

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

**Contributors**

Surbiton (Surrey, England). Borough Council.

**Publication/Creation**

[1948]

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B O R O U G H   O F   S U R B I T O N

P U B L I C   H E A L T H   C O M M I T T E E

Alderman A.G. Leach (Chairman)  
Councillor S.E. Gooling (Vice-Chairman)

Alderman Sanger	Councillor Dew
Councillor Mrs. Bidmead	" Lewis
" Bough	" Trickey
" Bray	" Unger
" Mrs. Brazier	" Young

With the Mayor (Alderman Mrs. A. Woodgate) and Alderman Dowson  
ex officio.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - PERSONNEL

Medical Officer of Health (part time)

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

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

/ - GEOFFREY McCIELLAND, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I. (Died 29.3.47)

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector.

/ - H.J. ELDRIDGE, M.S.I.A., M.R.San. I. (Appointed Senior  
Sanitary Inspector 1st April, 1947).

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

/ - H. HANDSCOMB, A.R.San.I., (Appointed Senior Additional  
Sanitary Inspector 15.7.47).

/ - G.H. COCKELL, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.

/ - R.H. STREET, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I. (Resigned 26.10.47).

/ - V.F. ACRES, A.R.San.I. (Resigned 31.3.47).

/ - W.H. GRAY, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I. (Appointed 1.9.47).

Rodent Officer:

E.C. REEVE.

Senior Clerk:

E.D. HILLS.

Clerks:

P.E. WHITTON. (In H.M. Forces until 1.4.47. Released to take  
Ministry of Labour Training Course for  
Sanitary Inspector 6.5.47).

MISS V. CRYER.

MISS W.M. CHINN - Shorthand Typist - (Appointed 6.3.47  
transferred to Town Clerk's Department 8.9.47).

A.H. HASWELL. (Resigned 28.4.47).

MRS. P.I. RATCLIFF. (Appointed 13.6.47).

MRS. F.G. EKKEL - Shorthand Typist - (Transferred from Town  
Clerk's Department 8.9.47).

J. BOOTH.

Disinfector and Mortuary Attendant:

A.C. BALL.

Contributions made to salary from Exchequer. (foods.  
Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other  
Royal Sanitary Institute Smoke Inspectors Certificate.  
Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied  
to Buildings and Public Works.



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR 1947

Public Health Department,  
2, Shalston Villas,  
Surbiton.

July, 1948.

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am presenting my 26th Annual Report to which is attached the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

I regret to have to record the death of Mr. McClelland, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, after a protracted illness which was a great loss both to me and the Public Health Department. His keenness for work was, I think, appreciated by all, and his absence from duty threw a great burden on the staff and on his deputy who, after a lapse of six months, was appointed Senior Sanitary Inspector in his stead. I am certain he will prove to be equally reliable and a great worker, and apart from the personal loss, will give the Council and myself the same loyalty which the late Sanitary Inspector endeavoured to give.

As suggested in my previous report it might be as well for the Council to consider the provision of accommodation for the elderly people in the form of blocks of houses, hostels, etc. and I suggest that further homes should be erected in addition to quota to combat the possible increasing overcrowding. The practice of permitting two or three families to occupy rooms in one house, and to use the only kitchen in most cases and other offices seems to me to be a rather retrograde step to the health of the inhabitants and, for want of a better term "moral overcrowding", leading to mental strain, distress and other undesirable features.

It is interesting to note that the number of new houses, (with the exception of those rebuilt following enemy action) and the conversion of flats, total 173, out of which 119 were built by private enterprise and only 54 by local authorities.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,708
Population (1947) Registrar General's Estimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	58,110
Resident Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	...	29,390
Estimated number of separate habitable dwellings (houses and flats) in the Borough at the end of year	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,575
Number of new houses erected during year:-							
(a) By local authority	34						
(b) By other local authorities	16						
(c) By private enterprise	111						
(d) Rebuilt following destruction by enemy action	77						
(e) Number of self contained flats provided by conversion (private enterprise)	8						
(f) Number of units of accommodation provided by adaptation (by local authority)	4						
Rateable value at 1st October, 1947	...	...	...	...	...	...	£600,790
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£2,390

# EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

(Based on National Registration Office Population figure of 59,452 and on Public Health Department records).

<u>LIVE BIRTHS:</u> (Unadjusted figures)	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	662 (578)	347 (303)	315 (275)
Illegitimate	11 (10)	6 (6)	5 (4)
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			11.32 (10.03)
<u>DEATHS:</u> (Unadjusted figures)	558 (626)	267 (301)	291 (325)
Gross death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			9.38 (10.67)
Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions and Nursing Homes (238 deaths)			51.61 (43.6)
<u>DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:</u> (Unadjusted figures)			
All infants per 1,000 live births			40.11 (42.51)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			39.27 (41.5)

(Based on Registrar General's population figure of 58,110 and on adjusted statistics supplied by the Registrar General).

<u>LIVE BIRTHS:</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	1,059 (1,002)	560 (515)	499 (487)
Illegitimate	47 (61)	24 (39)	23 (22)
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			19.03 (18.84)
England and Wales			20.5 (19.1)
<u>STILL BIRTHS:</u>			
Legitimate	21 (20)	13 (9)	8 (11)
Illegitimate	2 (2)	- (2)	2 -
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			20.37 (20.69)
<u>DEATHS:</u>	555 (572)	263 (273)	292 (299)
Gross death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			9.55 (10.13)
England and Wales (all causes)			12.0 (11.5)
<u>DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:</u>			
All infants per 1,000 live births			24.41 (19.75)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.			24.55 (19.96)
England and Wales			41.00 (43.00)

NOTE: The corresponding figures for 1946 are shown in brackets.



