

[Report 1973] / Medical Officer of Health, Birmingham.

Contributors

Birmingham (England). Council.

Publication/Creation

1973

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CITY OF BIRMINGHAM



REPORT

ON THE

Health of Birmingham

IN

1973



E. L. M. MILLAR,
C.B.E., M.Sc., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health





CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1973





CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1973

CONTENTS

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

1. Members of the Health Committee
2. Functions of Sub-Committee of the Health Committee and other Committees
3. Staff of the Public Health Department.
4. Introduction by Medical Officer of Health
5. Vital Statistics
6. Epidemiology
7. Immunisation
8. Laboratory Services
 - (a) Analytical Laboratory
 - (b) Public Health Laboratory
9. Tuberculosis
10. Personal Health Services
 - (a) Care of Mothers and Young Children
 - (b) Personal and Child Health Dental Service
 - (c) Domiciliary Midwifery
 - (d) Health Visiting
 - (e) Home Nursing
 - (f) Ambulance Service
 - (g) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care
 - (h) Health Education
11. Staff Welfare: Cremation
12. Food Hygiene
13. Veterinary Services
14. Environmental Health Services
 - (a) Housing
 - (b) Public Health Inspection
 - (c) Sewerage and Drainage
 - (d) Refuse Collection and Disposal
 - (e) The City's Water Supply
 - (f) Industrial Premises
 - (g) Environmental Protection
 - (h) Atmospheric Pollution Control

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE CONTENT

Members of the Special Services Sub-Committee of the Education Committee

1. General
2. Medical and Dental Inspection and Treatment
3. Handicapped Pupils
4. School Building and School Meals
5. Adult Examination
6. Miscellaneous

7. Vital Statistics
8. Epidemiology
9. Immunisation
10. Laboratory Services
 - (a) Analytical Laboratory
 - (b) Public Health Laboratory
11. Tuberculosis
12. Personal Health Services
 - (a) Care of Mothers and Young Children
 - (b) Personal and Child Health Dental Service
 - (c) Domiciliary Midwifery
 - (d) Health Visiting
 - (e) Home Nursing
 - (f) Ambulance Service
 - (g) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care
 - (h) Health Education
13. Staff Welfare: Cremation
14. Food Hygiene
15. Veterinary Services
16. Environmental Health Services
 - (a) Housing
 - (b) Public Health Inspection
 - (c) Sewerage and Drainage
 - (d) Refuse Collection and Disposal
 - (e) The City's Water Supply
 - (f) Industrial Premises
 - (g) Environmental Protection
 - (h) Atmospheric Pollution Control

Municipal Year, 1973-74

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman COUNCILLOR J. CHARLTON

THE LORD MAYOR (COUNCILLOR MRS. MARJORIE A. BROWN, J.P.)

ALDERMAN E. J. FRANKLIN

COUNCILLOR B. F. ACKER

COUNCILLOR D. ARNOTT-JOB

COUNCILLOR MRS. K. E. BULMER

COUNCILLOR G. CANNING

COUNCILLOR E. F. HANSON, J.P.

COUNCILLOR MISS M. A. HILL

COUNCILLOR R. W. MILLERCHIP

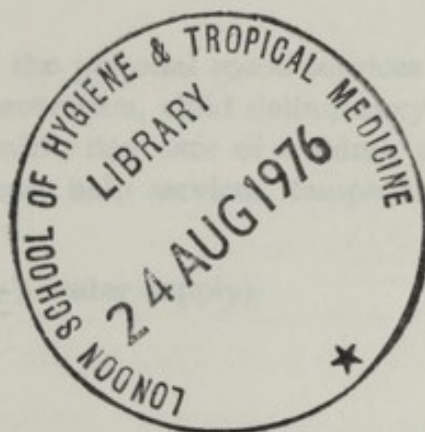
COUNCILLOR H. MINNIS

COUNCILLOR MRS. C. B. REYNOLDS

COUNCILLOR H. N. SCRIMSHAW

COUNCILLOR A. TAYLOR

COUNCILLOR P. M. TEBBUTT



Finance and General Purposes Sub-Committee:

Chairman:—COUNCILLOR J. CHARLTON.

COUNCILLORS Miss M. A. HILL, Mrs. C. B. REYNOLDS, H. N. SCRIMSHAW, A. TAYLOR AND P. M. TEBBUTT.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

To report upon matters referred to them by the Health Committee and to act when necessary on behalf of the City Council for the purpose of exercising certain powers and duties which the Council have delegated to the Sub-Committee.

Meetings—At the call of the Chairman.



OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE CITY COUNCIL CONCERNED WITH MATTERS OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE SOCIAL SERVICES

Leisure Services Committee (provision of bathing establishments).

Education Committee (administration of special schools).

Finance Committee and also the General Purposes Committee (financial provisions of the various enactments).

Fire Brigade Committee (Ambulance Service on an agency basis).

Housing Committee (slum clearance and provision and management of municipal houses).

Markets and Fairs Committee (regulation, control and management of markets and fairs).

Public Works Committee (*inter alia* in charge of all works in connection with public drains and sewers, paving, surfacing and maintenance of streets and roads, the lighting and cleansing of highways, etc.).

Salvage Committee (refuse disposal).

Social Services Committee (provision of the personal social services including services for old people and the handicapped, child protection, child delinquency, care of deprived children, fostering and adoption, mental health, day care of children under five, care of unsupported mothers and their children, home help services, temporary accommodation for homeless people, etc.).

Water Committee (provision of the City's water supply).

URBAN RENEWAL CONFERENCE

The above Conference comprises the following members of the Council:—Alderman Mrs. Cox, Councillors Canning and Wilkinson (representing the Housing Committee), Councillors Charlton and H. Minnis (representing the Health Committee), Councillors Edwards and Sowton (representing the Public Works Committee), Councillors Hannah and E. W. Taylor (representing the General Purposes Committee), Councillors Turner and G. Howell (representing the Social Services Committee) and Councillor Mrs. Longden-Parker (representing the Salvage Committee). It was set up by the General Purposes Committee to co-ordinate to a greater extent than before the activities of various Committees of the City Council concerning Urban Renewal, especially having regard to the intended increased programme of work. The Conference does not carry out the functions of the constituent Committees but is to

- (a) Develop a strategy for Urban Renewal
- (b) Co-ordinate all works involved in the implementation of the Urban Renewal Programme relative to the social and environmental development of communities, and
- (c) Encourage public participation.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1973

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer:

E. L. M. MILLAR, C.B.E., M.Sc., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Principal School Medical Officer:

W. NICOL, S.B.St.J., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Secretary Accountant:

P. W. GREEN, F.C.I.S., F.H.A.

Senior Administrative Medical Officers for Personal and Child Health Services:

N. M. JOHNSTON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.

D. F. MAHON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., B.Sc. (Public Health). L.M.

Deputy Senior Administrative Medical Officers for Personal and Child Health Services:

I. C. AIDNEY, M.B., Ch.B.

J. E. PRESTON, M.B., Ch.B.

Senior Assistant Medical Officer for Personal and Child Health Services:

E. O. WILLIAMS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Clinical Medical Officers for Child Health:

E. D. MAY, M.B., B.Sc., D.C.H.

J. VACCARRO, M.B., B.Sc.

O. C. FURLONG, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.

J. B. MOLE, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.

Senior Administrative Medical Officer for Environmental Services:

S. G. PHILLIPS, M.B., Ch.B., D.T.M., and H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Deputy Senior Administrative Medical Officer for Environmental Services:

J. M. MOKUENA, L.M.S.S.A., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer for Immunisation:

M. J. KHETANI, R.C.S. (Dublin)

Medical Officer for Staff Welfare:

J. J. LANDON, M.A., M.B., B.Chir.(Cantab.), M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.)

Chief Dental Officer:

F. J. HASTILOW, L.D.S.

City Analyst:

A. H. COOMBES, B.Sc., M.Chem.A., F.R.I.C.

Director of Nursing Services:

Miss P. GREENING, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Divisional Nursing Officers:

Miss L. H. LINDAY, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V., D.N.A. (Aston).

Mrs. V. LUTWYCHE, S.R.N., S.C.M. D.N., H.V.

Mrs. J. SMITH, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Chief Veterinary Officer:

A. WILSON, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.

Chief Public Health and Housing Inspector:

E. N. WAKELIN, O.B.E., F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

Chief Air Pollution and Noise Abatement Inspector:

A. ARCHER, F.A.P.H.I.

SECRETARIAL AND ACCOUNTANCY

Secretary-Accountant	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Deputy Secretary-Accountant	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Assistant Secretaries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Principal Administrative Assistants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Administrative Staff	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Clerical Staff	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	72

PERSONAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES

Senior Administrative Medical Officers for Personal and Child Health Services	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Deputy Senior Administrative Medical Officers for Personal and Child Health Services	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Senior Assistant Medical Officer for Personal and Child Health Services	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Senior Clinical Medical Officers for Child Health	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Medical Officers in Department (15 full-time, 9 part-time)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24

Personal and Child Health and Associated Staff

Director of Nursing Services	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Divisional Nursing Officers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Area Nursing Officers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Community Co-ordinator	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

								<i>Full-time</i>	<i>Part-time</i>
Health Visitors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	110	20
Health Visitors (Geriatric Section)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	5
Student Health Visitors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	—
Clinic Nurses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	13
Chiropodist	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	5
Physiotherapists	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	20
School Nurses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47	26
Nursing Assistants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	—
Speech Therapists	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	3

Home Nursing Service

District Nurse Tutors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Nursing Staff (full-time 228, part-time 11)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	239
Nursing Staff (Geriatrics) (full-time 5, part-time 1)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6

