

**[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Wimbledon].**

**Contributors**

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Borough of Wimbledon.

Public Health Department

# ANNUAL REPORT

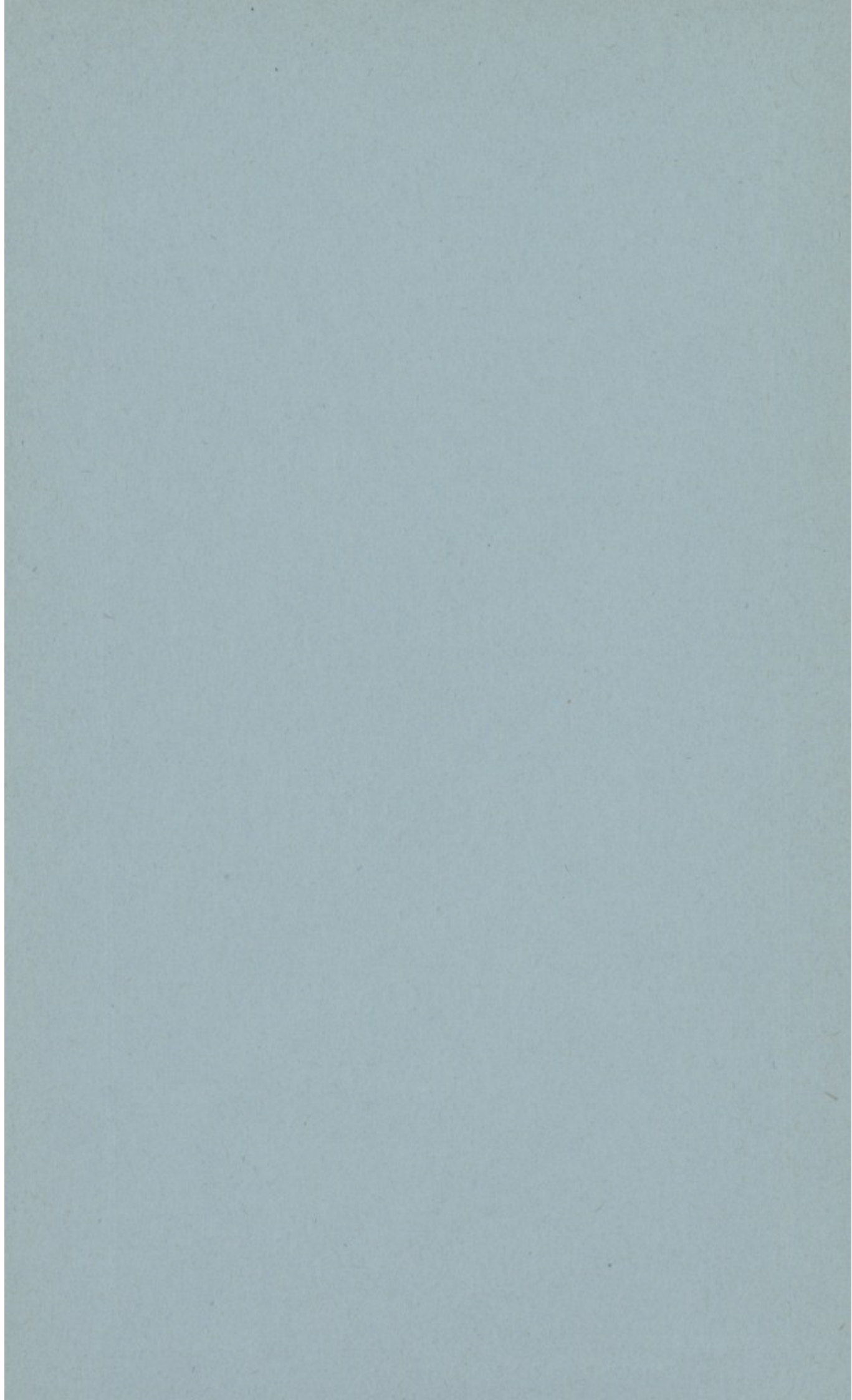
of the

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1952



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

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1952

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL,  
WIMBLEDON, S.W.19.

*June, 1953.*

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Wimbledon.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1952. This Report is compiled in accordance with the instructions contained in Circular 2/53 of the Ministry of Health.

From the statistics it will be seen that the live birth rate for the Borough in 1952 was 11.67 per thousand of the population, as compared with a rate of 15.3 for England and Wales. The death rate for Wimbledon during the period was 10.63 as compared with a rate of 11.3 for England and Wales.

For the fourth year in succession there were no maternal deaths amongst women resident in Wimbledon.

The infantile mortality rate for 1952, both for Wimbledon and for England and Wales as a whole, was the lowest on record. Ten Wimbledon children under the age of one year died during the year,

giving an infantile mortality rate of 13.60 per thousand live births. Of these 10 deaths, all but one were attributable to congenital defects, birth injuries or prematurity.

With regard to infectious diseases, for the third year in succession there were no cases of diphtheria in Wimbledon. Two cases of poliomyelitis were notified, one of them associated with paralysis. There were no deaths from infectious diseases during the year.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee my appreciation of the consideration and courtesy which they have shown me during the year.

