting with other bodies through the National Chamber of Commerce, it was considered that a Clean Food Guild would not meet with success, and that reliance should be placed on the enforcement of the model Byelaws which had been adopted by the Council.

Lectures.

During the autumn a course of lectures was arranged by the Superintendent of No. 11 Nursing Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade on Hygienic Food Handling. The lectures were given by Dr. M. Watkins, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, assisted by the Sanitary Inspectorate, and of sixteen who subsequently sat for the Hygiene Food Handling Certificate, fifteen were successful.

Lectures in connection with the campaign continue to be given, as and when required.

Food Hygiene.

In the House of Commons attention was called recently to the need for further action to encourage cleanliness in the handling of food. It was stated that nowadays this problem was primarily one of germ infection. The old fears of metallic contamination and the like had largely disappeared. It was also largely a problem of meat and milk products—mainly meat. The danger lay in dishes

that were not eaten as soon as they were cooked, if indeed they were cooked, but were left exposed to flies. The public should realise that it was not necessarily the food that smelt that was dangerous; the greater danger lay in foods that were not obviously contaminated. It was wrong in the home or in a food establishment for a person suffering from diarrhoea, or from a superficial infection of the skin, however apparently trivial, to handle food. It was essential for people to wash their hands before handling food and also after using a lavatory.

The free use of the Borough Public Conveniences with washing facilities has been continued.

(g) Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

Twenty-two notifications were received and investigated. Further particulars are to be found on page 53.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS

Swine Fever Order, 1938.—No action necessary.

Regulation of Movement of Swine Order, 1950.—No action necessary.

Parasitic Mange Order, 1938.—No action necessary.

Foot and Mouth Disease (Controlled Areas) Special Orders No. 11/51 and No. 1/52.—One movement licence countersigned regarding two pigs.

Foot and Mouth Disease (Infected Areas) Special Order No. 102.—Two licences issued respecting fifteen pigs.

The following Orders were dealt with, as necessary :—

Live Poultry (Restrictions) Order, 1952 (One warning to street trader on a Saturday afternoon for selling day-old chicks).

Foot and Mouth Disease (Infected Areas) Special Order No. 30.

Foot and Mouth Disease (Controlled Areas) Special Orders Nos. 4, 5, 9, 11 and 13.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act became operative in April, 1952, and the Chief and Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspectors were authorised by the Council to inspect premises to be licenced under the Act. Conditions were adopted for insertion in the Licences to be issued.

All known dealers were informed of their responsibilities under the Act and twenty licences were granted.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The agreed scheme of work has continued, and the two trained Operatives have been fully engaged under the general supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors.

The following summary of work carried out is in the revised form as suggested by the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries :—

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All Other (including Business Premises)	Total
I. Total No. of Properties in Local Authority's District	12	33,175	5	2,770	35,962
II. No. of Properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1952 as result of:					
(a) Notification ..	3	465	—	64	532
(b) Survey or otherwise	9	480	—	131	620
III. No. of Properties inspected (see Section II) which were found to be infested by rats:					
(a) Major	1	13	—	6	20
(b) Minor	3	483	—	26	512
IV. No. of Properties inspected (see Section II) which were found to be seriously infested by mice	—	81	—	33	114
V. No. of Infested Properties (see Sections III & IV) treated by the Local Authority	4	571	—	65	640
VI. No. of Notices served under Section IV:					
(1) Treatment	—	1	—	1	2
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing) ..	1	78	—	1	80
VII. No. of cases in which default action was taken by the Local Authority following the issue of a Notice under Section IV	—	—	—	—	Nil
VIII. Legal Proceedings ..	—	—	—	—	Nil
IX. No. of "Block" Control Schemes carried out ..					11

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS

An unauthorised store of approximately 1,000 gallons of Petroleum Mixture was brought to light. Legal proceedings were taken and the defendant fined £10 and £6 6s. 0d. costs.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

The following tables show the work carried out under these Acts:—

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, ETC.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Premises (1)	No. on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	89	157	17	—
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	463	842	39	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	45	133	4	—
Totals	597	1,132	60	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, ETC.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects				Number of Cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness	79	75	—	—	—
Overcrowding	2	2	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ..	1	1	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	9	7	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors..	6	5	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences {	Insufficient ..	4	1	—	—
	Unsuitable or defective ..	109	100	—	23
	Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences	49	45	3	2	—
Totals	259	236	3	25	—

NUMBER AND TRADES OF OUTWORKERS NOTIFIED DURING 1952

Wearing apparel, making	Carding, etc., of Buttons	14
of 442	Paper Bags	41
Artificial Flowers 5	Brush-making	6
Boxes 31	Lampshades	6
Stuffed Toys 19	Brass and Brass articles ...	8
Total	572	

F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

General.—The following tables show the age and ward incidence of the various infectious diseases which are referred to in later pages of the report. It will be seen from the first table that there was considerably less notifiable disease in 1952 than in 1951. Although there was an increase in notifications of scarlet fever, pneumonia, puerperal pyrexia and food poisoning, this was more than counterbalanced by fewer notifications of measles, whooping cough and dysentery.

	All Ages		Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 & over
	1952	1951							
Scarlet Fever ..	418	118	—	79	327	7	5	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	189	742	18	88	81	1	—	—	1
Measles ..	1,572	2,295	41	654	868	7	2	—	—
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	100	84	3	5	15	1	24	28	24
Meningococcal In- fection ..	2	5	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis:									
Paralytic ..	8	8	—	4	2	—	2	—	—
Non-Paralytic ..	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Acute Infective En- cephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post Infective En- cephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	9	159	2	1	2	—	3	1	—
Ophthalmia Neona- torum ..	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	73	43	—	—	—	29	44	—	—
Smallpox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	2	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	22	14	—	5	5	2	6	4	—
Erysipelas ..	32	33	—	—	—	1	9	13	9
Malaria ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis ..	115	123	2	5	8	28	46	21	5
Totals 1952 ..	2,547	—	69	844	1,310	76	142	67	39
Totals 1951 ..	—	3,631	110	1,691	1,496	81	132	85	36

	St. James Street	High Street	Hoe Street	Wood Street	Hale End	Higham Hill	Totals
Scarlet Fever	34	28	50	27	147	132	418
Whooping Cough	26	26	29	27	33	48	189
Measles	189	168	198	208	483	326	1,572
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	24	11	10	15	25	15	100
Meningococcal Infection	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Acute Poliomyelitis:							
Paralytic	3	1	1	1	1	1	8
Non-Paralytic	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
Acute Infective Ence- phalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post Infective Ence- phalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	8	1	9
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	4	5	32	16	10	73
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Food Poisoning	2	1	1	1	6	11	22
Erysipelas	2	3	5	2	6	14	32
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	11	14	19	12	30	29	115
Totals 1952	299	260	319	325	755	589	2,547
Totals 1951	549	376	531	429	861	885	3,631

The Registrar-General gives the statistics for the 52 weeks ended 31st December, 1952, 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 ...	418	—	3	100	73	32

Case rate:—

England and Wales ...	1.53	0.01	0.02	0.72	Not available	0.14
Walthamstow	3.47	—	0.02	0.83	0.61	0.27

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 ...	47.37
England and Wales ...	17.87

SCARLET FEVER

A total of 418 cases of Scarlet Fever was notified during 1952, as compared with 118 in 1951.

The incidence by months and wards is given below :—

January	27	July	33
February	31	August	11
March	37	September	13
April	35	October	46
May	32	November	64
June	29	December	60
St. James Street ...	34	Wood Street ...	27
High Street ...	28	Hale End ...	147
Hoe Street ...	50	Higham Hill ...	132

The last fatal case of scarlet fever occurred in 1936 and since then up to the end of 1952 there have been 4,237 notified cases without fatality.

DIPHTHERIA

During 1952, 10 cases were notified, but none was confirmed following observation in hospital. There has been no death from diphtheria in the Borough for six years.

Diphtheria remains a deadly disease, but unfortunately, in its absence, complacency continues. Every baby should be immunised before reaching the age of one year.

Diphtheria immunisation is referred to more fully in Section G of the Report in regard to Part III Health Services.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH

All cases of these diseases are now notifiable, but in many cases notifications are received too late to be of any real value, since the health visitors are then unable to visit patients in unsatisfactory homes where their advice would be of value. The health visitors are given complete discretion as to the cases which might merit a visit.

Measles.

January	21	July	257
February	9	August	127
March	11	September	42
April	8	October	218
May	7	November	193
June	109	December	570
St. James Street ...	189	Wood Street ...	208
High Street ...	168	Hale End ...	483
Hoe Street ...	198	Higham Hill ...	326

Whooping Cough.

January	21	July	15
February	23	August	10
March	12	September	19
April	13	October	2
May	21	November	5
June	41	December	7
St. James Street ...	26	Wood Street ...	27
High Street ...	26	Hale End ...	33
Hoe Street ...	29	Higham Hill ...	48

The age incidence compared with previous years was as follows :—

		Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	Over 5 yrs.	Total
1948 ..		70	102	74	84	76	159	565
1949 ..		21	29	42	30	33	71	226
1950 ..		27	40	68	82	58	227	502
1951 ..		47	70	110	101	140	274	742
1952 ..		18	15	32	22	19	83	189

One death occurred in a female child of two years, who died in hospital and who was not immunised against whooping cough.

A follow-up of notified cases of whooping cough, started late in 1951, shows that the classification of severity during the years 1951/2 was as follows :—

(Some visits were ineffective.)

Year	Classification							Infor- mation not available	Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6		
1951 ..	—	—	1	35	13	7	3	—	59
1952 ..	2	1	4	100	40	7	—	3	157

The classification is in accordance with the scheme suggested by the Medical Research Council in their Whooping Cough Trials, and the assessment of severity is as follows :—

- 0—No clinically recognisable Stage A or Stage B (or history thereof).
- 1—Recognisable (clinical, bacteriological or cytological) Stage A, but no Stage B.

- 2—Stage A followed by a typical or abortive Stage B.
 3—Stage B MILD = less than 10 paroxysms in 24 hours.
 4—Stage B MODERATE = 10-20 paroxysms in 24 hours.
 5—Stage B SEVERE = 20-40 paroxysms in 24 hours.
 6—Stage B VERY SEVERE = Attacks complicated by convulsion and/or bronchopneumonia.

