

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

Contributors

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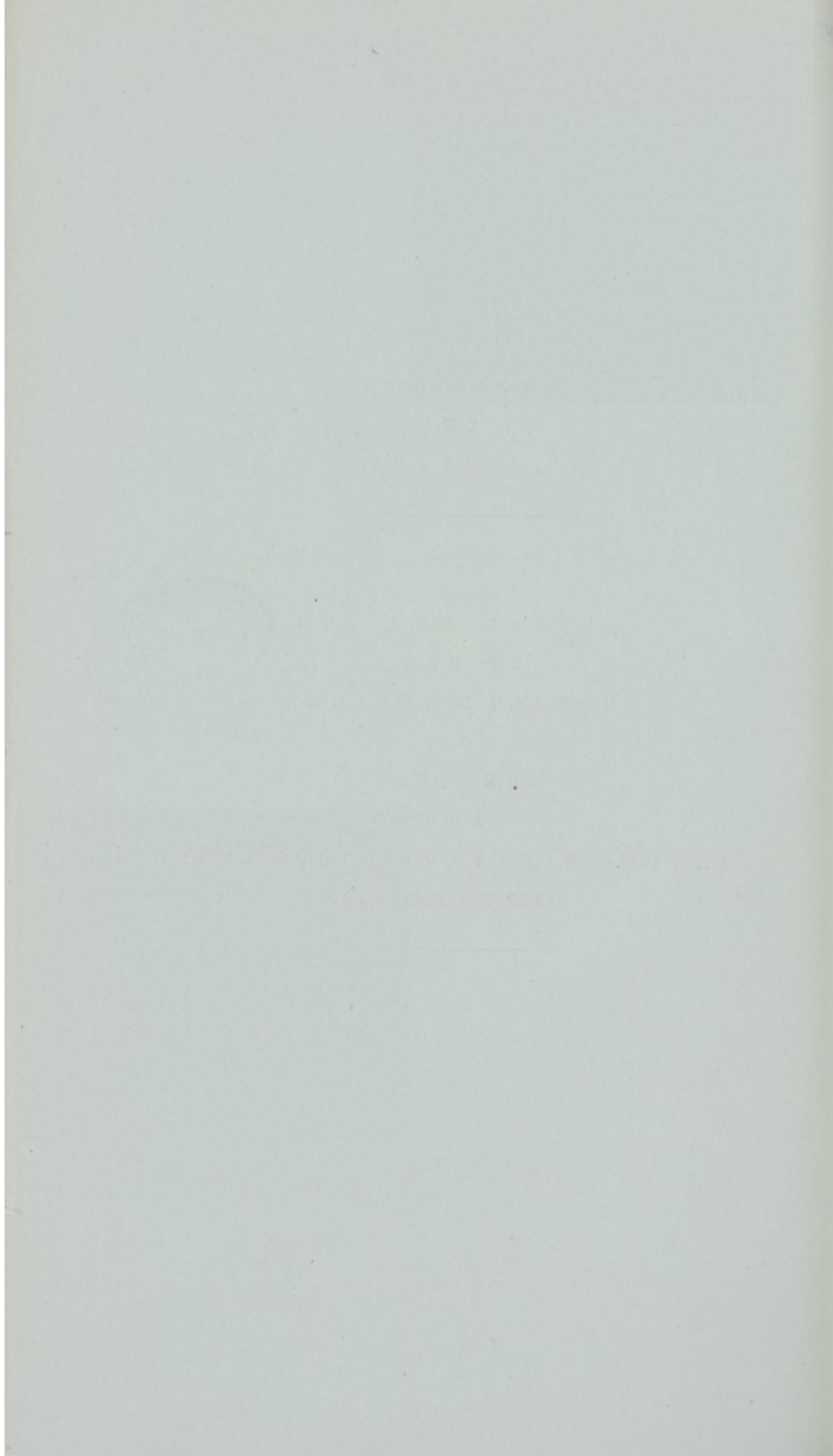
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BOROUGH
OF
SURBITON.

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF
HEALTH
AND
SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1948.





B O R O U G H O F S U R B I T O N .

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Alderman A.G. Leach. (Chairman)
Councillor Dr. S.E.F. Gooding. (Vice-Chairman)

Alderman Mrs. Woodgate	Councillor C. Kenny
Councillor I.F. Acford	" J.W. Perkins
" Mrs. Bidmead	" H.W. Trickey
" Mrs. Brazier	" R. Unger
" G.W. Dew	" W. Young

With the Mayor (Alderman W.E. Dommett) and the Chairman of the Finance Committee (Alderman E.J. 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.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

β / - H.J. ELDRIDGE, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Senior Additional Sanitary Inspector.

x * / - H. HANDSCOMB, M.R.San. I.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors.

x / - G.H. COCKELL, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (Resigned 31.3.48)
x / - W.H. GRAY, M.R.San. I., M.S.I.A.
x / - R.E. HAINES, M.R.San. I., M.S.I.A. (Appointed 1.6.48)
x - P.E. WHITTON, A.R.San. I., M.S.I.A. (Appointed 11.10.48)

Public Analyst (part-time)

D.D. MOIR, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Rodent Officer.

E.C. REEVE.

Senior Clerk.

E.D. ELMS.

Clerks

MISS V. CRYER.

P.E. WHITTON.

(Resumed duty with Corporation
20.7.48 from Ministry of Labour
Training Course for Sanitary
Inspectors. Promoted 11.10.48.)

MRS. F.G. EKKEL

MISS R.M. MADGWICK (From 6.1.48. Resigned 9.10.48)

F.A. WHITE (From 8.11.48)

MRS. P.I. RATCLIFF (Resigned 5.1.48)

MR. J. BOOTH.

Disinfecter and Mortuary Attendant.

A.C. BALL.

- Contributions made to salary from Exchequer.
- β Sanitary Inspector's Certificate (Royal Sanitary Institute)
- x Sanitary Inspector's Certificate (R.S.I. & S.I.E.J. Board)
- / Certificate as Inspector of Meat and other foods. (R.S.I.)
- * Smoke Inspector's Certificate. (R.S.I.)
- β Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works. (R.S.I.)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR 1948.

Public Health Department,
2, Shalston Villas,
Surbiton.

July, 1949.

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am presenting my 27th Annual Report to which is attached the Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.

I again suggest that the Council should make provision of suitable housing accommodation for old people in the form of hostels, etc.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	
Population (June 1948) Registrar General's estimate ...	58
Population (31st December, 1948) National Registration Office figure ...	60
Resident Population (Census 1931) ...	29
Estimated number of separate habitable dwellings (houses and flats) in the Borough at the end of the year. ...	17
Number of new houses erected during the year:-	
(a) By local authority ...	220
(b) By other local authorities ...	48
(c) By private enterprise ...	49
(d) Rebuilt following destruction by enemy action ...	42
(e) Number of self contained flats provided by conversion (private enterprise) ...	Nil
(f) Number of units of accommodation provided by adaptation (by local authority) ...	Nil
Rateable value at 1st April, 1948. ...	£613
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	£2

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Based on National Registration Office Population figure of 60,635 and on Public Health Department records).

