

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

Contributors

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BOROUGH OF SURBITON



ANNUAL REPORTS

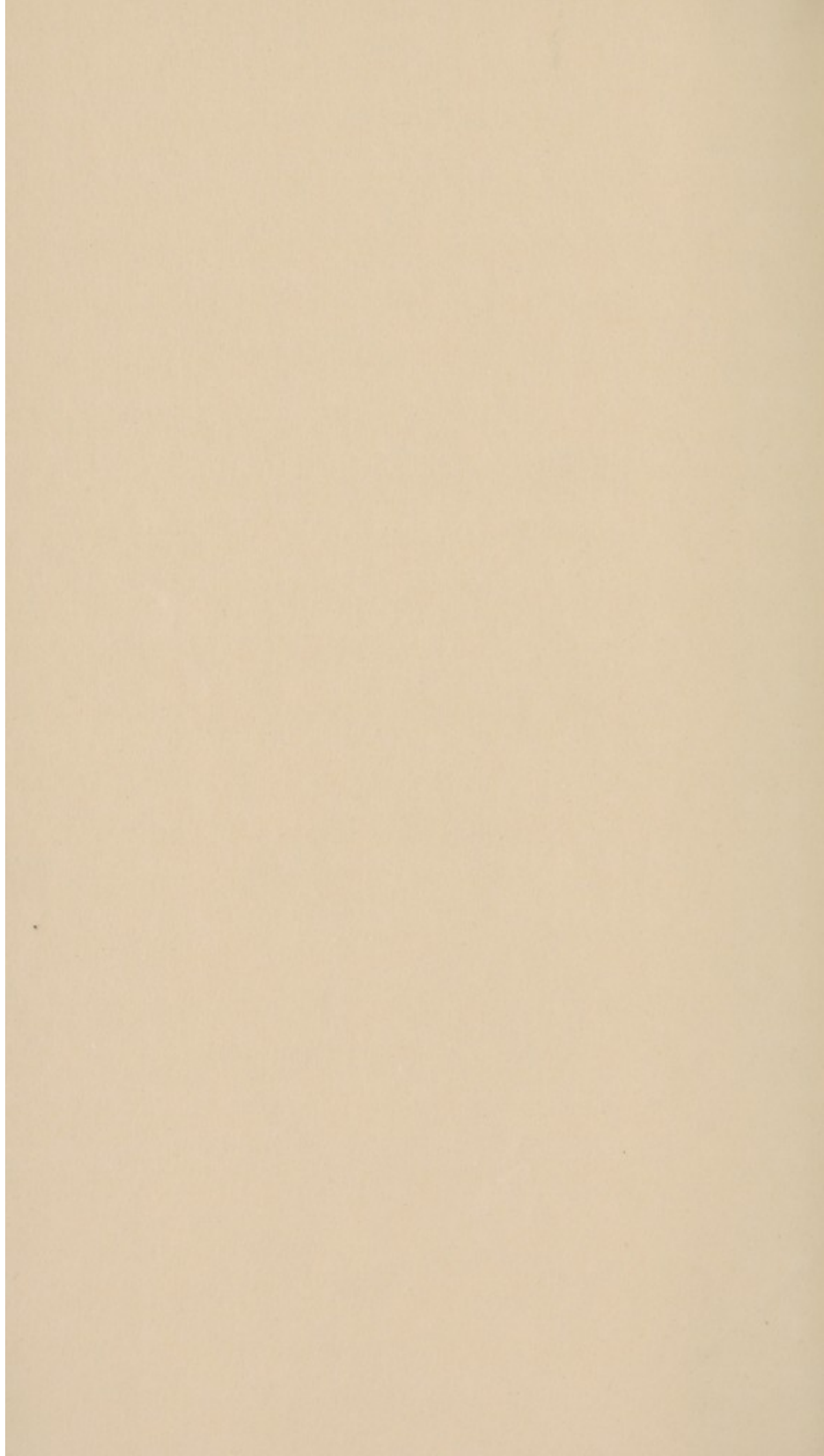
OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year 1954



BOROUGH OF SURBITON

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Alderman A.G. Leach (Chairman)
Councillor J.R. Ashton (Vice-Chairman)

Alderman Mrs. A. Woodgate	Councillor A.C. Healey
Councillor C.G.L. Du Cann	Councillor W.J. Neil
Councillor C.F.H. Goss	Councillor E.C. Pinfold
Councillor H.J. Halford	Councillor C. Lesser
Councillor J.A. Hay	Councillor D. Scott

With the Mayor (Alderman Mrs. Edith A. Bidmead, J.P.) and the Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee (Alderman K. Bidmead, B.A.)

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

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

Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector

x * / - R.E. HAINES, M.R. San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors.

x * / Ø - W.H. GRAY, M.S.I.A., D.R.I.P.H.H.
/ x - J.M. STAMP, M.S.I.A.

Public Analyst (part-time)

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

Senior Clerk

E.D. ELMS

Rodent Officer

E.C. REEVE

Clerks

- Miss V. CRYER
Mrs. J.F. DEAKINS
Miss M. IRELAND
A.G. BABBAGE (In H.M. Forces)
J.C. CLAYDEN (Appointed 17.10.54)

Disinfector and Mortuary Attendant.

A.C. BALL.

- Contributions made to salary by County Council
- § 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.)
- Ø Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works (R.S.I.)

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for 1954

--00--

Public Health Department,
2, Shalston Villas,
Surbiton.

June 1955.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my thirtythird Annual Report which, as in previous years, is based on lines laid down by the Ministry of Health, and the vital statistics on figures given by the Registrar General.

The report deals with the health conditions of Surbiton.

For arriving at the vital statistics the population figure is 63,320 which shows an increase of 1,090.

In order to compare the births and deaths in Surbiton with other towns, and for England and Wales, the Registrar General has given figures (which is the comparability factor) namely 1.00 for the former and 1.01 for the latter.

The infant mortality rate is 11.02 as compared with 21.02 for the previous year. I would like to point out that this is the lowest figure in Surbiton since official records were kept and it might be the lowest in England and Wales.

Surbiton is flanked by two main roads which are joined by intersecting cross roads. This leads to considerable use by vehicles, and unfortunately several severe accidents have occurred leading to some deaths.

The provision of traffic lights or some other means of affording more protection both to pedestrians and motorists should be urgently provided.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) 4,709.

Estimate of Resident Population mid-year 1954 63,320

<u>Year</u>	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Average No. per house.</u>
1894	-	-	-
1904	2,874	16,460	5.72
1914	-	-	-
1924	4,372	19,660	4.49
1934	11,068	29,396	2.65
1944	-	49,330	-
1954	18,057	63,320	3.5

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1954) according to

rate books	...	...	...	...	...	18,057
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	£701,488
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£2,882

Number of new houses erected during the year 1954:-

(a)	By local authority	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b)	By other local authorities	...	...	...	...	48
(c)	By private enterprise	...	...	...	...	94
(d)	Rebuilt following destruction by enemy action	...	...	...	...	Nil
(e)	Number of self-contained flats provided by conversion (private enterprise)	...	...	...	...	22

Social Conditions

Surbiton is, for the main part, non-industrial. There are, however, small factories in Surbiton proper and larger ones in the By Pass area.

