

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

Contributors

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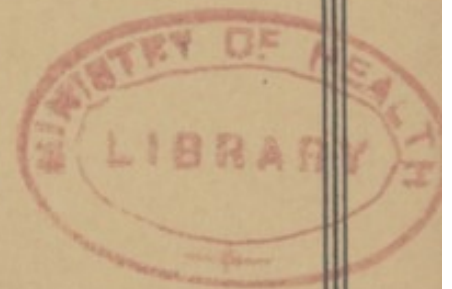


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**BOROUGH
OF
SURBITON**



ANNUAL REPORTS

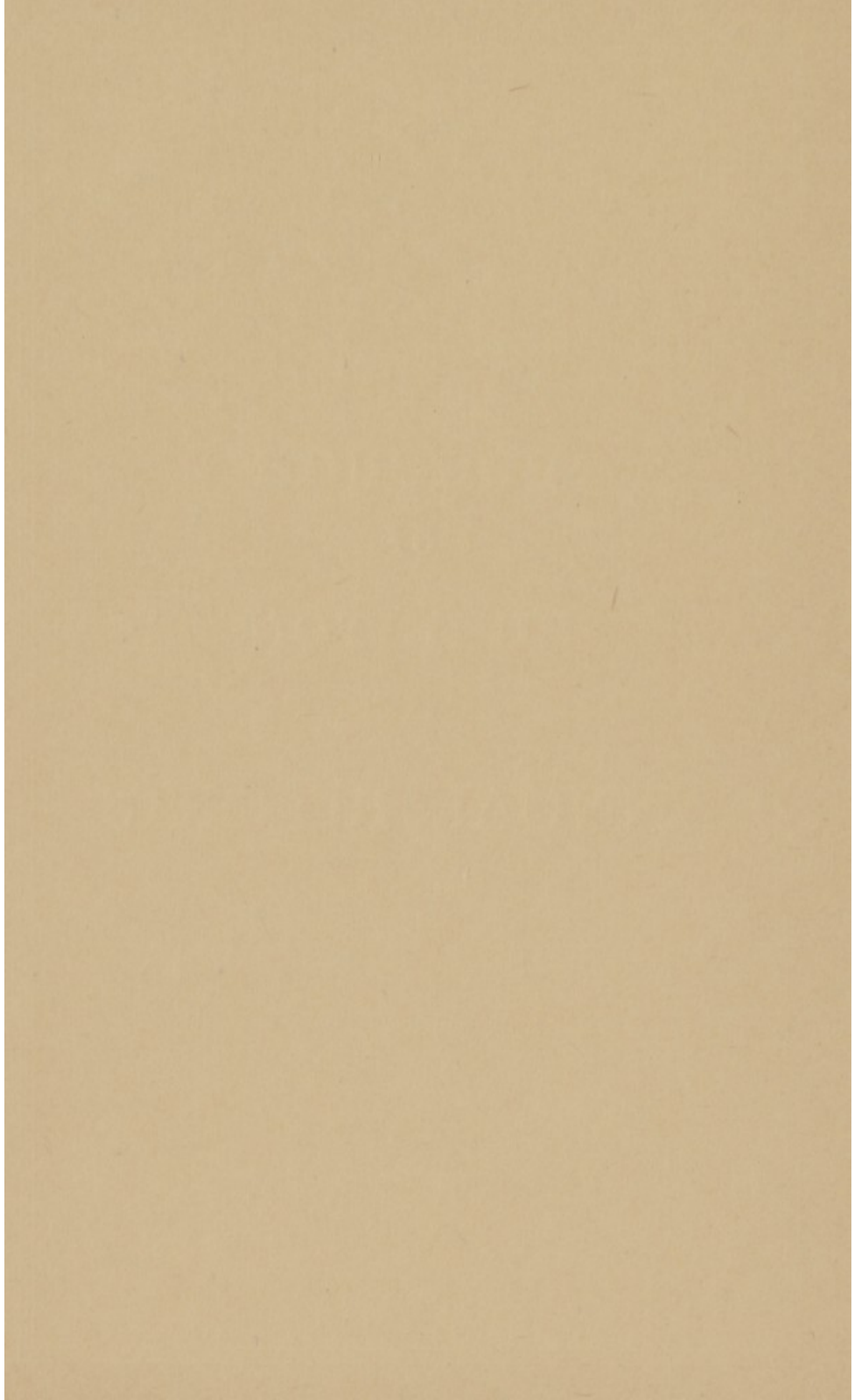
OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1939.