## POPULATION

The following table shows the population figure for the last 10 years:-

	<u>General.</u>	<u>National Registrar's</u> <u>Office.</u>
1938	46,600	
1939	49,607	
1940	50,440	
1941	48,470	
1942	50,350	
1943	51,150	
1944	49,330	49,000
1945	50,660	54,624
1946	56,420	58,619
1947	58,110	59,452

You will note that there is a great discrepancy between the local figures and the Registrar's figures. For the purpose of statistics regarding housing accommodation in Surbiton, it would be best to base on the National Registration Office figures as this seems to be more indicative of the number of people living in Surbiton.

## CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1947

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
All causes	263	292
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	-	-
Cerebrospinal fever	-	-
Scarlet fever	-	1
Whooping cough	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	5	9
Other forms of tuberculosis	2	1
Syphilitic diseases	1	2
Influenza	5	4
Measles	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis	2	-
Acute inf. encephalitis	-	1
Cancer of buc: cav: and oesoph (M)	2	-
uterus (F)	-	5
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	4	5
Cancer of breast	-	9
Cancer of all other sites	26	35
Diabetes	-	2
Intracranial vascular lesions	23	42
Heart diseases	96	90
Other diseases of circulatory system	13	7
Bronchitis	15	6
Pneumonia	6	12
Other respiratory diseases	2	7
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	5	-
Diarrhoea under 2 years	-	-
Appendicitis	1	-
Other digestive diseases	5	11
Nephritis	2	6
Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	-	-
Other maternal causes	-	-
Premature births	6	1
Congenital malformations, birth injuries, infantile diseases	11	7
Suicide	1	5
Road traffic accidents	3	1
Other violent causes	5	8
All other causes	22	15

# INFANT MORTALITY

There were 27 deaths of children under 1 year of age. 26 were legitimate and 1 was illegitimate.

Of the infant deaths 17 occurred in hospitals or public institutions outside the district of Surbiton. The ages at death were as follows:-

One at 9 minutes; 1 at 10 minutes; 1 at 30 minutes; 1 at 1 hour;  
3 at 5 hours; 1 at 10 hours; 1 at 18 hours; 1 at 21 hours; 3 at 1 day;  
1 at 2 days; 1 at 3 days; 1 at 6 days; 4 at 1 week; 1 at 4 weeks;  
1 at 1 month; 1 at 2 months and 1 at 4 months.

The causes and ages at death of the children were as follows:-

Atelectasis of lungs	2 days
Asphyxia pallida	5 hours
Asphyxia	1 day
Multiple congenital deformities and sacral parasitic dermoid	30 minutes
Prematurity	18 hours
Prematurity	5 hours
Prematurity	1 hour
Cerebral haemorrhage	2 days
Cerebral haemorrhage	1 week
Intestinal obstruction	3 days
Prematurity	1 week
Foetal ascites and prematurity	10 minutes
Ulceration of oesophagus	4 weeks
Prematurity	1 day
Ruptured congenital	6 days
Atelectasis of lungs	21 hours
Hydrops foetalis	9 minutes
Asphyxia due to the inhalation of stomach contents into the air.	2 months
Acute encephalitis	4 months
Debility	1 week
Prematurity and debility	2 days
Prematurity	5 hours
Broncho pneumonia	1 month
Atelectasis and prematurity	1 day
Hemolytic anaemia	1 week
Broncho pneumonia	2 days
Prematurity	10 hours

## INFANT MORTALITY RATE.

The following table shows the death rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births.

	SURBITON	ENGLAND AND WALES (Smaller towns)
1938	31.14	51.0
1939	50.98	40.0
1940	35.85	54.0
1941	54.20	56.0
1942	37.52	46.0
1943	32.56	46.0
1944	29.65	44.0
1945	34.28	46.0
1946	19.75	37.0
1947	24.41	36.0



PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER  
INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The Clerk to the Tolworth Joint Hospital District Board has kindly supplied me with the following figures for 1947.

ANALYSIS OF PATIENTS ADMITTED TO THE TOLWORTH ISOLATION  
HOSPITAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

	<u>Diphtheria</u>	<u>Scarlet fever</u>	<u>Other Diseases</u>	<u>Total</u>
Surbiton	1	28	71	100
Malden and Coombe	1	43	42	86
Esher	-	26	66	92
Paying patients (admitted from outside the Constituent District)	2	3	13	18
	4	100	192	296

The sixty-seven "other diseases" admitted to the hospital are as follows:-

Quinsy	2
Meningococcal meningitis	2
Pleural effusion	1
Measles	9
Measles and Broncho-pneumonia	1
Tonsillitis	8
Rubella	4
Old Pertussis and Toxic rash	1
Vincent's Angina	1
Broncho-pneumonia	1
Mumps	1
Anterior Poliomyelitis	18
Erysipelas	2
Chicken Pox	4
Whooping Cough and Pneumonia	2
Whooping Cough	3
Acidosis	1
Polio-Encephalitis	2
Influenza and Meningism	1
Arthritis of Hip	1
Meningism	1
Post Nasal Catarrh	1
Poliomyelitis ?	1
Urticaria	1
Inguinal Adenitis	1
Fibrositis	1

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING THE YEARS

ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1938 to 1947.