The town is well served with both open spaces and recreation grounds and a great improvement has taken place along the course of the Hogsmill Stream.

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
(1) Number of live births	826	816
(2) Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	13.73	12.88
(3) Birth Rate (corrected by Registrar General's comparability factor)	13.73	12.88
(4) Number of still-births per 1,000 total births	10.40	15.68
(5) Number of deaths	570	596
(6) Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	9.15	9.41
(7) Death Rate (corrected by Registrar General's comparability factor)	9.24	9.50
(8) Natural increase of population	256	220
(9) Number of deaths of infants under one year	18	9
(10) Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	21.02	11.02
(11) Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth	-	-

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1954.

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Legitimate	783	382	401
Illegitimate	33	15	18

Birth Rate 12.88 per 1,000 population.

Illegitimate Birth Rate 0.5 per 1,000 population.

Adjusted Birth Rate 12.88 per 1,000 population.

<u>Still Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
	13	4	9

Rate per 1,000 total births 15.68

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
	596	272	324

Death rate per 1,000 population 9.41

Adjusted Death Rate 9.50 per 1,000 population.

The number of births shows a falling off from 826 to 816. Deaths have risen slightly and there is a slight fluctuation in other figures.

Deaths from puerperal causes.Rate per 1,000 total
(live and still) births.

Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion Nil

Death rate of infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births 11.02

Legitimate infants per 1,000
legitimate live births 11.49Illegitimate infants per 1,000
illegitimate live births Nil

Deaths from malignant neoplasms (all ages) 120

Deaths from measles (all ages) Nil

Deaths from whooping cough (all ages) Nil

Deaths from diarrhoea
(under 2 years of age) NilINFANT 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)
1945	34.28	46.0
1946	19.75	37.0
1947	24.41	36.0
1948	17.48	32.0
1949	23.54	30.0
1950	26.31	29.4
1951	20.21	27.6
1952	18.42	27.6
1953	21.02	24.3
1954	11.02	25.0

BIRTHS

The following table shows the number of live births and the birth rate over the past 10 years.

Year	Number of Births	Birth Rate	Birth Rate for England and Wales
1945	875	17.27	16.1
1946	1,063	18.84	19.1
1947	1,106	19.03	20.5
1948	452	15.54	17.9
1949	447	14.83	16.7
1950	422	13.65	15.8
1951	405	13.76	15.5
1952	422	13.21	15.3
1953	455	13.73	15.5
1954	816	12.88	14.1

The statistics supplied by the Registrar General during 1954 show that the total number of registered live births allocated to Surbiton was 816, 397 males and 419 females, the birth rate being 12.88 per 1,000 of the population. Of the total number of births 783 were legitimate and 33 (4.21 per cent) illegitimate.

In addition there were 13 still births, 4 male and 9 female.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1954

	Male.	Female
All causes.	272	324
Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	2
Tuberculosis, other	-	-
Syphilitic disease	2	4
Whooping cough	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	1
Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
Measles	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	9
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	19	5
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	11
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	34	35
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	2
Diabetes	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	32	47
Coronary disease, angina	53	45
Hypertension with heart disease	6	9
Other heart diseases	27	58
Other circulatory diseases	10	23
Influenza	-	1

Causes of death (cont.)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Pneumonia	8	18
Bronchitis	13	11
Other diseases of respiratory system	4	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	6	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	-	3
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	7	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	-	-
Congenital malformation	4	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	17	19
Motor vehicle accidents	6	3
All other accidents	9	5
Suicide	3	4
Homicide and operations of war ...	-	1

DEATHS

The total number of deaths registered in the district was 596, 272 males and 324 females, which is equal to a death rate of 9.41 per thousand of the estimated population.

The deaths occurring outside the district of people really belonging to Surbiton were 204.

The following deaths occurred in institutions outside Surbiton of people usually resident in Surbiton:-

Kingston and District Hospital	102
Epsom Hospital	31
London Hospitals	25
Other Hospitals	32

There were 76 deaths within this district of persons not usually resident in Surbiton, 38 males and 38 females.

DEATH RATE FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Surbiton Borough.</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
1945	10.58	11.4
1946	10.13	11.5
1947	9.55	12.0
1948	9.41	10.8
1949	9.54	11.7
1950	9.88	11.6
1951	10.75	12.5
1952	9.82	11.3
1953	9.15	11.4
1954	9.41	11.4

The principal causes of death excluding those from zymotic diseases are:-

Malignant neoplasms	120
Heart Disease	231)
Vascular lesions of nervous system	79)
Other circulatory diseases	33)
Pneumonia	26)
Bronchitis	24)
Other respiratory diseases	5)
	55

Malignant Neoplasms.

Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms were responsible for 120 deaths or 20.13 per cent of total deaths.

Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms

Year	Total Deaths.	Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms	Percentage
1945	536	104	19.40
1946	572	116	20.27
1947	555	86	15.49
1948	554	115	20.75
1949	574	102	17.77
1950	605	96	15.86
1951	657	120	18.26
1952	605	121	20.00
1953	570	109	19.12
1954	596	120	20.13

DISEASES OF THE HEART AND CIRCULATION

There were 231 deaths due to Heart and Circulation. This figure represents 38.75 per cent of the total deaths.

DEATHS FROM HEART DISEASE

Year	Total Deaths	Heart Disease Deaths	Percentage
1945	536	180	33.58
1946	572	195	34.09
1947	555	206	37.11
1948	554	197	35.55
1949	574	208	36.23
1950	605	146	24.13
1951	657	122	18.56
1952	605	133	21.98
1953	570	103	18.07
1954	596	231	38.75

BRONCHITIS, PNEUMONIA AND OTHER RESPIRATORY DISEASES

There were 26 deaths due to Pneumonia, 24 to Bronchitis and 5 to other respiratory diseases. This gives a total of 9.22 per cent of total deaths.

Year.	Total Deaths.	Bronchitis, etc. Deaths.	Percentage.
1945	536	57	10.63
1946	572	44	7.69
1947	555	48	8.64
1948	554	47	8.48
1949	574	57	9.93
1950	605	54	8.92
1951	657	76	11.56
1952	605	38	6.28
1953	570	39	6.84
1954	596	55	9.22

The following table sets out the death rate per thousand of the population for certain diseases:-

Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	0.37
Measles	...	...	...	...	-
Cancer	...	...	...	...	1.89
Heart Disease and Circulation	...	...	...	...	38.75
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...	0.09
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	0.04
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	-
Typhus	...	...	...	...	-
Typhoid and Para-Typhoid	...	...	...	...	-

DEATHS DUE TO VIOLENCE

The figures given below indicate the manner in which Surbiton residents met their deaths from violence:-

Road Traffic deaths	9	Poisoning	...	3		
Falls	...	...	4	Drowning	...	Nil

INFANTILE MORTALITY

There were 9 infant deaths during the year (including transferable deaths) giving an Infant Mortality rate of 11.29 per 1,000 live births.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS.