**BOROUGH
OF
SURBITON**

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
For the Year 1939.

PHILPOTT & Co., (Surbiton) LTD., Printers
40/42, Brighton Road, Surbiton Surrey.

1940

Borough of Surbiton

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Alderman MRS. A. WOODGATE, J.P. (*Chairman*).

Councillor J. PENWILL (*Vice-Chairman*).

Alderman DURBIN	Councillor McDERMOTT
„ REYNOLDS	„ RANSOM
Councillor AMES	„ REYNOLDS, J.P.
„ MRS. CUBBIRD	„ SCOTT
„ LEACH	„ WARWICK

With the Mayor (Alderman RAMPTON), the Deputy Mayor (Alderman SANGER) and Alderman BRIDGE, *ex-officio*.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

PERSONNEL

Medical Officer of Health :

*NEVILLE H. LINZEE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

†*GEOFFREY McCLELLAND, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., A.R.P.S.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector :

†*H. J. ELDRIDGE, M.S.I.A., L.A.G.C.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

†*G. H. COCKELL, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.

‡†*H. HANDSCOMB, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.

Chief Clerk :

E. D. ELMS.

Clerks :

W. F. ACRES.

P. E. WHITTON.

Shorthand-Typist :

MISS V. CRYER.

Mortuary Attendant and General Assistant :

A. C. BALL.

*Contributions made to salary from Exchequer.

†Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

‡Royal Sanitary Institute Smoke Certificate.

**Annual Report of
The Medical Officer of Health
for 1939**

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
2, SHALSTON VILLAS,
SURBITON.

December, 1940.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Surbiton.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I am submitting to the Council my eighteenth Annual Report concerning the health of the Borough of Surbiton.

Owing to the intervention of the war it is intended to give only the barest facts.

I drew the attention of the Council to the question of disposing of house refuse, as a fortnightly collection was undesirable, and although, as far as I know, a recommendation to revert back to a weekly one was accepted, a fortnightly collection still holds.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

NEVILLE H. LINZEE,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	4,709
Resident Population (Census 1931)	29,396
Estimated Population 31st December, 1939	49,607
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1939) according to the rate books	15,849
Number of families or separate occupiers (1931 census)	8,116
Rateable Value	£554,331
Sum represented by a penny rate	£2,160

**EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS
OF THE YEAR.**

(Based on population of 49,607).

Live Births :—

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	651	334	317
Illegitimate	16	7	9
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... ..	...	...	12.60

Deaths :—	541	281	260
Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... ..	...	...	10.22
Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions and Nursing Homes ... ..	...	...	48.61

Death rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	50.98
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	52.22

INFANT MORTALITY.

The causes and ages at death of the children who died under the age of 1 year were as follows :—

Exhaustion, bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia	10 months
Congenital heart disease	3 days
Broncho-pneumonia	5 months
Medullary Paralysis, Acute Hydrocephalus	5 months

Exhaustion, post nasal meningitis	7 months
Pneumonia	7 days
Cerebral damage, Atelectasis	8 hours
Injury at birth	5 minutes
Injury at birth	2 hours
Syncope, Asphyxia Leonalirum	20 minutes
Cardiac and respiratory failure, Anterior Poliomyelitis	9 months
Syncope, Atelectasis	14 hours
Premature birth	5 hours
Premature (7 months)	2 days
Premature (33rd week)	1 day
Prematurity, Cæsarean section for urgent maternal complications	10 hours
Prematurity (6 $\frac{3}{4}$ months)	4 days
Prematurity	1 month
Prematurity	14 hours
Prematurity	1 week
Prematurity	1 week
Prematurity	6 hours
Prematurity—maternal toxæmia	6 hours
Broncho-pneumonia, Bronchitis	4 months
Acute capillary bronchitis	4 months
Acute capillary bronchitis	7 months
Malformation	15 minutes
Meningitis due to Broncho-pneumonia ...	1 month
Asphyxia due to a tentorial tear following precipitate labour	newly born
Tuberculous Meningitis	9 months
Intracranial hæmorrhage, Breech presenta- tion	15 hours
Broncho-pneumonia — Congenital laryngeal stridor marasmus	4 months
Meningitis—Otitis media	14 months
Broncho-pneumonia, Marasmus	1 month
Broncho-pneumonia following enteritis ...	7 months
Pulmonary Thrombosis	14 months
Congenital abnormality	5 days

There were 37 deaths of children under 1 year of age which is an increase of 11 compared with the number for the previous year.