My thanks are also due to all members of the staff of the Public Health Department for the loyal and efficient way in which they have carried out their duties. I would like to thank Mrs. Dymott for her work in connexion with the preparation of this Report.

I am also indebted to my colleagues in other departments for their ready help on all occasions.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

HAROLD ELLIS,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

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# STAFF

## *Medical Officer of Health:*

Harold Ellis, M.B., B.S.(Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

## *Senior Sanitary Inspector:*

D. F. S. Flynn, (b), (c).

## *Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector:*

H. R. Fry, (a), (c).

## *Sanitary Inspectors:*

J. Hills, (a), (c), (Resigned 22/7/52).

P. W. Smith, (a).

P. W. Jolly, (a).

R. I. W. Owen, (a), (c), (Appointed 6/10/52).

## *Assistant Rodent Officer:*

F. J. Reddington.

## *Chief Clerk:*

† Mrs. V. Dymott.

## *Clerks:*

\* J. E. Field.

\* Mrs. V. Waters.

† Miss S. G. Miller.

F. R. Brackfield.

Miss P. Martin (Temporary appointment).

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† Transferred to Surrey County Council under National Health Service Act, 1946. Part-time officer to the Wimbledon Borough Council.

\* Officer of the Wimbledon Borough Council. In part-time employment of the Surrey County Council.

(a) Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board.

(b) Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspector of Nuisances.

(c) Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

SECTION A. — STATISTICS AND  
SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres—Census, 1951) ... ..	3,212
Population (Census, 1951) ... ..	58,158
Home Population (mid-1952) ... ..	58,550
Number of inhabited houses :—	
1921 (Census) ... ..	11,926
1931 (Census) ... ..	13,325
Number of families or separate occupiers :—	
1921 (Census) ... ..	13,998
1931 (Census) ... ..	15,883
Rateable Value:— £826,420.	
Sum represented by penny rate:—£3,371.	

**Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year 1952.**  
(Registrar-General's Figures.)

				Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	{	Legitimate ... ..		703	363	340	
		Illegitimate ... ..		32	15	17	
		Total ... ..		735	378	357	
				Total	M.	F.	
Stillbirths	{	Legitimate ... ..		16	11	5	
		Illegitimate ... ..		1	—	1	
		Total ... ..		17	11	6	
Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated home population							12.55
Corrected live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated home population							11.67
Still-birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births							22.61
				Total	M.	F.	
Deaths ... ..				759	346	413	
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated home population							12.96
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated home population							10.63
Deaths from puerperal causes—							
					Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.	
		Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis ... ..			—	—	
		Other maternal causes ... ..			—	—	
		Total ... ..			—	—	
Death Rate of infants under one year of age :—							
		All infants per 1,000 live births ... ..					13.60
		Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..					14.22
		Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..					—
Deaths from cancer ... ..							127
"    "    diphtheria ... ..							—
"    "    poliomyelitis ... ..							—
"    "    measles ... ..							—
"    "    whooping cough ... ..							—

## 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).

	Wimbledon	England and Wales	160 C.B.s and Great Towns including London	160 Smaller towns (resident population 25,000 - 50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
<i>Rates per 1,000 Home Population</i>					
<i>Births:—</i>					
Live Births ... ..	11.67	15.3	16.9	15.5	17.6
Still Births ... ..	0.29	0.35	0.43	0.36	0.34
	22.6†	22.6†	24.6†	23.0†	19.2†
<i>Deaths:—</i>					
All Causes ... ..	10.63	11.3	12.1	11.2	12.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria ... ..	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis ... ..	0.10	0.24	0.28	0.22	0.31
Influenza ... ..	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.05
Smallpox ... ..	—	0.00	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (includ- ing Polioencephalitis) ...	—	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
Pneumonia ... ..	0.58	0.47	0.52	0.43	0.58
<i>Notifications (corrected):—</i>					
Typhoid Fever ... ..	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01
Meningococcal Infection ...	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02
Scarlet Fever ... ..	2.19	1.53	1.75	1.58	1.56
Whooping Cough ... ..	1.91	2.61	2.74	2.57	1.66
Diphtheria ... ..	—	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01
Erysipelas ... ..	0.05	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.14
Smallpox ... ..	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles ... ..	5.76	8.86	10.11	8.49	9.23
Pneumonia ... ..	0.41	0.72	0.80	0.62	0.57
Acute Poliomyelitis (includ- ing Polioencephalitis)—					
Paralytic ... ..	0.02	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Non-paralytic ... ..	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	0.13	0.16	0.11	0.18
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	6.65†	17.87†	23.94†	10.22†	30.77†
<i>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</i>					
<i>Deaths:—</i>					
All causes under 1 year of age ... ..	13.60‡	27.6‡	31.2	25.8	23.8
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years of age) ...	—	1.1	1.3	0.5	0.7

† Per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

‡ Per 1,000 related live births.