Year	Deaths under 1 year.	Infant Mortality Rate
1945	34	34.28
1946	21	19.75
1947	27	24.41
1948	16	17.48
1949	21	23.54
1950	22	26.31
1951	17	20.21
1952	15	18.42
1953	18	21.02
1954	9	11.02

Year	No. of Deaths under 1 year.	No. of Deaths under 2 years due to Diarrhoea and Enteritis.	No. of Live Births
1945	34	-	875
1946	21	1	1,063
1947	27	-	1,106
1948	16	-	586
1949	21	1	863
1950	22	-	798
1951	17	-	810
1952	15	-	778
1953	18	-	826
1954	9	-	816

The following tables show the causes of death and ages at death of infants under 1 year.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week.	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total No. under 1 month.
Prematurity	1	-	-	-	1
Respiratory Failure	1	-	-	-	1
Atelectasis	1	-	-	-	1
Asphyxia	2	-	-	-	2

Cause of Death	1 - 3 months	4 - 6 months	7 - 9 months	10 - 12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year
Congenital Heart Disease	-	-	1	1	2
Gastro-Enteritis	1	-	-	-	1
Infantile Eczema	-	-	-	1	1

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

Clinical material (sputum, swabs, etc.) in the ordinary course of events is sent to various available laboratories for examination.

Samples of milk, water and ice-cream for bacteriological examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratory in Epsom, while chemical examination of water is done by The Analytical Laboratory, Haywards Heath.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Ambulance Service is administered by the Surrey County Council.

The Ambulance is stationed behind the Fire Station in Ewell Road, Surbiton.

(c) Nursing in the Home.

County Council Health Visitors undertake home visits required under the various schemes of the Surrey County Council, including Ante-natal and Post-natal supervision.

(d) There have been no changes or developments with regard to the hospital facilities in the district. They are as follows:-

Surbiton General Hospital, Ewell Road, Surbiton.
Tolworth Hospital, Red Lion Road, Tolworth.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

No action was deemed necessary under Section 47 of this Act.

TOLWORTH HOSPITAL

The following table shows the number of cases admitted during 1954:-

	<u>From Esher, Malden, Kingston, Richmond and Barnes.</u>	<u>From Surbiton.</u>
Poliomyelitis	4	1
Scarlet Fever	26	7
Erysipelas	2	1
Measles	14	2
Whooping Cough	9	-
Chicken-pox	7	10
Gastro-enteritis	8	2
Other diseases	161	58

Para-typhoid Fever.

There were nine cases occurring in the district. No connection between them could be discovered and in no case was there a fatal result.

Poliomyelitis.

Two cases occurred in the Borough; there was no connection between the two and each case recovered.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of immunisations carried out during the year is as follows:-

	<u>Primary Immunisations during 1954.</u>	<u>Reinforcement doses during 1954</u>
Age under 1 year	79	-
Age 1 year	459	-
Age 2 years	114	3
Age 3 years	17	4
Age 4 years	9	14
Age 5 - 9 years	66	243
Age 10 - 14 years	2	21
	<u>716</u>	<u>285</u>

The following table sets out the number of children immunised in each of the last five years:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Primary Immunisations.</u>	<u>Reinforcements.</u>
1950	709	407
1951	763	816
1952	613	325
1953	795	234
1954	746	285

Diphtheria still continues to be absent from Surbiton and there is a slight falling off of the number of diphtheria immunisations. The fact that diphtheria is so rare now is a reason why mothers do not take their children to the immunisation clinics. This should be discouraged. In Surbiton a 75% immunisation should be aimed at.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1954

Total Cases Notified.
At ages

Total Deaths Notified
At ages

	Under 1	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 44	45 - 64	65 and over	Age unknown	Total	Under 1	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 44	45 - 64	65 and over
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	10	29	4	-	1	-	-	-	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	-	1	-	1	4	3	4	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	22
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	2	25	28	55	2	-	2	-	-	-	114	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	2	5	9	23	-	1	-	1	-	-	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	3	3	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio-Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	3	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para-typhoid Fever	-	-	1	3	1	1	1	2	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

NOTE: Total deaths include Transferable Deaths occurring outside the district which are not included in the total cases notified

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1954.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	2	2	1	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	6	10	1	3	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	13	14	2	2	1	1	-	-
35 - 44	8	7	-	-	-	1	-	-
45 - 54	10	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	6	1	-	1	3	-	-	-
65 and over	2	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
Totals	47	36	4	10	6	4	-	-

The number of cases of tuberculosis notified during the year ending 31st December, 1954 was 97, as will be seen from the following table:-

Number notified by General Practitioners	9
Number notified by Institutions and Clinics	41
Number transferred to Surbiton	45
Number notified after death	2

The following table shows the number of cases on the register since 1954 and the number of deaths which occurred:-

YEAR	NUMBER ON REGISTER				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1945	190	145	43	38	14	13	2	2
1946	200	136	44	35	11	11	1	3
1947	211	132	43	34	9	9	1	1
1948	223	131	38	33	17	7	1	3
1949	222	131	34	37	16	8	3	-
1950	202	127	26	33	16	5	1	3
1951	208	138	21	31	11	7	-	2
1952	230	150	19	35	9	3	1	1
1953	240	161	19	32	8	7	2	1
1954	236	158	20	32	6	4	-	-

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS)
REGULATIONS, 1925

No action was necessary under these Regulations.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, Section 172

No action was taken under this section.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

General Public

Number of persons examined on miniature films.			Abnormalities							
			<u>Active P.T.</u>		<u>Incidence per 1,000 examinees</u>	<u>Inactive P.T.</u>		<u>Non-tuberculous.</u>		
<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females</u>		<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	
1,350	1,645	2,995	1	2	1.0	60	68	53	43	
<u>Factories.</u>										
<u>Chessington.</u>										
<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	
233	-	233	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	
<u>Tolworth.</u>										
819	332	1,151	1	-	0.9	35	16	30	4	

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

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

Premises.	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	38	46	3	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	218	339	8	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises.)	12	-	-	-
TOTAL	268	385	11	-

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)	8	8	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	28	28	-	3	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	15	15	3	1	-
TOTAL	52	52	3	5	-

3. OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111.)

	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	No of cases of default in sending lists to Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises.	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel (Making, etc.	20	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, lace curtains and nets	6	-	-	-	-	-
Brass and brass articles	11	-	-	-	-	-
Brush making	1	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed toys	1	-	-	-	-	-
Cosaques, Christmas Crackers, Christmas stockings. etc.	2	-	-	-	-	-
Lampshades	43	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	84	-	-	-	-	-

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

June 1955.

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, 1954, in which I have endeavoured to show under various headings the nature of the duties performed and results achieved.

COMPLAINTS.

During the year 905 complaints were received with regard to the undermentioned matters, were duly investigated and any necessary action taken.

