

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

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Borough of Wimbledon.

Public Health Department

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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1954

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

July, 1955.

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 1954. This report is compiled in accordance with the instructions contained in Circular 1/54 of the Ministry of Health.

The report is largely statistical in character. These statistics show a number of very satisfactory features.

The corrected death rate for the Borough in 1954 was 8.51 per thousand of the population, compared with the rate of 11.3 for England and Wales. This is the lowest death rate recorded in Wimbledon for more than forty years. The corrected live birth rate for Wimbledon during the period was 12.94 compared with a rate of 15.2 for England and Wales.

There were no maternal deaths in the Borough.

The infant mortality rate for 1954 in Wimbledon was the second lowest on record. Twelve Wimbledon children under the age of one year died during the year, giving an infantile mortality rate of 15.30 per thousand live births compared with the rate of 25.5 for England and Wales.

With regard to infectious diseases, the figure of 200 notifications is the lowest figure recorded in the Borough for thirteen years. This was largely attributable to the exceptionally low incidence of measles. For the fifth successive year there were no cases of diphtheria in Wimbledon.

Four cases of poliomyelitis were notified, two of them being associated with paralysis. One death occurred in a non-paralytic case.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee my appreciation for the consideration and courtesy which they have shown to 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. In January, Mr. Flynn resigned from his post as Senior Sanitary Inspector after 47 years service with the Corporation, and I should like to pay tribute to the unstinting help and loyal co-operation which I always received from him. Mr. Cockell was appointed to succeed him and took up his duties on 1st February, 1954.

I should also like to pay tribute to other senior members of the staff who resigned during the year — Mr. Fry, Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector, who was replaced by Mr. Godfrey, and Mr. Berrington, my Chief Clerk, who was succeeded by Mr. Richardson.

I am much 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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## BOROUGH OF WIMBLEDON HEALTH COMMITTEE

December, 1954

Councillor T. H. Metcalf, (Chairman).  
Councillor Alick Withall, J.P., (Mayor).  
Councillor A. E. Ayres, (Vice-Chairman).  
Alderman C. W. Black, J.P., M.P.  
Alderman Miss D. Carver.  
Councillor G. S. Abbott.  
Councillor W. J. M. Fisher, B.Sc.  
Councillor Miss D. M. Lord.  
Councillor W. Reay.  
Councillor A. J. Stringer.  
Councillor A. Styles.  
Councillor J. A. Watson.

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## NORTH-EASTERN DIVISIONAL HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE

### WIMBLEDON REPRESENTATIVES

December, 1954

Councillor T. H. Metcalf, (Chairman).  
Councillor N. S. Clarke.  
Councillor L. C. Grant.  
Councillor Miss D. M. Lord.  
Councillor A. Styles.

# 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). (Retired 31/1/54).

G. H. Cockell, (a), (c). (Appointed 1/2/54).

## *Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector:*

H. R. Fry, (a), (c). (Resigned 23/3/54).

L. R. Godfrey, (a), (c). (Appointed 17/5/54).

## *Sanitary Inspectors:*

P. W. Smith, (a), (c).

P. W. Jolly, (a), (c).

F. W. Goldsmith, (a), (c).

## *Assistant Rodent Officer:*

F. J. Reddington.

## *Chief Clerk:*

† H. Berrington, B.Sc. (Econ.). (Resigned 23/10/54).

† J. R. Richardson. (Appointed 11/11/54).

## *Clerks:*

\* J. E. Field. (Resigned 13/2/54).

\* S. C. Nottingham. (Appointed 15/3/54).

\* Mrs. V. Waters.

† Mrs. S. G. Meech.

Mrs. B. Plant. (Appointed 25/10/54).

F. R. Brackfield.

P. B. Stannett.

- 
- † 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) ... ..	58,141
Home Population (mid-1954) ... ..	58,150
Number of occupied dwellings:—	
1921 (Census) ... ..	11,926
1931 (Census) ... ..	13,325
1951 (Census) ... ..	16,047
Number of private households:—	
1921 (Census) ... ..	13,998
1931 (Census) ... ..	15,883
1951 (Census) ... ..	19,185
Rateable Value:— £849,324.	
Sum represented by penny rate:— £3,433.	

**Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year 1954.**  
(Registrar-General's Figures.)

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	{	Legitimate ... ..	749	390	359
		Illegitimate ... ..	35	17	18
		Total ... ..	784	407	377
		Total	M.	F.	
Stillbirths	{	Legitimate ... ..	17	10	7
		Illegitimate ... ..	1	1	—
		Total ... ..	18	11	7
Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated home population				13.48	
Corrected live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated home population				12.94	
Still-birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births				22.44	
		Total	M.	F.	
Deaths ... ..		619	296	323	
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated home population				10.64	
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated home population				8.51	
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 ... ..				15.30	
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...				14.68	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...				28.57	
Deaths from cancer ... ..				132	
"    "    diphtheria ... ..				—	
"    "    poliomyelitis ... ..				1	
"    "    measles ... ..				—	
"    "    whooping cough ... ..				—	

**Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality,  
Maternal Mortality and Case Rates for Certain Infectious Diseases  
in the Year 1954.**

**Provisional Figures Based on Quarterly Returns of Registrar-General.**

	Wimbledon (1)	England and Wales (2)	160 C.B.s and Great Towns including London (3)	160 Smaller Towns (resident populat'n 25,000-50,000 at 1951 Census) (4)
<i>Rates per 1,000 Home Population</i>				
<i>Births:—</i>				
Live Births ... ..	12.94	15.2	16.8	15.4
Stillbirths ... ..	0.30	0.36	—	—
	22.44*	23.5*	23.3*	24.0*
<i>Deaths:—</i>				
All causes ... ..	8.51	11.3	11.1	11.3
Typhoid and Paratyphoid...	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria ... ..	—	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis ... ..	0.07	0.18	0.20	0.18
Influenza ... ..	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.04
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (includ- ing poliomyelitis) ...	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pneumonia ... ..	0.33	0.41	0.45	0.41
Cancer ... ..	2.27	2.03	—	—
<i>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</i>				
Infant deaths (all causes under 1 year) ... ..	15.30†	25.5†	29.1†	23.7†
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (un- der 2 years of age) ...	—	0.8	0.9	0.5

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

† Per 1,000 related live births.

A dash (—) under column (1) signifies that there were no deaths

— in other columns that information not available.

**Maternal Mortality — England and Wales**

Rates per 1,000 live and still births.

	<i>No. of deaths</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Maternal causes, excluding abortion ... ..	402	0.58
Due to abortion ... ..	76	0.11
<b>Total Maternal Mortality ... ..</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>0.69</b>

Estimated mid-1954 female population 15-44 years ... 9,236,000

As previously stated in the report there were no maternal deaths in Wimbledon during 1954.

## Corrected Notifications for Certain Infectious Diseases 1954.

### Rates per 1,000 Home Population

	Wimbledon	England and Wales
Scarlet Fever	0.84	0.95
Whooping Cough	1.25	2.39
Typhoid Fever	—	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	—	0.01
Meningococcal Infection	0.02	0.02
Diphtheria	—	0.00
Erysipelas	0.05	0.12
Smallpox	—	—
Measles	0.31	3.31
Pneumonia	0.31	0.60
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)		
Paralytic	0.03	0.03
Non-paralytic	0.03	0.01
Food Poisoning	0.22	0.19
Dysentery	0.24	0.71
Puerperal Pyrexia*	4.99	17.74

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

### BIRTHS.

The statistics supplied by the Registrar-General show that during 1954 the total number of registered live births belonging to Wimbledon was 784. In addition, 18 stillbirths were registered. This gives a birth-rate of 13.48 per thousand of the population compared with a rate of 12.68 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 1954 is 12.94 per thousand of the population, whilst the rate for England and Wales is 15.2.

### DEATHS.

The total number of Wimbledon residents who died during 1954 was 619, giving a death-rate of 10.64 per thousand of the population as compared with 12.56 per thousand for 1953. The corrected death-rate for 1954 is 8.51 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 235, whilst 272 persons not normally resident in Wimbledon died in institutions, etc., in the Borough.

The four principal causes of death were as follows:—

	<i>Percentage of total deaths</i>
Diseases of the heart and circulatory system ...	38%
Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	12%
Cancer ... ..	21%
Diseases of the respiratory system ... ..	9%
Total ...	<u>80%</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 ... ..	2	1	3
2. Other tuberculosis ... ..	1	—	1
3. Syphilitic disease ... ..	1	2	3
4. Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
5. Whooping cough ... ..	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	1	—	1
8. Measles ... ..	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	2	2	4
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	6	9	15
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	22	7	29
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	18	18
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	36	30	66
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	1	2	3
16. Diabetes ... ..	2	1	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	31	48	79
18. Coronary disease, angina ... ..	57	44	101
19. Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	6	13	19
20. Other heart disease ... ..	25	57	82
21. Other circulatory disease ... ..	12	21	33
22. Influenza ... ..	1	—	1
23. Pneumonia ... ..	8	11	19
24. Bronchitis ... ..	23	8	31
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	3	2	5
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	6	3	9
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	1	4	5
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	—	4	4
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	12	—	12
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations ... ..	1	4	5
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	19	21	40
33. Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	5	—	5
34. All other accidents ... ..	8	5	13
35. Suicide ... ..	4	5	9
36. Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—	—
Totals ...	<u>296</u>	<u>323</u>	<u>619</u>

## INFANTILE MORTALITY.

During 1954 there were 12 deaths in infants under one year of age, giving an infantile mortality rate for Wimbledon of 15.30 per thousand live births, as compared with a rate of 25.5 for England and Wales.

11 of the 12 deaths occurred during the first four weeks of life, giving a neo-natal death-rate of 14.03 per thousand live births, as compared with a rate of 17.7 for England and Wales.