Four cases notified as whooping cough during 1952 had previously been immunised, and details are as follows :—

Sex	Age	Date Immunised	Date of Attack	M.R.C. Classification
F.	1 year 4 mths.	Oct. 1951	Feb. 1952	3
F.	1 year 8 mths.	April 1951	Feb. 1952	3
M.	3 years	June 1950	Aug. 1952	3
F.	1 year 3 mths.	March 1952	Aug. 1952	3

The total number of children immunised against whooping cough up to the end of 1952 was 3,030.

PNEUMONIA

January	15	August	3
February	12	September	1
March	10	October	9
April	10	November	8
May	3	December	20
June	9		
St. James Street ...	24	Wood Street ...	15
High Street ...	11	Hale End ...	25
Hoe Street ...	10	Higham Hill ...	15

INFLUENZA

There were two deaths from influenza during the year.

“ GASTRIC ” INFLUENZA

In January, 1953, attention was drawn to vomiting which had affected teachers and staff during the autumn term at one of the High Schools for Girls. Three members of the staff and 19 pupils were involved. The condition resembled that noted in the 1951 Report and continued after the re-opening of the school in 1953. Up to the end of January six more staff and 20 additional pupils had suffered from vomiting. The 1953 cases were accompanied by a few cases of catarrhal jaundice.

MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION

Two cases were notified, the particulars being as follows :—

	Sex	Age	Ward	Hospital	Remarks
1.	F.	7 yrs.	High Street ...	Yes	Recovered
2.	M.	6 mths.	Hoe Street ...	No	Died at home, P.M.

MALARIA

There were no cases notified during the year.

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS AND POLIOENCEPHALITIS

Sixteen cases were notified in 1952, but only 10 were confirmed.

Out of the 10 confirmed cases, seven occurred in children below the age of six years. Eight cases were paralytic, but fortunately none was severe. There was residual paralysis in four cases.

The majority of cases occurred in the more densely populated portion of the Borough, i.e., the South-Western half. This portion is contiguous with the Borough of Leyton, but separated from the London County Council area by the River Lea.

Four cases occurred during July, three in August, two in September and one in October. In only two cases could direct contact be established.

Close questioning of intimate contacts regarding history of illness before and after contact revealed practically no positive evidence. Except for two cases in one family, evidence of association of contacts with other definite cases of poliomyelitis was completely negative.

Such evidence is very difficult to obtain in a dormitory town like Walthamstow, where there is so much travelling to and from Central London.

The particulars in regard to these cases are :—

No.	Sex	Age	Ward	Date of Onset	Date Notified	Date of Removal to Hospital	Site of Paralysis	Final Follow-up Report (January, 1953)
1	M.	12	Hi.	9.7.52	21.7.52	17.7.52 25.7.52*	? Respiratory ..	N.P.
2	M.	4½	Ho.	15.7.52	21.7.52	21.7.52	Right leg ..	Right leg ½-in. shortening—attending hospital for massage and exercises three times a week.
3	F.	26	W.	15.7.52	23.7.52	21.7.52	Right leg and right arm, Encephalitis—Pregnancy 6/12.	No residual paralysis.
4	M.	4½	Hi.	23.7.52	30.7.52	31.7.52	Bulbar.. ..	Slight paresis right leg. Slight ptosis of eyelid. No treatment.
5	F.	6	St. J.	23.8.52	3.9.52	27.8.52 3.9.52*	Shoulder—Respiratory.	Having treatment for both arms three times weekly at hospital. Not fit for school.
6	M.	1¼	St. J.	27.8.52	3.9.52	29.8.52 3.9.52*	Shoulder ..	Having treatment for right leg twice a week at hospital.
7	M.	5	St. J.	23.8.52	3.9.52	25.8.52 3.9.52*	Non-paralytic	Non-paralytic.
8	M.	4	H.E.	6.9.52	9.9.52	9.9.52	? Back ..	Weakness right leg. Attending hospital.
9	M.	3½	H.H.	14.9.52	16.9.52	16.9.52	? Left leg ..	No trace of paralysis.
10	M.	27	St. J.	22.10.52	29.10.52	29.10.52	Left leg ..	No residual paralysis.

* Date transferred to an Infectious Diseases Hospital.

ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS

No notifications were received.

BACILLARY DYSENTERY

The low total of notifications in 1952 is in contrast with the 159 notifications of the previous year. The nine notifications are analysed below in months and wards:—

February ...	...	5	October ...	...	3
May ...	...	1			
Hale End ...	...	8	Higham Hill ...	...	1

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Two cases were reported and in neither case was vision impaired.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

The total of notifications rose from 43 in 1951 to 73 in 1952, but chiefly because of the operation of the new regulations in August, 1951. The new regulations, which make more cases notifiable, were therefore in operation for the whole of 1952, as compared with seven months in 1951.

SMALLPOX

No notifications were received.

ENTERIC FEVER

Three cases of enteric fever were notified, one of typhoid and two of para-typhoid "B." The latter were both in young children and within a month of each other, but one was phage type "1" whilst the other was "untypable."

No.	Sex	Age	Ward	Date Notified	Type	Remarks
1	F.	41	H.H.	10.1.52 from hospital.	Untypable.	Recovered. Onset before Christmas. No food away from home.
2	F.	4½	Hi.	26.7.52	Paratyphoid 'B' Type 1.	Recovered. Had been on holiday on south coast.
3	M.	4	St. J.	28.8.52 from hospital.	Paratyphoid 'B' Untypable.	Recovered. Had taken food at a forest kiosk.

Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1927.

(a) In view of the continued carrier condition of a cafe proprietress, her suspension was renewed in June, 1952. In August, information was received that in spite of this suspension the carrier was serving in the cafe, and confirmation was obtained on making an inspection. The seriousness of the position was pointed out, and the carrier left the premises the same day. Consideration was given by the Council to the advisability of legal proceedings, but these were held up pending proof of the sale of the business, which was eventually obtained.

(b) Part-compensation continued to be paid in conjunction with an adjoining authority to a chronic carrier, in order to prevent her from following her occupation as a cook. The carrier is now 72 years old and for some years was employed by the other authority as a convenience attendant. After retirement, she claimed that she was still physically fit and able to work as a cook. For this reason, part-time compensation continued to be paid.

FOOD POISONING

The annual return of food poisoning notifications made to the Ministry of Health was as follows :—

1. **Local Authority**—Borough of Walthamstow. Year 1952.
2. **Food Poisoning Notifications (Corrected) Returned to R.G.**

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
4	6	12	Nil	22

3. **Outbreaks Due to Identified Agents.**

Total Outbreaks	... Nil	Total Cases	... Nil
-----------------	---------	-------------	---------

Outbreaks due to :—

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| (a) Chemical Poisons | (d) Cl. Botulinum |
| (b) Salmonella Organisms | |
| (c) Staphylococci (including toxin) | (e) Other bacteria |

Nil.

4. **Outbreaks of Undiscovered Cause.**

Total Outbreaks	... 4	Total Cases	... 13
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5. **Single Cases.**

Agent Identified	Unknown Causes		Total
Salmonella Typhi	—	3	9
Murium	6	6	

There were 13 cases in four families. In the first, shell fish had been bought from a street trader and two adults and a child were affected. In the second family, the mother and four children alleged that the illness followed consumption of tinned stewed steak. The third family produced cases in three children, the suspected cause being cold meat from a Sunday joint. The standard of hygiene in this house was reported to be very low. In the fourth family there were two children and an adult, the suspected cause being tinned foods.

In none of these cases was it possible to identify accurately either the agent or the cause.

The incidence by months and wards was as follows :—

February	3	May	1
March	1	August	4
April	5	September	8
St. James Street ...	2	Wood Street ...	1
High Street ...	1	Hale End ...	6
Hoe Street ...	1	Higham Hill ...	11

ERYSIPELAS

The incidence by months and wards is given below :—

February	3	August	3
March	5	September	3
April	4	October	3
May	1	November	3
July	2	December	5
St. James Street ...	2	Wood Street ...	2
High Street ...	3	Hale End ...	6
Hoe Street ...	5	Higham Hill ...	14

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of all deaths from the disease in the Borough during 1952 :—

Age Periods			New Cases				Deaths			
			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	..		1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	..		2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
5-10	..	..	—	4	—	2	—	—	—	—
10-15	..	..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15-20	..	..	6	10	1	1	—	—	—	—
20-25	..	..	4	5	—	1	1	—	—	—
25-35	..	..	15	12	2	2	1	—	—	—
35-45	..	..	8	6	—	1	—	1	—	—
45-55	..	..	5	5	—	—	1	3	—	—
55-65	..	..	8	2	—	1	6	1	—	—
65 and over	..		3	—	2	—	7	1	—	—
Totals			53	47	5	10	16	6	—	—
			100		15		22			
			115				22			

As each new case of pulmonary tuberculosis has been notified, enquiry has been made as to the infectivity of the patient. Of 98 cases investigated, 43 were sputum positive on notification or soon after, 41 were negative and 14 were inconclusive for the following reasons :—

No sputum	...	...	...	12
Tests incomplete	...	...	...	1
Notified after death	...	...	...	1

There was a history of tuberculosis in near relatives in 14 cases.

The 22 deaths represent a death rate of 0.18 per 1,000 population (England and Wales, 0.24).

New cases in 1951 were 123 with 37 deaths—a rate of 0.31.

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.	
1952	M. 53	F. 47	M. 5	F. 10	115	M. 16	F. 6	—	—	22
1951	64	44	11	4	123	25	8	3	1	37

The period 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.
3	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	12	—	3	—	1	—

The ratio of deaths in non-notified cases (i.e., columns to the right of the double line) to total deaths from tuberculosis was 1 to 5.5.

Fall in Tuberculosis Mortality.

The reduction in deaths from 37 in 1951 to 22 in 1952 is in keeping with general experience, and the following extract from "The Lancet" of May 9th, 1953, is of interest :—

"Figures published by the World Health Organisation demonstrate the remarkable fall in tuberculosis mortality that

has taken place in many parts of the world since 1939. Combined statistics from 21 countries (including the United Kingdom) with a total population of 404 million in 1950, show that the death rate has been roughly halved in the past fifteen years. The chief causes are thought to be the energetic mass action directed towards the early detection of the disease by radiography and its prevention by B.C.G. vaccination and the control of milk; improved medical facilities and progress in treatment have also contributed to the success. The decline in mortality has been greatest in children and adolescents. The male mortality-rate has always been higher than the female, and the difference between the two is becoming greater because, it is suggested, recent social progress and improvements in hygiene have had more effect on women's living conditions."