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Diphtheria	6	5	9	16	11	2	1	7	14	-
Scarlet fever	80	24	60	24	80	299	149	45	38	31
Enteric fever	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Paratyphoid fever	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paraperal pyrexia	8	10	6	3	4	3	2	2	6	-
Pneumonia	33	37	45	46	14	34	25	23	17	16
Erysipelas	9	6	10	3	4	6	4	1	5	4
Poliomyelitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	19
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	17	4	2	-	-	-	1	5
Ophthalmia neonatorum	3	1	4	1	2	1	1	-	2	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	4	4	-
Malaria	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
Measles		1	839	327	433	323	212	775	429	170
Whooping cough		4	6	369	65	176	52	90	48	108
Chicken pox			6							
Total	141	91	1,003	793	616	846	449	950	564	354

At ages.

At ages

	0 -	1 -	3 -	5 -	10 -	15 -	25 and over	45 -	65 and over	Age unknown	TOTAL CIVILIANS	TOTAL NON-CIVILIANS	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																								
Scarlet Fever	1	1	5	10	1	3	1			1	31													
Pneumonia	2			4		3		3	4		16	1	2									1	5	10
Erysipelas						3		1			4													
Cerebro-spinal Fever	2			1		2					5													
Ophthalmia neonatorum																								
Typhoid Fever																								
Measles	4	33	47	57	12	9	3			5	170													
Whooping Cough	3	20	34	44	1					1	100													
Polio myelitis		3	1	7	2	2	3			1	13							1						
Polio-encephalitis					1						1			1										

Note: Total deaths include Transferable Deaths occurring outside the District which are not included in the total cases notified.



# 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 may be brought up to date and represent a true record.

At the end of the year 420 persons were shown to be suffering from the disease and living within the district:-

	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non-Pul.</u>
Males	211	43
Females	132	34

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	1
5 - 14	1	3	2	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	11	9	1	1	-	1	-	-
25 - 34	7	10	1	1	3	3	-	-
35 - 44	7	5	-	1	-	2	-	-
45 - 54	9	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
55 - 64	3	-	1	-	2	1	1	-
65 and upwards	4	1	-	-	2	1	-	-
Totals:	42	30	6	5	9	9	1	1

The number of new cases as compared with the previous year is approximately the same.

Of the 83 cases tabulated above, 23 are cases transferred from other districts.

The table shows an increase compared with last year of 7 pulmonary cases of tuberculosis, and the non-pulmonary cases show a decrease of 2. The deaths show a decrease of 6.

At the commencement of the year there were 415 cases of tuberculosis on the register, and at the end of the year this figure had increased to 420.

During the year 19 cases were notified as recovered from the disease, 38 patients left the district, there were 20 deaths and 1 case was notified as being non-tuberculosis.

Ward	Cases added to Register						Cases Registered 31st 1947
	Primary Notifications			Transfers, etc.			
	1945	1946	1947	1945	1946	1947	
Berrylands	14	10	10	4	3	1	68
Chessington	16	7	7	4	6	6	58
Hook and Southborough	8	6	9	1	6	3	54
Seething Wells	6	3	4	-	6	4	44
St. Mark's	9	8	6	1	2	3	33
Surbiton Hill	7	5	6	1	1	2	41
Tolworth East	4	6	7	7	1	4	54
Tolworth West	7	2	2	1	5	3	38
Tolworth South	5	7	3	1	4	3	42
Totals:	76	54	54	20	34	29	420

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.

Of the 83 new cases 9 males and 10 females were admitted to sanatorium.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

	<u>Treatments.</u>	
	<u>Completed.</u>	<u>Incompleted.</u>
Children treated at clinic	586	18

The division into children of school age and those under is:-

	<u>Reinforcement Doses.</u>	<u>Treatments.</u>	
		<u>Completed.</u>	<u>Incompleted.</u>
Children of school age	104	28	-
Children under school age		454	18

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The general provision of health services in the area, including ambulances, clinics, treatment centres, hospital and other facilities remain as in previous years.



## Laboratory facilities.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations were made for the Corporation by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Epsom, by the Clinical Research Association and Victoria Hospital, Kingston.

During the year the following examinations were carried out:-

Disease suspected.	Nature of specimen.	Result.		Total
		Positive	Negative	
Diphtheria	Swabs	-	91	91
Tuberculosis	Sputum	5	46	51
Scarlet fever	Swabs	-	4	4
Typhoid dysentery	Urine	-	2	2
	Faeces	-	2	2
Pertussis	Sputum	-	1	1
		5	146	151

### SCABIES

No facilities for treatment of scabies exist in the Borough, but arrangements have been made with the Kingston Corporation for Surbiton cases to be treated at the Centre at Burton Road, Kingston, on payment of the cost by the Surbiton Corporation. The charges agreed are 5/- per treatment, and during 1947 seventy-eight cases were treated.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water Supply

The water 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.

All dwelling houses have a mains supply direct to the house.

### Swimming Baths and Pools

#### Publicly owned baths.

Surbiton Lagoon, situated in Enebourn 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 and filtration, sterilisation by injection of chlorine and oxygenation over an ornamental cascade.

Periodical samples of water are taken by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor and the plant adjusted accordingly. In addition, check samples are taken by the Public Health Department.

During the period of 1947 certain restrictions were put on the pools as to the number to be admitted during each session.

The children's sand pit was closed as one of the means of preventing any further spread of poliomyelitis.



## FOOD POISONING

There were three small food poisoning occurrences during the year.

In the first case two persons were slightly ill due apparently to eating sausages which had been kept too long before cooking. The responsible organism was not traced.

The second occurrence affected five persons and was probably due to eating goose. The affected persons were seriously ill and the responsible organism was found to be *Salmonella typhi-murium*. Unfortunately the remaining portion of the suspected goose was thrown away and the only specimen therefrom was a small quantity of fat, which did not reveal *Salm. typhi-murium*.