Of the infant deaths, 16 occurred in Hospitals or Public Institutions outside the district of Surbiton. The ages at death were as follows:—

2 hours, 6 hours (2), 14 hours, 15 hours, 2 days, 5 days, 1 week (2), 1 month (2), 4 months (2), 7 months, 9 months and 14 months.

Infant Mortality Rate.

	SURBITON	ENGLAND & WALES (Smaller Towns)
1930	56·3	55·0
1931	45·73	62·0
1932	50·46	58·0
1933	41·83	56·0
1934	27·78	53·0
1935	37·19	55·0
1936	38·51	55·0
1937	42·04	55·0
1938	31·14	51·0
1939	50·98	—

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Case rate of attack per 1,000 of the population of certain infectious diseases in this district:—

Scarlet Fever	0·45
Diphtheria	0·09
Enteric Fever	0·05
Erysipelas	0·11
Pneumonia	0·70
Smallpox	—
	Case rate per 1,000 total births
Puerperal Pyrexia	14·20

Notifiable Diseases during the Year.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	* Total Deaths
Diphtheria	5	5	—
Scarlet Fever	24	20	—
Enteric Fever	3	3	—
Pneumonia	37	10	11
Erysipelas	6	2	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	10	7	—
Smallpox	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	4	—	—

*Including inward transferable deaths occurring outside the district
which are not included in total cases notified.

The Clerk to the Tolworth Joint Hospital District Board has kindly supplied me with the following figures for 1939:

**Analysis of Patients Admitted to the Tolworth Isolation Hospital for the Year Ended
31st December, 1939.**

	Population	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Typhoid	Measles	Other Diseases	Total	Percentage of Population
Surbiton	49,607	7	22	3	—	22	54	0.108
Malden	39,000	4	92	—	—	48	144	0.369
Esher	48,837	8	63	—	—	30	101	0.206
Paying patients (admitted from outside of the Constituent Districts)		—	3	2	—	11	16	—
		19	180	5		111	315	

You will notice that the number of cases admitted to the Isolation Hospital in Surbiton is very satisfactory as compared with the other Districts.

**Notification of Infectious Diseases during the Years
1929 to 1939.**

	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
Diphtheria	31	40	14	12	7	49	22	10	27	6	5
Scarlet Fever	82	89	43	40	85	87	78	90	82	80	24
Enteric Fever	2	—	2	—	1	2	1	2	1	—	3
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	4	5	2	7	2	10	3	2	5	8	10
Pneumonia	46	64	64	68	54	40	30	51	39	33	37
Erysipelas	3	9	2	6	12	7	12	9	13	9	6
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	3	2	2	5	1	1	1	3	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	1	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Congh ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Total ...	172	208	130	135	164	201	152	167	171	141	90

The interesting point to be gathered from the table is the tremendous falling off of cases of notifiable infectious diseases.

	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED											TOTAL DEATHS												
	AT AGES											AT AGES												
	Under 1 Year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Under 1 Year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	1	—	2	3	9	2	2	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	3	8	8	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	5
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

NOTE :—Total deaths include transferable deaths occurring outside the district which are not included in the total cases notified.

Scarlet Fever.

Ward	No. of Cases	Treated in Hospital	Treated at Home	Deaths
Berrylands	2	1	1	—
Chessington	3	3	—	—
Hook and Southborough	2	1	1	—
Seething Wells	—	—	—	—
St. Mark's	2	2	—	—
Surbiton Hill	2	2	—	—
Tolworth East	5	4	1	—
Tolworth West	4	3	1	—
Tolworth South	4	4	—	—

Diphtheria.

Berrylands	—	—	—	—
Chessington	1	1	—	—
Hook and Southborough	2	2	—	—
Seething Wells	—	—	—	—
St. Mark's	—	—	—	—
Surbiton Hill	1	1	—	—
Tolworth East	—	—	—	—
Tolworth West	1	1	—	—
Tolworth South	—	—	—	—

Pneumonia.

Berrylands	6	1	5	2
Chessington	1	1	—	—
Hook and Southborough	9	1	8	2
Seething Wells	4	1	3	—
St. Mark's	4	1	3	—
Surbiton Hill	5	2	3	1
Tolworth East	2	1	1	—
Tolworth West	3	3	—	1
Tolworth South	3	1	2	—

Enteric Fever.