Dental

Chief Dental Officer	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Senior Divisional Dental Officer	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Divisional Dental Officers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Senior (Orthodontic) Dental Officer	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Senior (Periodontic) Dental Officer	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Senior (Endodontic) Dental Officer	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Senior (Surgery) Dental Officer	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Senior Dental Officers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Orthodontists (3 part-time)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Anaesthetists (6 part-time)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Assistant Dental Officers (full-time 1, part-time 26)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Dental Technicians	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Dental Surgery Assistants (28 full-time, 18 part-time)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46
Dental Hygienist	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dental Auxiliaries (6 full-time, 3 part-time)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9

Midwives

Nursing Officers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Midwifery Training Officer	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Midwives (full-time 98, part-time 15)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	113

Parent and Child Centre

Principal Social Worker	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Senior Social Worker	1
Social Workers (2 full-time, 2 part-time)	4

<i>Clerical Staff</i>	52
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Miscellaneous Staff

Non-manual (full-time and part-time)	74
Manual	221

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Senior Administrative Medical Officer for Environmental Services	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Deputy Senior Administrative Medical Officer for Environmental Services (in conjunction with Health Education and Immunisation)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Clerical Staff	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Visiting Assistants (full-time 2, part-time 2)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

Health Education

Organiser	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Assistant Organiser	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Artist..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

Immunisation

Medical Officer for B.C.G. Vaccination	1
Nurse Administrator of the Immunisation Section	1
Nursing Staff	2
Medical and Nursing Staff (part-time)	12
Clerical Staff (30 full-time)	30

TUBERCULOSIS

(Prevention and After-Care)

Tuberculosis Visitors	5
Clerical Staff	4

STAFF WELFARE SURGERIES

Medical Officer for Staff Welfare	1
Nursing Staff (1 full-time)	2

VETERINARY OFFICERS AND FOOD INSPECTORS

Chief Veterinary Officer	1
Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer	1
Assistant Chief Veterinary Officer	1
Senior Food Inspectors	3
Authorised Meat Inspectors	14
Trainee Meat Inspectors	—
Clerical Staff	3
Miscellaneous Manual Staff	1

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION

Chief Public Health and Housing Inspector	1
Deputy Chief Public Health and Housing Inspector	1
Assistant Chief Public Health Inspector	1
Assistant Chief Public Health Inspector (General)	1
Divisional Public Health Inspectors	5
District Public Health Inspectors	12
Senior Rodent Officer	1
Senior Shops Act Inspector	1
Enforcement Officers	1
Inspectorial Staff	50
Technical Assistants	23
Water Sampling Officer	1
Pupil Public Health Inspectors	40
District Food Inspectors	8
Pest Officers	13
Clerical Staff	73
Miscellaneous Manual Staff	3

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION UNIT

Chief Air Pollution and Noise Abatement Inspector	1
Deputy Chief Air Pollution and Noise Abatement Inspector	1
Special Duties Officers	2
Divisional Environmental Pollution Inspectors	4
Investigation Officer	1
Senior Technical Assistant (Air Pollution Monitoring)	1
Senior Technician (Noise Monitoring)	1
„ „ (Noise Insulation)	1
„ „ (Air Pollution Monitoring)	1
Senior Technicians (Smoke Control)	2
Technicians („ „)	13

SAMPLING INSPECTORS

Senior Sampling Officer	1
Deputy Senior Sampling Officer	1
Sampling Officers	3

ANALYTICAL LABORATORY

City Analyst.. .. .	1
Deputy City Analyst	1
Research Chemist	1
Laboratory Staff	13
Clerical Staff	2

MISCELLANEOUS STAFF

Manual Workers (Drivers, Cleaners, etc.)	46
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BIRMINGHAM AREA HEALTH AUTHORITY (TEACHING),
COMMUNITY HEALTH DIVISION,
TRAFALGAR HOUSE,
PARADISE CIRCUS QUEENSWAY,
BIRMINGHAM, B1 2BQ.

2nd May, 1975.

*To the Chairman and Members,
Health Committee.*

This Report, which I have the honour to present, is the last of a series of annual reports of Medical Officers of Health of Birmingham. The series began in 1873 when Dr. Alfred Hill, the first of Birmingham's five Medical Officers of Health, presented his Report to the Sanitary Committee and expressed his great concern about the dangerous water from the many shallow wells fearfully polluted by soakage from privies, middens, dumbwells, sewers, pigstyes, graveyards and general surface filth. Such water was rightly believed to have the potential of carrying the infections of diarrhoea, cholera and typhoid although in fact the germs of these diseases had not by then been identified. Dr. Hill regarded the midden or ashpit and dumbwell system as the dirtiest, most offensive and most unhealthy, and his priorities were for hygienic disposal of urban refuse and excrement, the provision of a safe water supply and the paving of streets.

In 1873 the birthrate was 40.78 per 1,000 of population, but the death rate was also high, being 24.81 per 1,000 of population, caused principally by bronchitis, tuberculosis and diseases of children, including infectious diseases. Indeed, 18.15 per cent of all live born babies failed to reach one year of age. Thus the high death rate was partly accounted for by the large number of births.

The so-called "zymotic diseases" were playing havoc. Diarrhoea caused 728 deaths; scarlet fever 587; typhoid, typhus and continued fever 203; whooping cough 169; smallpox 122; measles 123 and diphtheria 107.

The situation in 1973 was dramatically different: only 24 deaths from diarrhoea and no deaths from any of these other diseases. The live birth rate was only 14.34 per 1,000 population, the lowest ever recorded, and the infant mortality rate was 23.68 per 1,000 live births. Nevertheless, the general death rate from all causes was 12.11 per 1,000 population. Another sharp contrast

was the fact that in 1973 infant deaths accounted for only 2.8 per cent of the whole, whereas those aged 65 years and over constituted 69.6 per cent of the deaths. (In 1873 deaths of persons aged 60 and over accounted for 16.4 per cent of all deaths).

The public health work of 100 years ago was largely dealing with insanitary conditions and illnesses arising from them. These problems have now nearly disappeared and have increasingly been replaced by efforts to bring remaining houses up to a good standard in a pleasant and healthy environment. Further improvement in health now relies more upon the efforts of individuals themselves, especially in the realms of weight control, taking of exercise and avoiding smoking. The Health Department has increasingly provided practical help to attain these objectives. Despite the large and sustained campaign against smoking, which has surely not failed to come to the notice of every smoker, the deaths from lung cancer in 1973 were higher than ever, 735, of whom 128 were women. The figure for women was equalled in 1970 but has never been exceeded. One gains the impression from observation that more women than ever are indulging in this dangerous and dirty habit. Smokers say we have to die from something, but I would point out that in 1973, out of the 1,870 deaths occurring among people aged between 35 and 59, as many as 187 were due to lung cancer. Deaths from cancer of the cervix were also unusually high at 60. Is this another tragic result of apathy on the part of women in not availing themselves of a free service which is so readily obtained?

Vital statistics and health education both feature in the reports of 1873 and 1973, but, apart from these and some aspects of public health inspection, the modern report is made up of material not mentioned 100 years before and virtually unknown then: for instance, ischaemic heart disease, which in 1973 killed 2,663 people, 486 of them before the age of 60. This is now one of the biggest health problems of advanced countries.

The trend has been steadily towards providing a widening variety of personal health services, expensive in manpower and requiring substantial organisation. The objective has been to offer individuals as good and complete a service as possible but with a simple administration calling for minimal expenditure of time and money upon it. Reorganisation of the National Health Service would appear to entail greatly increased time (and therefore money) upon administration in Birmingham without, so far as one can see, a corresponding improvement in the service which actually reaches members of the public.

I entered the Public Health Service 35 years ago with the objective of applying scientific knowledge to the promotion of health, a field that at the time was developing unduly slowly. I have been fortunate to work through a period of rapid progress and especially fortunate to work since 1950 for Birmingham which has been for so long among the leading Authorities in Public Health and Social Medicine. The never-failing kindness and support of Health Committees and City Councils throughout this period have made it a joy to serve them and the loyalty and support from all my many colleagues have lightened the burden which, without their help and friendship, I would have found impossible.

E. L. M. MILLAR,

formerly Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

Area

There was no alteration in the area of the City, which remained at 51,598 acres or approximately 81 square miles in 1973.

Population

Home population estimated by the Registrar General at 30th June (civilians plus H.M. Forces stationed in the area)

Census 1961	1,107,187
1966	1,102,570
1967	1,101,990
1968	1,074,940
1969	1,086,400
1970	1,084,180
Census 1971	1,014,670
1972	1,006,760
1973	1,004,030

Density—19.5 persons per acre.

Live Births

		1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
(a)	Born in the City	18,614	17,708	16,488	15,015	13,739
(b)	Born outside the City ..	385	434	462	597	659
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		18,999	18,142	16,950	15,612	14,398

Live Birth Rate

14.34 per 1,000 population.

Illegitimate Live Births

These numbered 1,811 representing 12.57 per cent of the total live births, a decrease of 72 on 1972. The following table sets out the percentage of locally recorded illegitimate live births in recent years.

1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
10.5%	10.3%	10.6%	10.7%	10.7%	11.1%	11.2%	11.7%	12.1%	12.6%

The following table shows the comparable rates for England and Wales and other large towns.

			<i>Birmingham</i>	<i>Leeds</i>	<i>Liverpool</i>	<i>Manchester</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
1969	..	..	12.1	13.0	11.4	17.9	8.4
1970	..	..	12.0	13.3	11.5	18.3	8.0
1971	..	..	12.3	13.3	11.8	19.1	8.4
1972	..	..	13.0	15.0	12.1	20.1	8.6
1973	..	..	13.0	Not yet available			9.0

Stillbirth Rate

There were 184 stillbirths, giving a rate of 12.62 per 1,000 (live and still) births.

Total Births (live and still) 14,582.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

Infant deaths under 1 year of age

Legitimate	290	Illegitimate	51
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Total infant deaths were 341, 9 more than in 1972, giving a rate of 23.68 per 1,000 live births.