<u>LIVE BIRTHS:</u>	(Unadjusted figures)	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate		294 (347)	292 (315)	586 (662)
Illegitimate		3 (6)	7 (5)	10 (11)
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population				9.82 (11.32)
<u>DEATHS:</u>	(Unadjusted figures)	262 (267)	296 (291)	558 (558)
Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.				9.2 (9.38)
Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions and Nursing Homes.				42.29 (51.61)
<u>DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:</u>	(Unadjusted figures)			
All infants per 1,000 live births				26.84 (40.11)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				23.89 (39.27)

Based on Registrar General's Population figure of 58,870 and on adjusted statistics supplied by the Registrar General).

<u>LIVE BIRTHS:</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	431 (560)	443 (499)	874 (1,059)
Illegitimate	21 (24)	20 (23)	41 (47)
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			15.54 (19.03)
England and Wales			17.9 (20.5)
<u>STILL BIRTHS:</u>			
Legitimate	6 (13)	10 (8)	16 (21)
Illegitimate	- (-)	2 (2)	2 (2)
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			19.67 (20.37)
<u>DEATHS:</u>	262 (263)	292 (292)	554 (555)
Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			9.41 (9.55)
England and Wales (all causes)			10.8 (12.0)
<u>DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:</u>			
All infants per 1,000 live births			17.48 (24.41)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			16.01 (24.55)
England and Wales			34 (41.00)

NOTE: The corresponding figures for 1947 are shown in brackets.

POPULATION

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

Registrar General. National Registrar's Office.

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
1948	58,870	60,635

You will note that there is a great discrepancy between the figures and the Registrar's figures. For the purpose of statistics regards 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 1948.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
All causes	262	292
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	-	-
Cerebrospinal fever	-	-
Scarlet fever	-	-
Whooping cough	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	15	7
Other forms of tuberculosis	-	4
Syphilitic diseases	2	3
Influenza	-	-
Measles	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis	-	-
Acute inf. encephalitis	-	-
Cancer of buc: cav: and oesoph (M)	3	-
uterus (F)	-	4
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	9	11
Cancer of breast	-	18
Cancer of all other sites	36	34
Diabetes	1	-
Intracranial vascular lesions	21	36
Heart diseases	88	80
Other diseases of circulatory system	11	18
Bronchitis	9	11
Pneumonia	9	13
Other respiratory diseases	3	2
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	4	2
Diarrhoea under 2 years	-	-
Appendicitis	1	-
Other digestive diseases	5	10
Nephritis	6	4
Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	-	2
Other maternal causes	-	4
Premature births	2	2
Congenital malformations, birth injuries,)		
infantile diseases	6	2
Suicide	6	2
Road traffic accidents	1	3
Other violent causes	10	5
All other causes	14	15

INFANT MORTALITY

There were 16 deaths of children under 1 year of age. Fourteen were legitimate and 2 were illegitimate.

Of the infant deaths 11 occurred in hospital or public institutions outside the district of Surbiton. The ages at death were as follows:-

One newly born; one at 3 minutes; one at 1 day; one at 2 days; one at 3 days; one at 4 days; one at 5 days; one at 7 days; one at 2 weeks; three at 2 months; one at 10 weeks; one at 3 months and two at 4 months.

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

Asphyxia due to the inhalation of stomach contents into the air passages	2 months
Pulmonary oedema	4 months
Asphyxia neonatorum	3 minutes
Broncho pneumonia	2 months
Acute heart failure	4 months
Prematurity	4 days
Broncho pneumonia	10 weeks
Pneumonia and prematurity	2 weeks
Prematurity	Newly born
Broncho pneumonia	3 months
Prematurity	2 days
Cardiac failure	2 months
Broncho pneumonia	7 days
Atelectasis	5 days
Prematurity	1 day
Atelectasis	3 days

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

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

YEAR	SURBITON	ENGLAND AND WALES (Smaller towns)
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
1948	17.48	32.0

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board has kindly supplied me with the following figures for 1948.

ANALYSIS OF PATIENTS ADMITTED TO THE TOLWORTH ISOLATION
HOSPITAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1948.

	<u>Diphtheria.</u>	<u>Scarlet fever.</u>	<u>Other Diseases.</u>
Surbiton	-	33	45
Malden and Coombe	-	23	72
Esher	-	24	72
Patients admitted from outside the Constituent District	-	4	26
	-	84	215

The 45 "other diseases" admitted to the hospital are as follows

Whooping cough	3
Chicken pox	3
Measles	10
Tonsillitis	10
Pneumonia	2
Gastro-enteritis	2
Erysipelas	3
Mumps	1
Anterior poliomyelitis	3
Otitis media	1
Impetigo	1
Sinusitis	1
Infective hepatitis	1
Streptococcal throat	1
Hemiplegia	1
Post nasal catarrh	1
Sub-arachnoid haemorrhage	1

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING THE YEARS

ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1939 to 1948.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Diphtheria	5	9	16	11	2	1	7	14	-	-
Scarlet fever	24	60	24	80	299	149	45	38	31	39
Enteric fever	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Paratyphoid fever	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	10	6	3	4	3	2	2	6	-	2
Pneumonia	37	45	46	14	34	25	23	17	16	16
Erysipelas	6	10	3	4	6	4	1	5	4	5
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	19	2
Encephalitis lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Cerebro-spinal fever	-	17	4	2	-	-	-	1	5	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	1	4	1	2	1	1	-	2	-	2
Dysentery	-	-	-	1	2	-	4	4	-	1
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-
Measles	1	839	327	433	323	212	775	429	170	591
Whooping cough	4	6	369	65	176	52	90	48	108	157
Chicken pox		6								
Total	91	1,003	793	616	846	449	950	564	354	815

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED

At ages.

TOTAL DEATHS

At ages.

	0 - 1	1 - 3	3 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 25	25 - 45	45 - 65	65 and over	Age unknown	TOTAL	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			5	23	6	4	1				39												
Pneumonia	2			2		3		7	2		16	5	1							1		3	12
Erysipelas						2		3			5												
Cerebro-spinal Fever																							
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2										2												
Puerperal Pyrexia						1	1				2												
Measles	14	120	157	273	16	3	8				591												
Whooping Cough	15	44	48	43	1	2	4				157												
Poliomyelitis						1	1				2												
Dysentery						1					1												

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

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

Arrangements were made for the Mass Radiography Unit to visit Surbiton for a fortnight during December, and the result of the survey is summarised below:-

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Groups and General Public	584	650
Schools	<u>422</u>	<u>267</u>
	1,006	917

Total attendance 1,923

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Number of abnormalities found (diagnosed from miniature films and large films.)	80	64
Number of large films taken	59	65

Pulmonary primary arrested	17	24
Pulmonary post primary arrested	11	10
Pulmonary post primary ? active	1	9

TUBERCULOSIS.