Non-Notification.

Analysis of the position in Walthamstow in regard to non-notification since 1945 reveals the following position :—

Year	Total T.B. Deaths	Non-notified Deaths		Total	Percentage of Non-notified to Total T.B. Deaths
		Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary		
1945 ..	67	14	3	17	25.3
1946 ..	58	9	2	11	18.9
1947 ..	58	11	1	12	20.6
1948 ..	64	7	—	7	10.9
1949 ..	52	5	5	10	19.2
1950 ..	33	5	—	5	15.1
1951 ..	37	3	2	5	13.5
1952 ..	22	3	—	3	13.6

Three deaths registered in 1952 from tuberculosis had not previously been notified. Details are given below :—

Case (1)—Male aged 71 years, admitted to a hospital in another area 12.1.52 with a provisional diagnosis of pneumonia. Died 21.1.52, and final diagnosis only possible at Post Mortem.

Case (2)—Female aged 44 years, admitted to hospital with pleural effusion 15.11.52. Sudden collapse and death 17.11.52. Had suffered from "influenza" in July, 1952. This was followed by pain in the chest and shortness of breath since October, 1952. There was no cough or bleeding, but gradual loss of weight and progressive worsening. Diagnosis not possible without Post Mortem.

Case (3)—Male aged 61 years, admitted to mental institution in 1938, admitted to hospital September, 1952, for loss of weight. Diagnosis not possible without Post Mortem.

The reasons given for non-notification of the three pulmonary cases in 1951 were as follows :—

Case (1)—Male aged 60. Died from Coma, Emaciation and Phthisis. Family Doctor stated that this man only moved into the Borough 14 days before death, that he was previously under the care of his own doctor for tuberculosis and was therefore presumably notified in a London Borough but the notification was not transferred.

Case (2)—Male aged 25. Died prior to 11th July at a mental institution from pulmonary tuberculosis and amentia. Apparently at an institution for 15 years and not notified in Walthamstow.

Case (3)—Male aged 68. First seen by family doctor 6.9.51 and still working. Diabetes diagnosed 21.9.51 and admitted to hospital 30.9.51. Rapidly deteriorated. Cause of death found to be miliary tuberculosis with chronic pulmonary tuberculosis at Post Mortem.

Unfortunately, the transfer of notifications between sanitary districts on change of domicile leaves much to be desired.

Notification.

The issue of Circular 6/52 in April, 1952, has caused considerable disquiet amongst Health Workers in the tuberculosis field. It is understood that the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1930, were revoked in spite of strong representations from the Joint Tuberculosis Council.

The new (1952) regulations no longer *require* a Medical Officer of Health to keep a Register of Tuberculosis notifications, although the Ministry urges that he should do so. The "essential Tuberculosis Registers" are to be those maintained at chest clinics. The requirement contained in the 1930 regulations for providing information in regard to a tuberculosis patient entering or leaving a sanatorium or hospital is also omitted from the new regulations.

Heat-Treated Milk and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The table gives particulars of fifteen non-pulmonary cases notified in 1952 and the observations of Dr. Ramsay, Chest Physician, who found no evidence that the infection was due to raw or untreated milk.

In at least five cases there was evidence of contact with another case of tuberculosis. Five of the cases had not been seen at the local Chest Clinic.

No.	Sex	Age	Date Notified	Location of Tuberculosis
1	M.	70	30.1.52	Cervical Glands
2	M.	27	13.2.52	Knee
3	F.	61	21.2.52	Cervical Adenitis
4	F.	14	27.2.52	Cervical Adenitis
5	F.	39	17.4.52	Iridocyclitis
6	F.	2	6.5.52	Spine, Glands and Lungs
7	M.	17	12.6.52	Spine
8	F.	33	17.6.52	Lumbar Spine
9	F.	15	18.7.52	Sacro-iliac Joint
10	F.	29	31.7.52	Lymph Glands
11	F.	22	24.9.52	Endometrium
12	F.	6	30.9.52	Cervical Glands
13	M.	31	25.11.52	Bladder
14	M.	67	25.11.52	Spine
15	F.	5½	24.12.52	Meninges

Prevention of Tuberculosis.

The various preventive measures detailed in the Report for 1950 continued in subsequent years and were shared between the Borough Council as the Sanitary Authority, and as the Excepted District for Education, and by the Health Area Sub-Committee administering the Part III Services under the National Health Service Act.

Those services provided by the Borough Council included the following :—

1. **Rehousing on Medical Grounds.**—Pulmonary Tuberculosis continued to constitute the only ground for top priority, the criterion being the infectivity of the patient, overcrowding on the standards of the Housing Act, 1936, and the presence in the same dwelling of young children or adolescents. At the end of the year and with the help and co-operation of the Chest Physician and of the Housing Manager, all outstanding, urgent and infectious cases had been dealt with by rehousing.

During 1952 the number of families rehoused was 237, which included 18 families where there was a medical recommendation in respect of tuberculosis, i.e., say eight per cent.

2. **"Mobile Meals"**—Mobile Meals, where necessary, were provided by the "Meals on Wheels" service, organised by the Old People's Welfare Committee.

3. **Sanitary Inspection.**—Each case of tuberculosis is, on notification, visited by the Sanitary Inspector as well as by the

Tuberculosis Health Visitor. Full enquiries are made as to the source of infection and into any infection possibly caused by the sputum positive patient. Close watch is maintained in regard to inter-connected cases, e.g., multiple cases from the same place of employment. As far as possible, each case is investigated on the same lines as a case of major infectious disease.

4. **Other Action.**—This includes the chest X-ray examination on appointment of those employed in contact with groups of children, e.g., school and nursing staff; B.C.G. vaccination of school leavers under the Medical Research Council's Field Trials, and of child contacts at the clinics. These are referred to fully in the Report of the Borough School Medical Officer.

At the Chest Clinic, 90 direct contacts were vaccinated with B.C.G. during 1952. The Mass Radiography Unit of the Regional Hospital Board did not visit the Borough during 1952, but is to be here in the Spring of 1953.

The services provided by the Health Area Sub-Committee include Health Education, Home Visiting and Home Nursing, the provision of Home Helps, extra nourishment and care and after-care. These services are more fully referred to in the later section of the Report.

Care and After-Care.—This matter is dealt with under Section "G" of the Report.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. **Old People's Welfare.**—The Town Clerk, as Honorary Secretary of the Old People's Welfare Committee, states that 12,506 meals were provided during 1952. The monthly totals varied between a minimum of 851 in February to a maximum of 1,300 in October. An additional round was begun in October, making five rounds in all on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. There were 40 voluntary helpers at the end of the year, but more were required.

The Committee organised outings, a Christmas dinner to the recipients of Meals on Wheels and a concert to some 500 old people.

At the end of the year there were seven Old People's Clubs.

According to the Registrar General's Estimates of the sex and age distribution of civilian population (England and Wales) at the 31st December, 1947, the number of Walthamstow residents aged 65 years and over compared with the total population in Walthamstow was the second highest of the six Boroughs in Metropolitan Essex, the figures being as follows:—

Population	No. of Persons 65 +	Percentage
122,000	12,578	10.3

The following table shows the breakdown of the age groups :—

Ages	Male	Female	Total	% Total Population
65-74	3,762	4,998	8,760	7.18
75-84	1,282	2,078	3,360	2.75
85 and over	157	301	458	0.37
Totals ..	5,201	7,377	12,578	10.30

An increasing amount of time of the medical, home nursing and domestic help services and of the sanitary inspectorate is required in regard to old people's welfare. The need appears to be for increased services in the following directions, especially those which help in assisting with domiciliary treatment.

(1) "Meals on Wheels" daily. (2) Laundry facilities for the incontinent. (3) Ample home nursing and domestic help facilities, including weekends. (4) Increased chiropody facilities. (5) Companionship, sitters-in and occupational therapy. (6) Increased Part III accommodation and long and short stay annexes.

The Glasspool Trust has again been ready to help in cases of hardship, particularly with the supply of bedding.

The Area Officer of the National Assistance Board has again been most co-operative and has been helpful in making money grants for bedding, clothing and laundry, this is supplemented by the Health Department by the retention of mattresses removed at the request of the owners for destruction after infectious disease. Where some use remains, the mattresses are steam disinfected and given to persons in need.

2. Funeral Arrangements.—Arrangements were made in regard to the burial of one person.

3. Mortuary Provision, etc.—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. By the end of the year the construction of a six unit refrigeration plant at a total cost of £588 was well under way.

Mortuary and post-mortem facilities are now fully adequate.

The Borough Architect, Engineer and Surveyor reports that the numbers of inquests and post mortems were as follows :—

Inquests only 69; Post Mortems only 311; Post Mortems and Inquests 45.

4. **Conveniences, Public.**—During 1952 free washing facilities continued to be available by the supply of soap and paper towels at Public Conveniences.

A charge of 2d. continues for the issue of cloth towels.

No charges are made for the use of public conveniences.

5. **Erection of Additional Public Conveniences.**—The Borough Architect, Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. F. G. Southgate, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., summarises the position as follows :—

Oak Hill/Woodford New Road (opposite Napier Arms) and Chingford Road (immediately north of the Crooked Billet).

The public conveniences on these two sites were completed and opened for use during the year.

6. **Cremation.**—Facilities for cremation are available at the Crematorium provided by the City of London at Manor Park, Little Ilford.

Negotiations continued with adjoining local authorities.

7. **Rainfall.**—The Borough Architect, Engineer and Surveyor reports that the annual rainfall at Ferry Lane Station was 22.06 inches.

8. **Medical Examinations.**—During the year the medical staff carried out 143 examinations of Borough Council employees in respect of the Superannuation and Sick Pay Schemes.

9. **Health Education.**—Miss H. Rodway, F.R.C.O.G., Obstetrician Superintendent at Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital, arranged the usual course of mothercraft lectures. The subjects covered were :—

- “Introducing your Maternity Service.”
- “The Importance of Ante-natal Care.”
- “Preparation for Childbirth.”
- “The Growth of Your Baby from Conception to Birth.”
- “How your Baby is Born.”
- “Breast Feeding.”
- “Care of Toddler.”
- “Hygiene in the Home.”
- “Wise Parentcraft.”

and in each case the speaker was a medical or a nursing specialist, the last lecture being given by Dr. Leslie Housden, a well-known speaker on parentcraft.