Choked and defective drains	...	...	...	...	...	238
Insanitary or dilapidated condition of houses or premises	...	...	...	...	...	68
Dampness	...	...	...	...	...	24
Defective or insufficient W.C. accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	22
Defective water pipes or fittings	...	...	...	...	...	12
Insufficient or defective refuse bins	...	...	...	...	...	5
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	3
Offensive smells from various causes	...	...	...	...	...	33
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	4
Nuisances from animals improperly kept	...	...	...	...	...	3
Unwholesome food	...	...	...	...	...	16
Infestation with bugs or fleas	...	...	...	...	...	5
Infestation with other insect pests	...	...	...	...	...	60
Infestation with rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	352
Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	12
Flooding	...	...	...	...	...	18
Complaints re milk	...	...	...	...	...	7
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	2
Food hygiene	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water supply	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	17
Total ...						905

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

1953	...	1037	1948	...	986
1952	...	1093	1947	...	926
1951	...	1059	1946	...	831
1950	...	1083	1945	...	550
1949	...	1007	1944	...	450

VISITS MADE.

Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) ...	...	...	388
Number of dwelling houses visited for other than housing defects ...	...	...	1640
Number of visits to premises other than houses			3052
Premises re-inspected ...	...	...	2349
Visits to works in progress ...	...	...	724
+ Visits re rats and mice ...	...	...	6532
Miscellaneous visits ...	...	...	614
Visits re Civil Defence ...	...	...	114
Total			15,413

+ Including visits made by Rodent staff.

Included in the above are the following classified visits :-

To food premises ...	...	...	1281
" cowsheds ...	...	...	13
" dairies and milkshops ...	...	...	64
" milk vehicles ...	...	...	57
" ice cream premises and vehicles ...	...	...	235
" bakehouses ...	...	...	77
" butchers' shops ...	...	...	137
" fishfriers' premises ...	...	...	37
" factories ...	...	...	385
" workplaces ...	...	...	41
" outworkers' premises ...	...	...	18
" schools ...	...	...	166
" caravans ...	...	...	105
" houses-let-in-lodgings ...	...	...	45
" council houses ...	...	...	102
" piggeries ...	...	...	40
" public conveniences ...	...	...	32
Re. cases of infectious disease (including dysentery, tuberculosis and food poisoning)			766
" overcrowding or possible overcrowding ...	...	...	30
" Shops Act ...	...	...	260
" Rag Flock Act ...	...	...	5
" Pet Animals Act ...	...	...	15
Smoke observations made ...	...	...	16
Interviews with owners, tradesmen, etc. ...	...	...	349
Samples of drinking water taken ...	...	...	2
" " swimming bath water taken ...	...	...	23
" " river water taken ...	...	...	9

TESTING OF DRAINS AND SANITARY FITTINGS.

Drains tested with water ...	...	...	65
Drains tested by other methods ...	...	...	15
Drains examined under section 48 Public Health Act 1936 ...	...	...	1

NOTICES SERVED.

Informal and verbal notices	...	729
Statutory notices under section 24, Public Health Act, 1936, notice to owner of premises of proposed work of maintenance on sewer	...	4
Statutory notices under section 45, Public Health Act, 1936, to put defective closets into repair	...	2
Statutory notices under sections 48 and 287, Public Health Act, 1936, to examine and test drains	...	1
Statutory notices under section 75, Public Health Act, 1936, to provide sufficient dust receptacles	...	2
Statutory notices under section 93, Public Health Act, 1936, to abate nuisances	...	8
Statutory notices under section 277, Public Health Act, 1936, requiring information as to ownership of premises	...	9
Statutory notices under section 9, Housing Act, 1936, to make premises reasonably fit for human habitation	...	9
Statutory notices under section 157, Housing Act, 1936, to enter premises	...	110
Statutory notices under section 168, Housing Act, 1936, requiring information as to ownership of premises	...	7
Statutory notices under section 38, Shops Act, 1950, to provide suitable and sufficient means to maintain a reasonable temperature and sanitary conveniences, etc.	...	1

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LICENCES AND CERTIFICATES ISSUED.

Licences to station and use moveable dwellings (section 269, Public Health Act, 1936)	...	49
Licences granted under The Pet Animals Act, 1951 - licences to keep a Pet Shop	...	4
Certificate of registration granted under section 34, Food & Drugs Act, 1938, for carrying on business of wholesale dealer in margarine		1
Certificates of Disrepair granted under section 26, Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954		22
Revocation of Certificates of Disrepair granted under section 26 (4) Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954	...	3

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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) ...	388
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	388
(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 ...	153
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	153
(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 ..	304

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 - (including some from previous year)	318
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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.	2
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :-	
(a)	by owners	1
(b)	by Local Authority in default of owner	Nil

HOUSING (Contd.)

3.	B.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-	
	(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	4
	(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :-	
	(a)	by owners	Nil
	(b)	by Local Authority in default of owners	1
	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	8
	(3)	Number of Dwellings in respect of which Demolition Orders remained suspended (Circular 1866)	Nil
	D.	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :-	
	(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
	(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.	Nil

DETAILS OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS ETC. EFFECTED DURING THE YEAR.

Drainage.

Choked drains and sewers cleared	...	...	252
Defective drains repaired	...	...	60
Drainage systems partly re-laid	...	...	28
Drainage systems completely re-laid	..	...	4
Additional drains provided	...	...	6
Overflowing cesspools emptied	...	...	1
New cesspools provided	...	...	1

Water Closets, etc.

Additional provided	...	...	5
Cleansed and repaired	...	...	76
New pans fixed	...	...	22
Lighted, ventilated or screened	...	...	23
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	20

Sinks, Baths, etc.

New fixed	...	...	12
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Waste Pipes, etc.

Repaired	...	...	12
New provided	...	...	7
Disconnected or trapped	...	...	7

Water Supply

Water re-instated	...	...	3
Service pipes and cisterns repaired etc.	...	...	17

Paving.

Yard paving repaired or relaid	...	...	17
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Dust Receptacles.

New dustbins provided	...	...	28
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Dampness.

Roofs repaired	...	...	84
Gutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	67
Damp courses inserted	...	...	19
Ventilation provided under floors	...	...	19
External walls pointed or rendered	...	...	37
Walls treated with damp resisting material	...	...	101
Open area provided	...	...	1
Site concrete provided	...	...	2

General

Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	263
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	29
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	86
Stoves and coppers repaired or renewed	...	...	51
Internal walls and ceilings repaired	...	...	195
Rooms cleansed	...	...	202
Rooms ventilated	...	...	5
Staircases repaired or provided with handrails	...	...	13
Chimney stacks and pots repaired or renewed	...	...	39
Flue repaired	...	...	1
Underpinning	...	...	1
Food stores provided	...	...	2
External painting	...	...	7
Statutory entries made in rent books	...	...	45
Accumulations removed or covered	...	...	12
Nuisances from animals abated	...	...	3
Merchandise Marks Acts requirements	...	...	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	51

See further details under headings "Food premises",
"Factories and Bakehouses", etc.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954.

This long-awaited Act became operative on 30th August 1954.

It is a very important piece of legislation with far reaching effects.

Its principal objective is to improve living conditions in existing properties and it is hoped to achieve this mainly in four ways :-

- (i) By stimulating local authorities to increased and speedier action in connection with slum clearance. Provision is made for some novel arrangements for the temporary retention of certain unfit properties until their turn for demolition arrives.
- (ii) By easing the conditions under which improvement grants can be made.
- (iii) By permitting private landlords to make limited rent increases subject to houses being in good repair.
- (iv) By introducing new powers for dealing with houses-let-in-lodgings.