Under the Public Health Tuberculosis Regulations a register of all notifications is kept and weekly returns of cases are sent to the Commissioner 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 425 persons were shown to be suffering from the disease and living within the district:-

	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non Pul.</u>
Males	223	38
Females	131	33

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	4	1	2	-	1	-	-
15 - 24	6	4	-	2	1	1	-	1
25 - 34	19	10	-	2	3	1	1	-
35 - 44	14	7	-	2	3	2	-	1
45 - 54	5	1	-	-	6	-	-	-
55 - 64	2	-	1	-	3	1	-	-
65 and upwards	2	-	-	1	1	1	-	1
Totals	49	26	2	9	17	7	1	3

Of the 86 cases tabulated above, 23 are cases transferred from other districts.

The table shows an increase compared with last year of 11 pulmonary cases of tuberculosis, and the non-pulmonary cases show an increase of 8. The deaths show an increase of 8.

At the commencement of the year there were 420 cases of tuberculosis on the register, and at the end of the year this figure had increased to 425.

During the year 25 were notified as recovered from the disease, 27 patients left the district, there were 28 deaths and 1 case was notified as being non-tuberculosis.

Of the 60 primary cases shown overleaf 11 males and 5 females were admitted to sanatoria.

Cases added to Register.

WARD	Primary Notification.			Transfers, etc.			Cases on Register 31st Dec. 1948.
	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	
Berrylands	10	10	6	3	1	4	53
Chessington	7	7	7	6	6	5	54
Hook and Southborough	6	9	13	6	3	6	65
Seething Wells	3	4	3	6	4	-	38
St. Mark's	8	6	8	2	3	2	38
Surbiton Hill	5	6	6	1	2	5	43
Tolworth East	6	7	4	1	4	2	52
Tolworth West	2	2	7	5	3	1	38
Tolworth South	7	3	6	4	3	1	44
Totals	54	54	60	34	29	26	425

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.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Treatments.
Completed Incompleted.

Children treated at clinic

623 -

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

	<u>Re-inforcement doses.</u>	<u>Treatments.</u> <u>Completed.</u>	<u>Incompleted.</u>
Children of school age	148	50	-
Children under school age	-	762	-

VACCINATION.

The number of vaccinations carried out in the Borough by the General Practitioners and myself from the 5th July to the 31st December, 1948, is as follows:-

	<u>Primary.</u>	<u>Re-vaccination.</u>
Medical Officer of Health.	36	4
General Practitioners.	<u>109</u>	<u>41</u>
	<u>145</u>	<u>45</u>
Total.....	<u>190</u>	

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Since the 5th July, 1948, when the new National Health Service Act, 1946, came into operation, considerable alterations have been made in the general provision of health services in the area, including ambulances, clinics, hospitals, etc.

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	-	36	36
Tuberculosis	Sputum	2	25	27
Scarlet fever	Swabs	-	2	2
Venereal disease	Smears	-	2	2
		2	65	67

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 1948 twenty-six 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 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 breakpoint chlorination, 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 for both chemical and bacteriological examination.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

A number of cases were referred to me by General Practitioners, but it was not necessary for action to be taken under Section 47.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

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

1. INSPECTION 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.	36	31	5	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	169	334	36	-
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding outworkers premises.)	3	-	-	-
Total	208	365	41	-

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)	11	10	-	2	
Overcrowding (S.2)	1	1	-	1	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	-	1	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	3	3	-	3	
(b) unsuitable or defective	25	25	-	3	
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	6	6	4	1	
Total	47	46	4	11	

3. Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec. 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices served.	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel (Making etc. Cleaning and Washing.)	29					
Household Linen	1					
Brush making	5					
Carding, etc. of buttons, etc.	6					
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.	1					
Total	42	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

JULY, 1949.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors 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, 1948.

This report is compiled in accordance with the directions of Ministry of Health Circular No.3/49.

COMPLAINTS.

(Excluding Council Houses).

During the year 986 complaints were received with regard to the following matters, and were duly investigated :-

Choked and defective drains	201
Insanitary or dilapidated condition of houses and premises	211
Dampness	55
Defective or insufficient W.C. accommodation	41
Defective water pipes or fittings	22
Withdrawal of water supply	1
Insufficient and defective refuse bins	13
Overcrowding	10
Offensive smells from various causes	30
Offensive accumulations	18
Nuisances from animals improperly kept	9
Unwholesome food	43
Infestation with bugs or fleas	17
Infestation with other insect pests	40
Rat and mice infestation	225
Smoke nuisances	10
Flooding	5
Nuisance from cellulose spraying	1
Complaints re milk	2
Miscellaneous	32
Total	986

The number of complaints received in the Department during the past ten years was:-

1947	926	1942	482
1946	831	1941	347
1945	550	1940	411
1944	450	1939	183
1943	475	1938	265

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts).	400
Number of dwelling houses visited for other than housing defects.	780
Number of visits to premises other than houses.	1652
Re-inspections.	1508
Visits to works in progress	609
Visits to council houses	30
Visits re building licences	242
Visits re rats and mice	5857
Miscellaneous visits	1371
Total.	12,449

Included in the above are the following classified visits:-

Visits to food premises	430
Visits to cowsheds	16
Visits to dairies	28
Visits to milk vehicles	20
Visits to ice-cream premises and vehicles	96
Visits to bakehouses	34
Visits to fish friers' premises	10
Visits to factories	365
Visits to workplaces	28
Visits to outworkers premises	50
Visits to schools	40
Visits to caravans	45
Visits re cases of infectious disease (including tuberculosis and food poisoning)	131
Smoke observations made	18
Shops Acts visits	18
Visits re overcrowding	151
Visits to public conveniences	34
Interviews with owners, tradesmen, etc.	224
Visits re. Food & Drugs Act	338
Visits to piggeries	8

TESTING OF DRAINS AND SANITARY FITTINGS.

Drains tested with water	99
Drains tested by other methods	28
Drainage systems exposed for examination under Section 48, Public Health Act, 1936	1

NOTICES SERVED.

Informal and verbal notices	440
Statutory notices under section 157, Housing Act, 1936, to enter premises	8
Statutory notices under section 168 Housing Act, 1936, requiring information as to ownership of premises	2
Statutory notices under section 39, Public Health Act, 1936, requiring drainage works in existing buildings	13

Statutory notices under section 93, Public Health Act, 1936, to abate nuisances	6
Statutory notices under section 277, Public Health Act, 1936, requiring information as to ownership of premises	13
Licence to station a moveable dwelling (Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936)	1
Licence to use a moveable dwelling (Section 269 Public Health Act, 1936).	1
Statutory Notice under section 287, Public Health Act, 1936, to enter premises	1
Statutory notices under sections 48 and 287 Public Health Act, 1936, to examine and test drains.	22
Statutory notices under section 75, Public Health Act, 1936, to provide a sufficient dust receptacle.	14

Total - 501

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

Drainage.

Choked drains and sewers cleared	125
Defective drains repaired	55
Drainage systems partly re-laid	16
Drainage systems completely re-laid	7
Additional drains provided	13

Water Closets, etc.