Berrylands	1	1	—	—
Chessington	1	1	—	—
Hook and Southborough	—	—	—	—
Seething Wells	—	—	—	—
St. Mark's	—	—	—	—
Surbiton Hill	1	1	—	—
Tolworth East	—	—	—	—
Tolworth West	—	—	—	—
Tolworth South	—	—	—	—

Encephalitis Lethargica.

No cases of Encephalitis Lethargica were notified during the year.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

There were no cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever in this Borough.

Tuberculosis.

Under the Public Health Tuberculosis Regulations a register of all notifications is kept and weekly returns of cases are sent to the County Medical Officer. The continual movement of cases from one district to another requires constant supervision so that particulars can be brought up to date and represent a true record.

At the end of the year 202 persons were shown to be suffering from the disease and living within the district :—

	Pul.	Non-Pul.
Males	82	37
Females	63	20
	—	—
Total	145	57
	—	—

*Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis)
Regulations, 1925.*

It was not necessary to take any action under these regulations during the year.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

No action was taken under this section.

TUBERCULOSIS

Age-Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
1— ...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
5— ...	—	2	2	2	—	—	—	—
15— ...	8	8	2	3	4	1	—	2
25— ...	8	6	1	1	1	1	—	—
35— ...	5	5	—	—	6	1	—	1
45— ...	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
55— ...	3	1	—	—	5	2	—	—
65 and upwards	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	26	24	6	9	19	5	—	5

Of the sixty-five new cases tabulated above, twenty-one are cases transferred from other districts.

Of the total number of deaths from Tuberculosis there were three of patients who had not been notified.

The table shows an increase compared with last year of nine new Pulmonary cases of Tuberculosis, but the new Non-Pulmonary cases show a decrease of four. The deaths show an increase of sixteen.

At the commencement of the year there were 187 cases of Tuberculosis on the register, and at the end of the year this figure had increased to 202.

During the year 4 cases were notified as recovered from the disease, 15 patients left the district and there were 29 deaths. Of the 65 new cases it is interesting to note that 33 of these were cases first notified in this district.

Tuberculosis—New Cases.

Year	Resident in New Houses	Resident in Old Houses
1934	25	35
1935	29	25
1936	29	27
1937	29	34
1938	38	22
1939	20	45

Ward	Cases added to Register						Cases on Register 31st Dec. 1939
	Primary Notifications			Transfers, etc.			
	1937	1938	1939	1937	1938	1939	
Berrylands ...	4	7	4	2	2	3	31
Chessington ...	1	2	5	5	4	11	26
Hook and Southborough	3	3	4	3	—	5	16
Seething Wells	4	4	2	1	2	—	12
St. Marks ...	3	3	3	3	2	3	13
Surbiton Hill ...	8	2	3	2	3	2	16
Tolworth East	4	5	6	4	2	3	26
Tolworth West	10	7	1	1	—	1	30
Tolworth South	4	9	5	1	3	4	32
TOTALS ..	41	42	33	22	18	32	202

Sputum pots for use in connection with examinations for Tubercle Bacilli are available to general practitioners at this Department. These are marked chargeable to the Surbiton Corporation.

There is a close co-operation between the Surbiton Public Health Department and the Health Department of the Surrey County Council, the County Council making all arrangements for the provision of sanatorium and hospital treatment.

The County Medical Officer of Health periodically sends Health Visitors' reports to this Department on the Home Conditions of Tuberculosis patients, and where necessary, visits are made to ascertain if overcrowding exists, and if patients could beneficially be removed to Council Houses.

Measles.

In accordance with the Measles and Whooping Cough Act, 1939, issued by the Minister of Health, Measles has been a notifiable disease in Surbiton since 23rd October, 1939, and accurate records of the number of cases are kept.

Headmasters and Headmistresses notify the cases occurring in Schools.

The Tolworth Isolation Hospital takes in complicated cases of measles. No cases were admitted from Surbiton during the year.

There were no deaths from measles during the year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum is a purulent discharge from the eyes within twenty-one days of birth.

All notifications of Ophthalmia Neonatorum are now sent direct to the Surrey County Council

by the local general practitioners, as the County Council are the authority for Maternity and Child Welfare in this district.

No cases were notified during this year.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Nine cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified during the year, seven being removed to hospital and others nursed at home. No deaths occurred.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The general provision of health services in the area, hospitals, fever, small-pox, tuberculosis, maternity, children, blind persons and other facilities remain the same as in previous years.