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 ...	4	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Prematurity ...	4	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Accidental Death...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Total ...	8	2	—	1	11	—	1	—	—	12

### Infantile Mortality during the last 10 years.

<i>Cause of death</i>	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Prematurity ...	4	6	6	8	5	5	3	3	5	5
Congenital defects or birth injuries	8	12	10	5	12	2	9	6	4	5
Diseases of the newborn ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
Gastro-enteritis ...	3	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia ...	6	2	2	1	1	—	1	1	1	1
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Meningitis ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
T.B. Meningitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumococcal Meningitis ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Septicaemia ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Encephalomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pyelonephritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asphyxia (un- known cause) ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accidental death	—	2	1	3	2	1	1	—	1	1
Inattention at birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infanticide ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other causes ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	29	24	20	18	22	14	17	10	12	12
Total neo-natal deaths above ...	17	17	13	14	14	8	14	6	9	11

### 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
1953	12.17	15.5	0.26	0.35	10.05	11.4	1.33	0.76	16.24	26.8
1954	12.94	15.2	0.30	0.36	8.51	11.3	—	0.69	15.30	25.5

\* 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. Ten visits of inspection were made during 1954.

No additional homes were registered during the year. Two were exempted on an annual basis, from registration under Section 192 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

There was one application for registration in respect of premises which had been acquired as an extension to an existing nursing home. This meant in effect the re-registration of the nursing home. At the end of the year re-registration had not been granted pending compliance with precautions against fire and means of escape.

The position at the end of 1954 was as follows:—

Number of homes on the register:—

Maternity	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number of beds provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	64

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

Under Section 47 of the 1948 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.

The 1951 Act enables Local Authorities to deal more expeditiously with very urgent cases by initial removal, for a period not exceeding three weeks.

In one case during 1954 it was found necessary for the Council to apply to the Court for an Order under the provisions of these Acts. Every effort had been made to give assistance to this old lady, but conditions continued to deteriorate, and in March an Order was granted



by the Court for the old lady to be removed to hospital. The Court later granted an extension of the Order for three months. The patient, however, died shortly afterwards.

During 1954 a small number of cases were brought to the notice of the Public Health Department, but it was not necessary for the Council to use its powers in respect of any of these.

All necessary help and advice was given in each individual case. In dealing with these old people the District Nursing Association and Home Help Service have rendered invaluable assistance.

### MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

The Mass X-ray Unit of the Regional Hospital Board was stationed in South Wimbledon from 25th January to 4th March, 1954. 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 Medical Director of the Mass Radiography Unit for the following details of persons who attended for examination. As the facilities were available to all, and were used by persons coming from a wide area, the statistics do not necessarily relate to Wimbledon residents only.

#### *Number of persons examined:*

Males	...	...	3,013
Females	...	...	3,415
			<hr/>
			6,428
			<hr/>

#### *Abnormalities discovered:*

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

Males	...	...	3
Females	...	...	3
			<hr/>
			6
			<hr/>

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

Males	...	...	123
Females	...	...	124
			<hr/>
			247
			<hr/>

##### (iii) Non-tuberculous conditions:

Males	...	...	129
Females	...	...	73
			<hr/>
			202
			<hr/>

### CLEAN FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

No meetings of the Clean Food Advisory Committee were held during 1954.

## 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 that Authority.

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

During the year 1954 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination, as follows:—

Wimbledon Corporation Swimming Baths ... ..	4
Roman Well Laundry, Wimbledon Common ... ..	2
Water supplied from Well to Warren Farm Lodge, Wimbledon Common ... ..	2
Alexandra Hotel, Wimbledon Hill Road ... ..	1

These samples were reported as being satisfactory.

#### *Sanitary Inspection of the District.*

The following is a summary of the complaints received and the visits made during the year 1954:—

##### *Complaints received.*

General disrepair and insanitary conditions ... ..	381
Dampness ... ..	90
Overcrowding ... ..	19
Defective drainage systems ... ..	12
Blocked drainage systems ... ..	92
Defective drainage fittings ... ..	17
Defective W.C. pans and flushing apparatus ... ..	49
Defective service water pipes ... ..	5
Defective chimney stacks ... ..	6
Absence of, or defective dustbins ... ..	218
Accumulations of refuse, etc. ... ..	27
Rats and mice ... ..	280
Keeping of animals ... ..	2
Insect pests, etc. ... ..	45
Smoke nuisance ... ..	29
Unsound food ... ..	173
Miscellaneous ... ..	87
Total	1,532

##### *Visits made.*

Infectious Diseases, investigations, etc. ... ..	487
Inspections under Housing Acts ... ..	2,289
House to House Inspections (Public Health Act, 1936):—	
(a) number of houses inspected ... ..	30
(b) number of re-visits ... ..	30