Additional provided	15
Cleansed or repaired	62
New pans fixed	34
Lighted, ventilated or screened	17
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	41
New cesspools constructed	1
Overflowing cesspools emptied	1
Pail closet abolished	1
Urinal provided	1

Sink, Baths etc.

New fixed	20
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Waste Pipes, etc.

Repaired	9
New provided	7
Disconnected or trapped	2

Water Supply.

Water re-instated	1
Service pipes and cisterns repaired, etc.	13

Paving.

Yards newly paved	2
Yard paving repaired	12

Dust Receptacles.

New dustbins provided	33
-----------------------	----

Dampness.

Roofs repaired	96
Gutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	58
Damp course fixed	17
Ventilation under floors	7
External walls pointed or rendered	17
Walls treated with damp resisting material	44
Dry area provided	1

General

Windows repaired or renewed	199
Rooms ventilated	15
Doors repaired or renewed	24
Floors repaired or renewed	52
Stoves and coppers repaired or renewed	37
Internal walls and ceilings repaired	284
Rooms cleansed	323
Handrails provided or repaired	6
Staircases repaired	7
Chimney stacks and pots repaired or renewed	18
Dangerous structures repaired or demolished	8
Accumulations removed	22
Statutory entries made in rent book	6
Nuisances from animals abated	1
Food premises cleansed	17
Smoke nuisance abated	1
Means of escape in case of fire put in order (factorios)	3
Nuisances from offensive fumes abated	2
Miscellaneous	34

HOUSING.

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). | 400 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 400 |
| (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 | 10 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 10 |
| (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. | N11 |

- (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit. 315
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. 298
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 (2 from previous year) 2
- (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. 3
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :-
- (a) By owners 3
- (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
- (3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders remained 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

OVERCROWDING.

With the completion of the first group of post-war council houses, and the removal thereto of those families who were known to be living in the worst conditions, serious thought was once more given to the whole problem of overcrowding.

This subject had of necessity during the war years been almost ignored. Movements of people had been so continuous, most families had been unsettled in greater or lesser degree by the war, houses had been destroyed, and statistics were hopelessly out of date. It was known that the population was some 10,000 up on the 1939 figures, and accommodation was believed to be greatly overtaxed. There was moreover a waiting-list for council houses of over 2,500, and the problem presented some interesting and speculative features.

I therefore decided that the time had come when attention should again be paid to the number of occupants of premises, and that cases of overcrowding coming to the notice of the Department should be recorded so that in due time a fairly clear picture of the true position might be available.

Unfortunately, the time which could be devoted to this subject during the year under review was insufficient to elicit enough information for reliable conclusions to be drawn.

A check was made at 157 houses from which sub-tenants had been rehoused by the Council to see if there was any tendency for such accommodation to be re-let and perhaps overcrowded. This revealed that in 81 houses the remaining occupants had "spread out" and utilised the vacated rooms in 74 houses re-letting had taken place without causing overcrowding, in 1 case the rooms were not again being used for habitation, whilst in only 1 case had re-letting taken place so as to cause overcrowding and this proved to be only a temporary arrangement which soon ceased.

Investigations in other directions suggested that new cases of overcrowding were occurring by the influx of families from outside the district. This caused me some concern and I made a special report to the Council, pointing out the difficulties that were likely to arise if families were permitted to come into the district and cause new overcrowding to any degree.

I suggested to the Council that the time had come for them to indicate that they were no longer prepared to condone newly-created overcrowding unless there were very exceptional circumstances.

The Council supported me in this view and authorised me to take informal action to deal with any such cases, and to report them to the Council where I deemed it necessary.

It is interesting to note that at the end of 1948 the National Registration Office population figure was 60,635 whilst the approximate number of "habitations" (houses, flats, etc.) was 17,000. This gives an average of 3.56 persons per habitation, but of course, to what extent distribution is uneven is not known and wrong inferences can easily be drawn.

As already indicated the data so far available is inadequate

for the position to be judged with any degree of accuracy, but records are being built up which will in time enable us to see what is happening in the Borough.

I am now calling upon landlords to see that rent books contain the prescribed information with regard to overcrowding and in particular the "permitted number" of occupants. This is a statutory requirement which has rather fallen into disuse during the war years.

On the question of standard, there is no doubt that a house can be occupied to the point of discomfort and yet be within the legal overcrowding limit. The "permitted number" of occupants is assessed by measuring rooms in accordance with a prescribed formula and making use of certain tables, but as living rooms have to be taken into account the result is inevitably a figure which is disconcertingly high. On the other hand when premises are legally overcrowded it does mean that extremely bad conditions exist. When this standard was fixed in 1935 it was stated that it did not represent any ideal standard of housing, but the minimum which was in the view of Parliament tolerable while at the same time capable of immediate or early enforcement. It is to be hoped that the housing situation throughout the country will soon enable a standard to be set which is more in keeping with modern ideas of comfort and decency.

In particular it is hoped that the child under one year of age will no longer be ignored in counting the number of occupants, and that children under 10 will rank as a full unit instead of only one-half.

DRAINAGE.

The system of drainage widely adopted in this Borough in the past has permitted the connection of a number of house drains to a "common" or "combined" drain for the maintenance of which the various owners are jointly responsible.

Frequent difficulties have arisen in connection with these combined drains when works of cleansing or repair have become necessary. The law relating to these drains is in itself complex, and the Council has had a number of debates on the subject.

Without reiterating too much detail, the decisions reached in an endeavour to overcome the problems were (a) that in future, whenever possible, each house should be drained by a single pipe drain to the main sewer, and if in individual cases this is not possible, the number of houses drained by means of a combined system of drainage be limited to six houses, and (b) that the Senior Sanitary Inspector be authorised to undertake the cleansing of combined drains known as "private sewers" at the expense of the Town Council at the invitation of the owners concerned.

During the year 88 combined drains were unstopped and cleansed by the Borough Surveyor's Department at my request.

Two combined drains ("private sewers") were repaired by the Council and the cost of works recovered from the owners.

In a third case proceedings had to be instituted to recover from the owners the cost of works of repair carried out by the Council during the preceding year.

DUSTBINS.

Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, provides that a local authority who have undertaken the removal of house refuse may by notice require the owner or occupier of any building to provide such number of covered dustbins for the reception of house refuse as the authority may approve.

Any person aggrieved by a requirement of the local authority to provide a dustbin may appeal to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction.

Failure to comply with a notice renders the person in default liable to a fine, and the authority may provide the bin and recover the cost thereof.

The ambiguous wording of this section has led to a number of appeal cases in the Courts in various parts of the country, but the decisions given have failed to clarify the position. It is obvious that each case must be decided on its merits, and whichever party the Council decides should be held responsible for providing a dustbin has the right of appeal against the decision.

One such case came before the local Bench during this year, and the Magistrates reversed the Council's decision that the occupier should provide the dustbin.

Having regard to the difficulties involved in fixing this liability, the Council directed the Borough Treasurer and myself to submit a report on the financial aspect of the operation of Section 75 (3) of the Act which enables a local authority, subject to certain conditions, to themselves provide dustbins, making an annual charge not exceeding 2/6d.