Although the lectures were primarily intended for mothers booking at Thorpe Coombe, by arrangement with Miss Rodway it was possible for mothers having their babies at home to attend the lectures.

10. **Cancer Education.**—The leaflet of advice printed in the 1951 Report is available for distribution.

11. **Deaths possibly associated with Fog, December 5th/8th, 1952.**—At the request of the Ministry of Health enquiries have been made into this matter. Seventeen deaths occurring between the 5th and 15th December last were reported to Her Majesty's Coroner and the exact cause of death became known by Post-Mortem Examination. Of these 17 deaths, two were Chingford Residents dying in Walthamstow, and were therefore excluded.

Enquiries were made into the other 15 cases, but since one lived alone and had no known relatives no information was available.

Of the remaining 14, fog was considered by the relatives to have been contributory to death in only four cases. These were females aged 61, 77 and 80 years, and a male aged 68 years. The cause in all 17 cases was either Cardiac or Respiratory or a combination of both and it appears possible that the extra handicap of the fog may have upset the compensation which normally operated. The youngest person to die in this group was aged 51 years.

The findings have been sent to the Ministry of Health and will be submitted to a special Committee, which it is understood will consider all the evidence available from Greater London.

A full analysis cannot be carried out until the final Return is received from the Registrar General later on in regard to those Walthamstow residents who died outside the district during the quarter ended 31st December last.

12. **Reconstruction.**—Gradual elimination of the scars of war proceeded by the clearance and fencing of bombed sites and by the provision of small gardens and seats. The disintegration of dwarf forecourt walls following the war-time removal of iron railings continues, but individual improvements by re-building increase and with a variety of styles and materials.

SECTION G
PART III SERVICES
WALTHAMSTOW HEALTH AREA SUB-COMMITTEE
(1952/53)

Chairman:

Ald. LADY McENTEE, J.P. (Executive Council for Essex).

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor Mrs. S. CANDY (Walthamstow Borough Council).

Membership:

Nominated by—

Essex County Council	...	Alderman Mrs. M. BALL (Chairman, Health Committee, E.C.C.).
" " "	...	Councillor Dr. C. SKINNER (Vice-Chairman, Health Committee, E.C.C.).
" " "	...	Councillor Mrs. L. P. BAILEY, J.P.
" " "	...	Councillor Mrs. A. M. BURRELL.
" " "	...	Councillor Mrs. F. E. COCHRANE.
" " "	...	Councillor Mrs. E. F. M. HOLLIS.
" " "	...	Councillor H. J. E. PALETHORPE.
Walthamstow Borough Council		Alderman LORD McENTEE, C.B.E.
" " "		Alderman W. B. FITT.
" " "		Alderman W. GILLET.
" " "		Alderman A. E. MANNING.
" " "		Alderman W. H. SHAW.
" " "		Alderman ROSS WYLD, O.B.E., J.P.
" " "		Councillor F. A. BURTON.
" " "		Councillor Mrs. S. CANDY.
" " "		Councillor A. W. ELLIS.
" " "		Councillor A. G. GREEN.
" " "		Councillor Mrs. M. E. MARCHANT.
" " "		Councillor E. G. RICHARDS.
" " "		Councillor M. SHARLAND.
" " "		Councillor A. F. WHICHER.
" " "		Councillor J. M. WIGHT.
Hospital Management Committee		Dr. D. R. BLUNN.
Executive Council for Essex	...	Alderman LADY McENTEE, J.P.

Local Medical Committee for Essex	...	...	...	Dr. J. L. McK. BROWN, O.B.E.
Voluntary Organisations	...			Dr. M. COHEN (Walthamstow District Nursing Charitable Association).
"	"	...		E. P. MARR, Esq. (Walthamstow Child Welfare Society).
"	"	...		Mrs. M. OSORA (Invalid Children's Aid Association).
"	"	...		Mrs. A. CORDELL (Walthamstow and Chingford Association of Tuberculosis Care Helpers).

HEALTH CENTRES

(Section 21)

HEALTH CENTRE SITES

The general position remains as detailed in the previous report, i.e., six sites have been defined in the Borough on the basis of one centre per 20,000 population and to serve an area with a radius of one mile.

One of these sites is on the Borough Council's Priory Court Housing Estate with some 400 flats.

During the year a proposal was approved in principle to include in the lists of Capital Building Projects for 1953/4 a Health Services Clinic at Priory Court, to be combined in the first instance with a central hall for community centre purposes, and later with a health centre for the use of family doctors. The proposal is still under consideration, and the estimated cost will be £16,000.

HEALTH AREA PREMISES

During 1951, arrangements were made to make available the part-time use of a room at the West Avenue Health Services Clinic for the local representatives of the Children's Department. In 1952 similar arrangements were made to make available the part-time use of other rooms to the local representatives of the Welfare Department and the psychiatric social worker in the Mental Health Service. In addition, the whole-time use of a further room was made available to the Mental Health Service so that the sub-office to serve Leyton, Walthamstow and Forest areas could be accommodated at West Avenue. In each case a reservation has been made to secure the use of the rooms for any extension of the Area Health Services which at present include welfare sessions and a dental clinic.

GENERAL DENTAL SERVICE

The Senior Dental Officer reports as follows :—

"It has been possible to work rather more sessions this year than last, as the dental surgeon appointed to a full-time post early in the year has been able to provide two extra evening sessions weekly.

"This has been very fortunate, as in spite of the imposition of charges to patients over 21, the demand has, somewhat unexpectedly, greatly increased. For example, over double the number of patients were treated than was the case in 1951. With the exception of dentures, all other items of treatment show substantial increases."

Herewith is a summary of the work done during the years 1951 and 1952 :—

	1951	1952
Number of patients treated	290	731
Appointments made	3684	4872
Appointments kept	3335	4431
Fillings	1129	1591
Scalings	232	317
Dressings	516	685
Extractions	730	929
General Anæsthetics	279	285
Local Anæsthetics	163	280
Impressions	539	527
Bites	166	179
Try-ins	170	175
Dentures supplied	311	220

Dental Laboratory

Below is appended a list of the appliances completed in the Dental Laboratory for the General Dental Service during 1952 :—

New Dentures	226	Repairs	166
Orthodontic Appliances	2	Inlays	2
Crowns	6		

During the year the following appliances were completed for the Walthamstow and Leyton Committees for Education :—

	Walthamstow	Leyton
Orthodontic Appliances	170	47
Dentures	80	—
Crowns	27	—
Inlays	3	—
Repairs	39	7

In addition to the above, the following appliances were completed for the Regional Hospital Board :—

Bite splint appliances for correction of	
temporo-mandibular disorders	4
Adjustments to same	8
Dentures	3

The following appliances were completed for Maternity and Child Welfare Patients :—

Dentures	16
Orthodontic Appliances	1
Crowns	2

The copper depositing outfit installed during 1951 has proved most effective in producing perfect replicas for the production of jacket and post crowns.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

(Section 22)

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 ...	1107	994
Low Hall Lane Clinic ...	252	55
Silverdale Road Clinic ...	30	6
Totals ...	1389	1055

Total Attendances :—

	Ante-Natal	Post-Natal
Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital ...	9122	1249
Low Hall Lane Clinic ...	873	59
Silverdale Road Clinic ...	106	7
Totals ...	10101	1315

Of the 1558 cases confined in the Borough, 89% received Ante-Natal Care either at the Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital or the County Council's Clinics.

Blood grouping/Haemoglobin estimation and Rhesus and Kahn tests were taken at all clinics for all patients.

VIRUS INFECTIONS DURING PREGNANCY

Ministry of Health Enquiry

This enquiry extended to all the Ante-Natal Clinics, including those at Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital. Notices were displayed at all, reminding expectant mothers of the need to report the occurrence of **any** infectious disease at the next visit to the Clinic.

The purpose of the enquiry is to collect information as to a possible relationship between virus diseases (especially German measles) during pregnancy and congenital defects in the child.

CONFINEMENTS

The following table shows the location of confinements during 1952 :—

Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital ...	...	1161
Other Hospitals and Maternity Homes ...	...	384
Total in Hospital, etc. ...		1545
At home ...	...	376
Total Confinements ...		1921

A total of 128 Walthamstow patients were unable to book accommodation at Thorpe Coombe. If they were unable to make their own alternative arrangements, bookings at other Maternity Hospitals were made for them through Thorpe Coombe.

The grounds for admission to Thorpe Coombe were :—

- (1) First Confinements.
- (2) Medical and Obstetrical.
- (3) Unsuitable home/social conditions.

VITAL STATISTICS

	Walthamstow	England & Wales
Live birth-rate per 1,000 population	12.6	15.3
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 population ...	0.24	0.35
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live-births ...	24.5	27.6

Extracts from vital statistics are given more fully in Section "A" of this Report.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

1,942 births (366 of which belonged to other areas) were notified during the year under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Notifications were received as follows :— Doctors, 311; Midwives, 1,603; others, 28.

Included in the above are 366 births which were notified as having occurred outside the Borough.

Also included are 40 stillbirths, four of which belonged to other areas. Of the total, nine occurred outside the Borough.

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

The neo-natal mortality is the number of infants dying under one month per 1,000 live births. During 1952, 23 infants died in the first four weeks of life, a rate of 15.2.

INFANT MORTALITY

The deaths of infants under one year were :—

	Males	Females	Totals
Legitimate ...	20	17	37
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
Totals ...	20	17	37

The death rate 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, 24.5; Illegitimate, Nil. Total, 24.5

The Infant Mortality Rates for other areas during 1952 were as follows :—

England and Wales ...	27.6
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London) ...	31.2
160 Smaller Towns (25,000-50,000 population) ...	25.8
London Administrative County ...	23.8

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS

The action suggested in Circular 20/44 (as amended by Circular LHAL 1/49) has been carried out as far as possible and the steps taken were detailed in the Report for 1944. During 1952, 67 live premature infants were born to residents of the Borough, 14 at home and 53 in hospitals and nursing homes.

Of the 14 born at home, three were transferred to hospital. The remaining 11 who were nursed entirely at home survived at the end of one month.

The routine supervision consists of the following :—

- (1) After the 14th day infants are visited weekly by the Health Visitor if remaining at home, or on discharge from hospital and until they attain average weight.
- (2) Weekly Welfare attendances are made, if the condition of the infant allows.
- (3) The report on premature infants, i.e., as to nursing and survival within 28 days is completed at the end of the first month.