House Inspections and Re-inspections ... ..	5,847
Factories, Workplaces and Outworkers premises	547
Dairies and Milkshops ... ..	98
Food Inspection ... ..	261
Food Premises and Ice Cream Premises ...	1,359
Sampling — Food & Drugs Act, 1938 ... ..	240
Milk (Bacteriological) ... ..	325
Milk (Biological) ... ..	4
Ice-Cream ... ..	200
Water ... ..	8
Shops Act 1950 ... ..	425
Petroleum (Consolidation) Act 1928 ... ..	97
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 ...	5,824
Pet Animals Act 1951 ... ..	18
Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952 ...	53
Slaughter Houses ... ..	7
Smoke Observations ... ..	120
Miscellaneous Inspections (including visits to Piggeries, Stables, Hairdressers' premises, Watercourses, Nursing Homes, Employment Agencies) ... ..	712
Total	18,981

#### *Notices Served.*

Preliminary notices or intimations ... ..	1,710
Statutory Notices ... ..	158

#### *Result of Service of Notices.*

##### *Legal proceedings.*

No legal proceedings were taken during the year to enforce compliance with Notices served and no work was carried out by the Corporation in default.

##### *Nuisances abated and defects remedied.*

The following is a summary of nuisances abated and defects remedied under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors:—

Drains, new, provided ... ..	2
Drains, altered or repaired ... ..	52
Drains, unstopped and cleansed ... ..	70
Fresh air inlets, provided or repaired ... ..	35
Gullies, new, provided ... ..	1
Gullies, curbs, provided or repaired ... ..	15
Gutters, renewed or repaired ... ..	62
Inspection chambers, new, provided ... ..	6
Inspection chambers, altered or repaired ... ..	25
Rainwater pipes, repaired or cleared ... ..	24
Rainwater pipes, disconnected ... ..	1
Soil pipes and vents, new provided ... ..	4
Soil pipes and vents, repaired ... ..	15



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>Inspec-tions</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Prose-cutions</i>
Factories without mechanical power ...	99	69	7	—
Factories with mechanical power ...	226	221	29	—
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ...	5	27	3	—
Totals ...	330	317	39	—

2. Defects Found.

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of Defects</i>				<i>Prose-cutions</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)	10	4	—	3	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	1	1	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	7	2	1	3	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—					
Insufficient ...	1	1	—	1	—
Unsuitable or Defective	31	17	—	7	—
Not Separate for Sexes	—	2	—	—	—
Other Offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork) ...	8	5	—	—	—
Totals ...	58	32	1	14	—

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 un-whole-some premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel — Making etc.	11	1	—	—	—	—
Others ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	11	1	—	—	—	—

Number of addresses received from other Councils ...	55
Number of addresses forwarded to other Councils ...	33
Number of premises where outwork was carried on at the end of 1954 ... ..	64
Inspections of outworkers' premises ... ..	159
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 ... ..	Nil
Underground bakehouses in use at the end of the year ...	1

## SECTION D. — HOUSING.

*Housing Statistics for the year 1954.*

### 1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—*

1(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	1,264
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	6,040
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 ...	Nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	Nil
3	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	Nil
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 ...	778

### 2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—*

	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	541
--	---	-----

### 3. *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

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

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	157
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a)	By owners ...	75
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

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

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

- D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—
- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...  | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... | Nil |

4. *Housing Act, 1936, Part IV — Overcrowding.*

The following table shows the position in Wimbledon at the end of 1954 with regard to overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings known to the Department to be overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	64
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ... ..	74
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ... ..	377
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	11
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding known to have been relieved during the year ... ..	24
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases... ..	142
(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 ... ..	1

*Rehousing.*

I am indebted to the Housing Manager for the following information regarding rehousing in Wimbledon. These figures relate to the position at 31st December, 1954:—

Number of houses requisitioned since the beginning of the war and still held under requisition ... ..	426
Number of prefabricated bungalows provided since the end of the war ... ..	71
Number of families rehoused by the Council or by private owners at the Council's instigation since the beginning of the war ... ..	2,034
Number of live applications on the housing waiting list	1,452

*New houses erected, etc.*

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

Number of new houses and flats erected in Wimbledon in 1954:	
Private enterprise ... ..	36
War Damage Rebuild	1
Local authority ... ..	50
Number of flats created by conversion in 1954:	
Private enterprise ... ..	24
Local authority ... ..	Nil



## Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

This Act came into force on 30th August, 1954, and applications from tenants for Certificates of Disrepair and from landlords for Certificates of Revocation have been received and dealt with.

The following is a summary of the position on the 31st December, 1954:—

Number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair ...	29
Number of applications cancelled ... ..	1
Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued ... ..	20
Number of applications for Certificates of Revocation ...	1
Number of Certificates of Revocation issued ... ..	1

## SECTION E. — INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### **Milk.**

In accordance with the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, the handling, distribution and sale of milk continued to receive the necessary attention. The number of distributors of milk in the Borough, as shown by the register kept in accordance with the Regulations, is 41.