<i>Maternal Mortality in England and Wales.</i>			
<i>Cause</i>	<i>No. of deaths</i>	<i>Rates per 1,000 total (live and still) births</i>	<i>Rates per million women aged 15-44</i>
Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium ... ..	61	0.09	
Abortion with toxæmia ... ..	13	0.02	1
Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium ... ..	147	0.21	
Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	59	0.09	
Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia ... ..	31	0.04	3
Abortion with sepsis ... ..	47	0.07	5
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium ... ..	138	0.20	

As previously stated in the Report there were no maternal deaths in Wimbledon during 1952.

#### BIRTHS.

The statistics supplied by the Registrar-General show that during 1952 the total number of registered live births belonging to Wimbledon was 735. In addition 17 stillbirths were registered. This gives a birth-rate of 12.55 per thousand of the population compared with a rate of 14.26 per thousand for the previous year.

A comparability factor has been supplied by the Registrar-General which enables the birth-rate for Wimbledon to be compared with that for England and Wales. The corrected birth-rate for Wimbledon for 1952 is 11.67 per thousand of the population, whilst the rate for England and Wales is 15.3.

#### DEATHS.

The total number of Wimbledon residents who died during 1952 was 759, giving a death-rate of 12.96 per thousand of the population as compared with 13.33 per thousand for 1951. The corrected death-rate for 1952 is 10.63 per thousand as compared with a rate of 11.3 per thousand for England and Wales.

The number of Wimbledon residents who died outside the Borough was 231, while 238 persons not normally resident in Wimbledon died in institutions, etc., in the Borough.

The three principal causes of death were as follows:—

	<i>Percentage of total deaths</i>
Diseases of the heart and circulatory system ...	54%
Cancer ... ..	17%
Diseases of the respiratory system ... ..	11%
Total ...	<u>82%</u>

The following is an analysis of the causes of death:—

<i>Cause</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Respiratory tuberculosis ... ..	4	2	6
2. Other tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease ... ..	2	4	6
4. Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
5. Whooping cough ... ..	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—
8. Measles ... ..	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	1	—	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	8	7	15
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	12	11	23
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	13	13
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	4	4
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	30	42	72
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	2	3	5
16. Diabetes ... ..	5	2	7
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	30	66	96
18. Coronary disease, angina ... ..	71	60	131
19. Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	11	11	22
20. Other heart disease ... ..	49	77	126
21. Other circulatory disease ... ..	20	15	35
22. Influenza ... ..	2	—	2
23. Pneumonia ... ..	14	20	34
24. Bronchitis ... ..	24	20	44
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	2	4	6
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	8	4	12
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	—	1	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	4	5	9
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	9	—	9
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations ... ..	3	1	4
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	21	29	50
33. Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	2	3	5
34. All other accidents ... ..	4	8	12
35. Suicide ... ..	8	1	9
36. Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—	—
Totals ...	<u>346</u>	<u>413</u>	<u>759</u>

## INFANTILE MORTALITY.

During 1952 there were 10 deaths in infants under one year of age, giving an infantile mortality rate for Wimbledon of 13.60 per thousand live births, as compared with a rate of 27.6 for England and Wales.

Six of the 10 deaths occurred during the first four weeks of life, giving a neo-natal death-rate of 8.16 per thousand live births.

The following table shows the causes of and ages at death.

<i>Cause of death</i>	<i>Under 1 week</i>	<i>1-2 weeks</i>	<i>2-3 weeks</i>	<i>3-4 weeks</i>	<i>Total under 4 weeks</i>	<i>1-3 months</i>	<i>3-6 months</i>	<i>6-9 months</i>	<i>9-12 months</i>	<i>Total Deaths under 1 year</i>
Congenital defect or birth injury ...	3	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	6
Prematurity ...	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Total ...	6	—	—	—	6	3	1	—	—	10

### Infantile Mortality during the last 10 years.

<i>Cause of death</i>	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Prematurity ...	8	6	4	6	6	8	5	5	3	3
Congenital defects or birth injuries	9	6	8	12	10	5	12	2	9	6
Diseases of the newborn ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
Gastro-enteritis ...	6	5	3	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
Pneumonia ...	7	5	6	2	2	1	1	—	1	1
Bronchitis ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Whooping cough	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Meningococcal Meningitis ...	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
T.B. Meningitis ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumococcal Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Septicaemia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Encephalomyelitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pyelonephritis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asphyxia (unknown cause) ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Accidental death	2	—	—	2	1	3	2	1	1	—
Inattention at birth	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fractured skull (unknown newborn child) ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infanticide ...	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other causes ...	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	42	26	29	24	20	18	22	14	17	10
Total neo-natal deaths included above ...	20	15	17	17	13	14	14	8	14	6

### Summary of Statistics.

The following table shows the birth-rates and death-rates for Wimbledon as compared with England and Wales since 1939.