1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
21.4	22.0	21.2	19.8	22.5	21.2	21.4	20.4	21.3	23.7

INFANT MORTALITY RATES IN ZONES OF THE CITY

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Inner	24	31	21	22	31	24	28	24	24	32
Middle ..	23	23	24	22	26	25	23	26	24	26
Outer ..	19	18	18	17	17	17	18	15	18	20

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 (legitimate) live births.

1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
20.96	19.18	18.84	19.88	23.04

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 (illegitimate) live births.

1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
22.78	34.00	31.75	31.33	28.16

EARLY NEONATAL DEATH RATE

(deaths in first 7 days)

1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
12.32	13.76	11.03	11.85	13.33

NEONATAL DEATH RATE

(deaths in first 4 weeks)

1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
13.74	15.71	12.80	13.90	15.49

POST NEONATAL DEATH RATE

(deaths in the first year, excluding first 4 weeks)

1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
7.42	5.68	7.49	7.37	8.19

PERINATAL DEATH RATE

(Still births plus deaths in the first week)

1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
25.63	27.50	24.90	25.09	25.78

INFANT MORTALITY 1973

<i>Cause of death</i>	<i>Early Neo- natal</i>	<i>7-28 Days</i>	<i>Total Neo- natal</i>	<i>Post Neo- natal</i>	<i>Total Infant Deaths</i>
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases ..	—	2	2	9	11
Measles	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (including Meningococcal infection)	1	—	1	3	4
Pneumonia	3	10	13	15	28
Bronchitis	—	—	—	5	5
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—
Neoplasms	1	—	1	—	1
Congenital anomalies	46	12	58	28	86
Birth injury, difficult labour	21	—	21	—	21
Atelectasis, asphyxia, respiratory distress	46	2	48	2	50
Other causes of perinatal mortality ..	69	2	71	3	74
Accidents	—	—	—	6	6
All other external causes	2	—	2	1	3
All other diseases	3	3	6	46	52
	192	31	223	118	341

Maternal Mortality

Number of deaths (abortions 0) 8.

There was one death due to associated conditions.

Rate per 1,000 live and still births . . 0.55.

Including associated conditions . . 0.62.

Maternal Deaths (excluding abortions).

1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
3	8	6	6	6	6	2	6	2	5	8

Death Rate from all causes was 12.11 per 1,000 population, the total number of deaths being 12,163. This is a decrease of 91 compared with the total for 1972 when the rate was 12.17.

The principal causes of death are set out in the table below:—

	<i>Heart disease</i>	<i>Cancer</i>	<i>Cerebro- vascular disease</i>	<i>Pneu- monia, bronchitis, influenza</i>	<i>Arterio- sclerosis and circulatory diseases</i>	<i>Suicides, accidents and other external causes</i>
1964	3,442	2,297	1,640	1,541	616	614
1965	3,661	2,460	1,781	1,499	598	592
1966	3,584	2,451	1,670	1,794	476	619
1967	3,670	2,539	1,811	1,283	425	527
1968	3,779	2,608	1,794	1,657	468	487
1969	3,880	2,557	1,662	2,037	361	524
1970	3,657	2,588	1,611	1,729	557	536
1971	3,534	2,533	1,625	1,508	523	551
1972	3,790	2,451	1,655	1,911	521	505
1973	3,742	2,655	1,510	1,814	446	556
% of all deaths in 1973	30.77	21.83	12.41	14.91	3.67	4.57

Of the 556 deaths from suicide, accidents and other external causes, 68 were due to suicide.

Ischaemic Heart Disease as Cause of Death

1967	Male	1,386	2,208
	Female	822	
1968	Male	1,471	2,451
	Female	980	
1969	Male	1,604	2,584
	Female	980	
1970	Male	1,576	2,655
	Female	1,079	
1971	Male	1,483	2,531
	Female	1,048	
1972	Male	1,534	2,711
	Female	1,177	
1973	Male	1,555	2,663
	Female	1,108	

AGES AT DEATH FROM ISCHAEMIC HEART DISEASE

Age Group	Male	Female	Total
20 - 24	1	—	1
25 - 29	1	—	1
30 - 34	4	2	6
35 - 39	10	2	12
40 - 44	25	6	31
45 - 49	67	13	80
50 - 54	111	17	128
55 - 59	172	55	227
60 - 64	231	65	296
65 - 69	258	121	379
70 - 74	292	191	483
75 - 79	180	207	387
80 - 84	132	193	325
85 years+	71	236	307
TOTAL	1,555	1,108	2,663

No deaths occurred in the age group 0-19

Area Comparability Factors

Births	1.02	Deaths	1.04
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Crude birth and death rates are not satisfactory rates in themselves for comparative purposes because each area varies in the age and sex structure of its population. In order to make comparisons of birth and death rates between one area and another the device known as the Area Comparability Factor which eliminates the age and sex difference of the local populations is applied by

multiplying the local crude rate by the factor. The Adjusted Birth Rate was 14.62 per 1,000 population and the Adjusted Death Rate 12.59.

Cancer

Total deaths from this cause were 2,655, 204 more than in 1972, giving a mortality rate of 2.64 per 1,000 population compared with 2.43 for the previous year.

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Deaths ..	2,297	2,460	2,451	2,539	2,608	2,557	2,588	2,533	2,451	2,655
Rate ..	2.08	2.23	2.22	2.30	2.43	2.35	2.39	2.50	2.43	2.64

Deaths from Cancer of the Lung and Bronchus

There were 735 deaths, or 27.68 per cent of the total deaths from cancer, related to the lung and bronchus. The number of male deaths has increased by 31, or 5.4 per cent, compared with the figure for 1972, and the female deaths have also increased by 29, or 29.3 per cent, for the same period.

The following table shows the age and sex structure of these deaths:—

Age Group							Male	Female	Total
35 - 39 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	—	4
40 - 44 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	6	12
45 - 49 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	7	25
50 - 54 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	11	44
55 - 59 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	84	18	102
60 - 64 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	121	24	145
65 - 69 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	143	13	156
70 - 74 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	98	23	121
75 - 79 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	58	16	74
80 - 84 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35	7	42
85 years + ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	3	10
TOTAL ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	607	128	735

The following table denotes the number of deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus over the past ten years:—

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Males	513	562	544	587	612	579	600	503	576	607
Females	78	88	89	95	102	111	128	111	99	128
TOTALS	591	650	633	682	714	690	728	614	675	735

Deaths from other forms of Cancer

Deaths from cancer of the stomach and intestines totalled 662, 330 being men and 332 women. There were 234 deaths from cancer of the breast, of which one was male. There were 80 leukaemia deaths and 60 deaths from cancer of the cervix uteri, age groups in the latter category being shown in the table below for the period 1970 to 1973 inclusive. There were 248 deaths due to cancer of the genito-urinary system, an increase of 14 on 1972.

AGE AT DEATH FROM CANCER OF THE CERVIX UTERI

Age Group	1970	1971	1972	1973
15 - 19	1	—	—	—
20 - 24	—	—	—	—
25 - 29	—	—	—	—
30 - 34	3	1	1	1
35 - 39	3	2	1	1
40 - 44	1	2	1	4
45 - 49	11	9	6	6
50 - 54	6	8	5	8
55 - 59	3	8	3	5
60 - 64	7	3	4	6
65 - 69	7	8	2	11
70 - 74	8	4	7	6
75 +	3	10	3	12
	<hr/> 53 <hr/>	<hr/> 55 <hr/>	<hr/> 33 <hr/>	<hr/> 60 <hr/>

Accidents

There were 437 fatal accidents, 219 occurring to males and 218 to females, accounting for 3.6 per cent of all deaths. This represents an increase of 52 on the figure for 1972 and includes fatalities occurring outside the City to residents of Birmingham. Fatal accidents occurring in the home amounted to 200, or

46 per cent of all accidental deaths: 171 of them involved children under 5 years and adults of 65 years and over.

Deaths from road accidents totalled 140, 118 of these resulting from accidents in Birmingham.

Fatal road accident figures for the past eight years are set out in the following table:—

1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
188	141	141	148	166	151	150	140

Accidents occurring on the road and in the course of employment were fatal to 52 males and 14 females between the ages of 5 and 45 years. Accidents to persons of 65 years and over caused 246 deaths, being 56·3 per cent of all deaths due to accidents. This is an increase of 37 deaths in this age group over the 1972 figure.

The table below shows the number of people who died in all accidents, classified under various headings:—

<i>Type of Accident</i>	(a) <i>Total Deaths</i>	(b) <i>No. in column (a) 65 years and over</i>	(c) <i>(b) as % of (a)</i>
Falls on the same level	173	164	94·8
Falls downstairs	11	6	54·5
Pedestrians killed by motor vehicles ..	70	36	51·4
Other road accidents	70	7	10·0
Coal gas poisoning	4	2	50·0
Burns and electricity	18	5	27·8
Other accidents	91	26	28·6

Once again column (b) shows "falls on the same level" to be the greatest cause of fatal accidents among the elderly, accounting for 66·7 per cent of them. Pedestrians aged 65 and over involved in accidents with motor vehicles resulted in 14·6 per cent of accidental deaths in this age group.