The Treasurer and I produced figures which illustrated that over a period of twenty years a scheme of this sort would not be self-supporting and that the losses in the earlier stages would be considerable.

Furthermore, and perhaps of greater importance, were the foreseeable difficulties in the administration of the scheme, particularly the collection of the annual charges.

We therefore felt that we could not advise the Council to undertake the provision of dustbins under the terms of the section at that time, and the Council concurred.

I myself felt, however, that there was an alternative which was worthy of consideration. I was of opinion that the frequent disputes which were arising over dustbins were substantially due to the high cost thereof, and I therefore urged the Council to agree to sell dustbins to owners and occupiers on request at cost price plus 15% to cover establishment and delivery charges. This would not appear to be a revolutionary procedure bearing in mind that the Council had to provide bins where the persons on whom notices were served made default and recover the cost thereof from those persons.

Again the Council concurred, and towards the end of the year this procedure was set in motion. Two types of dustbin are held in stock and sold when required at 17/2 and 23/3 inclusive.

It is too early yet to comment upon the success of the scheme, but already there are favourable indications.

DISINFECTION.

During the year disinfection was carried out at 30 civilian premises in which the following diseases occurred :-

Anterior Poliomyelitis (or suspected)	8
Diphtheria (suspected)	1
Scarlet fever	5
Tuberculosis	15
Erysipelas	1

Disinfection was also carried out at 32 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	7	5
Blankets	46	10
Bolsters	15	3
Counterpanes	6	-
Curtains	1	-
Cushions	7	-
Mattresses	31	6
Mattress covers	-	-
Pillows	67	13
Pillow cases	23	7
Rugs	3	3
Sheets	20	1
Towels	7	6
Wearing apparel	21	84
Miscellaneous	--	30
	<u>254</u>	<u>168</u>
	----	----

Number of rooms disinfected 50

Number of library books disinfected 73

650 sacks to hold fertiliser for export were disinfected with formalin at the Sewage Disposal Works.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

1.

Council Houses		Other Houses	
Found to be infested.	Disinfested	Found to be infested	Disinfested
3	3	14	14

2. Methods employed for disinfestation.

	<u>Council Houses</u>	<u>Other Houses.</u>
Zaldecide	2	2
Paraffin	-	1
Vermicine	1	10
Cimex	-	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.

FACTORIES AND BAKEHOUSES.

The total number of factories on the register at the end of the year was 208 (169 mechanical, 36 non-mechanical and 3 works of building construction).

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

Bakehouses	16
Laundries	7
Cleaners and Dyers	6
Tailors	7
Engineers (various)	31
Timber yards	2
Manufacture of office appliances	1
Chemical manufacture and hairdressing sundries	1
Cellulose spraying and coach building	2
Steel hardeners	2
Printers	6
Builders, Joiners and Plumbers	21
Boot repairers	11
Motor engineers	18
Stove enamelling and spray painting	1
Brickmaking	1
Fencing contractors	2
Concrete products	2
Machine tools	3
Instrument making	2
Metal work	4
Fur glove makers	1
Cycle repairers	3
Radio and electrical engineers	9
Battery repair and manufacture	1
Spectacle frame and lens making	4
Plastics	2
Dental laboratories	3
Paint manufacturers	1
Works of building construction	3
Manufacture of breathing apparatus	1
Aircraft components	4
Blind making	1
Cardboard containers	1
Manufacture of rubber tyres, etc.	1
Accordion making	1
Cosmetics	2
Wire works	2
Furniture making	1
Leatherwork	1
Miscellaneous	20

399 visits were made to those premises, and as a result, works were carried out to remedy contraventions as under:-

Dirty workrooms	10 factories
Overcrowding of workrooms	1 factory
Inadequate ventilation	1 "
Insufficient sanitary conveniences	3 factories
Defective, dirty or inadequately lighted sanitary conveniences	25 "
Means of escape in case of fire not in order	5 "
Miscellaneous	1 factory

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 therein as may be reasonably required in the circumstances of the case.

Considerable changes have been taking place in the factories since the end of the war, and a lot of time was therefore spent in making inspections, and bringing them into conformity with the requirements of the Act.

The revision of certificates as to means of escape in case of fire, and the granting of such certificates to new factories, has received particular attention. This work was still in progress at the end of the year and results will not become apparent until the report for 1949 is issued.

There were 42 outworkers on the register at the end of the year. 50 visits of inspection were made but no contraventions found.

AMBULANCE.

On the 5th July 1948 the ambulance service was transferred to the Surrey County Council in accordance with the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Up to that date the Council maintained 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 employed was two drivers and two attendants, and this staff maintained the service from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

During the hours 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. the service was provided by the British Red Cross Society under the terms of an agreement with the Council.

In the period 1st January to 4th July the Council ambulances dealt with 183 accidents and 280 private cases, the mileage being 3,857.

The British Red Cross Society dealt with 14 accidents and 71 private cases.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There were twenty-five persons registered in accordance with the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1926-1943 as follows:-

Cowkeepers	6
Retail purveyors of milk residing in the district	15
Retail purveyors residing outside the district but retailing in the district	4

Two of the Cowkeepers hold a Surrey County Council licence to produce Tuberculin Tested milk and one to produce Accredited milk. One farm is not at present being used for milk production, but is used in conjunction with two other farms for dry cows and young cattle.

Dealers' licences to sell designated milk were granted under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936-48 as follows:-

Pasteurised milk	8
Pasteurised milk (supplementary)	2
Tuberculin Tested milk	7
Tuberculin Tested milk (supplementary)	2

48 samples of milk were taken during the year and submitted to the undermentioned tests:-

	<u>Phosphatase Test</u>	<u>Methylene Blue Test.</u>
Pasteurised milk	43	19
Heat-treated milk	4	1
Tuberculin tested (Pasteurised) milk	1	1

All samples passed the prescribed tests. The phosphatase test indicates that pasteurisation has been properly carried out, the methylene blue test is used to determine cleanliness and keeping quality.

Nearly all the milk sold in the Borough is now pasteurised and the supply generally can be regarded as satisfactory.

ICE-CREAM.

Premises have been registered by the Corporation under Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938, as under :-

For manufacture, storage and sale	13
For manufacture, storage and sale but manufacture to be limited to ice lollies	2
For storage and sale, but not manufacture	67

During the year 62 samples of ice-cream were taken for laboratory examination for bacterial cleanliness, details being appended.

It should be noted that owing to the numerous factors governing the hygienic quality of ice-cream, and to the experimental error of the laboratory test itself, the Public Health Laboratory Service advises that it is unwise to pay too much attention to the bacteriological results on any given sample. Judgment should be based rather on a series of samples. It is suggested that over a six-monthly period, 50 per cent of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1, 80 per cent into Grades 1 or 2, not more than 20 per cent into Grade 3, and none into Grade 4.