Year	Live-Birth Rate (per thousand home population)		Still-birth Rate (per thousand home population)		Death-Rate (per thousand home population)		Maternal Mortality Rate (per thousand total (live and still) births)		Infantile Mortality Rate (per thousand live births)	
	Wim.	E. & W.	Wim.	E. & W.	Wim.	E. & W.	Wim.	E. & W.	Wim.	E. & W.
1939	10.86	15.0	0.37	0.59	10.53	12.1	1.57	2.82	29.41	50
1940	12.20	14.6	0.42	0.55	13.92*	14.3	1.67	2.16	43.40	55
1941	12.82	14.2	0.29	0.51	11.92*	12.9	—	2.23	41.15	59
1942	15.46	15.8	0.47	0.54	12.44*	11.6	—	2.01	41.95	49
1943	17.69	16.5	0.27	0.51	14.37*	12.1	1.18	2.29	50.17	49
1944	15.62	17.6	0.53	0.50	13.21*	11.6	2.76	1.93	37.14	46
1945	17.01	16.1	0.42	0.46	13.38*	11.4	2.42	1.79	36.20	46
1946	18.90	19.1	0.64	0.53	13.51*	11.5	—	1.43	23.14	43
1947	19.39	20.5	0.42	0.50	13.64*	12.0	0.88	1.17	18.03	41
1948	16.33	17.9	0.26	0.42	11.56*	10.8	1.04	1.02	19.03	34
1949	14.99	16.7	0.39	0.39	10.72	11.7	—	0.98	25.14	32
1950	12.46	15.8	0.24	0.37	10.37	11.6	—	0.86	18.13	29.8
1951	13.26	15.5	0.24	0.36	10.93	12.5	—	0.79	20.41	29.6
1952	11.67	15.3	0.29	0.35	10.63	11.3	—	0.72	13.60	27.6

\* From 1940 to 1948 the local death-rate could not be corrected as the publication of an area comparability factor was suspended. Consequently it is not strictly possible to compare the death-rate for Wimbledon with that for England and Wales for those years.

SECTION B. — GENERAL PROVISION OF  
HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, PART IV. — NURSING HOMES.

The Wimbledon Borough Council is responsible for the registration and supervision of nursing homes in the Borough.

One home was registered during the year. Two homes were exempted, on an annual basis, from registration under Section 192 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

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

Number of homes on the register:—

Maternity	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Number of beds provided			...	...	...	...	...	82
Number of visits of inspection during the year						...	...	10

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Under Section 47 of this Act, power is given to the Councils of County Boroughs and County Districts to apply to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for an Order for removal and detention, in a suitable hospital or other place, of persons who

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease, or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions; and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

At the beginning of 1952 there were two patients already in County Welfare Establishments as the results of Orders made previously by the local Court under this Section. These Orders were not renewed during the year as both patients were reported to have adjusted themselves well to their surroundings and were prepared to remain voluntarily in the County Welfare Establishments for an indefinite period.

It was not found necessary for the Council to make application to the Court for any new Orders during the year.

### MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

The Mass Radiography Unit of the Regional Hospital Board made two visits to the Wimbledon area during 1952, in February and again in November. As in previous years facilities were offered to all persons over the age of 15 years for X-ray examination of the chest.

I am indebted to the Secretary of the Mass Radiography Unit for the following details of persons who attended for examination. As the facilities were available to all, the statistics do not necessarily relate to Wimbledon residents only.

#### *Number of persons examined:*

	February	November
Males ...	1,499	1,435
Females ...	1,807	1,874
	3,306	3,309

#### *Abnormalities discovered:*

##### (i) Active pulmonary tuberculosis:

Males ...	3	7
Females ...	3	4
	6	11

##### (ii) Inactive pulmonary tuberculosis:

Males ...	52	55
Females ...	62	64
	114	119

	February	November
(iii) Non-tuberculous conditions :		
Males ...	45	47
Females ...	40	30
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	85	77
	<hr/>	<hr/>
(iv) Awaiting final diagnosis:	—	9

#### CLEAN FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Five meetings of the Clean Food Advisory Committee were held during 1952. The main subject under consideration was the formation of a Clean Food Guild.

It was decided to hold a general meeting, to which all food traders and employees were to be invited, the meeting to be presided over by the Mayor.

This meeting was held in October. There appeared to be complete unanimity amongst all food traders regarding the need for the observance of hygiene in the handling of food, and a genuine desire to comply with the Codes of Practice which had been adopted by the Clean Food Advisory Committee in 1951. At the same time, most traders expressed themselves as not in favour of the formation of a Clean Food Guild.

The Clean Food Advisory Committee subsequently decided, in view of this lack of support, to postpone further consideration of the matter for a period of six months.

#### HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT 1952.

This Act received the Royal Assent on 1st August, 1952, although it does not come into force until a date to be fixed by the Secretary of State. By the Act, the sale or letting of certain heating appliances without an effective fireguard is prohibited.

The Wimbledon Borough Council have authorised the Sanitary Inspectors to carry out the duties, imposed by the Act, of inspecting and testing appliances required to be fitted with guards, and inspecting appliances kept on any premises for the purpose of sale or letting.

Duties in connexion with the foregoing will start as soon as the Regulations, following the coming into operation of the Act, are received from the Home Office.

## SECTION C. —

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### *Water Supply.*

The Metropolitan Water Board is responsible for the supply of water to the Borough and regular periodical examinations are made by them.

With three exceptions all the dwelling houses in Wimbledon are supplied from public water mains direct to the houses.