With the limited experience we have had in administering this Act comment must necessarily be guarded, but a few observations may be of interest.

It was anticipated that we might receive an avalanche of applications from tenants for certificates of disrepair as soon as landlords gave notice of proposed rent increases. In fact this did not happen and by 31st December 1954 only twenty-two such applications had arrived all of which justified the granting of a certificate. In the majority of these cases landlords soon began to carry out necessary repairs and to apply for revocation certificates.

The Council has in the past dealt so effectively with unfit properties that apart from a few individual houses little requires to be done at present by way of demolition and certainly no slum clearance proposals are called for.

There is some uneasiness over the new standard of fitness for habitation prescribed in this Act and there are those who feel that the former standard was easier to operate. Some of us are also sorry to see the abolition of the byelaws with respect to houses-let-in-lodgings without their replacement by a modern version.

Already some "curious" decisions have been given in the Courts on various points and it will obviously take a long time for the whole thing to "settle down"; meanwhile there is already talk of amending legislation!

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

The Housing Act, 1949, introduced a scheme to encourage property owners to modernise existing houses "which though soundly constructed and in good general repair, lack the amenities and conveniences which have come to be regarded as essential to a decent and healthy life", by providing financial assistance for works of improvement.

The Council continued to operate this scheme in cases where new housing accommodation would be provided by the conversion of an existing building, where additional accommodation was to be provided by adding rooms, and where it was intended to improve the sanitary arrangements and/or the system of water heating.

Twenty-one applications for grants were received during the year. Fifteen were recommended by the Council and approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. The remainder were disposed of as follows :-

<u>Rejected</u>	<u>Withdrawn</u>	<u>Consideration deferred.</u>
2	3	1

The grants were in respect of ten works to provide hot water system, bath, internal W.C. etc., four to provide additional living accommodation and one conversion to flats.

The amount of the grants was as follows :-

	£.	s.	d.
10 of	100	0.	0.
1 "	84.	15.	6
1 "	72.	10.	0
1 "	71.	4.	0
1 "	60.	0.	0
1 "	200.	0.	0 for each of two flats.

During the year efforts were made by the Ministry to stimulate public interest in the scheme and to encourage Councils to be less reluctant to make grants.

The publicity given brought a large number of enquiries as well as the highest number of applications so far received in any year.

The figures for previous years were :-

	<u>Applications received</u>	<u>Grants approved</u>
1953	7	6
1952	5	3
1951	3	3
1950	4	4

Unfortunately the private landlord has still not been attracted in this district and so far only three grants (one a conversion) have been made to other than owner/occupiers.

UNDERGROUND ROOMS.

The revised model regulations of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government were adopted in lieu of those existing which had been in force since 1935 and were in need of amendment to suit modern conditions.

These regulations deal with drainage, lighting, ventilation, dampness, protection against effluvia, etc. in rooms used for human habitation which have floors more than three feet below ground level.

DUSTBINS.

Twenty-eight dustbins were provided as a result of notices served, two such being statutory and the remainder informal.

The Council's scheme for the sale of new dustbins was continued, eighty bins being sold during the year.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Foodstuffs of all descriptions are constantly under inspection to see that they are fit for human consumption.

During the year a large variety of foods which were not so fit were surrendered by the owners and either salvaged for animal feeding or destroyed by burning.

The total weight of such goods was :-

2 tons: 3 cwts: 2 qrs: 19 lbs.

There is now no slaughterhouse in use in the Borough consequently no meat inspection is carried out except in butchers' shops.

With the de-control of meat supplies discussions took place with the local butchers to see what arrangements they proposed to make to deal with the new situation and whether they would find a need for slaughtering facilities within the Borough.

Eventually it became clear that adequate supplies were readily available and none of the butchers found it necessary to resume slaughtering.

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

FOOD HYGIENE.

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

1,767 visits were made to these premises and to shops, canteens, restaurants, public-houses, and food handling businesses and vehicles of all descriptions to ensure the maintenance of a proper standard of hygiene and to examine food intended for sale.

The following works were carried out to meet the requirements of the Council under the Food & Drugs Act, byelaws and other legislation.

Hot water supply provided	...	...	6
Protection of food from contamination .			4
Windows repaired or renewed	...		1
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	1
Chimney stacks and pots repaired .			1
Food premises cleansed	...	...	97
Equipment cleansed	...	...	1
Drains cleansed, repaired or renewed ..			2
W.Cs. cleansed or repaired		...	9
WCs. lighted or ventilated	...	...	3
Cold stores repaired	...	...	1
Cold stores provided	...	...	1
Accumulations removed	...	...	1
Dustbins supplied	...	...	1
Food vans repaired	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	1

A conference at which local bakers and representatives of the baking industry met the Public Health Committee took place on 18th February 1954, to discuss the delivery of bread about which the Council was gravely concerned because of the practice of leaving unwrapped loaves on doorsteps and window cills.

After a full discussion in which all aspects of the matter were thoroughly dealt with by both sides the Committee resolved as under :-

- (1) That the Committee co-operate with bakers in an endeavour to assist them in complying with the byelaws in connection with the handling, wrapping, and delivery of food by arranging the printing of suitably worded pamphlets for delivery to householders where adequate receptacles or arrangements for the reception of bread are not made.
- (ii) That women's organisations in the Borough be asked to publicise this matter through their members in an endeavour to persuade housewives to assist baker's roundsmen in complying with the byelaws.
- (iii) That the situation be reviewed in due course in the light of action now proposed to be taken.

The pamphlets were duly printed and supplied to bakers

FOOD HYGIENE (Cont.)

for issue to their customers where necessary, and there has no doubt been a very great improvement in the situation.

The standard of food hygiene generally has been maintained at a satisfactory level, though constant attention to the subject is necessary.

The new Food & Drugs Act which it was anticipated would introduce higher standards than those now in force received the Royal Assent on 25th November 1954, but only one section (and that not relating to hygiene) came into immediate operation.

At the time of writing no other parts of the Act have been brought into use, and there is a feeling that regulations which are under consideration are likely to be disappointing to those who have been trying to deal with this problem for so long with rather inadequate powers.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938.