MORTALITY RATES OF LEGITIMATE AND ILLEGITIMATE BABIES

		Stillbirth rate	Early neonatal mortality rate	Perinatal mortality rate	4 weeks neonatal mortality rate	Post neonatal mortality rate	Total infant mortality rate
1973	Legitimate ...						
	Illegitimate ...	12.62	13.11	25.78	15.25	7.87	23.04
	Total ...		14.91		17.12	10.49	28.16
			13.33		15.49	8.19	23.68
1972	Legitimate ...						
	Illegitimate ...	13.40	10.93	25.09	12.89	6.99	19.88
	Total ...		18.59		21.24	10.09	31.33
			11.85		13.90	7.37	21.27
1971	Legitimate ...						
	Illegitimate ...	14.02	10.49	24.90	12.09	6.75	18.84
	Total ...		15.12		18.65	13.10	31.75
			11.03		12.86	7.49	20.35
1970	Legitimate ...						
	Illegitimate ...	13.91	12.29	27.50	14.15	5.64	19.80
	Total ...		25.63		28.10	5.91	34.00
			13.78		15.71	5.68	21.39
1969	Legitimate ...						
	Illegitimate ...	13.50	12.25	25.65	13.73	7.22	20.96
	Total ...		12.81		13.76	9.02	22.78
			12.32		13.74	7.42	21.16
1968	Legitimate ...						
	Illegitimate ...	14.11	12.48	26.23	14.73	7.63	22.44
	Total ...		12.95		16.65	6.47	23.12
			12.09		15.01	7.50	22.51
1967	Legitimate ...						
	Illegitimate ...	16.27	11.49	28.29	12.77	6.33	19.10
	Total ...		18.26		20.49	4.90	25.39
			12.21		13.59	6.18	19.78
1966	Legitimate ...						
	Illegitimate ...	17.29	11.71	29.27	13.68	6.81	20.49
	Total ...		16.16		18.85	8.53	27.38
			12.18		14.23	7.00	21.22

CRUDE RATES

Year	BIRTH RATE		STILLBIRTH RATE		INFANT MORTALITY RATE		DEATH RATE	
	<i>B'ham</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>	<i>B'ham</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>	<i>B'ham</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>	<i>B'ham</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>
1941	16.8	13.9	29	35	69	60	13.2	13.5
1946	22.5	19.2	25.6	27	40	42.8	11.3	12.0
1951	16.5	15.5	22.2	23	30	29.6	11.4	12.5
1956	16.6	15.6	22.9	23	24.6	23.7	10.9	11.7
1957	17.1	16.1	21.5	22	24.6	23.1	11.2	11.5
1958	17.6	16.4	22.0	22	25.0	22.5	11.0	11.7
1959	17.7	16.5	21.1	21	25.4	22.2	11.6	11.6
1960	19.0	17.0	19.9	20	22.6	21.8	11.0	11.5
1961	19.5	17.6	20.1	19	23.8	21.4	11.4	12.0
1962	20.0	18.0	19.0	18	22.8	21.7	11.1	11.9
1963	20.0	18.2	18.9	17	23.6	21.1	11.3	12.2
1964	20.2	18.4	17.5	16	21.4	19.9	10.7	11.3
1965	19.6	18.0	17.2	16	22.0	19.0	11.1	11.5
1966	19.1	17.7	17.3	15	21.2	19.0	11.1	11.7
1967	19.1	17.2	16.3	15	19.8	18.3	10.8	11.2
1968	18.8	16.9	14.1	14	22.5	18.3	11.6	11.9
1969	17.5	16.3	13.5	13	21.2	18.0	11.6	11.8
1970	16.7	16.0	14.0	13	21.4	18.0	11.0	11.7
1971	16.7	16.0	14.0	12	21.3	18.0	11.5	11.6
1972	15.5	14.8	13.4	12	21.3	17.0	12.2	12.1
1973	14.3	13.7	12.6	12	23.7	17.0	12.1	12.0

VITAL STATISTICS DURING 1973 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

YEAR	Population Estimated to midday of each year	Birth rate	Death rate	Area Comparability Factors		INFANT DEATH RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS						DEATH RATES PER 1,000 OF POPULATION FROM:—													
				Deaths	Births	Suspended	Infant Mortality	Early Neonatal (first week)	Neonatal (first month)	Post-neonatal (1—12 months)	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 yrs)	Stillbirths	Perinatal ††	Maternal (including abortions)	Influenza	Tuberculosis		Cancer	Diseases of Nervous System	Diseases of Circulatory System	Diseases of Respiratory System	Diseases of Digestive System	Diseases of Genito- Urinary System	Suicides	Other Violence
																Respiratory	Other Forms								
1941	950,000	16.3	13.2				63	20.5	29.1	39.9	11.3	29.1	49.0	2.49	.15	.81	.09	1.70	1.30*	3.10	1.94	.72	.45	.12	.44
1942	965,000	19.3	11.8				56	20.2	30.1	25.9	9.8	28.4	48.0	2.34	.10	.77	.09	1.77	1.28*	2.87	1.51	.64	.43	.11	.37
1943	965,000	20.9	12.1				55	17.9	25.7	29.3	9.1	27.4	44.8	1.69	.34	.71	.07	1.83	1.34*	3.02	1.73	.46	.45	.11	.31
1944	990,000	22.8	11.3				42	15.4	22.2	19.8	6.0	24.5	39.6	1.34	.11	.70	.09	1.75	1.29*	3.15	1.40	.43	.42	.08	.32
1945	990,000	19.9	11.2				50	17.0	22.5	26.5	7.8	24.8	41.3	1.41	.06	.68	.07	1.84	1.33*	3.14	1.44	.44	.41	.10	.27
Average		19.9	11.9				54	18.2	25.9	28.3	8.8	26.8	44.5	1.85	.15	.73	.08	1.78	1.31*	3.10	1.60	.54	.43	.10	.34
1946	1,017,100	22.5	11.3				41	17.3	22.1	17.9	6.1	25.6	42.2	0.85	.11	.61	.07	1.90	1.32*	3.36	1.37	.44	.36	.12	.30
1947	1,076,230†	22.2	11.1				41	15.9	20.9	19.8	7.1	23.8	39.1	0.98	.08	.64	.05	1.83	1.34*	3.34	1.48	.36	.34	.11	.27
1948	1,096,100†	19.5	9.8				32	16.3	18.0	13.6	3.2	21.8	37.7	0.50	.03	.59	.04	1.82	1.10*	3.00	1.10	.32	.33	.13	.27
1949	1,106,800†	18.1	10.7	1.13			31	15.0	17.7	13.1	3.2	21.7	30.4	0.49	.19	.54	.05	1.75	1.25*	3.52	1.34	.35	.29	.12	.27
1950	1,117,900†	16.8	10.9	1.12			30	16.4	19.2	10.9	2.2	23.0	30.8	0.63	.07	.43	.03	1.88	1.40*	3.67	1.30	.35	.28	.12	.30
Average		19.8	10.8				35	14.5	19.6	15.1	4.4	23.2	36.0	0.73	.10	.56	.05	1.84	1.28*	3.38	1.32	.36	.32	.12	.28
1951	1,110,900†	16.5	11.4	1.12			30	15.9	19.2	10.5	1.6	22.2	37.6	0.75	.26	.35	.03	1.82	1.49*	3.79	1.54	.42	.25	.12	.33
1952	1,119,000†	16.4	10.2	1.12			27	15.6	17.6	9.2	1.3	19.6	33.3	0.80	.15	.25	.02	1.90	1.46*	3.46	1.12	.39	.22	.11	.31
1953	1,118,500†	16.6	10.6	1.14			26	15.1	18.0	8.1	1.1	23.5	37.9	0.58	.15	.24	.01	2.00	1.51*	3.40	1.15	.40	.25	.13	.27
1954	1,117,700†	16.4	10.6	1.14			24	13.8	16.8	7.4	0.7	21.6	35.1	0.80	.03	.20	.01	2.05	1.68*	3.67	1.28	.39	.20	.12	.36
1955	1,111,700†	16.0	11.3	1.13			24	13.0	16.3	7.4	0.8	23.0	35.7	0.32	.08	.19	.01	2.06	1.68*	3.67	1.28	.39	.23	.12	.31
Average		16.4	10.8				26	14.7	17.6	8.5	1.1	22.0	35.3	0.65	.11	.25	.02	1.97	1.56*	3.55	1.28	.39	.23	.12	.31
1956	1,110,800†	16.6	10.9	1.08			25	14.8	17.6	7.0	1.0	22.9	37.4	0.63	.03	.14	.01	2.08	1.55*	3.46	1.29	.38	.21	.13	.37
1957	1,103,000†	17.1	11.2	1.07			25	15.8	17.7	7.0	0.3	21.5	37.0	0.41	.14	.12	.01	2.20	1.54*	3.73	1.31	.37	.23	.14	.36
1958	1,095,000†	17.6	11.0	1.10			25	16.0	17.9	7.1	0.4	22.0	37.8	0.40	.04	.13	.01	2.10	1.75*	3.78	1.34	.35	.19	.13	.37
1959	1,091,500†	17.7	11.6	1.14			25	15.8	18.0	7.4	0.6	22.1	36.6	0.36	.26	.09	.01	2.17	1.68*	4.0	1.63	.34	.21	.12	.36
1960	1,093,160†	19.0	11.0	1.15			23	14.4	16.0	6.6	0.7	19.9	34.0	0.52	.03	.07	.01	2.07	1.67*	3.90	1.33	.37	.22	.12	.42
Average		17.6	11.1				25	15.4	17.2	7.0	0.6	21.4	36.6	0.48	.09	.11	.01	2.13	1.64*	3.76	1.33	.38	.21	.13	.40
1961	1,110,280†	19.5	11.4	1.15			24	14.6	16.6	7.3	1.1	20.1	34.4	0.23	.16	.07	.01	2.07	1.63*	4.01	1.53	.34	.18	.11	.43
1962	1,115,080†	20.0	11.2	1.16			23	14.0	16.1	6.7	1.2	19.0	32.7	0.48	.06	.07	.01	2.08	1.64*	3.89	1.64	.34	.21	.12	.39
1963	1,115,630†	20.0	11.3	1.17			24	13.0	15.3	8.3	1.4	18.9	31.6	0.22	.03	.07	.01	2.14	1.74*	3.93	1.52	.35	.24	.13	.45
1964	1,106,040†	20.2	10.7	1.17			21	12.6	14.5	7.0	1.5	17.5	29.8	0.40	.03	.06	.00	2.08	1.61*	3.67	1.35	.35	.21	.11	.45
1965	1,102,660†	19.6	11.1	1.17			22	12.6	14.7	7.4	1.6	17.2	29.6	0.36	.01	.04	.00	2.23	1.74*	3.86	1.35	.33	.23	.09	.44
Average		19.8	11.1				23	13.3	15.4	7.3	1.5	18.6	31.6	0.34	.06	.06	.01	2.12	1.7*	3.9	1.5	.35	.21	.11	.43
1966	1,102,570†	19.1	11.1	1.13			21	12.2	14.2	7.0	0.9	17.3	29.3	0.28	.06	.04	.00	2.24	1.65*	3.77	1.56	.31	.21	.11	.46
1967	1,101,990†	19.1	10.8	1.13			20	12.2	13.6	6.2	0.6	16.3	28.3	0.37	.02	.03	.00	2.50	1.80*	3.72	1.21	.29	.21	.08	.40
1968	1,074,940†	18.8	11.6	1.15			22	12.1	15.0	7.5	1.2	14.1	26.2	0.29	.06	.04	.00	2.43	1.82*	3.95	1.56	.30	.18	.06	.40
1969	1,086,400†	17.5	11.6	1.15			21	12.3	13.7	7.4	0.7	13.5	25.6	0.21	.10	.02	.00	2.35	1.68*	3.90	1.86	.30	.17	.04	.41
1970	1,084,180†	16.7	11.0	1.15			21	13.8	15.7	5.7	0.5	13.9	27.5	0.38	.06	.05	.00	2.39	1.60*	3.87	1.69	.22	.12	.06	.43
Average		18.2	11.2				21	12.5	14.4	6.7	0.8	15.6	27.4	0.30	.06	.04	.00	2.34	1.71	3.84	1.58	.28	.17	.07	.42
1971	1,013,420	16.7	11.5	1.15			20	11.0	12.8	7.5	0.6	14.0	24.9	0.17	.01	.02	.00	2.40	1.71	4.0	1.16	.32	.17	.08	.46
1972	1,006,760	15.5	12.2	1.05			21	11.9	13.9	7.4	0.7	13.4	25.1	0.32	.06	.04	.00	2.43	1.77	4.28	2.03	.32	.16	.08	.42
1973	1,004,030	14.3	12.1	1.04			24	13.3	15.5	8.2	0.9	12.6	25.8	0.55	.03	.03	.00	2.64	1.62	4.17	1.95	.29	.18	.07	.49