By arrangement with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries blood specimens were taken from ten geese and thirty ducks at the smallholding from which the suspected bird came, but with negative results. Rats from the vicinity were also examined without result.

The third occurrence was part of a widespread outbreak involving a large area in the South East due to eating a meat product which had been infected with *Staphylococcus aureus* at the factory where it was made. Six cases occurred in the Borough and there were probably others which were not brought to my notice. All the patients were affected with vomiting and diarrhoea, (two seriously) the symptoms occurring within three hours of eating the food. All made a rapid recovery.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

### Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	43	8	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	167	55	4	-
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers premises)	6	6	1	-
Total	216	69	6	-

## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-				
Overcrowding (S.2)	-				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-				
Inadequate ventilation. (S.4)	-				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-				
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
a) insufficient	2	2		2	
b) unsuitable or defective.	1	1			
c) not separate for sexes	-	-			
Other offences (not including offences relating to homework)	4	4	1		
Total	7	7	1	2	

## 3. Outwork. (Sections 110 and 111.

Nature of Work.	No. of outworkers in Aug. 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. (Cleaning and washing.)	8					
Carding etc. of buttons, etc.	11					
Stuffed toys	1					
Total	20	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

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901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909	910	911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918	919	920	921	922	923	924	925	926	927	928	929	930	931	932	933	934	935	936	937	938	939	940	941	942	943	944	945	946	947	948	949	950	951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960	961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

July, 1948.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councilors of the Borough of Surbiton.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of your Sanitary Inspectors for the year ended 31st December, 1947.

This report is compiled in accordance with the directions of Ministry of Health Circular No. 170/47.

COMPLAINTS.  
(excluding Council Houses)

During the year 926 complaints were received with regard to the following matters and were duly investigated:-

Choked and defective drains	171
Insanitary or dilapidated condition of houses and premises	246
Dampness	46
Defective or insufficient W.C. accommodation.	51
Defective water pipes or fittings.	47
Withdrawal of water supply.	2
Insufficient and defective refuse bins.	20
Overcrowding.	5
Offensive smells from various causes.	36
Offensive accumulations.	11
Nuisances from animals improperly kept.	4
Unwholesome food.	11
Infestation with bugs or fleas.	14
Infestation with other insect pests.	14
Rat and Mice infestation.	203
Smoke nuisances.	5
Obstruction of light and ventilation.	3
Flooding.	6
Nuisance from cellulose spraying.	1
Complaints re milk.	6
Miscellaneous.	24

Total	926
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INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	291
Number of houses visited for other than housing defects.	808
Number of premises other than houses inspected.	749
Re-inspections.	917
Visits to works in progress.	502
Visits re rat and mice infestation.	2332
Visits to requisitioned property.	853
Visits to Council houses.	975
Visits re Building Licences.	842
Miscellaneous visits.	818

Included in the aforementioned are the following classified visits:-

Visits to food premises.	320
Visits to cowsheds, dairies, milkshops and milk vehicles.	54
Visits to bakohouses.	15
Visits to fish friers' premises.	17
Visits to factories.	54
Visits to outworkers' premises.	18
Visits re overcrowding.	17
Visits re cases of infectious diseases (including tuberculosis and scabies)	170
Visits re food poisoning.	18
Interviews with owners, tradesmen, etc.	598
Visits re Food and Drugs Act.	172
Visits to Council house applicants.	36
Visits to slaughterhouses.	11
Visits re dangerous structures.	20
Visits re Shops Acts.	19
Visits to Schools.	15
Smoke observations.	11
Visits to urinals and public conveniences.	17
Visits to caravans.	15
Visits to ice-cream premises and vehicles.	59

#### TESTING OF DRAINS AND SANITARY FITTINGS.

Drains tested with water.	64
Drains tested by other methods.	11
Drainage systems exposed for examination under section 48 of the Public Health Act, 1936.	2

#### NOTICES SERVED.

Informal and verbal notices.	270
Statutory notices under section 157 of the Housing Act, 1936, to enter premises.	1
Statutory notices under section 157(d) of the Housing Act, 1936, to enter premises to take measurements of rooms of a house.	1
Statutory notices under section 168 of the Housing Act, 1936, requiring information as to ownership of premises.	1
Statutory notices under section 9 of the Housing Act 1936, to make premises reasonably fit for human habitation.	3
Statutory notices under section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring drainage works in existing buildings.	11
Statutory notices under section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to abate nuisances.	8
Statutory notices under section 277 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring information as to ownership of premises.	32



Licence to station a moveable dwelling.	1
Licence to use a moveable dwelling.	1
Certificates pursuant to section 12 of the Rent & Mortgage Interest Restrictions (Amendment) Act, 1933.	2
Statutory notices under section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936, informing owner of premises of proposed work of maintenance on sewer.	24
Statutory notices under section 48 and 287 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to examine and test drains.	10
Total	365

DETAILS OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS ETC.  
EFFECTED DURING THE YEAR.  
(Excluding Council Houses).

Drainage.

Choked drains and sewers cleared	...	...	141
Defective drains repaired.	...	...	21
Drainage systems partly re-laid	...	...	8
Additional drains provided.	...	...	14

Water Closets, etc.

Additional provided.	...	...	14
Cleansed or repaired.	...	...	19
New pans fixed.	...	...	29
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	..	...	34
Lighted, ventilated or screened.	...	...	9

Sink, Baths etc.

New fixed.	...	...	15
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Waste Pipes etc.

Repaired.	...	...	11
New provided.	...	...	12
Disconnected or trapped.	...	...	6

Water Supply.

Water reinstated.	...	...	5
Service pipes and cisterns repaired etc.	...	...	7

Paving.