The following licences were granted by the Council under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designation) Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949–1953 and the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 and 1950:—

Pasteurisers' Licences	... ..	Nil
Dealers' Licences—		
Tuberculin Tested Milk	... ..	22
Pasteurised Milk	... ..	25
Sterilised Milk	... ..	30
Supplementary Licences—		
Tuberculin Tested Milk	... ..	9
Pasteurised Milk	... ..	10
Sterilised Milk	... ..	7
		103

From the 1st October, 1954, the Regulations required bottles or other containers in which Pasteurised milk was to be delivered to the consumer to be filled only on the Pasteuriser's premises. Consequently, the filling of bottles from bulk deliveries at four dairies within the Borough was discontinued.

During the year 273 samples of designated milk were submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows:—

<i>Designation</i>	<i>Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory.</i>
Pasteurised	240	5
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	13	—
Tuberculin Tested (Farm bottled)	4	—
Sterilised	11	—

Of the 5 unsatisfactory samples, 4 failed the methylene blue test (keeping quality) and one failed the phosphatase test (pasteurisation). Subsequent samples from the same sources in each case proved satisfactory.

Four samples of Tuberculin Tested (farm bottled) milk were sent to various Laboratories for animal inoculation. All these samples were found to be negative for tubercle bacilli.

### Ice-Cream.

During the year 153 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows:—

Grade 1	...	...	...	121
Grade 2	...	...	...	11
Grade 3	...	...	...	18
Grade 4	...	...	...	3
				<hr/>
				153
				<hr/>

Grade 1 and 2 samples can be considered satisfactory; only 20% of the samples taken from any one vendor should be of grade 3 quality, and none of Grade 4. Investigations were made into the handling of the ice-cream from manufacturer to consumer in the cases of Grades 3 and 4 results mentioned above, and subsequent samples proved satisfactory.

### Meat and Other Foods.

The following inspections of food premises, etc., were made by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1954:—

Inspections of dairies and distributors' premises	98
Inspections of food premises ... ..	1,175
Inspections of premises where ice-cream is manufactured or sold ... ..	184
Visits to obtain samples of food and drugs ...	240
Visits to obtain samples of milk for bacteriological examination ... ..	329
Visits for the purpose of food inspection ... ..	261

### Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The systematic inspection of food shops and other premises where food is prepared continued during the year, but the number of such premises in the area is not yet available.

The number of food premises registered in accordance with Section 14 is as follows:—

Premises registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream ... ..	117
Premises registered for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream ... ..	3
Premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages ... ..	41
Premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food ... ..	13

## Unsound Food.

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

Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	55 lbs.
Beverages	...	...	...	...	...	5 jars
Biscuits	...	...	...	...	...	79 lbs. & 1 pkt.
Cakes	...	...	...	...	...	258
Cereals	...	...	...	...	...	4 packets
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	211 lbs. & 10 tins
Coffee	...	...	...	...	...	1 bottle
Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	6 lbs. & 4 pkts.
Cordials	...	...	...	...	...	13 bottles
Cream	...	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Crumpets	...	...	...	...	...	1 packet
Custard	...	...	...	...	...	2 tins
Eggs	...	...	...	...	...	4
Fish (fresh)	...	...	...	...	...	137½ lbs.
Fish (preserved)	...	...	...	...	...	81 tins & jars
Flavouring	...	...	...	...	...	2 bottles
Fruit (fresh)	...	...	...	...	...	20¼ lbs.
Fruit (preserved)	...	...	...	...	...	428 tins
Fruit salad	...	...	...	...	...	1 jar
Gherkins	...	...	...	...	...	1 jar
Ham	...	...	...	...	...	9¾ lbs. & 5 tins
Ice-cream	...	...	...	...	...	83 lbs.
Jams	...	...	...	...	...	71 jars & 26 tins
Liver (ox)	...	...	...	...	...	31½ lbs.
Liver (sheep)	...	...	...	...	...	42 lbs.
Macaroni	...	...	...	...	...	4 packets
Margarine	...	...	...	...	...	24 lbs.
Meat (fresh)	...	...	...	...	...	3,016½ lbs.
Meat (preserved)	...	...	...	...	...	165 tins
Meat Paste	...	...	...	...	...	3 jars
Milk (Evaporated)	...	...	...	...	...	331 tins
Nuts	...	...	...	...	...	177 tins
Olive Oil	...	...	...	...	...	1 bottle
Peanut butter	...	...	...	...	...	2 jars
Pickle	...	...	...	...	...	2 jars
Puddings (Christmas)	...	...	...	...	...	20 lbs.
Puddings	...	...	...	...	...	4 tins
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	6 packets
Salad cream	...	...	...	...	...	3 jars
Salt	...	...	...	...	...	4 tins
Sandwich spread	...	...	...	...	...	2 tins
Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	30 lbs. & 10 tins
Sausages and beans	...	...	...	...	...	2 tins
Soups and stews	...	...	...	...	...	48 tins
Spaghetti	...	...	...	...	...	3 tins
Steak and onions	...	...	...	...	...	5 tins
Suet	...	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.
Syrup	...	...	...	...	...	2 tins
Tomato	...	...	...	...	...	3 tins

Tomato sauce	...	...	...	...	2 bottles
Tripe	...	...	...	...	15 lbs.
Vegetables (preserved)	...	...	...	...	195 tins

All unsound food was destroyed at the Corporation's Refuse Works.