#### *Corporation Swimming Baths — Sampling of water.*

During the year eight samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination. All samples were reported as being bacteriologically satisfactory.

#### *Sanitary Inspection of District.*

The following is a statement showing the number and nature of inspections made during 1952:—

<i>Reason for Visit.</i>	<i>No.</i>
Infectious Diseases, investigations, etc. ...	643
Inspections under Housing Act, 1936, Part IV	120
House to House Inspections (Section 91, Public Health Act, 1936):—	
(a) number of houses inspected ... ..	195
(b) number of revisits ... ..	148
House Inspections ... ..	8,257
Inspections of Factories, Workplaces and Outworkers' premises ... ..	369
Inspections of Dairies ... ..	36
Inspections of Food, and Food Premises ...	1,338
Obtaining samples of Food and Drugs ...	125
Inspections under the Shops Act 1950 ...	275
Inspections under the Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1923 and 1936 ... ..	57
Applications of Tests to Drains ... ..	207
Inspections under The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 ... ..	2,714
Smoke Observations ... ..	57
Miscellaneous Inspections (including visits to Nursing Homes, Caravans, Piggeries, Stables, Hairdressers' premises and Watercourses) ...	926
Total	15,467

### Notices Served.

Preliminary notices or intimations	...	...	2,155
Statutory Notices	...	...	425

### Result of Service of Notices.

#### (a) Legal proceedings.

As a result of non-compliance with abatement notices legal proceedings were instituted in three cases. In two instances nuisance orders were made, and in the remaining case the summons was withdrawn as the work had been finished. It was agreed that the defendant should pay £1. 5s. 6d. in payment of the Corporation's costs in connection with the proceedings. The costs awarded in the other two cases amounted to £4. 1s. 6d.

#### (b) Work carried out in default.

Seven dustbins were supplied by the Corporation in default of the owners or occupiers.

The Corporation executed the necessary work to abate a nuisance in one case where a nuisance order had been made by the Court but had not been complied with by the owner.

### Nuisances abated and defects remedied.

The following table gives a summary of the nuisances abated and the sanitary improvements carried out, together with the defects remedied under the supervision of the sanitary inspectors:—

Drains, new, provided	...	...	6
Drains, altered or repaired	...	...	42
Drains, cleared	...	...	104
Fresh air inlets, provided or repaired	...	...	11
Gullies, new, provided	...	...	4
Gullies, curbs, provided or repaired	...	...	18
Gutters, renewed or repaired	...	...	160
Inspection chambers, new, provided	...	...	5
Inspection chambers, altered or repaired	...	...	13
Rainwater pipes, new provided	...	...	2
Rainwater pipes, repaired or cleared	...	...	36
Soil pipes and vents, new provided	...	...	5
Soil pipes and vents, repaired	...	...	23
Waste pipes, new, provided	...	...	1
Waste pipes, repaired, cleared or trapped	...	...	36
W.C. accommodation, provided or improved	...	...	3
W.C. accommodation, ventilated lobbies provided	...	...	6
W.C. accommodation, apartments cleaned or repaired	...	...	4
Water-closets, new, provided	...	...	26
Water-closets, cleared, cleansed or repaired	...	...	47
Flushing cisterns, new, provided	...	...	4
Flushing cisterns, repaired or regulated	...	...	58
Sinks or lavatory basins provided	...	...	8

Urinals provided ... ..	1
Urinals, cleansed or repaired ... ..	1
Accumulations removed ... ..	30
Animal nuisances abated ... ..	3
Dustbins provided ... ..	152
Manure receptacles provided ... ..	1
Brickwork, repaired or repointed ... ..	70
Dampness remedied ... ..	379
Roofs, renewed or repaired ... ..	312
Yards, paved ... ..	4
Yards, repaired ... ..	17
Floors, renewed or repaired ... ..	212
Floors, ventilated ... ..	7
Fireplaces or ranges, repaired or renewed ...	122
Rooms, walls and ceilings, cleansed or redecorated	371
Rooms, plasterwork repaired ... ..	634
Staircase handrails provided ... ..	4
Ventilated food cupboards provided ... ..	1
Water pipes, repaired ... ..	16
Water supply restored ... ..	2
Water storage cisterns, repaired, cleansed or covered ... ..	12
Windows, repaired ... ..	154
Windows, sills, renewed or repaired ... ..	53
Windows, sashcords renewed ... ..	179
Factories or Workshops, cleansed ... ..	2
Food Rooms, cleansed ... ..	21
Smoke nuisances abated ... ..	10
Other nuisances abated ... ..	438
Rooms disinfected ... ..	253
Total	4,083

*Work executed by the Borough Surveyor and rechargeable under Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936.*

Twelve sewers vested in the Local Authority by Section 20 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were cleared or repaired.

# FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

## PART I.

### 1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health.

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Factories without mechanical power ...	106	91	5	—
Factories with mechanical power ...	212	230	19	—
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ...	4	9	—	—
<b>Totals</b> ... ..	<b>322</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>—</b>

### 2. Defects Found.

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of Defects</i>				<i>Prosecutions</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>Referred by H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	6	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—					
Insufficient ... ..	3	—	—	1	—
Unsuitable or Defective	24	14	—	7	—
Not Separate for Sexes	1	1	—	1	—
Other Offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork) ...	4	—	1	—	—
<b>Totals</b> ... ..	<b>39</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>—</b>

PART VIII.