This was only the second year in which this method of examining ice-cream had been available, and it is recognised that the test has yet to prove its complete reliability. Nevertheless, it has already been found of considerable value in checking up on the cleanliness of ice-cream. The Sanitary Inspector needs laboratory support in his efforts to control the manufacture and handling of this commodity, and it seems that with the improvements and dependability which will come with experience, the test will meet a long-felt want.

Efforts are being made to increase the number of samples taken in the Borough, and in order that records may be carried on from year to year, each retailer and manufacturer has been given a code number. This reference will always be used in connection with those traders, so that their complete record throughout the years can be easily referred to.

Each retailer from whom a sample was taken was supplied with a copy of the laboratory report, and a Sanitary Inspector visited the premises and gave advice where reports were not up to the standard expected. Where manufacture took place outside the Borough copies of reports were also sent to the Sanitary Inspector for the district concerned.

No samples of ice-cream were taken for analysis for fat content as no standard has yet been fixed.

LAB. REF. NO.	DATE SAMPLE TAKEN	RETAILER	WHETHER MANUFACTURED IN BOROUGH	MANUFACTURER	REPORT
5505	31. 5.48	A	No	PEL	Grade III. Coli present
9030	17. 8.48	A	No	HOR	Grade III Coli present
9703	1. 9.48	A	No	HOR	Grade III. Coli and faecal coli present.
10117	15. 9.48	A	No	HOR	Grade III Coli present
10718	15. 9.48	A	No	HOR	Grade I Coli absent
11431	20.10.48	A	No	HOR	Grade II Coli present
5506	31. 5.48	B	Yes	PRY	Grade III Coli and faecal coli present
5923	10. 6.48	B	Yes	PRY	Grade II Coli present
6714	29. 6.48	B	Yes	PRY	Grade IV Coli present
7510	13. 7.48	B	Yes	PRY	Grade IV Coli present
10511	28. 9.48	B	Yes	PRY	Grade I Coli absent
10510	28. 9.48	B	Yes	PRY	Grade II Coli absent
11434	20.10.48	B	Yes	PRY	Strawberry ice, Coli absent. Plate count 142,000 per ML.
8695	10. 8.48	C	No	MEA	Grade I. Coli present
9706	1. 9.48	F	No	ADR	Grade III Coli absent
8713	29. 6.48	G	No	PEL	Grade II Coli present

LAB. REF. NO.	DATE SAMPLE TAKEN	RETAILER	WHETHER MANUFAC- TURED IN BOROUGH	MANUFACTURER	REPORT.
10119	15. 9.48	G	No	PEL	Grade III. Coli present
5507	31. 5.48	H	Yes	HEN	Grade II Coli present
6716	29. 6.48	H	Yes	HEN	Grade II Coli absent
8693	10. 8.48	H	Yes	HEN	Grade III Coli present
5924	10. 6.48	J	No	WAL	Grade I Coli absent
5920	10. 6.48	K	Yes	COW	Ice lollie. Coli absent
11432	20.10.48	K	Yes	COW	Plate count 35 per ML. Ice lollie, Coli absent
6715	29. 6.48	L	No	EZZ	plate count 20 per ML. Grade III. Coli present
7511	13. 7.48	L	No	EZZ	Grade IV. Coli present
8694	10. 8.48	L	No	EZZ	Grade IV Coli present
9031	17. 8.48	L	No	EZZ	Grade III Coli present
10120	15. 9.48	L	No	EZZ	Grade I. Coli absent
6719	29. 6.48	M	No	IZZ	Grade II Coli present
9033	17. 8.48	M	No	IZZ	Grade II Coli absent
10512	28. 9.48	M	No	IZZ	Grade I Coli present
7507	13. 7.48	N	No	IZZ	Grade IV Coli present
8690	10. 8.48	N	No	IZZ	Grade II Coli present
9704	1. 9.48	N	No	IZZ	Grade IV Coli absent
10507	28. 9.48	N	No	IZZ	Grade III Coli present
6712	29. 6.48	O	No	FRE	Grade I Coli absent
10508	28. 9.48	O	No	FRE	Grade II Coli present
8691	10. 8.48	P	No	IZZ	Grade II Coli present
10509	28. 9.48	P	No	IZZ	Grade II Coli present
11433	20.10.48	P	No	IZZ	Grade II Coli present
6717	29. 6.48	Q	No	KRE	Grade III Coli present
5508	31. 5.48	Q	No	KRE	Grade II Coli present
10121	15. 9.48	Q	No	KRE	Grade III Coli absent
9708	1. 9.48	R	No	SEL	Grade IV Coli and faeco coli present
9709	1. 9.48	R	Yes	CAN	Ice lollie. Coli absent
10122	15. 9.48	R	No	SEL	Plate count 250 per ML. Grade III. Coli and faeco coli present
7508	13. 7.48	S	No	LYO	Grade I Coli absent
8692	10. 8.48	S	Yes	HNW	Ice lollie. Coli absent
9705	1. 9.48	T	No	POP	Plate count 20 per ML. Ice pop. Coli absent,
9028	17. 8.48	U	Yes	ROB	plate count 15,000 per Grade I. Coli present
9707	1. 9.48	V	Yes	HAR	Ice lollie. Coli absent
5504	31. 5.48	W	No	AIS	Plate count 50 per ML. Grade III Coli present
9027	17. 8.48	W	No	TUD	Grade I. Coli absent
9029	17. 8.48	X	No	DAI	Ice lollie. Coli absent
5921	10. 6.48	Y	No	LYO	plate count 50 per ML. Grade I Coli absent
6718	29. 6.48	Z	No	LYO	Grade I Coli absent
8697	10. 8.48	AB	Yes	WLD	Ice lollie. Coli absent
8696	10. 8.48	AC	Yes	WOO	Plate count 2,400 per ML. Ice lollie. Coli absent
5922	10. 6.48	AD	No	WAL	Plate count 40 per ML. Grade I. Coli absent
7509	13. 7.48	AE	No	WAL	Grade II Coli absent
9032	17. 8.48	AF	No	VIC	Strawberry ice. Coli absent
7512	13. 7.48	AG	No	FER	Plate count 900 per ML. Grade II. Coli present

The following is a summary of samples taken during the year for analysis by the Public Analyst.