Yard paving repaired.	...	...	2
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Dust Receptacles.

New dustbins provided.	...	...	21
Manure receptacles provided.	...	...	1



### Dampness.

Roofs repaired.	...	...	66
Gutters and rain water pipes repaired or renewed.	...	...	49
Damp course fixed.	...	...	5
Ventilation under floors provided.	...	...	1
External walls pointed or rendered.	...	...	25
Walls treated with damp resisting material ..	...	...	29

### General Repairs.

Dry rot remedied.	...	...	14
Windows repaired or renewed.	...	...	84
Floors repaired or renewed.	...	...	23
Doors repaired or renewed.	...	...	31
Handrails provided or repaired.	...	...	3
Stoves and coppers repaired or renewed.	...	...	28
Internal walls and ceilings repaired.	...	...	153
Rooms cleansed.	...	...	165
Chimney stacks and pots repaired or renewed.	...	...	4
Nuisance from animals abated.	...	...	4
Accumulations removed.	...	...	6
Means of escape in case of fire put in order	...	...	1
Rooms ventilated.	...	...	1
Overcrowding abated.	...	...	1
Food premises cleansed.	...	...	2
Rat proofing.	...	...	1
Wooden staircases to garden repaired.	...	...	2
Brick steps to garden repaired.	...	...	2
Foodstuffs removed from W.C.	...	...	1
Dangerous structures demolished.	...	...	1
Nuisance from use of Amyl Acetate abated	...	...	1
Miscellaneous.	...	...	28

### HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year  
(excluding Council Houses)
  - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts). 291
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. 291
  - (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-heading (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-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit. 239
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices (excluding Council houses):-
 

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers. 212

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. 1
- (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
  - (a) By owners (3 from previous year) 4
  - (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. 2
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
  - (a) By owners. 2
  - (b) By Local Authority in default of the 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
- (3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were suspended (Circular 1866) 4

D. Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. 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

AMBULANCE.

The Town Council provided two Ambulances (a Daimler 20 h.p. and a Talbot 18 h.p.) for dealing with accidents and private cases in the Borough.

The personnel consisted of two drivers and two attendants. Until November this staff was responsible for day and night duties, working 24 hour shifts.



With the adoption of the recommendations of the National Joint Council for Staff of Hospitals and Allied Institutions the Council came to an arrangement with the British Red Cross Society whereby that organisation provided an ambulance service between the hours of 10 p.m. and 8 a.m. daily, leaving the Corporation ambulances to cover the hours from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

During the year 371 accident and 607 private cases were dealt with by the Council ambulances, the mileage covered being 7,897 miles.

The British Red Cross Society dealt with 24 private and 2 accident cases.

#### BUILDING LICENCES.

During the year 688 applications for building licences, involving 842 visits to premises, were dealt with in the Department and suitable recommendations made to the Borough Surveyor who is Licensing Officer.

#### COUNCIL HOUSES AND REQUISITIONED PROPERTIES.

The work of maintenance of Council houses and the adaptation and maintenance of requisitioned properties was dealt with in the Department until towards the end of the year when the duties were taken over by the newly-appointed Housing Officer.

#### DISINFECTION.

During the year disinfection was carried out at 54 civilian premises in which the following diseases occurred:-

Anterior Poliomyelitis (or suspected)	...	28
Diphtheria	...	3
Scarlet Fever	...	3
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	...	1
Tuberculosis	...	17
Infantile Diarrhoea	...	1
Scabies	...	1

Disinfection was also carried out at 27 premises after cases of non-notifiable diseases, the occupiers in each case paying the cost.

The total number of articles disinfected by steam at the Tolworth Isolation Hospital, or destroyed, was:-

	<u>Disinfected.</u>	<u>Destroyed.</u>
Beds	15	14
Blankets	182	3
Bolsters	27	2
Counterpanes	34	-
Curtains	2	-
Cushions	22	-
Mattresses	122	6
Mattress covers	2	-
Pillows	251	7
Pillow cases	66	-
Rugs	14	-
Sheets	63	2
Towels	31	-
Wearing Apparel	82	27
Miscellaneous	29	-
	<u>942</u>	<u>61</u>



Number of rooms disinfected ... 64  
 Number of library books disinfected . ... 150

### ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

1.

Council Houses		Other Houses.	
Found to be infested.	Disinfested.	Found to be infested.	Disinfested.
-	-	18	18

2. Methods employed for disinfestation.

	<u>Council Houses.</u>	<u>Other Houses.</u>
Vermicine spray.	-	15
Thermatox gas.	-	2
HCN gas.	-	1

3. For the convenience of the public a stock of insecticides and sprayers is held in the Department, and these articles are sold at cost price when required.

### RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

The responsibility for disinfestation rests by law upon the occupiers of premises, and during this year a charge was made when occupiers requested the Corporation to carry out the work on their behalf.

The scale approved by the Town Council was 2/6d per servicing visit which included labour, transport, traps, poisons and baits. Special terms were quoted for cases requiring long-term treatment. No charge was made for inspections and advisory visits.

In June the Corporation appointed an operator and a labourer to assist the Rodent Officer with this work, and as a result considerable progress was made in dealing with surface infestations and work on sewers was commenced.

The following figures summarise the work carried out.

Total number of complaints ... 203 (A few of these referred to the same infestations).

1. VISITS.

(a) Surveys.

re complaints ....	176	
under Infestation Order	164	340
No access ... ..	57	
Miscellaneous ... ..	55	

(b) Treatments.

First treatments - rats	646	
- mice	29	
Retreatments - rats	654	
- mice	34	
Miscellaneous	36	

(c) Sewers.

Initial inspection.	209	
Baiting.	272	

Total number of visits.