OUTWORK — SECTIONS 110 & 111.

Nature of work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel — Making etc.	11	—	—	—	—	—
Others ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	11	—	—	—	—	—

Number of addresses received from other Councils ...	55
Number of addresses forwarded to other Councils ...	14
Number of premises where outwork was carried on at the end of 1952 ... ..	95
Inspections of outworkers' premises ... ..	49
Outwork in infected premises (Section 153 Public Health Act, 1936) ... ..	Nil

OTHER MATTERS.

Failure to affix Abstracts of Act notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories ... ..	2
Underground bakehouses in use at the end of the year ...	2

## SECTION D. — HOUSING.

### *Housing Act, 1936, (Part IV) — Overcrowding.*

The following table shows the position in Wimbledon at the end of 1952 with regard to overcrowding.

(a) (i)	Number of dwellings known to the Department to be overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	60
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	68
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	353
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	15
(c) (i)	Number of cases of overcrowding known to have been relieved during the year	...	...	...	21
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	101
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	—

### *Rehousing.*

I am indebted to the Housing Manager for the following information regarding rehousing in Wimbledon:—

No. of houses requisitioned since the beginning of the war, and still held under requisition at the end of 1952	...	...	...	...	454
No. of prefabricated bungalows provided since the end of the war	...	...	...	...	71
No. of families rehoused by the Council, or by private owners at the Council's instigation, since the beginning of the war	...	...	...	...	1,827
No. of live applications on the housing waiting-list	...	...	...	...	2,396

### *New houses erected, etc.*

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor for the following information:—

No. of new houses erected in Wimbledon during 1952:—					
Private enterprise	...	...	...	...	14
Local Authority	...	...	...	...	84
No. of new flats created by conversion during 1952:—					
Private enterprise	...	...	...	...	59
Local Authority	...	...	...	...	2

SECTION E. — INSPECTION AND  
SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

*Milk.*

Under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949 and 1950, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949 and 1950, the following licences were granted to retailers by the Council :—

Pasteurisers' Licences	...	...	...	...	Nil
Dealers' Licences—					
Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	17
Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	19
Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	...	23
Supplementary Licences—					
Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	8
Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	9
Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	...	7
					83

During the year 39 samples of designated milk were sent for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows:—

<i>Class of Milk.</i>	<i>Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory.</i>
Pasteurised	33	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	4	—
Tuberculin Tested	1	—
Sterilised	1	—

Four samples of tuberculin tested milk were sent to various Laboratories for animal inoculation. All four samples were found to be negative for tubercle bacilli.

*Ice Cream.*

On the 7th July, 1952, the Food Standards (Ice-Cream) (Amendment) Order, 1952, came into operation. This Order modified the standard for ice-cream which was introduced in March, 1951, by reducing the minimum fat content of ice-cream from 5% to 4%, and the minimum non-fat milk solids content from 7½% to 5%.

Six samples of ice-cream were sent for analysis during the year and were found to comply with the standards laid down.

A further 33 samples of ice-cream were sent for bacteriological examination during the year. The results of these samples were as follows:—

Grade 1	...	...	...	...	...	19
Grade 2	...	...	...	...	...	6
Grade 3	...	...	...	...	...	6
Grade 4	...	...	..	...	...	2
					<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>

The results of the methylene blue test divide ice-cream into four grades. If ice-cream consistently fails to reach Grades 1 and 2 in the test, this is regarded as indicating a defect of manufacture or handling which calls for further investigation.

Repeated visits were made to premises from which unsatisfactory results had been received.

Eleven applications for registration were received, and registration was granted in ten cases. The remaining application was refused because of the lack of sufficient supply of hot water within reasonable distance of where the ice-cream was to be sold.

In all, 80 visits were paid during 1952 to premises where the manufacture or sale of ice-cream was being carried on.

#### *Meat and Other Foods.*

The following inspections of food premises etc. were made by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1952:—

Inspections of dairies	...	...	...	...	36
Inspections of food premises	...	...	...	...	699
Inspections of premises where ice-cream is manufactured or sold	...	...	...	...	80
Visits to obtain samples of food and drugs	...	...	...	...	105
Visits to obtain samples of designated milk	...	...	...	...	37
Visits to obtain samples of ice-cream	...	...	...	...	19
Inspections of other foods	...	...	...	...	509

No carcasses were inspected or condemned during the year.

#### *Unsound Food.*

The following is a list of the unsound food surrendered during the year:—

Almonds (ground)	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	21½ lbs.
Baking powder	...	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Biscuits	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
Cereals	...	...	...	...	26 lbs.
Cereals	...	...	...	...	27 pkts.