Ambulance Facilities.

These are the same as in previous years.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Combined Maternity and Child Welfare Centre and School Clinic (provided by Surrey County Council), South Place, Surbiton.

Tuberculosis Dispensary (provided by Surrey County Council), South Place, Surbiton. Sessions twice weekly or more often if required.

Venereal Diseases.

Arrangements are made by the County Council for the treatment of these diseases at various Hospitals and Centres.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

(a) General.

The Surbiton and District Nursing Association, which is affiliated to the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, has a superintendent nurse, three general nurses and three midwives available for attending cases in the home, within the Borough of Surbiton.

In the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church a parish nurse is provided by the Church Authorities for home nursing.

(b) Infectious Disease.

There are no arrangements for the home nursing of cases of Measles and Whooping Cough. Provision is made in the Isolation Hospital for the admission of complicated cases of Measles and Whooping Cough.

Midwives.

The Corporation does not employ or subsidise any midwives.

The Surrey County Council is the supervising authority under the Midwives Act.

There are fourteen midwives practising in the District, excluding those employed at Surbiton Hospital.

Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological and Bacteriological examinations are made for the Corporation by the Clinical Research Association.

During the year the following examinations were carried out :—

Disease Suspected	Nature of Specimen	Result		TOTAL
		Posi- tive	Nega- tive	
Diphtheria	Swabbings	7	139	146
Tuberculosis	Sputum	4	77	81
Dysentery	Fæces	--	1	1
Paratyphoid	Specimen of Blood	--	1	1
	Fæces	--	3	3
	Total	11	221	232

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The water supply throughout the District is furnished by the Metropolitan Water Board and is a constant supply of excellent quality. I am supplied with monthly reports by the Board giving details of their chemical and bacteriological examinations.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Extensive schemes have been prepared for soil and surface water drainage in the Borough, and would in the ordinary course of events be in hand.

The schemes, however, have been deferred owing to the outbreak of hostilities.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

Publicly-owned Baths.

Surbiton Lagoon, situated in Raeburn Avenue, Surbiton, is an open air pool 165 feet long and 90 feet wide with a depth of 3 to 9 feet.

The water is treated by continuous pressure sand filtration, sterilisation by injection of chlorine and oxygenation over an ornamental cascade.

Periodic samples of the water are taken by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor and the plant adjusted accordingly. In addition, one sample was taken by the Public Health Department which proved to be satisfactory.

Privately-owned Pools open to the Public.

Ace of Spades Swimming Pool, Kingston Bypass Road, is an open air pool 40 feet by 20 feet with a depth of 4 feet to 7 feet 6 inches.

The water is treated by means of a Candy chlorine filtration plant.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The Food and Drugs Acts in this district were administered by an Inspector acting under the direction of the Surrey County Council until the

30th September, and he has kindly furnished the following particulars for 1939:—

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

ARTICLES	ANALYSED			ADULTERATED OR DETERIORATED			PROSECUTIONS	CONVICTIONS
	Formal	In-formal	Total	Formal	In-formal	Total		
Milk	31	4	35	—	—	—	—	—
Cream	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Butter	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cheese	2	2	4	2	2	4	—	—
Tea	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Coffee	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Prepared Sausages ...	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Condensed Tomato ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Brymite	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total	40	9	49	2	2	4	—	—

MILK SUPPLY.

During the year, three samples of Ordinary milk (unpasteurised) and one sample of Homogenized milk were taken and examined. The bacteriologist's reports are detailed below :—

No.	Temperature on arrival	No. of Bacteria per 1 c.c.	Presence of B Coli in 48 hours and 3 days (1/100th)	Result of Animal Inoculation experiment for Tubercle Bacilli
1	10°C.	34,000	Negative	Negative
2	10°C.	107,330	Negative	Negative
3	10°C.	9,830	Negative	Negative (Homogenized Milk)
4	10°C.	56,660	Positive	Negative

In cases where the report was not considered satisfactory, the dairyman was interviewed and advised as to methods to be adopted to obtain better results.

The following licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, were granted during the year :—

Dealers' Licences to sell " Pasteurised " milk ...	15
Dealers' Licences to sell " Tuberculin Tested " milk	6
Dealers' Licences to sell " Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) " milk	3
Dealers' Supplementary Licences to sell " Tuberculin Tested " milk	3

FACTORIES.