2338

2. SURVEYS REVEALED.

Premises infested with rats	204	
" " " mice	14	
Not infested.	122	340

3. RESULT OF SURVEYS.

Corporation requested to disinfect	115	
Advice given	92	207

4. ANNUAL CONTRACTS.

including Corporation Property 11

5. SEWERS.

The Borough has been divided into nine areas, four of which were test baited during the year:-

Result of tests -

<u>Area.</u>	<u>Total No. of Manholes baited.</u>	<u>Complete takes.</u>	<u>Partial takes.</u>	<u>No takes.</u>
1	19	Nil	Nil	19
2	36	6	1	29
3	34	2	4	28
4	46	5	5	36



FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The following is a summary of samples taken during the year:-

Articles.	Analysed			Adulterated, below standard or improperly labelled.			Prosecutions	Convictions
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total		
asa	-	1	1					
scalilli	-	1	1					
odered Gelatine	-	1	1					
lden Raising Powder	-	1	1					
ugh Syrup	-	1	1					
at extract	-	1	1					
monade	-	2	2					
arbonate of Soda	-	1	1					
ssicated Soup	-	1	1					
ne Juice Cordial	-	1	1					
een Pea Soup	-	1	1					
lly making Gelatine	-	1	1					
ound Coffee	-	1	1					
red Vegetable Soup	-	1	1					
lk	35	-	35					
tato Flavour Soup	-	1	1					
tato Sauce	-	1	1	-	1	1		
tato Chutney	-	1	1					
uld Mustard	-	1	1					
tard	1	-	1	-	1	1		
lly Crystal Lemon	-	1	1					
le Jelly Lemon	-	1	1					
lf-Raising Flour	1	2	3	1	1	2		
gh Linctus	-	2	2					
sert Sauce Powder	-	1	1					
tana Chutney	-	1	1					
cken Broth	-	1	1					
ic Wine	-	1	1					
ngeade	-	1	1					
nge Squash	1	-	1					
sert Sauce Powder	-	1	1					
t Vinegar	-	1	1					
-brewed vinegar	-	1	1					
it sauce	-	1	1					
ing Powder.	-	2	2					
ened pudding mixture.	-	1	1					
ted milk.	-	1	1					
ger wine flavouring	-	1	1					
and ginger	-	1	1					
ed spice.	-	1	1					
and white pepper	-	1	1					
ry thick	-	1	1					
ry powder	-	1	1					
and Cinnamon	-	1	1					
ry Spread	-	1	1					
lay	-	1	1					
aded Beef Suet	1	-	1					
	1	-	1					
age Meat	1	-	1					
ght Beer	2	-	2					
er	1	-	1					
	45	46	91	1	3	4	N11	N11



Action taken on non-genuine samples was as follows:-

<u>Sample.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
714 (Informal) (Tomato Sauce)	Contained Sulphur Dioxide 610 parts per million by weight. Sulphur dioxide is an added preservative which is not permitted. This was followed up and details will appear in the report for 1946.
705 (Informal) (Mustard)	Deficiency of allyl isothiocyanate (the Food Standards (Mustard) (No. 2) Order, 1944, as amended).  It was not possible to take a formal sample, as the particular brand of mustard concerned could not again be found in the shops.
700 (Informal) (Self-Raising Flour)	Deficiency of available carbon dioxide (The Food Standards (Self-raising Flour) Order 1946).  A formal sample of the Self-Raising Flour was taken (see No. 715 below).
715 (Formal) (Self-raising flour)	Sample yielded available carbon dioxide 0.33 per cent. Self-raising flour should yield not less than 0.40 per cent of available carbon dioxide (The Food Standards (Self-raising Flour) Order 1946).  Warning letter sent to manufacturers.

#### FOOD INSPECTION.

The following foodstuffs found to be unfit for human food were surrendered by the owners, and either salvaged for animal feeding or destroyed.

<u>Article.</u>	<u>No. of Containers.</u>	<u>lbs. ozs.</u>	<u>Reason for Condemnation.</u>
Carcase and offal of one pig		190	- Generalized tuberculosis
Mutton.		217	- Spoilage due to defective refrigerator.
Pieces.		10	- Spoilage due to defective refrigerator.
Beef		82	- ditto
"		24	- Bone taint.
"		18	- Abscess.
English fillet		112	- Decomposed.
Lamb		8	- "
Sheep's plucks		64	- "
Ox kidney fat and trimming		7	- Inflammation.
Beef suet	6	3	- Damaged by fire.
Fowls		78	- Decomposed.
Rabbits		1680	- "
Bacon		16	- Maggots
"		17	- Decomposed.
Cod		1096	- "
Whiting		112	- "
Plaice		70	- "
Smoked coalfish		112	- "
Dabs		168	- "
Mackerel		49	- "
Smoked fillets		84	- "