*Exclusive of General Paralysis †Registrar General's Estimate

††Up to 1956 was still births plus deaths in first four weeks per 1,000 live and still births. Beginning in 1956 only deaths in first week have been included

BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES IN WARDS, 1973

WARDS	Estimated Population	BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS		INFANT DEATHS		
		Number	Rate per 1,000 Population	Illegitimacy Number % of live births	Number	Rate per 1,000 Population	Number	Rate per 1,000 live births	
Aston	12,200	289	23.7	51	17.6	119	9.8	5	17.3
Deritend	15,900	385	24.2	74	19.2	183	11.5	12	31.2
Duddleston	14,400	260	18.1	52	20.0	145	10.1	9	34.6
Ladywood	13,400	169	12.6	30	17.8	197	14.7	3	17.8
Newtown	14,900	259	17.4	38	14.7	191	12.8	14	54.1
Totals and Average Rates for Central Wards ...		1,362	19.2	245	18.0	835	17.8	43	31.6
All Saints	9,500	212	22.3	41	19.3	171	18.0	5	23.6
Edgbaston	27,400	309	11.3	62	20.1	270	9.9	5	16.2
Gravelly Hill	24,800	404	16.3	45	11.1	372	15.0	8	19.8
Handsworth	27,700	557	20.1	131	23.5	295	10.6	19	34.1
Moseley	27,900	506	18.3	92	18.2	433	15.5	11	21.7
Rotton Park	15,800	379	24.0	82	21.6	343	21.7	14	36.9
Saltley	24,400	402	16.5	46	11.4	326	13.4	14	34.8
Selly Oak	26,500	356	13.4	28	7.9	395	14.9	8	22.5
Small Heath	24,000	495	20.1	59	11.9	236	9.8	8	16.2
Soho	25,600	680	26.6	104	15.3	250	9.8	20	29.4
Sparkbrook	22,400	553	24.7	119	21.5	252	11.3	24	43.4
Sparkhill	28,600	548	19.2	70	12.8	264	9.2	8	14.6
Washwood Heath	26,600	360	13.5	45	12.5	351	13.2	8	22.2
Totals and Average Rates for Middle Ring Wards		5,761	18.5	924	16.0	3,958	12.7	152	26.4
Acocks Green	27,200	339	12.5	25	7.3	382	14.0	10	29.5
Billesley	28,500	290	10.2	31	10.7	364	12.8	5	17.2
Brandwood... ..	35,900	389	10.8	28	7.2	407	11.3	7	18.0
Erdington	39,000	531	13.6	27	5.1	440	11.3	13	24.5
Fox Hollies	24,000	217	9.0	29	13.4	344	14.3	5	23.1
Hall Green	28,100	281	10.0	13	4.6	355	12.6	2	7.1
Harborne	24,600	274	11.1	37	13.5	350	14.2	5	18.2
Kingstanding	23,300	173	7.4	27	15.6	332	14.2	3	17.3
Kings Norton	32,200	488	15.2	36	7.4	440	13.7	13	26.6
Longbridge	31,500	447	14.2	40	8.9	503	16.0	2	4.5
Northfield	35,600	500	14.0	43	8.6	336	9.4	6	12.0
Oscott	24,300	271	11.2	11	4.1	220	9.1	6	22.1
Perry Barr	24,400	307	12.6	7	2.3	245	10.0	4	13.0
Quinton	26,400	275	10.4	15	5.5	311	11.8	4	14.5
Sandwell	29,600	443	15.0	62	14.0	323	10.9	11	24.8
Shard End	36,600	429	11.7	42	9.8	407	11.1	12	27.9
Sheldon	26,700	261	9.8	32	12.3	226	8.5	8	30.6
Stechford	25,500	298	11.7	43	14.4	284	11.1	10	33.6
Stockland Green	28,300	294	10.4	34	11.6	389	13.7	9	30.6
Weoley	41,900	481	11.5	31	6.4	389	9.3	6	12.5
Yardley	28,400	287	10.1	29	10.1	314	11.1	5	17.4
Totals and Average Rates for Outer Ring Wards		7,275	11.7	642	8.8	7,361	11.8	146	20.1
Ward of Domicile not known		—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—
Total and Average Rates for Whole City		14,398	14.3	1,811	12.6	12,163	12.1	341	23.7

[illegible]

EPIDEMIOLOGY

Diphtheria

Again no cases of diphtheria occurred in 1973. The following table shows the incidence in recent years.

Year	Cases	Deaths	
1961	2	1	Never immunised.
1962	1	0	Mild case overdue for reinforcing injection.
1966	4*	1	The child who died had only had three injections and no booster dose.

*No record of immunisation in one case. One had been immunised in infancy and the other had had three injections and was given a booster dose when the first case was notified.

1971	2	0	Never immunised.
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No cases occurred during the years 1963, 1964, 1965, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1972 and 1973.

Dysentery

During the year, 652 notifications of dysentery were made to the Department; 95 by hospitals, 10 by the Public Health Laboratory Service and 547 by general practitioners. The reclassification of 9 of these left 538 cases recorded by the Department as confirmed clinically, bacteriologically or by both methods. For age and sex distribution, see page .

The seasonal incidence (with 1972 figures in brackets) was as follows:—

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
215 (130)	129 (145)	154 (155)	154 (109)

Faecal specimens were examined in 319 cases and in 76 (23·8 per cent) organisms of *Shigella* species were found. The distribution of the 76 bacteriologically confirmed cases, by species and season was as follows:—

	<i>1st Quarter</i>	<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<i>4th Quarter</i>	<i>Totals</i>
<i>Shigella sonnei</i> ..	25	16	2	22	65
<i>Shigella flexneri</i> ..	2	0	1	8	11
TOTALS	27	16	3	30	76

Six small institutional outbreaks occurred during the period February-May 1973.

The institutions involved were:—

A private day nursery.

Two local authority nursery schools.

A local authority primary school.

A local authority old people's home.

A psychiatric hospital.

In each case the organism responsible was *Shigella sonnei*. Each of the institutions was visited by Public Health Department staff and advice was given on the control of the outbreak.

Encephalitis

(a) INFECTIVE ENCEPHALITIS

There were four confirmed cases of infective encephalitis (presumably of virus origin) during the year 1973. Their ages were as follows:—

Males: 1 year, 7 years. *Females:* 26 years, 35 years.

There were no deaths.

(b) POST INFECTIOUS ENCEPHALITIS

Post infectious encephalitis, i.e. encephalitis associated with an infectious disease, was notified four times during 1973. There was one death.

<i>Sex and Age</i>	<i>Initial Infection</i>	<i>Outcome</i>
Male —11 years	Herpes simplex	Recovered
Male —64 years	Herpes simplex	Died
Female— 6 years	Measles	Recovered
Female—40 years	Vaccinia encephalities following smallpox vaccination.	Recovered

Food Poisoning and Salmonella Infection

During 1973 the diagnosis of food poisoning or salmonella infection was accepted in 349 cases.

<i>1st Quarter</i>	<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<i>4th Quarter</i>
22 (16)	134 (13)	157 (100)	36 (189)

The following is a summary of the outbreaks and single cases which occurred; an outbreak is defined as a situation where all the cases either probably or certainly are derived from a single contamination or infecting source.