### Sampling of Food and Drugs.

The following samples were purchased during 1954 and were submitted to the Public Analyst, with the results shown:—

<i>Articles</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Non-Genuine</i>
Aniseed balls	1	1	—	1	—
Apple vinegar	1	1	—	1	—
Aspirin tablets	1	1	—	1	—
Banana crush	1	1	—	1	—
Beef steak	1	1	—	1	—
Blackcurrant juice	1	1	—	1	—
Brandy	1	1	—	1	—
Bread	1	—	1	—	1
Butter	2	2	—	2	—
Cake mixture	1	—	1	1	—
Cake and pudding mixture	1	1	—	1	—
Cherries, glaze	1	1	—	1	—
Chocolate, drinking	1	1	—	1	—
Chutney	1	1	—	1	—
Cigarettes (confectionery)	1	1	—	1	—
Cocoa	1	1	—	1	—
Coconut chips	1	1	—	1	—
Coconut sugared	1	—	1	1	—
Coffee	2	2	—	2	—
Coffee and chicory essence	1	—	1	1	—
Cooking fat	1	1	—	1	—
Crab, dressed	1	—	1	1	—
Crabmeat, fancy	1	1	—	1	—
Currants	1	1	—	1	—
Custard powder	2	2	—	2	—
Dates, stoned	1	1	—	1	—
Fish paste	1	—	1	1	—
Fish cakes	1	—	1	1	—
Gin	1	1	—	1	—
Grapefruit juice	1	1	—	1	—
Honey, English	1	—	1	1	—
Honey, Empire	1	—	1	1	—
Horseradish	1	1	—	1	—
Ice-Cream	3	3	—	3	—
Jam, Strawberry	1	1	—	1	—
Lard	1	1	—	1	—
Lemon flavour powder	1	1	—	1	—
Lemon juice	2	1	1	2	—
Lemon oil capsule and citric acid tablet	1	1	—	1	—
Licorice bar	1	1	—	1	—
Licorice confectionery	1	1	—	1	—
Liquid paraffin	2	1	1	2	—
Lung syrup	1	1	—	1	—
C/Fwd.	47	37	10	46	1

<i>Articles</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Non-Genuine</i>
B/Fwd.	47	37	10	46	1
Malt vinegar ... ..	2	2	—	2	—
Maltivite tablets... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Margarine ... ..	6	6	—	6	—
Marzipan, almond ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Milk ... ..	46	46	—	46	—
Mincemeat ... ..	4	4	—	4	—
Nougat ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Nut crisp ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Olive oil ... ..	2	1	1	2	—
Orange cordial ... ..	2	2	—	2	—
Peas, garden... ..	1	—	1	1	—
Peas, processed ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Peel, mixed, cut ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Peppermints ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Pineapple juice ... ..	1	—	1	1	—
Plum pudding ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Pontefract cakes ... ..	1	—	1	1	—
Potatoes ... ..	1	—	1	1	—
Prunes, dried ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Raisins ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Sardine and tomato paste	1	1	—	1	—
Sausages (beef) ... ..	2	2	—	2	—
Sausages (pork) ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Scotch broth... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Sponge cake ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Steak pudding ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Stout ... ..	3	2	1	2	1
Sugar (pieces) ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Table jelly ... ..	1	—	1	1	—
Tea ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Tea, triturated ... ..	1	1	—	—	1
Tomato Juice cocktail ...	1	—	1	1	—
Tonic water ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Vita-glucose ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Whisky ... ..	6	6	—	5	1
Wine jelly ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Winter candy twist... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Totals ...	151	132	19	148	4

It will be seen that adverse reports were received upon 4 samples, and the following is an account of the action taken in respect thereof:—

### **Bread.**

This informal sample consisted of a loaf of bread contaminated with flour containing living and dead insect larvae and their excretions. The Public Analyst expressed the opinion that this mass was formed by the activities of the Mediterranean flour moth which could have been in the sack of flour when delivered to the bakery. A warning letter was sent to the firm concerned.

### **Stout.**

As the result of a complaint, a partially filled bottle of stout was submitted to the Public Analyst as an informal sample. In his opinion the stout was genuine, but the bottle stopper was contaminated with

pine oil. Proceedings were instituted against the firm responsible for bottling this article, and the defendants pleaded guilty. A fine of £5 was imposed, together with £6 costs.

### **Tea.**

This formal sample of tea was reported upon as being genuine small leaf tea, whereas the article was described on the packet as triturated tea. This wording, in the Analyst's opinion, signified tea which had been ground to a fine powder, and he considered the description to be false and misleading. As the result of correspondence with the tea firm concerned the packets were withdrawn and satisfactorily worded packets substituted.