There were 235 factories on the Register at the end of the year as under :—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	19
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	10
Tailors	...	...	...	...	...	9
Bootmakers and repairers	...	...	...	...	...	25
Dressmakers	...	...	...	...	...	8
Motor Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	36
Builders	...	...	...	...	...	21
Electrical and Wireless Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	7
Timber Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cycle repairers	...	...	...	...	...	12
Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	19
Printers	...	...	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	60
					Total	<u>235</u>



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Surbiton.*

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of your Sanitary Inspectors for the year 1939.

This report is compiled in accordance with the directions in Ministry of Health Circular No. 2067 and is therefore to be regarded as an interim report.

COMPLAINTS.

During the year, 183 complaints were received and dealt with. This does not include complaints from Council house tenants.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Number of dwelling houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	98
Number of Council House inspections	627
Number of Council House re-inspections	738
Number of premises inspected for other than Housing defects	446
Number of premises other than houses inspected ...	580
Premises re-inspected (including Housing)	821
Works in progress (including Housing)	462
Miscellaneous Visits	1,120
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	4,892
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TESTING OF DRAINS AND SANITARY FITTINGS.

Drains, soil pipes, etc., tested with smoke, air or chemicals	17
Drains tested with water	78

NOTICES SERVED.

96 informal and 315 statutory notices were served.

DETAILS OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED DURING THE YEAR.

	Council Houses	Privately-owned Houses
Drains, repaired, cleansed, etc. ...	23	70
Drains re-constructed	—	38
Additional W.C.'s provided	—	13
W.C.'s repaired, etc.	27	58
New sinks fixed	3	52
Wastepipes repaired, renewed, etc. ..	25	71
Water pipes and cisterns, cleansed, repaired, etc.	122	21
Dust receptacles provided	10	11
Dampness remedied	63	111
Windows repaired or renewed ...	89	122
Floors repaired or renewed	7	19
Doors repaired or renewed	48	43
Stoves and coppers, repaired or renewed	62	33
Rooms cleansed	248	136
Internal walls and ceilings repaired	3	68
Gates and fences repaired or renewed	92	—
Verminous houses cleansed	7	10
Miscellaneous	47	101
External painting	87	—
Yard paving repaired	—	20

FACTORIES.

There are 235 factories (including 19 bake-houses) on the register.

86 visits were made, and the following contra-ventions dealt with:—

Sanitary Conveniences.

Insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	3
Unsuitable or defective	...	...	...	...	...	3

Other Defects.

Inadequate ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	1
Means of escape in case of fire	...	...	...	...	...	10
Drainage work	...	...	...	...	...	1

The only underground bakehouse in the Borough was closed under the provisions of Section 54, Factories Act, 1937.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Three registered slaughterhouses are in use.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There are 66 persons registered in accordance with the Milk and Dairies Act, 1922. 27 licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Carcases and offal of 4348 animals were inspected, of which number 258 were affected with disease in some part.

The total quantity of food condemned as unfit for human consumption was 3454 lbs. 12 ozs.

DISINFECTION.

Disinfection was carried out at 26 premises following cases of infectious disease, and at 30 other premises on payment. 49 books from the Public Library were disinfected.

BED BUGS.

Disinfestation was carried out at 17 premises by the following methods:—

	Council Houses	Other Houses
Spraying with Vermicine	6	3
Spraying with Zaldecide	1	—
Fumigation with Cyanide	—	7
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	7	10
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PUBLIC MORTUARY.

During the year, twenty-eight bodies were received into the mortuary, twenty-three post mortem examinations carried out, and seventeen inquests held.

The Mortuary was closed until May for alterations and modernisation.

GENERAL.

The work of the Department was seriously hampered in consequence of 3 Inspectors and 2 Clerks being given permission to join the Territorial Army. These men were all absent for a fortnight in the summer for training and were called to the colours in August.

Difficulty was experienced in finding suitable substitutes, and I had to complete the year's work

with temporary clerks, and the occasional assistance, for which I was extremely grateful, of an Inspector in a neighbouring Borough.

In addition to Civil Defence duties, which in common with other officers, have brought added work and responsibility, a careful watch has been kept on all developments arising from the war which may be prejudicial to the health of the people. Shelters, both public, private and at industrial buildings, have been regularly visited and many extra sanitary conveniences and comforts for the occupants secured. Officers responsible for other Services have been extremely helpful in this direction, and it is due to this good spirit of co-operation that no serious troubles have gone unsolved.

In consequence of the foregoing the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1939, could not be set in motion.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEOFFREY McCLELLAND,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