Sample Nos.	Articles	Analysed			Adulterated, below standard or improperly labelled.		
		Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
726	Sausage Meat	10	-	10			
790	" "						
793	" "						
803/6	" "						
825	" "						
831	" "						
838	" "						
727)	Beef Sausage	1	1	2			
824)							
728	Savoury Sausage	1	-	1			
729	Chop Sauce	-	1	1	-	1	1
730)							
760)	Tomato Sauce	-	3	3	-	1	1
798)							
731/2	Apple Pulp	-	2	2	-	2	2
733	Tomato Ketchup	-	1	1			
734	Pure Castor Oil	-	1	1			
735	Ground Nutmegs	-	1	1			
736	Ground White Pepper	-	1	1			
737	Emulsified Cherry Flavour	-	1	1			
738	Zinc Ointment	-	1	1			
739	Smoked Herring Spread	-	1	1			
740	Pure Glycerine	-	1	1			
741	Baking Powder	-	1	1			
742	Sauce	-	1	1			
743	Yorkshire pudding						
	Pancake mixture	-	1	1			
744	Coffee	-	1	1			
745	Tonic food beverage	-	1	1			
746-751)							
752-757)							
765-770)							
784-789)	Milk	33	-	33			
802)							
815-7)							
826-830)							
758	Self-raising flour	-	1	1			
759	Ground Ginger	-	1	1			
761	Strawberry flavouring	-	1	1			
762	Glucose tablets	-	1	1			
763	Piccalilli	-	1	1			
764	Sherbert "suckers"	-	1	1	-	1	1
771	Orange spread flavour	-	1	1	-	1	1
772	Anadyne Linctus	-	1	1			
773	Bronchial Lozenges	-	1	1			
774	Tomato Ketchup	-	1	1			
775	Cough Pastilles	-	1	1			
776	Fruit flavoured						
	Essence of Fennel	-	1	1			
777	Effervescent Drink Powder	-	1	1			

Sample Pos.	Articles	Analysed			Adulterated, below standard or improperly labelled.		
		Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
778	Chop Sauce	-	1	1			
779	Lemon "suckers"	-	1	1			
780/2	Lemonade Powder	-	3	3			
783	Sherbert Fountain	-	1	1			
791	Sausages	1	-	1			
792	Veg. and Cereal Sausage	1	-	1			
794	Saccharin tablets	-	1	1			
795	Mayonnaise	-	1	1			
796	Sandwich spread	-	1	1			
797	Beef & Tomato Paste	-	1	1			
799	Malt, etc. Bars	-	1	1			
800/1)							
807/2)	Sago	-	4	4	-	2	2
809	Meat Pie	-	1	1			
810	Coffee & Chicory Extract	-	1	1			
811	Medicinal Liquid Paraffin	-	1	1			
812	Headache tablets	-	1	1			
813	Borax & Honey	-	1	1			
814	Alcoholic Green						
	Ginger Wine	-	1	1			
818	Light Ale	1	-	1			
819)							
820)	Beer	3	-	3			
823)							
821	Whisky	1	-	1			
822	Gin	1	-	1			
832	Sweetened Dessert Powder	-	1	1			
833	Lime Juice Cordial	-	1	1			
834	Coffee & Chicory Essence	-	1	1			
835	Malt Vinegar	-	1	1			
836	Salad Cream	-	1	1			
837	Fish Paste	-	1	1			
		53	60	113	111	8	8

There were no prosecutions. Action taken on non-genuine samples was as follows:-

<u>729 (Informal)</u> Chop Sauce	Sample contained Sulphur dioxide 280 parts per million by weight.
<u>730 (Informal)</u> Tomato Sauce	Sample contained Sulphur dioxide 150 parts per million by weight.
<u>731 (Informal)</u> Apple Pulp	Sample contained Sulphur dioxide 1700 parts per million by weight.
<u>732 (Informal)</u> Apple Pulp	Sample contained Sulphur dioxide 1550 parts per million by weight.

The above samples were taken to follow up informal samples

of sauce taken in 1947, which showed excess SO₂. A warning letter was sent to the manufacturers of the sauce. It subsequently transpired that the manufacturers did not use SO₂ and the presence of this preservative arose from the apple pulp purchased from another firm. The matter was finally left in the hands of the Battersea Borough Council in whose district the factory belonging to the firm in question was situated.

764 (Informal)
Sherbert 'Suckers'

The sample contained sugar and citric acid coloured and flavoured. Such an article is not of nature of sherbert. Enquiries showed that the description "Sherbert suckers" was not used by the manufacturers but the article was erroneously described in this way by the retailer. He was duly warned.

771. (Informal)
Orange Spread Flavour.

The label did not specify the ingredients in the correct order, nor was one ingredient given an appropriate designation.

A warning letter was sent to the manufacturers and in explanation they stated that this was old stock and that their attention had already been called to the irregularity and packages with amended wording were in use. Enquiry at the retailers confirmed that the stock was old and it was subsequently withdrawn from sale and returned to the manufacturers.

800/1 (Informal)
Sago.

Contaminated with moulds and unfit for consumption. On cooking in water the sago developed a musty taste and odour and a pronounced blue colour. Only a small quantity was found in a retail shop in the Borough and the wholesaler was traced to the Borough of Southwark. By arrangement with the Food Inspector for that Borough the sago was returned to the wholesaler so that the whole consignment could be dealt with there.

FOOD PREMISES.

Thirty three premises are registered under section 14, Food & Drugs Act, 1938, for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled, or preserved food intended for sale.

Nine hundred and eight visits were made to these premises and to catering establishments and other food preparing businesses to ensure the maintenance of a proper standard of hygiene and to examine food-stuffs of all descriptions.

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>
Dog fish	-	641 -	Decomposition
Hake	-	140 -	"
Herrings	-	490 -	"
Skate	-	904 -	"
Bream fillet	-	80 8	"
Plaice	-	154 -	"
Haddock	-	329 -	"
Smoked fillets	-	28 -	"
Kippers	-	98 -	"
Cod	-	670 -	"
Witches	-	84 -	"
Mackerel	-	35 -	"
Pouting	-	70 -	"
Lemon soles	-	6 8	"
Conger Eels	-	84 -	"
Prawns	-	56 -	"
Whiting	-	21 -	"
Lobsters	-	7 4	"
Mixed fish	-	476 -	"
Canned fish (various)	44	47 13	Blown or damaged
Beef	-	160 -	Decomposition
Beef	-	3 14	Ammonia tainted
Pigs Heads and Tongues (3)	-	44 -	Tuberculosis
Carcase and offal of 1 pig	-	180 -	Not slaughtered - natural death.
N.Z.Lamb trimmings	-	102 -	Black spot mould
Brawn	-	4 -	Decomposition
Bacon	-	2 4	Ammonia tainted
Kidney	-	12	" "
Rabbits	-	842 -	Decomposition
Pork sausages	-	32 -	"
Poultry	-	105 -	"
Canned meats and soups	95	164 13	Blown or damaged
Canned vegetables (various)	213	320 1	" "
Canned fruit (various)	61	114 3	" "
Sauces and Pickles	4	6 12	Broken jars
Sauces and Pickles	66	60 -	Sour
Jam and Marmalade	42	99 4	Damaged container
Eggs	91	11 6	Unsound or broken
Dried Egg	-	14 5	Deteriorated
Dried Egg	-	5	Contaminated by rats
Cake and Pudding Mixture	23	8 2	Moth larvae
Cake and Pudding Mixture	26	13 8	Contaminated by mice
Rolled Oats	-	56 -	" "
Cereals	2	1 4	" "
Self-raising flour	-	3 8	Damp and mould growth
Soup powder	47	4 5	Weevils
Cheese	-	6 4	Deterioration
Margarine	-	5 2	Ammonia tainted
Lard	-	1 12	" "
Butter	-	8	" "
Dripping	4	6 -	Blown
Cube sugar	-	20 -	Contaminated by mice
Dried figs	-	16 6	"
Dates	19	38 -	Deteriorated.