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE—1952

	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total deaths 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 1 year	St. James Street	High Street	Hoe Street	Wood Street	Hale End	Higham Hill	Total
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other forms of T.B. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
T.B. Meningitis .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (Non-T.B.) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	3	—	—	—	3	2	1	1	—	7	—	1	2	3	1	—	7
Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inattention at birth, wilful neglect	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation (Overlying) ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	1	1	3
Congenital Malformation ..	2	1	—	—	3	1	2	—	2	8	—	1	1	3	2	1	8
Premature Birth	12	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	12	2	1	2	2	3	2	12
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inanition	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heart Failure	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	22	1	—	—	23	5	4	3	2	37	3	3	10	9	7	5	37

CARE OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN

The action taken under Circular 2866/1944 is fully set out in the Report for that year.

Every possible step has, as in previous years, been taken to ensure that the care of illegitimate children does not fall below that given to children who are legitimate. The figures quoted below give a comparison between illegitimate and legitimate rates.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS AND MORTALITY

Year	Live Births		Infant Deaths		Death Rates per 1,000 Live Births	
	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Legitimate	Illegitimate
1948	1,975	93	39	4	19.0	43.0
1949	1,771	65	51	3	28.0	46.0
1950	1,536	62	41	1	25.0	16.0
1951	1,586	51	34	3	21.0	58.8
1952	1,446	66	37	—	25.6	Nil
Totals 1948 to 1952 (5 yrs.)	8,314	337	202	11	24.3	32.6

MORAL WELFARE

The "Carville" Home at 38, The Drive, E.17, is administered by the Walthamstow Deanery Branch of the Chelmsford Diocesan Moral Welfare Association.

The Home provides accommodation for a total of 16 mothers and their babies and has a high record of care and service. Mothers of all religious denominations are cared for and the work done during 1952 is summarised below by Miss Williams, the Superintendent :—

Admitted			Adults	Babies	Total
From Walthamstow	..	..	18	13	31
From rest of County	..	..	28	24	52
From outside the County	..	..	32	21	53
Totals	..	..	78	58	136
OUTDOOR WORK :					
Walthamstow Cases (Mother and Baby placed)	..	..	48	8	56
Other Essex Cases	..	..	10	—	10

Miss Williams states that fewer cases were admitted to the Home because many of the mothers were young, and needed a longer stay in the Home on account of rehabilitation difficulties.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS

(a) Ante and Post-Natal :—

Monday (once monthly)	2 p.m.	Silverdale Road, Highams Park.
Monday	2 p.m.	Markhouse Road, E.17.
*Tuesday	9 a.m.	Markhouse Road, E.17.
Wednesday	9 a.m.	Markhouse Road, E.17.

* New Cases only.

(In addition, a large proportion of the ante-natal work is done at Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital.)

(b) Child Welfare :—

Monday	2 to 4 p.m.	St. John's Church Hall, Penrhyn Avenue, E.17.
Tuesday	„	The Memorial Hall, Winchester Road, Highams Park.
Tuesday	„	The Welfare Centre, West Avenue, E.17.
Wednesday	„	Low Hall Lane, Markhouse Road, E.17.
Wednesday	„	Silverdale Road, Highams Park.
Thursday	10 to 12 noon	The Memorial Hall, Winchester Road, Highams Park.
Thursday	2 to 4 p.m.	Low Hall Lane, Markhouse Road, E.17.
Thursday	„	St. John's Church Hall, Penrhyn Avenue, E.17.
Thursday	„	“Brookscroft,” Forest Road, E.17.
Thursday	„	The Welfare Centre, West Avenue, E.17.
Friday	„	Low Hall Lane, Markhouse Road, E.17.
Friday	„	St. John's Church Hall, Penrhyn Avenue, E.17.

In addition, the Walthamstow Child Welfare Society holds massage and sunlight sessions.

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	342	58	400	5,831	5,347	11,178	11,578
Penrhyn Avenue	248	30	278	4,313	4,321	8,634	8,912
West Avenue ..	170	43	213	2,638	2,217	4,855	5,068
Winchester Road	144	23	167	2,560	3,107	5,667	5,834
Silverdale Road..	85	33	118	1,412	1,877	3,289	3,407
Total 1952 ..	989	187	1,176	16,754	16,869	33,623	34,799

Repeated instances of burglaries and hooliganism have occurred at Welfare Centres, especially at Silverdale Road.

Walthamstow Child Welfare Society

Clinics are held as follows at "Brookcroft," Forest Road, E.17:—

Tuesdays and Fridays ...	Massage, Remedial Exercises and Sunlight Treatment.
Wednesdays	Weighing Clinic and Cookery Lecture.
Thursdays	Infant Welfare for old and new cases. Two Doctors in attendance.
Alternate Fridays ...	Diphtheria Immunisation.

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

	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	
1952	347	33	380	6,051	2,470	8,521	8,901
1951	389	28	417	6,819	2,528	9,347	9,764
1950	413	49	462	7,165	2,378	9,543	10,005
1949	438	64	552	8,855	2,622	11,477	12,029
1948	596	70	666	10,028	2,923	12,951	13,617
1947	687	64	761	11,074	3,353	14,427	15,188

Fifty-nine children were immunised during the year at "Brookcroft."

Summary of Attendances at all Welfare Clinics

	First Attendances			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	
Local Authority Scheme ..	989	187	1,176	16,754	16,869	33,623	34,799
"Brookcroft" ..	347	33	380	6,051	2,470	8,521	8,901
Total 1952 ..	1,336	220	1,556	22,805	19,339	42,144	43,700

TREATMENT

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

Miss Garratt, C.S.P., has kindly furnished the following information with respect to children under five years of age :—

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

Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	4	Talipes—		
Scoliosis, Lordosis, Kyphosis	...	2	(a) Equino Varus	...	2
Rickets—(a) Genu Varum	...	22	(b) Calcaneo Valgus	...	9
(b) Genu Valgum	...	22	(c) Mid Tarsal Varus	...	1
Pes Plano Valgus	...	24	Torticollis	...	5
Spastic Paralysis	...	3	Erbs Paralysis	...	1
Progressive Muscular			Congenital Defects	...	3
Atrophy	...	1	Miscellaneous	...	2
					Total
					101

No. of treatments given—1,139.

(b) **Sunlight.**—376 ultra-violet light treatments were given during the year.

(c) **Dental.**—Mr. L. W. Elmer, L.D.S., Senior Dental Officer, reports as follows :—

“As far as possible every expectant and nursing mother and pre-school child referred to us from the welfare centres has been examined.

“The infants have increased in numbers and it is pleasing to find that a larger proportion have ‘stayed the course’ and have been made dentally fit.

“Almost double the number of mothers have been referred and examined but only 120 have been made really dentally fit. This is a slightly better proportion than last year, but nothing has occurred to alter my opinion that a concentration upon the dental education and treatment of the adolescent female would be far more fruitful of results than the present concentration upon the expectant and nursing mother.”

The following gives details of the work done during the year by the Dental Staff :—

Numbers provided with dental care :

	Expectant & nursing mothers	Children under 5
Number examined ...	489	519
Number needing treatment ...	444	478
Number treated ...	420	494
Number made dentally fit ...	154	290

Forms of dental treatment provided :

Extractions ...	385	343
Anæsthetics—Local ...	17	—
General ...	153	264
Fillings ...	196	151
Scalings or scaling and gum treatment ...	138	264
Silver Nitrate treatment ...	20	272
Dressings ...	68	67
Radiographs ...	7	—
Dentures provided—Complete ...	9	—
Partial ...	7	—

The services of the Dental Hygienist appointed initially in Leyton were made available to Walthamstow on two days per week. Apart from chairside work for the priority groups, talks were given both at the Child Welfare Clinics and at Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital.

In September, following the issue of a joint circular by the Ministries of Health and Education with regard to "priority" Dental Services, it was agreed by the Walthamstow Committee for Education and the Health Area Sub-Committee to recommend the appointment of an additional dental surgeon, and the appointment was made later in the year.

(d) **Tonsils and Adenoids.**—Children are treated at various hospitals.

(e) **Ophthalmic Defects and Minor Ailments.**—Children are given treatment either at the School Clinics or by special appointment.

(f) **Child Guidance.**—The special session for children under school age which began at the West Avenue Welfare Centre in 1951 was continued with success. The following report is contributed by Dr. Helen Gillespie, Senior Psychiatrist at the Walthamstow Child Guidance Clinic:—

"This clinic has now been running for a year, and is held on alternate Tuesday mornings. Most of the cases are referred by the Medical Officers in attendance at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics in the Borough.

"During this first year, 19 children have been diagnosed and treated, and 14 of these have already been discharged after satisfactory results were obtained. A further 5 are still under observation or treatment. These figures confirm the wisdom of the Authority in setting up this clinic, and the good results that can be obtained by this form of early treatment at a pre-school stage as I predicted in my last annual report. I found this group of mothers particularly receptive and co-operative, and this has contributed largely to the good therapeutic results obtained with the children.

"I would like to see an expansion of this side of the work, and would welcome yet more cases. I hope that all the Maternity and Child Welfare services in the Borough will make use of the facilities provided. Such a clinic may offer some solution to certain of the problems in the non-physical sphere which are so often presented to the paediatrician, as pointed out by Dr. Hinden in his report for 1951."

The following is an analysis of the cases treated:—

Habit disorders	...	...	6
Sleep disturbances	...	...	1
Fears	...	...	5
Behaviour disorders	...	...	7
			—
			19
			—

(g) **Pædiatric Clinic.**—The fortnightly clinic, under the charge of Dr. Elchon Hinden, Pædiatrician to Whipps Cross Hospital, continued during 1952, and 17 children under five years of age were seen.

Dr. Hinden reports as follows:—

"Work in the clinic has proceeded on the same lines as in 1951. The bulk of the children seen have presented minor deviations from the normal, or else have been suffering from behaviour disorders. Acute medicine has, rightly, been absent; a pleasing feature has been the very small number suffering from chronic rheumatic heart disease. I have the impression that in height and weight the children compare favourably with those born before the war, and I think that the standard of parental care is rising also. Poor housing still seems the major detrimental environmental factor.

"The radiological and pathological departments at Whipps Cross Hospital have continued their welcome service to the clinic, so greatly enhancing its value. A number of children have also been admitted to hospital there for investi-

gation and treatment. I am grateful to my colleagues, the Assistant School Medical Officers, for referring the children to me."