<u>Article.</u>	<u>No. of Containers.</u>	<u>lbs. ozs.</u>	<u>Reason for Condemnation.</u>
Cod fillets.		154 -	Decomposed.
Skate wings		200 -	ditto
Bloaters		70 -	ditto
Mixed fish		70 -	ditto
Smoked Codling cutlets		42 -	ditto
Turbot		140 8	ditto
Lobsters		7 -	ditto
Lemon soles		122 -	ditto
Haddock		728 -	ditto
Hake		84 -	ditto
Kippers		145 4	ditto
Herrings		200 -	ditto
Coal fish		70 -	ditto
Prawns		28 -	Heated.
Haddock		112 -	Spoilage due to defective refrigerator.
Witch		70 -	ditto
Dover Soles		84 -	ditto
Ling Fillets		84 -	ditto
Fish cakes		9 -	Contaminated by disinfectant.
Meat and fish paste	6	11	Decomposed.
ditto	51	4 7	Blown tins or broken jars
Canned fish (various)	201	83 11	Blown or damaged.
Canned meats (various)	121	131 6	ditto
Canned fruit (various)	66	136 11	ditto
Canned vegetables (various)	218	250 5	ditto
Oranges		207 -	Decomposed.
Dates		71 -	ditto
Dates		29 -	Damaged by water.
Butter Beans		112 -	Weevils.
Jam and Marmalade		93 -	Broken jars.
ditto	50	141 8	Blown or damaged tins.
Milk (evaporated)	72	201 13	ditto
ditto	322	7 14	Damaged by fire.
Milk (condensed)	9	25 14	Blown or damaged tins.
Milk (household)	28	19 -	Deteriorated.
Chocolate confectionery	38	109 13	Damaged by fire.
Chocolate confectionery	895	5 -	Contaminated by oil.
Confectionery.		79 3	Damaged by fire.
Medicinal Pastilles		1 -	Damaged by fire.
Cake Mixture.	1	8 3	ditto
ditto	13	8	Contaminated by rats.
Meat extract cubes	1	6	ditto
ditto	12	28 2	Damaged by fire.
Cheese	900	15 6	Deteriorated.
Eggs		13 8	Unsound.
Dried Eggs	108	12	Deteriorated.
Flour		204 -	Damaged by fire and water.
Flour		112 -	Contaminated by rats
Soya flour.		2 -	ditto
Banana essence	1	2	Sour.
Cocoa.	3	12	Damaged by fire.



<u>Article.</u>	<u>No. of Containers.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>ozs.</u>	<u>Reason for Condemnation.</u>
Pickles.	16	11	3	Broken containers and sour.
Soup.	38	33	15	Blown or damaged tins
Soup.	8	5	4	Damaged by fire.
Biscuits.		27	-	Damaged by water.
Bread.	400	750	-	Improper baking due defective oven.
Bread.	3	6	-	Damaged by fire.
Sugar.		812	-	Damaged by water.
Sugar.	15	30	-	Contaminated by rats
Sugar.	81	377	-	Damaged by fire.
Butter.	8	4	-	Rancid.
Tea.	126	39	-	Damaged by water.
Puddings (Fruit)	12	10	14	Blown tins.
Puddings (Treacle)	2	1	5	Damaged tins.
Pickled Cabbage.	1	1	8	Broken jar.
Gherkins.	2	1	4	ditto
Bicarbonate of Soda.	9	1	11	Damaged by fire.
Stuffing.	13	3	4	ditto
Stuffing.	2		6	Contaminated by rats
Salt.	34	34	-	Damaged by fire.
Porridge Oats.		96	-	Musty.
ditto		4	-	Contaminated by rats
Semolina.	3	1	8	Weevils.
ditto	2	2	-	Damaged by fire.
Fritter mixture.	1		8	Contaminated by rats
Vegetable extract.	1		8	Deterioration.
Milk Cocoa Spread	2	1	-	ditto
Cereals (various)	9	6	3	Contaminated by rats
ditto	2	2	-	Weevils.
ditto	2	1	8	Contaminated by rats
ditto	106	65	8	Damaged by fire and water.

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Total	11,922	3
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During the year the carcasses and offal of 19 pigs slaughtered in the Borough were inspected. All were passed as fit for human consumption except one pig which was affected with generalized tuberculosis, and was surrendered and destroyed.

#### ICE CREAM.

Thirteen premises were registered by the Corporation for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream, and sixty-two for storage and sale but not manufacture.

On 1st May, 1947, the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment etc) Regulations made by the Minister of Health came into force with the exception of the requirement relating to thermometers, and with a "delay" clause in connection with the provision of cooling apparatus.

Broadly, the Regulations deal with methods of manufacture and storage of ice cream, and with measures to prevent contamination.



The Minister stated that he had given consideration to the prescription in the Regulations of a bacteriological standard of cleanliness for ice-cream, but he was still not satisfied that there was any test the reliability of which was sufficiently established to justify its use as a statutory test, non-compliance with which would constitute an offence. He did, however, draw attention to a form of methylene blue test, adapted for testing ice cream which might provisionally be used as a guide to cleanliness. He suggested that where ice-cream consistently failed to reach Grades I and II it would be reasonable to regard this as indicating defects of manufacture or handling, calling for further investigation.

It should be noted that this test is not a means of checking the safety of ice-cream, but only a guide to cleanliness. Because of the possibility of error in the test itself it is suggested that frequent samples should be taken from each retailer and manufacturer, and the hygienic quality thereof judged not on a single result but on a series of results.

It was not possible during 1947 to take many samples, and as it was our first experience with the new test, as well as its first use in the Laboratory, I do not think that firm conclusions should be drawn from the results. All retailers were supplied with a copy of each Laboratory report, and a Sanitary Inspector visited the premises and gave advice thereon. Copy reports were also sent to the Sanitary Inspector for the district where manufacture took place. It is hoped in future years to take a much larger number of samples, and it is anticipated that with wider experience, the test will prove of greater value.

For record purposes the following table is given showing Laboratory Reports on ice cream samples taken during the year.