### **Whisky.**

The Public Analyst reported that this informal sample contained 2% of excess water. Proceedings were instituted against the retailer, who pleaded guilty. The defendant was given an absolute discharge upon payment of £7 costs.

### **Other Legal Proceedings.**

Four prosecutions were taken under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Details of these cases are given below:—

A retailer was summoned for selling a marshmallow in which was embedded a piece of glass. The defendant pleaded guilty and was given an absolute discharge on payment of £5. 5s. 0d. costs.

A retailer was summoned for selling a loaf of bread in which was embedded a piece of a cigarette. The defendant pleaded guilty and was given an absolute discharge on payment of £1. 16s. 6d. advocate's fee.

A retailer was summoned for selling a loaf of bread in which was embedded a cockroach. The defendant pleaded guilty and was fined £10. Costs awarded amounted to £3. 10s. 6d.

A retailer was summoned for the sale of a loaf of bread in which was embedded a piece of glass. The defendant pleaded guilty and was fined £25. Costs awarded amounted to £3. 3s. 0d.

SECTION F. — RODENT CONTROL,  
PETROLEUM STORAGE, ETC.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The following table gives a statement indicating the action taken during 1954.

Type of Property	Number of Properties inspected as a result of:			Number of Properties found to be infested by:		Treatment carried out by Department		Number of Inspections made
	Notifi- cation	Other- wise	Total	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	
Local Authority	3	31	34	4	—	4	—	5824
Dwelling Houses	239	487	726	123	67	89	11	
Business Premises	38	355	393	37	26	36	19	
Agricultural	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	
Totals ...	280	874	1154	164	93	129	30	5824

The inspection and treatment of sewers, and of the Corporation's Depots, etc., was undertaken by the Borough Surveyor's Department, and details are not included in the figures given above.

The Public Health Department continued to undertake the routine disinfection of schools and school canteens owned by the County Council within the Borough, as and when necessary, on a contract basis.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

67 licences were issued by the Department to store petroleum spirit during 1954, and the total quantity of petroleum spirit stored was 84,920 gallons. In addition, 9 licences were issued to store petroleum mixtures involving a total of 410 gallons, and 4 licences were issued in respect of the storage of a total of 47 cwts. of calcium carbide.

97 inspections were made of various premises in respect of which licences had been issued.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

7 licences to keep pet shops were issued by the Department during 1954. 18 visits were made to these premises and various infringements of the conditions of licence were rectified.



## HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952.

This Act, together with Regulations made thereunder, prohibits the sale or letting of unguarded electric fires, gas fires and oil heaters. The Regulations exempted until the 1st October, 1954, certain appliances which were manufactured before the date of the operation of the Regulations.

Since the 1st October, 1954, 53 visits have been made in connection with this Act and 174 electric, gas and oil appliances have been examined and the prescribed tests applied. Of these, 62 were found not to conform to the standards laid down and were either modified or withdrawn from sale.

## SHOPS ACT, 1950.

As far as possible inspections have been made of the sanitary accommodation, and heating and ventilation of shops, and improvements have been effected as circumstances have permitted. Surveys are carried out regularly to observe compliance in respect of general closing hours, half day closing and Sunday trading, with individual visits as necessary in respect of conditions of employment of young persons.

The total number of inspections made for the purposes of this Act during 1954 was 425.

## DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS.

One suspected case of fowl pest was reported during 1954, but this was not confirmed.

In consequence of Orders made by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, particularly with regard to outbreaks of foot and mouth disease, a number of enquiries were dealt with. One licence for the movement of animals was issued by this Department.

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

### *Notifications of Infectious Disease.*

During the year there were 200 cases of infectious disease notified as compared with 1,267 cases during 1953. Of the total notifications, 74 were in respect of whooping cough and 49 in respect of scarlet fever.

### *Poliomyelitis.*

4 cases of poliomyelitis occurred during the year, 2 of them being associated with paralysis. One death occurred in a child of 11 years.

### *Diphtheria.*

There were no cases of diphtheria in Wimbledon during 1954.

One child suspected of suffering from diphtheria was found after admission to hospital to be suffering from a haemolytic streptococcal infection of the throat.

### *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 31/12/54</i>	<i>No. immunised</i>
Under 1 year	43
1 - 4 years	2,054
	—
Total under 5 years	2,097
	—
5 - 9 years	3,766
10 - 14 years	2,790
	—
Total 5 - 14 years	6,556
	—

### *Meningococcal Infection.*

Two patients were removed to hospital with suspected meningococcal infections. One of these, a girl of 2 years, died shortly after admission. The infection in this case was found, on post-mortem, to be due to *H. influenza*. This child's home was in Plymouth but she was staying in Wimbledon on holiday at the time. In the second case the diagnosis of meningococcal infection was confirmed after admission to hospital.

### *Food Poisoning.*

During the year there were two outbreaks of food poisoning, and in addition 6 isolated cases occurred.