Cheese, Processed	...	...	...	...	14 cartons.
Coconut	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
Coffee	...	...	...	...	4 bottles
Confectionery	...	...	...	...	7 lbs.
Dates	...	...	...	...	26 boxes
Eggs	...	...	...	...	108
Figs	...	...	...	...	74 boxes
Fish	...	...	...	...	33 stones
Fish	...	...	...	...	88 tins
Fish cakes	...	...	...	...	2 boxes
Flour	...	...	...	...	16 packets
Fruit	...	...	...	...	33 jars
Fruit	...	...	...	...	1,193 tins
Fruit squash	...	...	...	...	24 bottles
Ham	...	...	...	...	29½ lbs.
Ham	...	...	...	...	85 tins
Meat	...	...	...	...	2,825 lbs.
Meat	...	...	...	...	684 tins
Milk	...	...	...	...	253 tins
Mint sauce	...	...	...	...	1 bottle
Mussels	...	...	...	...	1 sack
Paste	...	...	...	...	19 tins
Paste	...	...	...	...	2 jars
Peanut butter	...	...	...	...	2 jars
Piccalilli	...	...	...	...	2 jars
Pickle	...	...	...	...	19 jars
Pickled onions	...	...	...	...	2 jars
Preserves	...	...	...	...	62 jars
Preserves	...	...	...	...	131 tins
Prunes	...	...	...	...	66 lbs.
Puddings	...	...	...	...	18 tins
Rabbits	...	...	...	...	540 lbs.
Salad cream	...	...	...	...	1 bottle
Salmon	...	...	...	...	20 tins
Sauce	...	...	...	...	6 bottles
Sausages	...	...	...	...	42 lbs.
Sausages	...	...	...	...	21 tins
Soups and stews	...	...	...	...	55 tins
Sponge mixture	...	...	...	...	46 packets
Sultanas	...	...	...	...	112 lbs.
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	42 tins
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	307 tins
Vinegar	...	...	...	...	1 bottle

### *Legal Proceedings.*

There were three prosecutions under Section 3 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the sale of pork sausages with a low meat content.

In two instances the cases were proved and the defendants were given an absolute discharge. They were each ordered to pay £3. 3s. 0d. costs.

In the third case, upon application by the defendant, the sausages were analysed by the Government Analyst, and at the adjourned hearing the case was proved. The defendant was given an absolute discharge and ordered to pay £6. 10s. 0d. costs.

## Sampling of Food and Drugs.

During 1952 samples were taken for analysis as under:—

<i>Articles</i>	<i>Analysed</i>			<i>Inferior or Adulterated</i>		
	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Total</i>
Almond flavouring ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Beetroot and red-currant jelly ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Bev. coffee ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Butter ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—
Caraway seeds ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Celery ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Celery salt ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cocoa ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	*
Coffee and chicory essence	—	6	6	—	—	—
Compound turtle extract ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cream of chicken soup ...	—	1	1	—	1	1
Cream of mushroom soup	—	1	1	—	—	—
Culinary oil ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Curry powder ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Dessicated coconut ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Epsom salts ... ..	—	1	1	—	1	1
Glycerine ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Glycerine, honey and lemon	—	1	1	—	—	—
Honey ... ..	—	3	3	—	—	—
Horseradish cream ... ..	—	2	2	—	—	—
Horseradish sauce ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ice-cream ... ..	6	—	6	—	—	—
Lemon juice ... ..	—	2	2	—	—	—
Maralyn ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Milk ... ..	22	29	51	—	—	—
Mincemeat ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mint jelly ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Olive oil ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Orange squash ... ..	—	2	2	—	—	—
Paste, bloater ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pepper ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pepper flavoured compound	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pickled walnuts ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pineapple sweetened ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Prepared German mustard	—	1	1	—	—	—
Prepared parsley ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Rennet essence ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Rice ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Salad cream ... ..	—	3	3	—	—	—
Sausages, beef ... ..	2	—	2	—	—	—
Sausages, liver ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sausages, pork ... ..	7	—	7	3	—	3
Self-raising flour ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Strawberry jam ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Suet, beef ... ..	—	2	2	—	—	—
Synthetic cream ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tapioca ... ..	—	2	2	—	—	—
Tea ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tomato chutney ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tomato ketchup ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Vegetable salad ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Vinegar ... ..	1	5	6	—	—	—
Whisky ... ..	11	—	11	—	—	—
<b>Totals ...</b>	50	94	144	3	2	5

\* Coconut supplied by mistake for Cocoa.

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

### *Notifications of Infectious Disease.*

During the year there were 649 cases of infectious disease notified, as compared with 1158 cases during 1951.

### *Poliomyelitis.*

Two cases of poliomyelitis occurred during the year, one of them associated with paralysis. Both patients were removed to hospital for treatment.

Seven other persons were admitted to hospital as suspected cases of poliomyelitis, but the diagnosis was not sustained.

The final diagnosis of these seven cases is given below:—

Infective hepatitis	...	...	...	...	2
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	1
Acute rheumatism	...	...	...	...	1
Myalgia	...	...	...	...	1
Physical exhaustion	...	...	...	...	1
Behaviour problems	...	...	...	...	1
				—	7
				—	—

### *Paratyphoid fever.*

One case of paratyphoid fever was notified. The family had recently returned from holiday at a seaside resort in Kent. Upon investigation it was found that two other cases of paratyphoid, which had occurred elsewhere, were also associated with this resort. It was therefore considered likely that the patient had contracted the disease there.