			Under 5 years
New cases	...	...	17
Total attendances	...	...	25

Physical Defects :

(a) Asthma	...	...	—
(b) Heart disease	...	...	—
(c) Other	...	...	7
Referred to Hospital	...	...	1
Discharged	...	...	1

Psychological Disorders :

(a) Enuresis	...	...	4
(b) Other	...	...	—
Referred to Hospital	...	...	2
Discharged	...	...	—

(h) **Invalid Children's Aid Association.**—Mrs. Osora, Secretary to the local branch of the Association, kindly reports that the following cases of children under five years of age were dealt with by her Association :—

Children referred by :—

Hospitals	...	...	...	...	4
School Health Services	...	...	...	...	2
General Practitioners	...	...	...	...	3
					9

Classification of cases :—

Anæmia and debility	...	...	...	...	1
After-effects of illness	...	...	...	...	3
Bronchitis or pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1
Nervous conditions	...	...	...	...	1
Diseases of the ear, nose and throat	...	...	...	...	1
Diseases of the skin	...	...	...	...	1
Various	...	...	...	...	1
					9

(i) **Convalescence.**—During 1952, ten children were sent away on medical recommendation to convalescent homes. As in previous years, the arrangements were normally made through the local branch of the Invalid Children's Aid Association.

PROVISION OF NUTRIENTS AND MEDICAMENTS

Details of nutrients and medicaments sold and issued free during 1952 are as follows:—

				Sales		Free Issue	
				lbs.	ozs.	lbs.	ozs.
Adexolin	...	...	...	—	—	22	11 $\frac{3}{4}$
Bemax	...	...	...	224	7	—	—
Colact	...	...	...	245	—	—	—
Cow and Gate	...	...	...	3,182	—	—	—
Cod Liver Oil Emulsion	...	...	...	—	—	23	8
Cod Liver Oil and Malt	...	...	...	277	—	—	—
Diphenan Tablets	...	...	...	—	—	500	tablets
Farex	...	...	...	859	4	—	—
Fersolate Tablets	...	...	...	—	—	15,120	tablets
Glucodin	...	...	...	225	4	—	—
Lactogol	...	...	...	75	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	—
Lactogen	...	...	...	375	—	—	—
Magnesia	...	...	...	—	—	22	8
Maltoline with Iron	...	...	...	—	—	399	—
Marmite	...	...	...	1,072	8	—	—
Mist Ferri et Ammon Cit Pro	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Infantibus	...	...	...	—	—	4	8
Ostermilk	...	...	...	905	—	—	—
Osto-Calcium Tablets	...	...	...	—	—	7,160	tablets
Robinson's Groats	...	...	...	451	—	—	—
Scott's "Twin Pack"	...	...	...	402	8	—	—
Sodium Citrate Tablets	...	...	...	—	—	10,000	tablets
Trufood	...	...	...	79	—	—	—
Virol	...	...	...	1,440	—	—	—
Value of Cash Sales	...	...	...	£1,434	13s. 1d.		

VITAMINS

The facilities for the distribution of vitamins were continued at all Welfare Centres.

Every effort is made to increase the demand.

DAY NURSERIES

The following table shows the average attendances at the Day Nurseries during 1952 (Mondays to Fridays only).

Month	Nurseries	Under 2 years	Over 2 years	Total
January ..	{ Higham Hill	6.8	48.1	54.9
	{ Handsworth Avenue ..	7.8	39.1	46.9
February ..	{ Higham Hill	7.8	44.9	52.7
	{ Handsworth Avenue ..	13.0	39.9	52.9
March ..	{ Higham Hill	9.9	46.3	56.2
	{ Handsworth Avenue ..	11.3	35.7	47.0
April ..	{ Higham Hill	8.6	43.5	52.2
	{ Handsworth Avenue ..	7.9	37.0	44.9
May ..	{ Higham Hill	9.8	47.5	57.3
	{ Handsworth Avenue ..	9.3	45.9	55.2
June ..	{ Higham Hill	14.6	38.4	53.0
	{ Handsworth Avenue ..	9.4	42.5	51.9
July ..	{ Higham Hill	13.2	32.7	45.9
	{ Handsworth Avenue ..	8.9	41.9	50.8
August ..	{ Higham Hill	11.9	35.0	46.9
	{ Handsworth Avenue ..	9.1	37.9	47.0
September ..	{ Higham Hill	11.8	44.2	56.0
	{ Handsworth Avenue ..	7.4	41.1	48.5
October ..	{ Higham Hill	9.4	45.9	55.3
	{ Handsworth Avenue ..	8.6	42.9	51.5
November ..	{ Higham Hill	11.1	42.7	53.8
	{ Handsworth Avenue ..	9.3	37.3	46.6
December ..	{ Higham Hill	9.9	36.7	46.6
	{ Handsworth Avenue ..	3.2	26.4	29.6
Average for Whole Year	{ Higham Hill	10.3	42.2	52.5
	{ Handsworth Avenue ..	8.8	39.0	47.8

Both Day Nurseries are approved for training in the care of children aged 0-5 years. Both have 60 places.

Training.—Seven pupils sat for the Nursery Nurses' Certificate in 1952 and six passed. Three proceeded to take up general hospital training and three became Nursery School Assistants. Two gave up training because of financial circumstances and domestic circumstances respectively.

Towards the end of the year, electric washing machines and drying cabinets were installed at both Day Nurseries. The installation has been a success, but a final assessment of the saving has not yet been made.

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS (REGULATION)

ACT, 1948

Registration in one case was requested for the care of up to 16 children aged 3/5 years, and granted.

DAILY GUARDIAN SCHEME

This Scheme was begun in May, 1951, and Guardians are paid a retaining fee of 1/- per day (6d. per half day), by the County Council, whilst they are caring for a child. Guardians are approved subject to a satisfactory Health Visitors report.

The experience since the commencement has been as follows:—

1951

No. of Daily Guardians on Register at 31.12.51 ...	8
No. of applications for services of Daily Guardian	25
Referred to Day Nurseries	10
Referred to Daily Guardian but nothing further heard	6
Placed with Daily Guardian	9

These nine children were in the care of a Daily Guardian for periods as follows :—

Duration of Care (in weeks) ...	1	2	3	12	16
No. of Children	1	4	1	2	1

Two of these children continued to be cared for in 1952.

1952

No. of Daily Guardians on Register at 31.12.52 ...	19
No. of applications for services of Daily Guardian	23
Referred to Daily Guardian but nothing further heard	11
Placed with Daily Guardian	12
Placed with Daily Guardian during 1951, and continued in care of Daily Guardian into 1952	2

These 14 children were in the care of a Daily Guardian for periods as follows :—

Duration of Care (in weeks)	...	1	2	5	7	9	11	13	14	15	32	37	47	49
No. of Children	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1

Eight of these children continued to be cared for in 1953.

INFESTATION

The steps taken to combat infestation include cleanliness inspections, treatment at Clinics (which includes the supply of Lethane and of steel combs at cost price) and inspection and treatment for pediculosis at the Skin Clinic.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA

These are referred to in Section F of the Report.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

This matter is referred to in Section A of the Report.

WOMEN'S CLINIC

This Clinic continued on the same lines as in previous years at Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital, under the clinical charge of Miss Helen Rodway, F.R.C.O.G., who states that the number of patients attending has been as follows :—

		New Cases	Attendances
1949	... ..	31	528
1950	... ..	34	475
1951	... ..	19	444
1952	... ..	24	411

MIDWIFERY (Section 23)

There were 37 practising midwives in the Borough at the end of 1952, including those at Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital.

Medical supervision was carried out by the Medical Staff and non-medical supervision by the Superintendent of the Nurses' Training Home.

The following table shows the work done by Midwives during 1952 :—

No. of confinements attended as a Midwife	... ..	1,295
„ confinements attended as a Maternity Nurse	... ..	256
„ Medical Aid Notices sent	... ..	622
„ Twin Births notified	... ..	10
„ Stillbirths notified	... ..	3
„ Notifications of Artificial Feeding	... ..	14
„ Discharging Eyes	... ..	1

The previous table includes the following numbers in regard to work done at Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital :—

Midwifery cases	...	...	...	1,040
Maternity cases	...	...	...	121
Medical Aid Notices	...	...	...	558

The percentage of Medical Aid Notices were :—

All cases	...	...	...	40.1
Maternity Hospital Midwives	...	...	...	48.0
Other Midwives	...	...	...	18.3

The conditions for which Medical Aid was summoned by Midwives in domiciliary practice and private practice and private nursing homes have been summarised and are as follows :—

For complications during pregnancy :—

Miscarriage	...	...	...	1
Ante-partum Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	5
Abortion	...	...	...	1
Other Conditions	...	...	...	4
Total	...	...	...	11

For complications during labour :—

Prolonged first and second stage	...	...	...	4
Ruptured perineum	...	...	...	17
Premature labour	...	...	...	1
Rise in temperature	...	...	...	2
Post-partum hæmorrhage	...	...	...	3
Uterine inertia	...	...	...	1
Retained placenta	...	...	...	1
Abnormal presentation	...	...	...	4
Other conditions	...	...	...	7
Total	...	...	...	40

For complications in regard to the infant :—

Asphyxia	...	...	...	1
Jaundice	...	...	...	1
Inflamed eyes	...	...	...	2
Prematurity and feebleness	...	...	...	1
Cyanosis	...	...	...	1
Other conditions	...	...	...	7
Total	...	...	...	13

The table below shows the number of visits carried out by the District and Home Nurse Midwives :—

	Ante-Natal Examinations			Deliveries		Lying-in Visits	Total Visits
	Patients Homes	Mid-wife's House	Clinic	Mid.	Mat.		
District Midwives	1,252	651	297	185	46	3,418	5,849
Home Nurse/ Midwives	113	351	8	57	60	1,027	1,616
Totals ..	1,365	1,002	305	242	106	4,445	7,465

Two midwives in private practice undertook 13 cases as midwives, and 29 cases as maternity nurses.

Gas and Air Analgesia.—The Ambulance Service provided transport facilities for gas and air apparatus.

A total of 243 patients on the District received gas and air analgesia, representing a percentage of 69.8 of District confinements.

Midwives acting as Maternity Nurses.—During the year the number of maternity cases (i.e., where responsibility for the case was taken by the doctor) decreased to 106, or 30.4 per cent. of the total.