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

Samples Nos.	Articles.	Analysed			Contraventions		
		Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
1452-4) 1477) 1482) 1498) 1504) 1506) 1527) 1533) 1540) 1560) 1562) 1566) 1483-89) 1550-1) 1440) 1456) 1474) 1476) 1514) 1539) 1542) 1441) 1455) 1475-8) 1480-1) 1499) 1501) 1502-3) 1515-6) 1528-31) 1541) 1557-9) 1564-5) 1568) 1451) 1512) 1543) 1571) 1574)	Milk	14	9	23			
	Beef sausages	7	-	7			
	Pork Sausages	21	2	23	2	-	2
	Iced Lollie	-	1	1			
	Cream of Chicken Soup	-	3	3			
	Chicken Soup	-	1	1			
	Carried fwd	42	16	58	2	-	2

Sample Nos	Articles	Analysed			Contraventions		
		Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
	Brought forward	42	16	58	2	-	2
1513 } 1538 } 1544 }	Cream of Tomato Soup	-	3	3			
1535 } 1567 } 1525 }	Cream of Mushroom "	-	1	1	-	1	1
1439 } 1500 } 1561 }	Cream of Tomato Soup	1	-	1	1	-	1
1442/4 } 1497 } 1505 }	Pork Pie	-	1	1			
1496 } 1445-7 }	Pork Chipolatas	3	-	3	1	-	1
1449 } 1448 }	Ice cream	5	-	5			
1450 } 1457 }	Ice cream powder	-	1	1	-	1	1
1458 } 1460 }	Condensed milk (full-cream)	-	3	3			
1459 } 1461 }	Cold Capsules	-	1	1			
1462 } 1463 }	Linseed, Liquorice and Chlorodine Tablets	-	1	1			
1464 } 1472 }	Lozenges Of Bismuth	-	1	1	-	1	1
1465-6 } 1467 }	Friars Balsam B.P.	-	1	1			
1468 } 1469 }	Canned Cream	-	2	2			
1470 } 1471 }	Vapour Inhalant	-	1	1			
1472 } 1473 }	Salmon Spread	-	1	1			
1474 } 1475 }	Shredded Beef Suet	-	1	1			
1476 } 1477 }	Grapefruit Squash	-	1	1			
1478 } 1479 }	Oranges	-	2	2			
1480 } 1481 }	"Sea Shell" Confection	1	1	2	1	1	2
1482 } 1483 }	English Honey	-	1	1			
1484 } 1485 }	Vitamin Tonic	-	1	1			
1486 } 1487 }	Anodyne Linctus	-	1	1			
1488 } 1489 }	Messina Lemons	-	1	1			
1490 } 1491 }	Jaffa Grapefruits	-	1	1			
1492 } 1493 }	Fruit Lolly	-	1	1			
1494 } 1495 }	Sherbet Bubble Pipe	-	1	1			
1496 } 1497 }	Dressed Crab	-	1	1			
1498 } 1499 }	Gelatine	-	2	2			
1500 } 1501 }	Stewed Beef Steak	-	1	1			
1502 } 1503 }	Ground White Pepper	-	1	1			
1504 } 1505 }	Vitamin & Mineral Capsules	-	1	1			
1506 } 1507 }	Tonic Elixir with Vitamin B.	-	1	1			
1508 } 1509 }	Rheumatism etc. Tablets	1	-	1			
1510 } 1511 }	Formamint Tablets	-	1	1			
1512 } 1513 }	Cod Liver Oil Emulsion B.P.	-	1	1			
1514 } 1515 }	Table Jelly	-	1	1			
1516 } 1517 }	Lemon Squash	-	1	1			
1518 } 1519 }	Raspberry Jam	-	1	1			
1520 } 1521 }	Greengage Jam	-	1	1			
1522 } 1523 }	Strawberry Jam	-	1	1			
1524 } 1525 }	Strawberry and Gooseberry Jam	-	1	1			
1526 } 1527 }	Damson Conserve	-	1	1			
1528 } 1529 }	Lemon Curd	-	1	1			
1530 } 1531 }	Margarine	1	4	5			
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1888 } 1889 }							
1890 } 1891 }							
1892 } 1893 }							
1894 } 1895 }							
1896 } 1897 }							
1898 } 1899 }							

Sample Nos.	Articles	Analysed			Contraventions.		
		Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
	Brought Forward	54	66	120	5	4	9
526	Steak & Kidney Pie	-	1	1			
548	Steak & Kidney Pudding	-	1	1			
532	Butter	1	-	1			
534	Marshmallow Sailors	-	1	1			
536	Lemons	-	1	1			
545	Meat Pudding	-	1	1			
546	Cake Mixture	-	1	1			
547	Iron Jelloids	-	1	1			
549	Nerve Tonic Syrup	-	1	1			
552	Cut Peel	-	1	1			
553	Ground Almonds	-	1	1			
554	Candygum	-	1	1			
569	Fruit syrup(raspberry)	-	1	1			
570	Cod Liver Oil	-	1	1			
572	Linctus B.P.C.	-	1	1			
573	Rubbing oils	-	1	1			
		55	81	136	5	4	9

The Analyst's reports and details of action taken on contravening samples were as follows :-

1455 (formal)
Sausages, pork.

The sample contained 48% of meat, including fat. Proceedings instituted. Defendants fined £5. with £8.8.0d. costs. The Magistrates expressed the opinion that pork sausages should contain not less than 65% of meat of which 80% should be pork.

1465 (informal)
1466 (formal)
Confection "Sea Shell".

These samples of food consisted of macaroni shells coated with sugar. The samples contained sugar, with small proportions of colouring and flavouring ... 60%. Macaroni ... 40%. He was of opinion that the article was unfit for consumption as confectionery. Macaroni in the raw state is not suitable for human food and requires to be thoroughly cooked. The macaroni shells in this article were hard and tough and would be likely to cause digestive disturbance. Warning given. Wholesalers agreed to withdraw this article from sale.

1450 (informal)
Lozenges, Bismuth.B.P.

The current British Pharmacopoeia (1953) does not include Compound Lozenges of Bismuth and these lozenges were not correctly described as B.P. Warning given. The manufacturers subsequently stated that the Pharmaceutical Society had indicated that they would not object to the use of these labels until the end of June, 1954, and the Council concurred.

1496 (informal)
Ice cream powder.

This was a sample of stale, insect infested ice cream powder. Small remaining stock surrendered.

1500 (formal).
Sausages, pork chipolatas.

Contained only 51% of meat,
including fat. Severe warning
given.

1502 (formal)
Sausages, pork.

Contained only 45% of meat,
including fat. Proceedings
instituted. Defendants fined
£10. with 5 guineas costs.

1535 (informal)
Soup, cream of mushroom,
(dried).

The proportion of fat in the soup
prepared according to the directions
on the label would amount to only
0.7% whereas cream soups of ordinary
commercial quality intended for
direct use without dilution contain
not less than 3½% of fat.
The Public Analyst stated he had
objected to this labelling some
time ago and manufacturers had
agreed to amend the description.
The manufacturers stated that
earlier this year they had
contemplated reprinting the labels
but eventually decided to cease sale
from the end of May. Thus any
stocks now with retailers was old
and their representative had been
instructed to withdraw same. When
informed of three shops in Surbiton
which still had small stocks of
this soup they immediately arranged
for withdrawal.

1567 (formal)
Soup, Cream of tomato,
(dried)

The proportion of fat in the soup
prepared according to the directions
would have amounted to only 0.5%,
whereas cream soups of ordinary
commercial quality intended for
direct use without dilution contain
not less than 3½% of edible fat.
The Council decided not to take
any legal action in the case of this
sample but to inform the manufacturer
that any further adverse reports
received in respect of this article
of food might result in the
institution of legal proceedings
The manufacturer in this case was
the same as for sample No.1535.

MILK SUPPLY.