OUTBREAKS

Outbreaks

Total outbreaks, 14

Total cases, 236

Outbreaks due to identified agents

Salmonella enteritidis phage type 8 ..	1 group other than family ..	46
Salmonella bovis morbificans ..	1 group other than family ..	4
Salmonella typhimurium	2 families	7
Clinically cl. welchii	1 group other than family ..	47
Outbreaks of undiscovered cause	2 groups other than family ..	106
	7 families	26

SINGLE CASES

Agents identified, 97. Unknown, 14. Total, 111.

Organism	No. of Cases
Salmonella typhimurium	27
„ enteritidis	5
„ agona	24
„ heidelberg	1
„ st. paul	1
„ newport	5
„ london	2
„ hadar	1
„ indianna	3
„ panama	1
„ thompson	2
„ anatum	1
„ bredeney	2
„ virchow	1
„ infantis	2
„ montevideo	2
„ bareilly	1
„ brandenberg	1
„ cubana	1
„ ibadan	1
„ stanleyville	1
„ stanley	6
„ stanley and derby	1
„ derby	1
„ manhattan	1
„ branderup	1
„ richmond	1
„ livingstone	1
unknown	14
NOT ASSOCIATED WITH FOOD	2 cases
Salmonella indiana	1
„ ibadan	1

Total Cases, 349

OUTBREAKS

236 cases were associated with 14 outbreaks.

Six out of the nine persons who attended a private party were taken ill with diarrhoea, vomiting and fever on the 4th and 5th February, 1973. A sea food paella meal eaten on the evening of the 3rd February, 1973, was suspected as being the cause. The meal was prepared from a frozen bag of mixed sea food containing mussels, prawns and peas, and was purchased from a deep-freeze centre on the 3rd February, 1973, thawed out during the day and cooked in the evening with other ingredients including fresh prawns. Of the nine persons present only the six who were ill had the paella meal.

The hygiene was very good and there was no illness amongst the other guests.

A family of nine were taken ill with abdominal pain and severe vomiting on the 2nd and 3rd April, 1973. Rice was suspected (contamination with "Alphakil") as being the cause of this family's illness. A 100 lb sack of rice which was purchased on the 25th March, 1973, was stored in the pantry under the stairs and was used on the 1st April, 1973, for the evening meal. The housewife claimed that she found an empty packet of rat poison in the sack of rice and that this was the cause of her family's ill health. The shop keeper from where the rice was purchased only kept a small quantity of rice and would therefore have had a quick turnover. He stated that he had his premises treated early in 1972 for rat infestation by a commercial firm.

The general cleanliness of the home in question was, however, only fair. There was no evidence of rodent infestation. Negative reports were received upon samples of the rice taken for bacteriological examination. The amount of Alphakil found in the rice submitted for chemical examination was insignificant.

Frozen faggots were suspected as being the cause of illness of two persons who were taken ill on the 4th May with pain, sickness and diarrhoea. Frozen faggots purchased on the 3rd May were cooked immediately after purchase. It would appear that there had not been enough time allowed for adequate de-freezing before eating.

Reheated turkey was suspected as being the cause of an outbreak which occurred at a club affecting 100 persons, their symptoms being abdominal pain, diarrhoea and vomiting. Frozen turkeys purchased on the 12th April, 1973, and cooked on the morning of the 13th April, 1973, were left to cool, then reheated prior to the dinner on the evening of the 13th April, 1973. The onset of illness of those affected was the 13th and 14th April, 1973.

The outbreak was not notified until the 18th April, 1973, and therefore the investigation was somewhat restricted. It was however considered that reheated turkey was most probably the cause of the outbreak. Hygiene in the kitchen was only fair.

Three members of a family were taken ill on the 24th May, 1973, with violent vomiting, fainting and dizziness. Frozen beefburgers which were suspected as being the cause of the illness, were bought on the 24th May, 1973, and eaten on the same day for the evening meal. Prior to use they were stored in the freezer compartment in the fridge.

A Chinese take-away meal (sweet and sour pork and prawn omlette) was suspected as being the cause of the illness of three persons who were taken ill on the 9th and 10th June, 1973, with vomiting, rash, some dizziness and mild abdominal pains. The Chinese Restaurant in question was well run.

No other cases occurred.

Two members of a family were taken ill on the 15th and 16th June, 1973, following a meal of minced meat. *Salmonella typhimurium* organisms were isolated from the faeces of the persons concerned.

A man and his wife aged 82 and 81 years respectively were taken ill with diarrhoea and vomiting on the 18th June, 1973, at about 1830 hours. Bacon which had been brought to them by their son and kept for three days in the pantry, was suspected as being the cause of their illness. When eaten on the first and second days it was quite alright but when eaten on the third day the bacon was "off". At the time in question the weather was very hot.

Salmonella bovis morbificans was isolated from four patients in an institution who suffered from diarrhoea, their onsets being between the 27th June and the 5th July, 1973. It was thought that inadequate cooking or contamination of cooked from raw chickens may possibly have been the cause of this small outbreak.

Salmonella enteritidis phage type 8 was the cause of illness affecting 46 people out of a 100 who were taken ill from the 11th to the 14th August, 1973, following a luncheon party arranged in a marquee on the 10th August, 1973. The main symptoms were diarrhoea, vomiting and abdominal pain. Food for the party was prepared in kitchens constructed especially for marquee catering and were adjacent to the marquee in question. Fresh turkeys, which were delivered about ten days before the luncheon, hung in a cold room, cooked on Thursday, 9th August, 1973, cooled in the kitchen for about two-and-a-half hours and then put into the cold room, were sent to the marquee on the morning of the 10th August, 1973.

The firm of caterers, who were very hygiene conscious, were advised to discontinue the practice of pre-cooling meat and poultry in the kitchen before placing it in the cold room.

Salmonella typhimurium was the cause of the illness of five members of a family. Whilst on holiday on a boat in Wales they were taken ill on the 14th, 15th and 30th August, 1973, with diarrhoea and vomiting. Only tinned and packaged foods were eaten.

Cl. welchii was clinically the cause of an outbreak affecting 47 persons in an institution who were taken ill at 0730 hours with diarrhoea and general malaise on the 2nd September, 1973. Chicken vol-au-vents were suspected as being the cause of this outbreak. Chickens were delivered on the 27th August, 1973, and were deep-frozen immediately. They were removed at 1800 hours on the 30th August, 1973, and allowed to thaw until cooking from 1000 hours to 1130 hours on the 31st August, 1973. The chickens were then boned and refrigerated at 1330 hours. Chicken flesh was taken from the fridge the following morning, the 1st September, 1973, and the dish was prepared between 1000 hours and 1100 hours from minced cooked chicken flesh, powdered chicken soup and frozen vol-au-vent cases. The meal was left and reheated at 1615 hours for service at 1745 hours on Saturday, the 1st September, 1973.

Frozen chicken was suspected as being the cause of the illness of three persons of a family who were taken ill with vomiting and diarrhoea on the 28th, 29th and 30th September, 1973. The chicken was bought on the 23rd October, 1973, and stored in the refrigerator at home until the 25th October, 1973, when it was thawed out and was eaten for dinner at 1900 hours. Investigations were somewhat restricted as this was a late notification.

Chicken was again suspected as being the cause of illness of four members of a family who were taken ill with vomiting, diarrhoea and abdominal pain on the 4th and 5th November, 1973. A fresh chicken was bought on the 2nd November, 1973, and stored in the refrigerator at home until cooked and eaten on the 4th November, 1973.

Single Cases

Salmonella typhimurium and *agona* accounted for 27 and 24 respectively of the sporadic cases out of the 111 single cases which occurred during the year. 23 persons acquired their *Salmonella* infections abroad.

A 75-years-old lady died on the 24th September, 1973—*Salmonella stanley* organisms were isolated at post mortem (dehydrated; ascending colongitis from which grew organisms). Her onset was approximately the 14th September, 1973, when she had very severe diarrhoea.

Food was not considered to be the source of infection in the following single cases:—

1. A ten-month-old boy who was found to be suffering from a *Salmonella ibadan* infection—his mother was a carrier of the same infection.
2. *Salmonella indianna* organisms were isolated from a three-week-old baby boy whose parents were found to be symptomless excretors of *Salmonella indianna*.

Infective Jaundice

Infective jaundice first became generally notifiable on the 15th June, 1968. 130 notifications were received during the year 1973. It would however appear to be a fairly common condition as during the years 1970, 1971 and 1972, 336, 201 and 243 notifications respectively were made. The following table shows the age and sex distribution.

Age	0	1—2	3—4	5—9	10—14	15—19	20—24	25—34	35—44	45—54	55—64	65—74	75+	Total
Males	—	1	4	15	11	3	11	12	8 (1 died)	7 (3 died)	4 (1 died)	1 (died)	1	78
Females	—	—	1	9	9	4	6	12	5	3	1	1	1	52
Grand Total														130
Deaths														6

The majority of cases are due to that type of infective Hepatitis which has an incubation period of 15 to 50 days (commonly 28 days) and is usually transmitted by close association between persons. There was one death from this type during 1973:—

Male, aged 53 years.

Notification also includes the less common so-called Serum Hepatitis, the incubation period of which is usually 60 to 160 days. Transmission is by injection and a history of blood transfusion, tattooing or injection within the incubation period may suggest this diagnosis.

During 1973, 19 cases of Serum Hepatitis occurred associated with 5 deaths. Details are as follows:—

Males

23 years.	Drug addict.	
24 years.	Australia Antigen isolated from blood.	
35 years.	„ „ „ „ „	Died.
37 years.	„ „ „ „ „	
37 years.	„ „ „ „ „	
43 years.	„ „ „ „ „	
50 years.	Source unknown.	Died.
52 years.	„ „	Died.
56 years.	„ „	
58 years.	(Titre 1/2048). Source unknown.	Died.
73 years.	Probably acquired from blood transfusions.	Died.

Females

20 years.	Drug addict for several years.	
20 years.	Source unknown.	
23 years.	Drug addict for several years.	
28 years.	„ „ „ „ „	
42 years.	Australia Antigen isolated from blood.	
52 years.	„ „ „ „ „	
54 years.	„ „ „ „ „	
65 years.	Probably acquired from blood transfusions.	