Previously, this percentage has increased steadily since the "appointed day." In 1947 it was 11%, in the period 1st January, 1948, to the appointed day, 11%, from the appointed day to the end of 1948, 18%, during 1949, 21%, during 1950, 28.8%, and during 1951, 32.9%.

Emergency Unit.—This Unit, stationed at Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital, was called out to one Walthamstow case during 1952.

Maternity Outfits.—348 outfits were issued.

Training of Pupil Midwives.—Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital is a training school for both Parts I and II, the latter in association with home confinements on the "district." A total of 26 pupils successfully underwent Part II training during 1952.

HEALTH VISITING

(Section 24)

Health Visiting Staff.—The equivalent of whole-time Health Visitors at the end of the year was 8.1, and one Superintendent.

This was equal to one whole-time district Health Visitor to 195 notified births, and one whole-time district Health Visitor per 190 registered births during 1952.

Most of the Health Visitors also carry out duties as School Nurses.

HOME VISITS

	To Children under 1 year of age			To Children 1-5 years of age	Total
	First	Subsequent	Total		
1952	1,445	4,331	5,776	10,227	16,003
1951	1,637	5,015	6,652	11,321	17,973

The following table shows the number and nature of visits paid in 1952:—

Ward	Visits to Children under 1 year			Visits to Children 1-5 yrs.	Grand Total	Unsuccessful Visits	Ante-Natal Visits			Other Visits	Total Visits
	First Visits	Subsequent Visits	Total Visits				First Visits	Subsequent Visits	Total Visits		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	—	—	7	8	Cols. 5-8
St. James Street	193	326	519	1,262	1,781	491	96	43	139	452	2,863
High Street	173	390	563	1,175	1,738	221	62	23	85	239	2,283
Hoe Street	225	491	716	1,198	1,914	524	94	16	110	420	2,968
Wood Street	229	441	670	849	1,519	548	38	13	51	283	2,401
Hale End	312	1,701	2,013	2,603	4,616	392	109	42	151	723	5,882
Higham Hill	313	982	1,295	3,140	4,435	418	81	18	99	444	5,396
Totals, 1952	1,445	4,331	5,776	10,227	16,003	2,594	480	155	635	2,561	21,793
Totals, 1951	1,637	5,015	6,652	11,321	17,973	2,249	318	140	458	3,325	24,005

Health Visiting—Investigation.—An increasing amount of the time of the health visiting staff has been given to "follow up" in connection with investigations. These have included the Medical Research Council's B.C.G. Trials, Prematurity, Virus Diseases during Pregnancy, the Population Investigation of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynæcologists and Institute of Child Health (University of London), and lastly, Breast Feeding.

Liaison with Hospital Services.—During the autumn of 1951, the appropriate Committees agreed that the Health Visitors and School Nurses should in turn attend the ward rounds of Dr. Hinden, Pædiatrician, Whipps Cross Hospital, who holds a fortnightly session at the Town Hall Clinic. At the end of a trial period of six months, it was apparent to all concerned that the arrangement was well worth while. Information as to home conditions became more fully and quickly available to the Pædiatrician, and after the child's discharge from hospital, the Health Visitor ensured that his advice was followed in the home. For the Health Visitor, her knowledge is kept up to date and she learns of new advances in the treatment of children's diseases.

During 1952, the arrangement was extended to the medical staff, who in turn accompany the Pædiatrician on his ward rounds and with benefits similar to those outlined above.

HOME NURSING (Section 25)

Branch Nurses' Training Home.—The Branch Nurses' Training Home at "Hillcrest," Handsworth Avenue, Highams Park, was opened in May, and this has been a very great advantage in regard to the Home Nursing/Midwifery services of this portion of the Borough.

The premises comprise a double-fronted detached house with garage and garden. There are four rooms on the ground floor, including a treatment room, and four bedrooms and a boxroom on the first floor. Three Home Nurse/Midwives are accommodated.

Queen's Training.—An inspection of the Carisbrooke Road Home was carried out in October, 1951, by the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, but the report was not received until 1952. As a result of the comments made in the report, the Health Area Sub-Committee instructed the Area Surveyor for Building Maintenance to prepare a scheme for the improvement of the Home, with a view to inclusion in the County Council's list of Capital Projects, which has now been done. The estimated cost of improvement will be £3,500.

In May, it was reported that three candidates who had taken their Queen's training were successful.

This participation in the training scheme completes the picture in regard to the recruitment of staff for home nursing. Pupil Midwives in the second part of their training at Thorpe Coombe Maternity Hospital undergo District Midwifery training at "Carisbrooke," working alongside the Home Nurses. Many decide to stay on as temporary Home Nurses, and some to take their Queen's training in Home Nursing and to remain on the permanent staff.

General.—The Superintendent of the District Nurses' Home, Miss E. G. Welbrock, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D., reports as follows:—

"Several changes occurred during 1952. Owing to increase of work, it was found necessary to appoint an Assistant Superintendent. Miss M. H. Cronshey, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., was appointed to this post in February, 1952.

"Our work steadily increases, and at the moment the District Nurses are doing an average of 20 cases in a morning, apart from return visits in the evening.

"The District Midwives continue to work happily with us.

"Another alteration has been the holding of the clinics by District Midwives at 'Carisbrooke.'

"Staff on the 31st December, 1952, was as follows:—

- 1 Superintendent; Queen's S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D.
- 1 Assistant Superintendent; Queen's S.R.N., S.C.M.
- 3 Full-time Queen's S.R.N., S.C.M.
- 1 " " S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Certificate.
- 11 " " S.R.N., S.C.M.
- 3 " " S.R.N.
- 1 " " Male Queen's S.R.N.
- 1 Part-time Queen's S.R.N., S.C.M.
- 4 " " S.E.A.N.

"During the year 39 pupils entered for District Midwifery Training.

"Midwifery and Maternity Nursing undertaken during the year was as follows:—

			Cases	Visits
Midwifery	...	...	242	3,007
Maternity	...	...	106	1,308
Ante-Natal	...	...	—	2,672
Post-Natal	...	...	—	130
			—	—
Total	...	...	348	7,117
			—	—
Maternity Outfits supplied		...		348

"Gas and Air Analgesia was administered on 243 occasions—a percentage of 69.8.

"The following gives details of Home Visits during the year :—

				New Cases	Total Visits
Medical	...	...	...	1,162	45,300
Surgical	...	...	...	247	10,144
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	62	3,105
Out-Patients	...	...	...	3	7
Operations	...	...	...	7	37
Miscarriages	...	...	...	5	51
Specials	...	...	...	46	321
Casuals	...	...	...	139	201
Totals	...	...	...	1,671	59,166

"The average number of visits per nurse per annum was 3,698."

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

(Section 26)

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Immunisation was carried out at the weekly clinic held at the Town Hall, at Schools and all Welfare Centres, on the lines detailed in previous reports. The following summarises the work done :—

Total number of immunisations completed during 1952 :—

(a) School age	...	...	...	...	284
(b) Pre-school age	...	...	...	...	1,177
Total	...	...	...	...	1,461

(c) Number already immunised having a reinforcing dose 1,702

Details of the immunisations included in the above total are set out below :—

No. completed at Schools	...	...	216
No. completed at Welfare Centres	...	...	311
No. completed at Town Hall Clinic	...	...	448
No. completed at "Brookcroft"	...	...	59
No. completed by General Practitioners	...	...	427
No. of Clinics held for immunisation at Town Hall	...	...	52
No. of attendances made for diphtheria immunisation	...	...	906
Average attendance per session for diphtheria immunisation	...	...	17.4
The percentage of children immunised under the age of one year was	...	...	47.8

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Year	Regd. Births	Age at Immunisation									Percentage Immunised to Population in Age Groups				Notified Cases		
		0-1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	Total 0-5 yrs.	School Age	Over School Age	Grand Total	% 0-1 to Total Births	% 0-5 yrs.	% 5-15 yrs.	% 0-15 yrs.	Admitted to Hospital	Diagnosis Confirmed	Deaths
1947 ..	2,670	719	869	111	68	77	1,844	810	4	2,658	26.9	52.4	86.0	72.2	38	0	—
1948 ..	2,068	1,076	780	105	41	47	2,049	662	1	2,712	52.0	61.5	91.5	79.2	34	1	—
1949 ..	1,836	1,112	391	63	60	32	1,648	304	1	1,953	60.5	62.5	96.2	82.1	20	0	—
1950 ..	1,598	707	288	29	31	18	1,073	261	—	1,334	44.2	60.5	96.5	81.9	11	1	—
1951 ..	1,637	670	442	59	22	19	1,212	265	—	1,477	40.9	58.1	99.3	83.0	11	—	—
1952 ..	1,512	723	361	48	24	18	1,174	412	—	1,586	47.8	49.4	98.3	79.6	10	—	—

115 children were given "combined" diphtheria/whooping cough immunisation by general practitioners, but the prophylactic was not supplied by the Local Authority. These are included in the total on the previous page.

There have only been two confirmed cases of diphtheria in the last six years, and no deaths.

On the other hand, the fall in the number of children immunised, especially in the 0-1 age group, gives rise to misgiving, especially since the target of immunisation in this group is 75% of babies born before reaching the age of one year.

The Ministry of Health, in Circular 8/53 in regard to the Publicity Campaign for Diphtheria Prophylaxis, considers that co-operation on this matter is essential between local councils and the County Councils as local health authorities.

During the past five years the percentages immunised in the various age groups were as follows :—

The Circular continues :—

“ An intensive effort must, therefore, be made to achieve the level of immunisation necessary to secure the full benefit of the campaign; if parents leave their children unprotected there may be a return of diphtheria outbreaks, and there have been several sharp reminders of this possibility during the last twelve months. The fear of diphtheria has declined among parents in a direct relation to the decline of the disease itself; the majority of parents of young children nowadays have never seen or heard of a case of diphtheria among their neighbours' children and are more afraid of illnesses they know than of the dangers of diphtheria. It cannot be said too often by Medical Officers of Health in their Annual Reports and public utterances that ‘diphtheria still kills’ and that elimination of this disease is conditional upon the maintenance of an adequate level of immunisation. But for these timely reminders the general public will often be under the impression that all is well, and that they themselves, as parents of young children, have no part to play in protecting their children and so help to maintain a proper level of immunisation. Sustained publicity by local authorities is therefore essential if parents are to be helped to realise that diphtheria is still a deadly threat, and to be persuaded to have their children immunised. An organised system of personal persuasion in which doctors, health visitors, district nurses, staffs of welfare centres, and voluntary workers play their part is still the most powerful element in any local campaign. Authorities are also reminded of the assistance which is available in many areas, on request, from the St. John Ambulance Brigade, the British Red Cross Society and the Women's Voluntary Services, who have many opportunities of speaking to the parents of young children in the ordinary course of their work.”

IMMUNISATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH

The Medical Research Council's trials ended in June, 1951, and the final report in regard to the trials is awaited. The use of “Glaxo” vaccine continued with good results, the numbers of completed cases being set out on the following page. Immunisation is restricted to infants under 18 months old.

	Age at Date of Final Injection						Total
	Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	
Clinics and Nurseries ..	258	132	7	5	3	—	405
General Practitioners ..	70	33	5	1	3	3	115
Total	328	165	12	6	6	3	520

No. of clinics held for immunisation at
Town Hall 52

No. of attendances made for whooping
cough immunisation 1,133

Average attendance per session for
whooping cough immunisation ... 21.8

The percentage of children immunised
under the age of one year was ... 21.6

Immunisations done by General Practitioners were with combined Diphtheria/Whooping Cough prophylactic. The total number of children immunised against Whooping Cough up to the end of 1952 was 3,030.

VACCINATION

The ages of persons vaccinated is shown below :—

	Age at Date of Vaccination					Total
	Under 1 yr	1-2 yrs.	2-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	15 and over	
Primary	514	21	19	23	74	651
Secondary	—	—	10	8	187	205
Total	514	21	29	31	261	856

Vaccinated by General Practitioners or at Hospital 580

Vaccinated at Town Hall Clinic 276

The vaccinations under one year during 1952 represented approximately 35% of babies surviving to the age of one year. For the purpose of comparison similar figures have been calculated for the past three years as follows :—

Year	Percentage
1949	18
1950	23
1951	37

VACCINATION AND RE-VACCINATION OF DEPARTMENTAL STAFF

The staff of the Department, especially those who would be expected to deal with smallpox in the event of cases occurring, were again offered facilities for vaccination and re-vaccination and 24 were done during 1952.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

(Section 27)

The Ambulance Service is administered centrally from Chelmsford via the Control Centre at Ilford, and (as far as information is available) it appears to be adequate for the needs of the Borough.

The Local Service has continued from the Ambulance Dépôt, which is situated at the Borough Council's Fulbourne Road Dépôt.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS — CARE AND AFTER-CARE

(Section 28)

TUBERCULOSIS

Dr. H. Ramsay, Consultant Physician at the Walthamstow Chest Clinic, has contributed the following, and has also expressed his appreciation of the good work carried out by the Tuberculosis Visitors :—

“There have been two major developments in the work of the Clinic in 1952. B.C.G. vaccination has been greatly increased and a total of 90 cases has been dealt with. The policy with B.C.G. so far is to vaccinate only contact groups who are found by a special test not to have had a previous infection. These groups are at greater risk than the ordinary population. The question of extending the scheme is being widely discussed and decisions on this point will depend on further study and experience of the method.

“The second development is the addition of an Odelca Camera X-ray Unit. This Unit takes miniature films of 70 x 70 mm., and the routine X-ray of large numbers of patients is much simplified, and much less costly in film. Where abnormalities are detected, large films of the usual kind are taken, as in the larger Mass Radiography scheme.

“In February, Dr. Alan Pote was appointed as an additional assistant Chest Physician and the total medical staff is now three. The Health Visitor staff remains unaltered. There has been no increase for many years past in spite of the ever-increasing work of the Clinic. The time has now come for a review of nursing staff, if adequate attention is to be given to all aspects of the work.”

Miss Woolgar, Secretary of the Walthamstow and Chingford Association of Tuberculosis Care Helpers, reports as follows :—

“The work of the Association has continued on much the same lines as in previous years. Vouchers for milk and grocery have been issued where necessary, fares to visit patients have been paid, materials for occupational therapy have been provided and many small grants made to assist patients with personal difficulties.

“A new departure during the year was the granting of financial help to enable a patient to take advantage of the Ministry's scheme to send suitable cases to Switzerland. This help was necessary as although cost of treatment and travel is met by the Ministry of Health, a great deal of incidental expense falls on the patient unless assistance is available from some charitable source.

“For the first time also, the Association was able to send its Secretary as delegate to the Commonwealth and Empire Health and Tuberculosis Conference and to receive a first-hand report on the proceedings.

“Towards the end of the year our financial position became very difficult, owing to the non-arrival of the Sunday Cinema Fund grant, normally received in July, and for the first time in many years, it was necessary to suspend almost all the assistance being given to patients or their families. Local efforts to raise funds, and donations from charitable sources restored the position sufficiently for grants to be resumed on a restricted scale in December and before the end of the year, the payment of the Sunday Cinema Fund Grant, together with the most successful Christmas Seal Sale ever recorded in the district, put our finances into a very healthy state to face the New Year.

“Material assistance was given as follows :—

Milk Vouchers to	...	...	54 cases
Grocery Vouchers to	...	...	28 „
Fuel	...	...	7 „
Fares	...	...	8 „
Clothing	...	...	8 „
Holidays	...	...	2 „
Occupational Therapy	...	...	25 „
Minor Grants	...	...	18 „

“Many other patients or their relatives were helped with advice or by reference to organisations more suited to their particular needs. A close liaison is now firmly established with all such bodies, to our mutual advantage and that of the patients.”

POLIOMYELITIS FOLLOW-UP

During the course of their routine duties the Health Visitors visited all cases of poliomyelitis notified during the year.

The result of the follow-up is shown on page 51.

REHABILITATION OF TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS

During the year the Area Sub-Committee accepted financial responsibility for two patients undergoing rehabilitation at Papworth Village Settlement. No charge is made to patients.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

The County Health Committee decided to employ three whole-time Occupational Therapists for domiciliary occupational therapy in the six extra Metropolitan Boroughs, and Leyton and Walthamstow are to share one. Up to the present, no appointment has been made in these Boroughs, and experience is being awaited of the appointment made elsewhere. In addition, there has been some difficulty in finding sufficient cases in Walthamstow to employ a Therapist on a half-time basis.

CONVALESCENCE FOR ADULTS

The total of cases sent away for recuperative convalescence was 73. The length of convalescence was one week in 2 cases, two weeks in 69 cases and three weeks in 2 cases. Recovery of cost or part-cost was made.

The demand for recuperative convalescence was naturally high between April and October. A tendency was noted on the part of some patients to try and abuse the scheme as a means of obtaining an annual holiday.

SICK-ROOM EQUIPMENT

There are two main depôts for sick-room equipment, one at the District Nurses' Home in Carisbrooke Road and the other at the British Red Cross Society Headquarters in Forest Road.

During the year routine issues were made of items of equipment such as bed-pans, thermometers and feeding cups, etc. Special items of equipment are provided when necessary.

CHIROPODY SERVICES

The Foot Clinic, originally established by the Borough Council, continued as in previous years with four whole-time Chiropodists.

Daily morning sessions were held, with afternoon sessions on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and evening sessions on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. Treatment was by appointment and unfortunately, there has always been a long waiting list.

Total attendances in 1952 were 15,410, including 1,743 new patients.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

(Section 29)

Mrs. C. M. Hall, Domestic Help Organiser, reports as follows :—

“ 1952 is so far the peak year with regard to domestic help and the demand continues unabated. The service continues to be administered along lines similar to those adopted in previous years and during the year 1,990 visits were made to patients and helps—776 more than in 1951.

“ One more full-time and many more part-time workers were enrolled to cope with the ever-increasing requests for help, the number employed at the end of the year being eight full-time and up to 189 part-time helps. The need for more full-time helps is still urgent and the number of cases carried forward at the end of 1952 was 97 more than brought forward from 1951.

“ Below is a summary of the year's work :—

DOMESTIC HELP

Brought forward from 1951	...	...	...	339
New cases during 1952	...	...	...	325
Cases completed in 1952	...	...	...	228
No. of cases carried forward to 1953	...	...	...	436

Analysis :

Acute	Chronic	Old People	T.B.	Others	Total
70	501	59	22	12	664
		(not sick)			

HOME HELP (for Confinements)

No. of cases completed in 1952	...	...	...	88
--------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

“ The last quarter of the year is normally the worst and the severe weather in November and December, particularly the bad fog on December 5th-8th put a great strain on the service : apart from adding more patients to the waiting list the number of helps was reduced owing to sickness amongst themselves or their families, thereby adding to the difficulties.

“ It will be seen from the foregoing analysis that the number of aged chronic sick has increased even further during the year and continues to require the services of the majority of part-time helps. Hospitals cannot cope with the ever-pressing need, and at the earliest opportunity patients are discharged home to be cared for by the Home Nursing and Domestic Help services. Fortunately the number of tuberculous patients requiring help remained low and all requests for assistance were met.

"During November six full-time helps took a week's course and examination arranged by the National Institute of Houseworkers, and four of the six were successful in obtaining the Institute's diploma and badge. The total now certificated is six.

"Domestic Help plays a great part in the Health Services—the helps take pride in their work and contribute much to the welfare and comfort of the sick."

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ESSEX—WELFARE COMMITTEE **WELFARE SERVICES**

Mr. G. E. Pegram, County Welfare Officer, kindly contributes the following :—

"The following statistics show the extent to which the main services provided by the County Welfare Committee under the National Assistance Act, 1948, have been afforded to persons residing within the Borough of Walthamstow during the year 1952 :—

(1) Residential and Temporary Accommodation.

- (a) Admitted to hostels and other residential establishments : Men, 8; Women, 14.
- (b) Admitted to temporary accommodation : Men, 1; Women, 5; Children, 11.

(2) Blind Persons.

The numbers of registered blind, partially sighted and defective sighted persons resident in the Borough during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1952, were as follows :—

(i) Registered as blind	...	...	...	213
(ii) Partially sighted	...	...	...	38
(iii) Defective sighted	...	...	...	11

all of whom were under the supervision of Home Teachers and seven participated in the Home Workers' Scheme operated through the agency of the London Society for Teaching and Training the Blind. In addition, two blind persons were employed in the Workshops for the Blind and during the year two were placed in employment (open industry), the total number of Walthamstow residents so employed being nineteen.

"At some future date welfare services for deaf or dumb and other handicapped persons will be introduced in accordance with the terms of Ministry of Health Circular 32/51."