- (i) At the end of the year there were thirty-two entries
on the register as follows:-

Distributors of milk with premises in the Borough	14
Distributors of milk with premises outside the Borough but retailing in the Borough	9
Premises registered (used as Dairies)	9

MILK SUPPLY (Cont).

- (ii) Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-1954.
Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk)
Regulations, 1949 - 1953.

Dealers' licences to sell designated milk were granted as follows:-

Pasteurised milk	12
Pasteurised milk (supplementary)	9
Tuberculin tested milk	11
Tuberculin tested milk (supplementary)	8
Sterilised milk	10
Sterilised milk (supplementary)	8

- (iii) Two hundred and twenty-nine samples of milk were taken during the year and submitted to the following tests :-

	<u>Turbidity</u> <u>Test</u>	<u>TB</u> <u>Test</u>	<u>Biological</u> <u>Test</u>	<u>Methylene</u> <u>Blue Test</u>	<u>Phosphatase</u> <u>Test</u>
Tuberculin Tested	-	11	-	-	-
Tuberculin Tested (Farm Bottled)	-	-	1	-	-
Pasteurised	-	-	179	177	
T.T. Pasteurised	-	-	25	25	
Pasteurised (Channel Island)	-	-	1	1	
Sterilised	7	-	-	-	-
Raw milk (Ungraded)	-	5	-	-	-

The phosphatase test indicates that pasteurisation has been properly carried out; the methylene blue test is used to determine cleanliness and keeping quality; the turbidity test is a check on sterilisation and the T.B. test is for the purpose of detecting tubercle bacilli.

Complaints were received from two canteens that milk supplied by a dealer from outside the Borough was souring quickly. The milk came in churns and forty-four samples were taken to check up on it. Fifteen failed the methylene blue test and one failed the phosphatase test.

The matter was taken up with the dealer concerned and with other local authorities. Further samples were taken and of these twenty-one failed the methylene blue test.

The dealer only supplied these two canteens and had no retail round. The canteen which had the largest supply ceased trading with him. The other continued the supply for a time and a further nineteen samples taken over a period of three months showed only two failures on methylene blue test. Later this canteen also discontinued the supply.

The report on one biological sample taken at a local farm showed that a guinea pig inoculated with the milk died and on post-mortem examination showed typical tuberculous lesions. The case was investigated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries who reported that an infected cow was found in the herd and was slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order.

Apart from the above all samples conformed to the required standard.

ICE CREAM.

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

For manufacture, storage and sale	...	...	8
For manufacture, storage and sale but manufacture to be limited to iced lollies	...	...	16
For storage and sale, but not manufacture	...	...	116
Certificates of Registration granted during year	...	...	27

During the year 235 visits were made to premises and vehicles and 111 samples were taken for laboratory examination for bacterial cleanliness, details being as follows :-

Ice Cream

Grade I	Coliforms	absent	87	}	89.1%	}	94.05%
	"	present	3				
Grade II	"	absent	3				
	"	present	2				
Grade III	"	absent	3				
	"	present	3				
			101				

Iced Lollies

Grade I	Coliforms absent	10
		111

In no case was Faecal Coli found

The Public Health Laboratory Service advises that it is unwise to pay too much attention to the result of any one sample. Judgment should be based rather on a series of samples. It is suggested that it would be reasonable to expect about 50 per cent of samples throughout the year to fall into Grade I, 80 per cent into Grades 1 or 2, not more than 20 per cent into Grade 3, and none into Grade 4.

The results shewn above indicate that the satisfactory standard referred to in my last report is being maintained.

Each retailer from whom a sample was taken was supplied with a copy of the laboratory report; where manufacture took place outside the Borough copies of reports whether good or otherwise were also sent to the Sanitary inspector for the District concerned for his information.

No ice cream is now manufactured within the Borough. A few retailers make their own iced lollies.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

This Act is designed "to regulate the sale of pet animals".

Licences in respect of four such premises were issued during the year.

Fifteen inspections were made and one minor infringement of the conditions imposed was put right.

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Two hundred and sixty visits were made in the administration of this Act, and eighteen infringements were corrected.

Some complaints were received that illegal sales were taking place on Sundays and whilst no evidence became available which would justify proceedings action was taken to try to prevent the development of Sunday trading which is not permitted by the Act. There are signs that such trading is beginning to take place throughout the country despite efforts by authorities to check it.

THE HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952.

This Act which prohibits the sale or letting of certain heating appliances without an effective fireguard, together with Regulations made by the Secretary of State, became fully operative during the year.

Many such appliances on sale in the Borough were examined and eight which did not pass the prescribed tests were either modified or withdrawn from sale.

DISINFECTION.

(a) During the year disinfection was carried out at thirty-five premises in which the following diseases occurred :-

Anterior Poliomyelitis (or suspected)	...	7
Mumps		1
Para-typhoid B		2
Scarlet fever		8
Tuberculosis		8
Miscellaneous		9

Disinfection was also carried out at thirty-four other premises on request, the occupier in each case paying the cost.

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

	<u>Disinfected</u>	<u>Destroyed</u>
Blankets	17	6
Bolsters	3	2
Counterpanes	-	1
Featherbeds	-	4
Mattresses	17	4
Mattress covers	2	1
Pillows	32	9
Pillow cases	3	3
Sheets	-	2
Towels	6	-
Wearing apparel	25	22
Bedspreads	2	1
Eiderdowns	1	-
Miscellaneous	1	40
	109	95
	---	---

(c) No. of rooms disinfected 97
 No. of library books disinfected 165

DYSENTERY, PARA-TYPHOID FEVER AND FOOD POISONING.

The number of specimens collected and taken to the Laboratory for bacteriological examination in the course of investigating these illnesses was as follows:-

	<u>Faeces</u>	<u>Suspected food.</u>
1950	1202	13
1951	694	2
1952	183	15
1953	129	12
1954	263	8

In addition 31 samples of various foods were taken for bacteriological examination as a routine measure.

FACTORIES AND BAKEHOUSES.

The total number of factories on the register at the end of the year was 268 (218 mechanical, 38 non-mechanical, and 12 works of building construction).

Three hundred and eight-five visits were made to these premises, and work was carried out to remedy contraventions found as under :-

Want of cleanliness	8 factories
Insufficient sanitary conveniences	1 factory
Defective, dirty or inadequately lighted sanitary conveniences	28 factories
Other offences, etc.	15 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 therein as may be reasonably required in the circumstances.

There were 84 outworkers on the register at the end of the year. 18 visits were made and one infringement attended to.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Forty-nine licences to station and use moveable dwellings (caravans) were granted during the year. Twenty-four of the caravans are standing on the Riverhill Estate which has been leased to a local Sports Club. The remainder are stationed on odd sites throughout the Borough.

There is one site on which some unlicensed caravans are parked which is being dealt with.

DISINFESTATION.

(a) Bed Bugs.

Council Houses		Other Houses.	
Found to be infested.	Disinfested	Found to be infested	Disinfested.
Nil	Nil	10	10

Methods employed for disinfestation :-

Spraying with insecticide 10

(b) School Canteens.