The Blood Transfusion Service, however, is now able to take precautions against this hazard.

Leprosy

There were 17 cases, all non-infectious, recorded as resident in the City at the beginning of 1973. One elderly man died during the year of an unrelated condition, one man returned permanently to Bangladesh and a young man, who had been away from the City for a few years but had been kept on our list because he had no permanent address elsewhere, took up permanent residence in one of the London Boroughs and was transferred out. No new cases were notified during the year. There were, therefore, 14 cases, all non-infectious, resident in the City at the end of the year.

Leptospirosis

On the 26th September, 1973, an 18-year-old boy was admitted to hospital and found to be suffering from leptospirosis, the diagnosis being confirmed by examination of his blood and his urine containing spirochaetes. Six weeks prior to his illness he was working at an inland lake, one of the beauty spots in this country which was a veritable mecca for caravans, tourists, speedboats, etc. The young man helped with the running of the caravan site, boating and sometimes worked in the store room. He appeared to have had a continual headache but felt ill on Friday, 21st September, 1973. He returned to his home in Birmingham on Tuesday, 25th September, 1973, suffering from sickness, headache, and was extremely shaky on his legs.

The patient had a very stormy course, developing many of the complications of this disease. He did however survive, his only residual problem being one of amnesia caused by focal peri-capillary, intra-cerebral haemorrhage, and the major fits which he suffered. He was very keen however to start driving motorcars and bikes again although he was advised against this until fully recovered. He unfortunately was killed in a car crash.

Malaria

During 1973 there were 38 confirmed cases of malaria all having acquired their infections abroad, as compared with 26 for 1972. Details of ages and sexes are as follows:—

Age	0	1—2	3—4	5—9	10—14	15—19	20—24	25—34	35—44	45—54	55—64	65—74	75+	Total
Males	—	1	1	2	—	3	8	7	6	4	—	—	—	32
Females	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	6

As was noted in 1972, there was again a large increase in the number of malaria cases notified. The following table sets out the number of confirmed cases of malaria which have been recorded since 1962.

Cases				Cases				Cases			
1962	..	..	6	1966	..	..	4	1970	..	..	4
1963	..	..	1	1967	..	..	7	1971	..	..	12
1964	..	..	1	1968	..	..	7	1972	..	..	26
1965	..	..	1	1969	..	..	7	1973	..	..	38

Measles

There were 2,523 notifications of measles during 1973, a decrease, if only a slight one, as compared with 2,654 for 1972, 3,206 for 1971 and 6,817 for 1970. 1954 however still remains the year with the lowest number recorded since 1945, i.e., 456 cases. The following table shows the age and sex distribution:—

Age	0	1—2	3—4	5—9	10—14	15—19	20—24	25—34	35—44	45—54	55—64	65—74	75+	Total
Males	72	350	331	483	31	9	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	1,286
Females	68	326	349	458	20	4	7	4	1	—	—	—	—	1,237

The highest number of notifications recorded was during the week ending the 9th March (135). The weeks ending the 28th September and the 14th December had the lowest number (7). There were no deaths.

Meningitis

The following table shows the sex, age and type of meningitis.

Type of Meningitis	Sex	0—	1—2	3—4	5—9	10—14	15—19	20—24	25—34	35—44	45+	Totals
VIRAL Mumps	Males	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	Females	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Virus not identified	Males	—	2	2	9	6	—	2	5	1	2	29
	Females	—	1	3	2	2	1	1	4	2	—	16
BACTERIAL Meningococcal	Males	3 (1 died)	3	4	1	—	1 (1 died)	1	—	—	1	14
	Females	3 (1 died)	4 (1 died)	1	—	2 (1 died)	—	3	2 (1 died)	—	1	16
Pneumococcal	Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Females	2 (1 died)	—	—	1	—	—	—	1 (1 died)	—	—	4
Other bacteria	Males	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
	Females	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Organism not isolated	Males	1	1 (died)	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	4
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TOTAL CASES

89

TOTAL DEATHS

9

Paratyphoid Fever

During 1973 there were five cases of Paratyphoid fever. The first was a 56-year-old English woman who lived on her own. She developed diarrhoea on the 9th March, 1973, and was diagnosed as suffering from Paratyphoid 'B' (phage type 1). Despite intensive enquiries the source of her infection was unknown.

No further cases arose.

The second case was a 19-year-old Asian woman who was transferred on the 22nd June, 1973, from a General Hospital to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. She apparently had been in the General Hospital for treatment of an incomplete abortion at twelve weeks gestation. The background to this was that she had had a fever and diarrhoea for fourteen days; blood culture had grown *Salmonella paratyphosis* 'B'. Clinically she made steady progress and was discharged on negative reports.

During the course of this investigation Paratyphoid 'B' organisms phage type 1 were also isolated from her husband (aged 19 years) who was admitted to hospital on the 9th July, 1973, having been ill for six days with fever, lassitude, aches and pains and headaches. On examination he was not very ill but the evidence of a rising titre in his widal test and his symptoms prior to admission to hospital were significant of active Paratyphoid infection. Neither of the patients had been abroad and despite intensive investigations the source of their infection remained unknown.

No other cases arose in the family concerned.

A two-year-old boy who had returned from the Punjab on the 23rd April, 1973, was taken ill on the 28th June, 1973, with sickness and diarrhoea. He was admitted to hospital on the 1st July, 1973, but the parents discharged him an hour after admission against medical advice. Paratyphoid 'A' organisms were isolated from his blood and the child was readmitted on the 3rd July, 1973. Unfortunately there was a language difficulty which hampered the enquiries but as far as could be ascertained there had been no visitors to the home who had recently been abroad and the family themselves had not visited anyone.

The standard of hygiene in the home was only fair.

The fifth case was a 22-year-old English girl who had been living in Casablanca, Morocco. Her onset was the 5th August, 1973—high temperature, intestinal pains and diarrhoea. She arrived in England on the 12th August, 1973. Paratyphoid 'B' organisms phage type taunton were isolated from specimens of faeces.

The following table shows the incidence of paratyphoid fever in Birmingham during recent years.

Year	Cases
1965	1
1966	5
1967	4
1968	2
1969	0
1970	5
1971	0
1972	2
1973	5

Poliomyelitis

The year 1973 was again notable for the absence of any cases of poliomyelitis. The following table sets out the number of confirmed cases which have been recorded since 1956 in Birmingham.

1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963-67	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
7	35	43	9	22	18	5	nil	5	1	nil	nil	nil	nil

'Q' Fever

A 55-year-old woman was admitted to hospital in June, 1973, suffering from pneumonia, she was however found to have a 4-fold rise in 'Q' fever antibodies and was therefore regarded as a case of 'Q' fever. She made a satisfactory recovery with tetracycline. Her onset was the 31st May, 1973, when she complained of feeling cold. On the 2nd June, 1973, she developed a headache. She made no improvement and on admission to hospital she had developed a slight cough and intermittent sweats. Despite intensive enquiries the source of her infection was not established. She had had no contact with farm animals neither had she had any raw milk.

Scabies

The decline in the number of cases of scabies, noted in the recent years, continued in 1973. The evening clinic at Mowbray Street continued throughout the year but that at Albert Road closed in February because of small attendances. A third evening clinic, opened at Lancaster Street School Clinic in January, also had small attendances and was discontinued in June.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Treated at Bacchus Road Centre</i>	<i>Treated at School Clinics</i>	<i>Treated at Mowbray Street and Albert Road Evening Sessions</i>	<i>Total</i>
1969	5,104	1,713		6,817
1970	5,001	1,447		6,448
1971	3,949	1,318	47	5,314
1972	3,024	1,004	524	4,552
1973	2,643	1,261	536	4,440
				3179

Scarlet Fever

During the year 1973 there were 168 confirmed cases of scarlet fever as compared with 204, 211, 255, 346, 285, 560, 544, for 1972, 1971, 1970, 1969, 1968, 1967 and 1966 respectively. The age group 5 to 9 accounted for 52.38 per cent of the cases. The highest number of notifications (9) was received in the weeks ending the 26th January, the 16th February and the 17th August. There were no deaths.

Scrub Typhus

An Asian man was admitted to hospital on the 4th December, 1973, eight days after arriving in England from Bangladesh. He was diagnosed as suffering from typhus fever—confirmed by significant elevation of the Weil Felix reaction. At the time of admission he was severely ill with high fever and a typical eschar over the left scapula. He responded slowly but satisfactorily to chloramphenicol but then developed chest pain and E.C.G. confirmed pericarditis presumably related to the rickettsial infection. The patient was eventually discharged on the 29th January, 1974. It was thought most probable that the mite had laid its eggs in the scab on the man's shoulder and he was no doubt incubating the illness on his journey to England.

Smallpox

No cases of smallpox occurred in the City during the year 1973. Surveillance was however carried out on a number of people from endemic/infected areas.

Tetanus

As from the 1st October, 1968, tetanus became a notifiable disease. During 1973 there was one confirmed case. This was a 25-year-old man who was admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital on the 27th June, 1973. Three weeks previously, whilst working in his garden, he cut his finger and five days before admission developed dysphagia and difficulty in opening his mouth. On admission to hospital he had marked trismus and increase in muscle tone. He was given tetanus antitoxin and penicillin and was sedated with intravenous diazepam. Recovery was uncomplicated and he was discharged home on the 14th June, 1973.

There was no history of immunisation against tetanus.

Typhoid

There were ten cases of typhoid fever notified during 1973, but no deaths. The age and sex distribution was as follows:—

Males: 4 years, 8 years, 9½ years, 11 years, 20 years, 23 years, 25 years.

Females: 1 year, 14 years, 21 years.