<u>Article</u>	<u>No. of Containers</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>ozs.</u>	<u>Reason for condemnation.</u>
Chocolate confectionery	4	56	-	Deterioration and larvae infestation.
Assorted confectionery		26	12	Glass contaminated
Chocolate spread	10	10	-	Deterioration and mould growth.
Evaporated milk	169	156	11	Blown or damaged
Full-cream milk	3	2	11	Blown
Dried beans		30	-	Contaminated during burglary
Potatoes		224	-	Decomposition
Sultanas		8	-	Glass contaminated
Canned puddings	3	2	14	Decomposition
Meat and fish pastes	16	3	10	"
Macaroni		40	-	Deterioration
Salad cream	2	1	6	"
Macaroni cheese	1	1	-	Blown
Coffee & Chicory	1		10	Broken bottle
Total		7433.	5	

Pig Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

Number killed	29
Number inspected	29
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>	
Whole carcasses condemned	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	3.44%
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>	
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	10.34%

The number of persons holding licences granted by the Council under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, to act as slaughtermen was two.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

The responsibility for disinfection of premises rests by law upon the occupiers, and up to the 31st March, 1948, when occupiers requested the Corporation to carry out work on their behalf they had to meet the cost thereof.

The scale of charges approved by the 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.

As from 1st April, 1948, the Council accepted the revised grant offered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Subject to compliance with certain conditions the grant is 50 per cent of approved net expenditure incurred by the Town Council on:-

- (1) Administration and maintenance of an organisation adequate for effective rodent control.
- (2) Treatment of sewers, refuse destructors, refuse dumps, and other "Local Authority" properties.
- (3) Treatment at private dwellings after deduction of receipts, if any, from occupiers. (It is left to the local authority to determine its position in relation to charging occupiers for treatment of infestations at private dwellings).

Grant aid is not available in respect of expenditure incurred on treatment at commercial and industrial premises, and the full cost of the work must therefore be recovered from the occupiers. Ten contracts were in operation in respect of such premises during the year.

The Council decided that after 1st April, 1948, no charge be made for treatment of infestations at private dwellings provided the occupiers take such steps as may from time to time be necessary and reasonably practicable for preventing their premises from becoming infested with rats and mice.

This decision has considerably facilitated work on private property. Under the charging scheme there were constant disputes as to liability and one 'difficult' occupier frequently held up treatment on a block of property for long periods. Now, immediately an infestation is found, treatment can proceed, and the figures which follow indicate the extent of the work carried out during the year.

1. VISITS.	Private Dwellings	Business Premises	Corporation Property.	Sewers.	Totals	Total number of visits.
(a) Surveys.						
Re. complaints	200	17	8		225	
Under Infestation Order, 1943.	334 (534)	21 (38)	13 (21)		368 (593)	
No access. (re complaints)	55	--	--		55	
No access (re Infestation Order)	60	--			60	
Miscellaneous	64	23	9	21	117	825
(b) Treatments.						
First treatments - rats	1227	58	75		1360	
- mice	46	21	8		75	
Re-treatments - rats	1047	311	149		1507	
- mice	20	49	31		100	
Miscellaneous	13	--			13	3055
Number of premises treated	433	88	53		574	
(c) Sewers.						
Initial test baiting (249 manholes baited)				638	638	
Annual test baiting (160 manholes baited)				329	329 (967)	
First Initial Treatment (77 manholes poison baited)				769	769	
Second Initial Treatment (14 manholes poison baited)				241	241 (1010)	1977
						5857

2. SURVEYS REVEALED.						
Premises infested with rats	270	21	17		308	
Premises infested with mice	23	2	1		26	
Not infested	241 (534)	15 (38)	3 (21)		259 (593)	

3. SEWERS.

Test baiting of the Corporation's sewers was completed during the early part of the year. Areas 1, 2, 3 and 4, were tested during 1947. These "areas" are just a convenient geographical division of the Borough for the purposes of this particular work.

Result of tests:-

Area	Number of Manholes test baited	Complete takes	Partial takes	No takes.
5	23	2	2	19
6	83	22	3	58
7	19	1	-	18
8	68	6	-	62
9	56	5	-	51
	<u>249</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>208</u>

In April, the First Initial Treatment of the sewers was carried out, followed by the Second Initial Treatment in July, the results of the two treatments being as follows:-

1st Initial Treatment			2nd Initial Treatment.			
Area.	No. Manholes pre-baited	No. Manholes showing takes of pre-bait	No. Manholes showing takes of poison baits.	No. Manholes pre-baited	No. Manholes showing takes of pre-bait.	No. Manholes showing takes of poison baits.
1	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	23	9	7	8	6	2
3	23	1	1	1	1	1
4	30	9	5	12	3	2
5	10	1	-	1	-	-
6	92	31	9	29	3	3
7	3	-	-	-	-	-
8	18	13	5	13	1	-
9	19	13	4	13	-	-
	218	77	31	77	14	8

The above results may be considered as very satisfactory because whereas on the first treatment 77 of the manholes treated were found to be infested, the second treatment only revealed 14 infested manholes, a reduction of 82%.

In December an annual test baiting of the Corporation's sewers was carried out, the results being as follows:-

<u>Area</u>	<u>No. Manholes test baited</u>	<u>No. of Manholes showing partial takes of pre-bait</u>	<u>No. of Manholes showing complete takes of pre-bait</u>	<u>No. of manholes showing no takes of pre-bait</u>
1	8	Nil	Nil	8
2	13	"	5	8
3	12	"	4	8
4	21	"	Nil	21
5	11	"	"	11
6	34	"	1	33
7	9	"	Nil	9
8	25	"	"	25
9	27	"	3	24
	160	Nil	13	147

This may be considered as satisfactory because with the exception of area 2, the majority of the remaining infested lengths of sewer are fresh infestations, those previously treated not being re-infested.

BUILDING LICENCES.

During the year 276 applications for building licences, involving 242 visits to premises, were dealt with in the Department, and suitable recommendations made to the Borough Surveyor who is Licensing Officer.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

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

As a result of difficulties which have arisen from time to time the Council decided to provide a refrigerator chamber during the coming year.

CONCLUSION.

The year under review saw the build-up of the staff to full establishment, and as the new officers settled down, the Department began to function with smoothness and efficiency.

Arrears of work were tackled with energy, and I have good reason to expect that my next annual report will reveal an entirely satisfactory year's work.

In February, 1948, a Civic Exhibition was arranged by the Town Council in support of the Silver Lining Campaign, and opportunity was taken to stage an exhibit illustrating to the public various activities of the Department and to 'put over' general public health propaganda.

I acknowledge with gratitude the help and support of my colleagues in other Departments as well as the whole-hearted efforts of my own staff. I should also like to refer to my very cordial relations with the Food Executive Officer of the Ministry of Food, and I am sure that the degree of co-operation achieved has been to our mutual benefit.

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.

NEVILLE H. LINZEE.

Medical Officer of Health.