At the request of the County Council nine school canteens were sprayed with insecticide to prevent flies and other insect pests, the County Council paying the cost of the work.

(c) General.

(i) Advice is frequently sought from the Department in the identification and measures for eradication of insect pests of various kinds.

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. This service seems to be much appreciated.

(ii) Verminous Person.

An application was received from a local resident for cleansing from body lice.

Section 85 of the Public Health Act, 1936, authorises a local authority to take such measures as are necessary to free such persons and their clothing from vermin without charge.

As no suitable facilities are available in the Borough, arrangements were made with the Royal Borough of Kensington for the man to be dealt with at their cleansing station at a charge to this Council.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

One burial was effected in accordance with Section 50 of the Act where it appeared that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body were being made otherwise than by the Council.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

During the year sixty-eight bodies were received into the mortuary for post-mortem examination.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries continued its grant-aid of 50 per cent of the irrecoverable expenditure incurred by the Council in carrying out its functions under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Grant-aid is not available in respect of expenditure incurred on treatment at commercial and industrial premises, and the full cost of the work has therefore to be recovered from the occupiers or, in certain circumstances, the owners.

42 business or industrial premises, schools, etc. were treated by the Council's staff on payment of the cost involved by the occupiers or owners concerned.

Whilst it is the duty of occupiers of houses to keep their premises free from rats and mice, the Council continued to carry out treatment of infestations at private dwellings without charge provided the occupiers took such steps as might from time to time be necessary and reasonably practicable for preventing their premises from becoming infested.

This decision has considerably facilitated the work at private houses as treatment is able to proceed almost immediately an infestation is found.

The figures which follow indicate the extent of the work carried out during the year, and suggest that we are continuing to keep the rodent population to a low level.

1. VISITS.	Private Dwellings.	Business Premises	Agricultural Property	Corporation Property	Sewers	Totals	Total No. of visits.
(a) Surveys							
Re complaints.	456	43	-	18	-	517	
Under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.	640 1096	62 105	3 3	24 42		729 1246	
No access (re.complaint)	106	5	-	1		112	
No access (re.Pests Act)	99	-	-	-		99	
Miscellaneous	101	8	-	2		111 322	1568
(b) Treatments							
No. of visits	4167	349	-	153		4669	4669
No. of properties treated	440	42	-	21			
No. of completed treatments	705	64	-	32			
(c) Sewers							
Tenth Maintenance treatment (47 manholes pre-baited 16 manholes poison baited)					157		
Eleventh Maintenance treatment (16 manholes pre-baited 7 manholes poison baited)					55	212	
Annual Test baiting					-		
Treatment of sewers in conjunction with surface infestations					23	23	235
(d) Other visits						60	60
							6532

2. SURVEYS REVEALED.							
Premises infested with rats	484	23	-	18		525	
Premises infested with mice	41	19	-	4		64	
Premises not infested	571 1096	63 105	3 3	20 42		657 1246	

In February the tenth maintenance treatment of the Corporation's sewer system was carried out as follows:-

10th Maintenance treatment.			
Area	No. of manholes pre-baited	No. of manholes showing takes of pre-bait and subsequently poison baited.	No. of manholes showing takes of poison bait.
1	9	1	1
2	11	4	3
3	4	3	1
4	12	8	3
6	8	-	-
9	3	-	-
	47	16	8

In August the eleventh maintenance treatment of the Corporation's sewer system was carried out as follows :-

Area	No. of manholes pre-baited	No. of manholes showing takes of pre-bait and subsequently poison baited.	No. of manholes showing takes of poison bait.
1	1	1	1
2	4	3	3
3	3	1	1
4	8	2	-
	16	7	5

Normally in each December annual test baiting of the Corporation's sewers is carried out, but in view of the small number of "takes" of poison bait recorded in the recent maintenance treatments, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries agreed that this work be postponed until the summer months.

The following is a summary of the several treatments carried out since disinfection of sewers commenced in 1948:-

Date	Description	No. of manholes pre-baited	Takes of pre-bait	Takes of poison bait.
April, 1948	1st Initial treatment	218		
July, 1948	2nd " "	77	77	31
February, 1949.	1st Maintenance treatment	80	14	8
July, 1949	2nd " "	71	49	18
March, 1950	3rd " "	58	20	7
July, 1950	4th " "	41	41	21
February, 1951	5th " "	57	20	13
August, 1951	6th " "	35	17	15
February, 1952	7th " "	69	14	6
July, 1952	8th " "	58	36	15
February, 1953	9th " "	54	14	4
February, 1954	10th " "	47	13	8
August, 1954	11th " "	16	16	8
			7	5

Results of Initial and Annual Test Baiting :-

	No. of manholes baited	Takes of bait	% of takes
Initial 1947/8	384	64	16.666
Second 1948	160	13	8.125
Third 1949	229	8	3.493
Fourth 1950	250	9	3.600
Fifth 1951	200	11	5.500
Sixth 1952	201	7	5.473
Seventh 1953	179	7	3.91

CONCLUSION.

In preparing my report this year I have made my observations under the various subject headings where they are probably more appropriate than at the end.

Two items stand out in my mind as of special significance during the year because both took up a good deal of time in trying to help the public.

The first such item is the improvement grant scheme which, consequent upon the publicity given it by the Ministry, brought many enquiries though a lot of the proposals were not in accord with the scheme and could not therefore be supported. The Council did however make its highest-ever number of grants.

The second item cannot be written upon at length in this report, but I feel I should mention Civil Defence, because a big effort was made in connection with the organisation of the Welfare Section which the Council has seen fit to place in my charge. Training was stepped up briskly and it was undoubtedly the most active of the post-war years.

It is gratifying that there are today in this town public-spirited men and women ready and willing to be trained for a possible, if remote emergency, and should they ever be called upon to function in a crisis their duties would have a distinct influence upon the health and well-being of the people.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obedient Servant,

H.J. ELDRIDGE,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

I wish to thank the members of my staff in the Public Health Department for their co-operation, particularly the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

NEVILLE H. LINZEE,

Medical Officer of Health.

In preparing my report this year I have made my
 observations during the various medical meetings where
 they are probably more appropriate than at the end.

The same stands out in my mind as of special
 importance during the year because both up a
 great deal of time in trying to help the public.

The first year in the improvement of
 health which, consequently, was the priority given it
 by the Ministry, brought many countries through a lot
 of the proposals were made in accord with the scheme
 and could not otherwise be carried out. The Government
 and however make the highest number of proposals.

The second year cannot be written upon the same
 as the first, but I feel I should mention it
 because a big effort was made in connection
 with the organization of the Health Section which
 had been in my charge. I believe
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It is gratifying that there are many in this town
 who are not only men and women ready and willing to be
 trained for a possible, it needs emergency, and should
 have been called upon to function in a crisis. There
 would have a direct influence upon the health
 and well-being of the people.

I am, Mr. Mayor, ladies and gentlemen,

Yours obedient servant,

H. A. KENNEDY,

Sanitary Engineer, Inspector.

I wish to thank the members of my staff in the
 Public Health Department for their co-operation and
 particularly the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

WILLIAM E. LITTLE,

Medical Officer of Health.