Lab. Ref. No.	Date	Vendor	Whether manufd. in Boro.	Report.
9487	9.9.47	A	No	Grade 3. Coliform bacilli were present in 2 out of three tubes inoculated with 1/10 ml. Faecal coli absent.
9565	10.9.47	A	No	Grade 3. Coliform bacilli were present in 3 out of three tubes inoculated with 1/10 ml.
9901	19.9.47	A	No	Methylene blue test not possible. Plate count 350,000. Coliform bacilli were present in 3 out of three tubes inoculated with 1/10 ml. Faecal coli absent.
10,114	25.9.47	A	No	Grade 3. Coliform bacilli were present in 3 out of three tubes inoculated with 1/10 ml. Faecal coli - absent.
10,115	25.9.47	A	No	Grade 4. Coliform bacilli were present in 3 out of three tubes inoculated with 1/10 ml. Faecal coli - absent.

Lab.Ref.No.	Date.	Vendor.	Whether manufd. in Boro	Report.
10,116	25.9.47	A	No	Grade 3. Coliform bacilli were present in 3 of three tubes inoculated with 1/10 Faecal coli - absent.
6250	3.6.47	B	Yes	Grade 3. Coliform bacilli were present in 3 of three tubes inoculated with 1/10 Plate count more than 1,000,000.
6549	11.6.47	B	Yes	Grade 3. Coliform bacilli were present in 3 of three tubes inoculated with 1/10
7000	25.6.47	B	Yes	Grade 2. Coliform bacilli were present in 3 of three tubes inoculated with 1/10
9488	9.9.47	B	Yes	Grade 4. Coliform bacilli were found in 3 of three tubes inoculated with 1/10
6819	19.6.47	C	No	Grade 3. Coliform bacilli were present in 3 of three tubes inoculated with 1/10
6820	19.6.47	D	No	Grade 1. Coliform bacilli were absent in the tubes inoculated with 1/10 ml.
6821	19.6.47	E	No	ditto
6822	19.6.47	F	No	Grade 2. Coliform bacilli were absent in the tubes inoculated with 1/10 ml.
6550	11.6.47	G	No	Grade 4. Coliform bacilli were present in 3 out of three tubes inoculated with 1/10 ml.
6999	25.6.47	H	Yes	ditto
9902	19.9.47	I	Yes	ditto Faecal coli absent.
9903	19.9.47	J	No	Grade 3. Coliform bacilli were absent in the tubes inoculated with 1/10 ml. Faecal coli absent.
9489 (Water Ice)	9.9.47	K	Yes	Plate count: less than 10. Coliform bacilli were not present in three tubes inoculated with 1/10



### DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There were forty-one persons registered in accordance with the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, as follows:-

Cowkeepers	...	...	...	...	6
Retail purveyors of milk residing in the district	...	...	...	...	27
Retail purveyors residing outside the district but retailing in the district					8

In consequence of the Rationalisation Scheme only thirteen retailers are now selling milk in the Borough, but the others have expressed a wish not to be removed from the Register.

Eight dealers' licences to sell "Pasteurised" milk, six to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk, two supplementary licences to sell "Pasteurised" milk and two to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk were granted under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936-46.

Forty-eight samples of milk were taken for phosphatase test to ascertain if pasteurisation had been properly carried out, and all found to be satisfactory.

Fifteen samples of Pasteurised milk were taken for Methylene Blue test. Eight were found to be satisfactory and seven unsatisfactory. These seven samples all came from the same dairy, five being taken on one day in an attempt to account for complaints received. As a result of action taken the standard of the milk was improved and complaints ceased.

Four samples of "Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)" milk were taken for Methylene Blue and Phosphatase tests. These milks all came from the same farm; three samples passed both tests, but the fourth failed on the Phosphatase test, and the matter was reported to the local authority in whose district the farm was situated.

Two samples of "Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)" were taken for methylene blue test only and both passed.

### PUBLIC MORTUARY.

During the year sixty-eight bodies were received into the mortuary and sixty-eight post mortem examinations were carried out.

### FACTORIES AND BAKEHOUSES.

The total number of factories on the register at the end of the year was 216.

The businesses carried on at the respective premises were as follows:-

Bakehouses.	17
Laundries.	7
Cleaners and Dyers.	6
Tailors.	5
Engineers (various)	50



Steel Hardeners	2
Printers	6
Builders, Joiners and Plumbers	24
Boot Repairers	10
Motor Engineers	24
Cycle Repairers	3
Radio and Electrical Engineers	12
Spectacle Frame Manufacturers	3
Dressmakers	3
Works of building construction	6
Miscellaneous	38

69 visits were made to factories and bakehouses, and as a result works were carried out to remedy contraventions as under:

Additional W.Cs. provided.	...	...	2 factories.
Flushing cisterns repaired.	...	...	1 factory.
Means of escape in case of fire put in order.	....	...	1 factory.
Miscellaneous.	...	...	3 factories.

One certificate was issued under section 34 of the Factories Act, 1937, that the factory to which it related was provided with such means of escape in case of fire for the persons employed there as may be reasonably required in the circumstances of the case.

There were 20 outworkers on the register at the end of the year. 18 visits of inspection were made but no contraventions found.

#### CONCLUSION.

The absence of the late Chief Sanitary Inspector and Housing Officer on sick leave during the early part of the year, followed by his untimely death at the end of March, was a severe blow to the Department.

In July the Town Council decided that the management of council houses and requisitioned properties as well as dealing with over 2500 applicants for accommodation had become a task of such magnitude that a separate Department under an independent Housing Officer was called for. This decision was duly implemented, and by the end of the year the new Department was staffed and functioning.

The transfer of these duties, coupled with some degree of permanence of staff which now seems possible, should enable the Department to function with proper efficiency.

I am grateful to my colleagues in other Departments, and to my own staff for their support during a rather difficult year.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H.J. ELDRIDGE.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

I wish to thank all the members of my staff for their assistance during the past year.

I am,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

NEVILLE H. LINZEE.

Medical Officer of Health.