#### Outbreak No. 1.

This was a small outbreak in which three children of a family of six suffered from food poisoning, due to an organism known as *Salmonella typhi-murium*.

The patients were treated at home and made good recoveries. The origin of the infection was not discovered.

#### Outbreak No. 2.

In this second outbreak, which was also of a minor character, four children in a family of eight were involved. As in the previous case the organism responsible was *Salmonella typhi-murium*. The source of the infection was not traced.

Of the remaining cases all but one were treated at home. In this case, a girl of 18 years, the onset of the illness was about 19th June, and on 30th June the patient was admitted to hospital with symptoms of abdominal pains and diarrhoea.

The organism responsible was *Salmonella-senftenberg* type, and although the source of infection was not definitely established, it was believed by the Central Public Health Laboratory Service to have had some connections with pork, ham or chopped ham, in view of the number of incidents of this type which were occurring throughout the country at the time.

### *Dysentery.*

Fourteen cases of Sonne dysentery were notified during the year. These included five patients from one family, one of whom was engaged in an occupation concerned with food handling. It was not necessary to serve this person with a notice under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1953, prohibiting her from carrying out her employment whilst a carrier of *shigella sonnei*, as she voluntarily agreed to give up her work. Compensation was paid for loss of earnings by the Council during the patient's absence from her employment.

Notifiable diseases during 1954.

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 ... ..	—	7	11	28	2	1	—	—	—	49	22	—
Measles ... ..	—	5	6	5	1	1	—	—	—	18	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	2	17	26	25	1	—	2	1	—	74	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—
„ „ (Non-paralytic)	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	1
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	4	3†	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	2	2	4	1	—	4	1	—	14	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	1	—
Pneumonia (Acute Primary or Influenzal) ... ..	—	—	1	3	—	2	4	1	7	18	3	19*
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	—	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	13	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTALS ... ..	3	32	50	70	9	6	15	7	8	200	36	21

\* All Forms.

† These 3 patients were already in hospital.

Notifications of Infectious Disease during the last 10 years.

DISEASE	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Diphtheria ... ..	8	7	4	4	6	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	18	4	2	—	2	7	53	36	19	14
Encephalitis Lethargica, acute ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	1	1	—
Erysipelas ... ..	11	12	5	2	7	1	5	3	3	3
Food Poisoning ... ..	1	—	—	5	2	—	4	—	6	13
Malaria ... ..	1	7	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	586	339	253	481	707	364	758	337	896	18
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	6	5	5	3	2	3	2	1	1	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	10	8	4	2	2	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia ... ..	27	26	32	15	19	20	27	24	29	18
Poliomyelitis ... ..	4	2	25	4	10	12	4	2	11	4
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	8	10	3	5	8	1	2	5	22	4
Scarlet Fever ... ..	46	37	51	95	55	68	136	128	96	49
Whooping-cough ... ..	54	114	157	231	149	181	166	112	183	74
	780	571	541	849	969	668	1,158	649	1,267	200
Tuberculosis:—										
Pulmonary ... ..	76	84	87	87	96	102	93	84	104	66
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	16	12	8	6	10	13	6	5	2	8

## TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 74 cases of tuberculosis were added to the Register compared with 106 in 1953. Of these 48 were new cases and 26 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 from tuberculosis ...	6	4	—	—
Deaths of patients suffering from tuberculosis through other causes ... ..	—	—	—	—
Recovered cases ... ..	11	9	4	4
Removals from district ...	30	41	—	5
	—	—	—	—
	47	54	4	9
	—	—	—	—

During the year two schoolchildren were found to have developed tuberculosis. One case occurred in a girls' school and the other in a mixed private school.

A full epidemiological survey was carried out on those scholars whose parents gave their consent, including pupils who had recently left school, together with teaching and domestic staff.

A total of 729 Mantoux tests were carried out at the two schools, and arrangements were made for the positive reactors to undergo an x-ray examination of the chest through the co-operation of the Mass X-Ray Unit of the Regional Hospital Board. The results of these investigations indicated that none of the pupils had been infected at school.

These epidemiological surveys are becoming much more common, as it is the practice now for Chest Physicians to recommend that all pupils should be Mantoux tested and all staff x-rayed in any school where a case of pulmonary tuberculosis is discovered among the pupils.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1954.

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	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 9 " ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 — 14 " ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15 — 19 " ... ..	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 — 24 " ... ..	5	4	1	—	3	—	—	1	8	4	1	1	—	1	—	—
25 — 29 " ... ..	1	4	2	2	4	6	—	—	5	10	2	2	—	—	—	—
30 — 34 " ... ..	5	2	—	—	3	3	—	—	8	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 — 44 " ... ..	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
45 — 54 " ... ..	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
55 — 64 " ... ..	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and Over ... ..	4	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	4	3	—	—	2	2	—	—
	26	14	3	4	12	14	—	1	38	28	3	5	6	4	—	—
	40		7		26		1		66		8		10		—	
	47				27				74				10			