### *Salmonella enteritidis.*

Following the occurrence of a number of cases of infection by salmonella enteritidis in a nearby hospital, 21 patients discharged from this hospital to their homes in Wimbledon were kept under supervision by the Health Department.

### *Dysentery.*

Thirty-six cases of dysentery were notified during the year. These included a number of children and one teacher from a local infants' school where a mild outbreak of the disease occurred during the early part of the summer. As a result of investigations carried out at this school 29 children were excluded on clinical grounds. Thirteen of

these, and one teacher, were subsequently notified as suffering from Sonne dysentery. Three contacts of these children were also found to be suffering from the disease.

### *Diphtheria.*

Two patients suspected to be suffering from diphtheria were admitted to hospital. One was found on investigation to be suffering from glandular fever, and the other from cervical adenitis.

### *Immunisation against Diphtheria.*

The authority responsible for immunisation in this area is the Surrey County Council.

The following table shows the number of children in Wimbledon under the age of 15 years who have been immunised against diphtheria.

<i>Age at 31/12/52</i>	<i>No. immunised</i>
Under 1 year	23
1 year	451
2 years	531
3 years	640
4 years	696
	<hr/>
Total under 5 years	2,341
	<hr/>
5 - 9 years	3,627
10 - 14 years	2,391
	<hr/>
Total 5 - 14 years	6,018
	<hr/>

Notifiable diseases during 1952.

DISEASE	Number of Cases Notified in Various Age Groups									Total Cases Notified	Total Cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths
	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over			
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	10	25	83	4	5	1	—	—	128	46	—
Measles ... ..	7	54	87	170	4	8	7	—	—	337	9	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	6	28	26	49	—	—	3	—	—	112	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—
„ „ (Non-paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	5	4	—
Dysentery ... ..	1	1	1	24	2	—	3	4	—	36	1	—
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	—	—
Pneumonia (Acute Primary or Influenzal) ... ..	2	—	—	2	1	1	8	5	5	24	—	34*
<b>TOTALS</b> ...	16	93	140	328	11	19	26	11	5	649	63	34

\*All forms.

Notifications of Infectious Disease during the last 10 years.

DISEASE	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Diphtheria ... ..	20	24	8	7	4	4	6	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	89	18	4	2	—	2	7	53	36
Encephalitis Lethargica, acute ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	1
Erysipelas ... ..	11	11	11	12	5	2	7	1	5	3
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	5	2	—	4	—
Malaria ... ..	—	1	1	7	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles ... ..	272	57	586	339	253	481	707	364	758	337
Meningococcal Infection ...	10	3	6	5	5	3	2	3	2	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	6	9	10	8	4	2	2	1	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	30	25	27	26	32	15	19	20	27	24
Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	1	4	2	25	4	10	12	4	2
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	9	6	8	10	3	5	8	1	2	5
Scarlet Fever ... ..	186	77	46	37	51	95	55	68	136	128
Whooping-cough ... ..	115	117	54	114	157	231	149	181	166	112
	659	420	780	571	541	849	969	668	1,158	649
Tuberculosis:—										
Pulmonary ... ..	59	66	76	84	87	87	96	102	93	84
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	12	10	16	12	8	6	10	13	6	5

## TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 89 cases of tuberculosis were added to the Register as compared with 99 in 1951. Of these, 61 were new cases and 28 were transfers from other areas.

An analysis of the notifications received is given overleaf.

The following cases were removed from the Register:—

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Deaths ... ..	4	2	—	—
Recovered cases ... ..	3	2	2	—
Removals from district ...	21	17	1	1
	—	—	—	—
	28	21	3	1
	—	—	—	—

Towards the end of the year investigations were carried out at a Youth Club in Wimbledon where one of the seniors had developed tuberculosis.

With the co-operation of the Mass Radiography Unit of the Regional Hospital Board, arrangements were made for Club members to undergo an x-ray examination of the chest. Of the 109 persons invited to undergo this x-ray examination 63 attended, and in all cases the results were negative.

TUBERCULOSIS — 1952.

AGE GROUPS	CASES ADDED TO THE REGISTER												DEATHS			
	Primary Notifications (Form A)				Cases Discovered otherwise than by Notification				Total Cases added to the Register				Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under 1 Year ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 — 4 Years ... ..	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 9 " ... ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 — 14 " ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 — 19 " ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 — 24 " ... ..	5	2	—	—	1	3	—	—	6	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 — 29 " ... ..	7	5	2	—	5	3	—	1	12	8	2	1	—	—	—	—
30 — 34 " ... ..	7	2	—	—	5	3	1	—	12	5	1	—	—	1	—	—
35 — 44 " ... ..	5	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 — 54 " ... ..	6	2	—	1	2	—	—	—	8	2	—	1	1	—	—	—
55 — 64 " ... ..	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	4	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 and Over ... ..	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
	39	17	2	1	16	12	1	1	55	29	3	2	4	2	—	—
	56		3		28		2		84		5		6		—	
	59				30				89				6			