The first case was a 25-year-old Asian who was admitted to hospital on the 20th July, 1973. A week before admission he had returned from India. He was very ill and the appearances were highly suggestive of typhoid. The organism was isolated from his stool and blood culture (vi phage type 46). It was therefore assumed that he had acquired his infection abroad.

Typhoid organisms (untypeable) were isolated from a 9½-year-old boy who was admitted to hospital on the 2nd August, 1973. It was not possible to get a clear history but it appeared that he had been ill with typhoid in India in mid-June and had had some treatment. He returned to the United Kingdom about mid-July and had the same symptoms. *Salmonella typhi* was grown from his blood, and stool and urine cultures were also positive for typhoid. Following treatment with septrin he made steady progress and on discharge had four negative stool and urine cultures.

On the 7th August, 1973, a twenty-year-old Asian man was admitted to hospital. He was ten days back from West Pakistan and had had shivering and fever for five days together with vomiting and diarrhoea. From his stool *Salmonella typhi* was grown and his widal test was positive—(Typhoid H 1:250). A later result was a positive blood culture for *Salmonella typhi* (phage type E1).

The infection of a fourteen-year-old girl was also presumed to have been acquired abroad. She was admitted to hospital on the 16th August, 1973, having been in the United Kingdom for three weeks, arriving here from India and before that had been in East Africa. Her illness was of about nine days duration and she complained of headache, fever, shortness of breath, dry cough and anorexia. On examination she was febrile and spleen was palpable. Typhoid was suspected and the widal was positive to titres T.O. 1:250, T.H. 1:250. She was discharged on the 10th September, 1973, having had four negative stool and urine cultures.

Typhoid phage type B2 was confirmed in a 23-year-old Asian man who returned from Pakistan on the 3rd August, 1973, and was ill on arrival. It was therefore assumed that he too had acquired his infection whilst on holiday in Pakistan.

On the 21st September, 1973, notification was received of two brothers aged 8 and 11 years who, on the 1st September, 1973, had returned from Pakistan. Both these boys had been running temperatures for three or four days prior to admission to hospital on the 19th and 20th September, 1973. Both had had diarrhoea and abdominal discomfort. They were confirmed as cases of Typhoid fever with positive widals and blood cultures. In neither case was the organism isolated from stool or urine. They were treated with septrin and initial response was satisfactory.

It is interesting to note however how the illnesses ran parallel for both relapsed on the 18th to 19th October, 1973, and in each case two positive blood cultures were obtained. The relapse was treated with cloromycetin. They were fit for discharge on the 10th November, 1973, having had four negative stool and urine cultures.

On the 2nd November, 1973, a one-year-old Asian girl was admitted to hospital. She had been on a visit to Pakistan with her parents, returning three weeks previously. She was well until one week before admission to hospital when she had had abdominal pain and constipation. *Salmonella typhi* organisms (phage type 'O') were isolated from stool specimens. She was regarded as a mild case of Typhoid, presumably having acquired her infection abroad.

A young woman aged 21 was confirmed as suffering from Typhoid fever (phage type Vi 28). In the first instance she had been admitted on the 3rd October, 1973, to the surgical unit for investigation of a right sided abdominal pain. She had had a fever for ten days and had vomited three or four times. Her abdomen at that time was tender in the right iliac fossa and appendicectomy was performed. Her progress after operation was not satisfactory. She continued to run a high fever and her widal test was positive T.H. 1 :250, Vi : 1 :20. On this evidence she was transferred to the Infectious Diseases Unit as a case of Typhoid when blood culture was reported positive. She responded to treatment and was discharged on negative specimens on the 9th November, 1973.

The last case which occurred during 1973 was a four-year-old Asian boy who was admitted to hospital on the 29th November, 1973, and was first thought to be suffering from Malaria. He was however confirmed as a case of Typhoid fever (phage type Vi J1).

The boy, with his family, had visited Pakistan for a holiday and arrived back in England a few weeks before his admission to hospital. On or about 22nd November, 1973, he became ill and was later admitted to hospital. It was felt that the boy had presumably acquired his infection abroad.

Whooping Cough

During the year 1973 only 86 notifications were received. The notifications reached their peak in the week ending the 7th December when 12 were received. There were no deaths. There has been a dramatic decline in whooping cough incidence both locally and in England and Wales in recent years:

	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Birmingham notifications	778	625	215	768	458	102	86
England and Wales notifications	33,533	17,369	4,995	16,598	16,792	2,069	2,437

Yellow Fever

Yellow fever became notifiable under the Public Health Infectious Diseases Regulations, 1968. During 1973 however there were no cases in Birmingham.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1973

CONFIRMED CASES

AGES

	Sex	0	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 up	Totals	
Acute Meningitis ...	M F	5 5	6 6	7 3	12 3	6 5	1 1	3 4	6 7	1 2	1 1	2 —	— 1	1 —	51 38	89
Anthrax ...	M F	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	Nil
Diphtheria ...	M F	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	Nil
Dysentery ...	M F	39 41	65 49	61 40	46 42	23 15	7 11	15 30	29 30	16 14	13 13	10 9	3 11	— 20	327 325	652
Encephalitis Acute Infective ...	M F	— —	1 —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 2	4
Encephalitis Post Infectious ...	M F	— —	— —	— —	— 1	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— —	1 —	— —	— —	2 2	4
Food Poisoning ...	M F	7 6	14 8	3 3	6 2	2 2	8 9	17 20	46 25	33 19	27 22	18 22	7 16	3 4	191 158	349
Infective Jaundice	M F	— —	1 —	4 1	15 9	11 9	3 4	11 6	12 12	8 5	7 3	4 1	1 1	1 1	78 52	130
Leprosy ...	M F	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	Nil
Leptospirosis ...	M F	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	1
Malaria ...	M F	— —	1 1	1 —	2 —	— —	3 1	8 1	7 —	6 3	4 —	— —	— —	— —	32 6	38
Measles ...	M F	72 68	350 326	331 349	483 458	31 20	9 4	5 7	5 4	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	1286 1237	2523
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	M F	35 32	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	35 32	67
Paratyphoid Fever ...	M F	— —	1 —	— —	— —	1 —	— 1	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— —	— —	2 3	5
Poliomyelitis Paralytic ...	M F	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	Nil
Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic ...	M F	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	Nil
Scarlet Fever ...	M F	— —	9 4	16 15	46 42	12 10	5 —	4 1	4 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	96 72	168
Smallpox ...	M F	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	Nil
Tetanus ...	M F	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	1
Typhoid Fever ...	M F	— 1	— —	1 —	2 —	1 1	— —	2 1	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	7 3	10
Whooping Cough ...	M F	8 9	10 11	6 8	19 12	— 1	— —	— —	1 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	44 42	86
Yellow Fever ...	M F	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	Nil

Public Health Aircraft Regulations

Health control of 2,760 aircraft arriving at Birmingham Airport from outside "the excepted area" was carried out uneventfully during 1973. A further eight aircraft arrived at Birmingham Airport from outside the "excepted area" having first called at another United Kingdom airport.

Arrival of Immigrants

As in previous years notification of the arrival of immigrants proceeding to Birmingham during 1973 came largely from London Airport where in most cases a chest x-ray was carried out.

During 1973, 544 immigrants (mostly from Pakistan) arrived at Birmingham Airport, 216 of whom proceeded to addresses outside the City. 2,519 Advice Notes were received during 1973 concerning the arrival of immigrants coming to Birmingham, and 2,093 were successfully contacted. The following table shows the trend in the number of notifications received from ports and airports in respect of long-stay immigrants whose stated destination was Birmingham.

		Year								
		1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
(a) <i>Commonwealth</i>										
Caribbean ..	..	1,029	760	1,045	680	593	477	305	254	178
India ..	..	208	294	397	1,292	806	602	576	489	539
Pakistan ..	..	255	234	290	961	1,806	1,747	1,116	1,037	904
Other Asian ..	..	45	65	87	106	92	116	124	125	86
*African ..	..	43	56	62	265	305	366	420	1,229	739
Other ..	..	30	19	15	12	16	37	19	18	10
Sub-Total ..	..	1,610	1,428	1,896	3,316	3,618	3,345	2,560	3,152	2,456
(b) <i>Non-Commonwealth</i>										
European ..	..	117	41	32	34	26	25	21	17	2
Other ..	..	14	12	22	22	19	55	84	53	61
Total ..	..	1,741	1,481	1,950	3,372	3,663	3,425	2,665	3,222	2,519

*This number included 885 Ugandan Asians who arrived in Birmingham from the 15th September until the 31st December, 1972.

Children of school age are required to report as soon as possible to a Registration Centre for admission to school and a follow-up medical examination to check upon immunisation state is an important part of the arrangements. During 1973 there were 1,708 arrivals and 1,793 medical examinations. Immigrant children under the age of five years are referred to the Personal and Child Health Service and the Immunisation Section for any follow-up action which may be required.

As in previous years notification of the arrival of immigrants proceeding to Birmingham during 1973 came largely from London Airport where in most cases a chest x-ray was carried out. During 1973, 644 immigrants (mostly from Pakistan) arrived at Birmingham Airport, 216 of whom proceeded to addresses outside the City. 2,519 Advice Notes were received during 1973 concerning the arrival of immigrants coming to Birmingham and 2,098 were successfully contacted. The following table shows the trend in the number of notifications received from ports and airports in respect of long-stay immigrants whose stated destination was Birmingham.

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
(a) Commonwealth	1,039	760	1,042	680	393	477	302	354	178
Caribbean	208	184	397	1,292	608	602	578	489	530
India	355	234	720	661	1,806	1,747	1,716	1,637	907
Pakistan	42	62	87	708	92	116	124	125	88
Other Asian	43	58	62	365	305	366	429	1,239	759
* African	30	19	15	12	16	37	19	18	10
Other	1,610	1,428	1,592	3,376	2,618	3,345	2,560	3,152	2,455
(b) Non-Commonwealth	117	41	32	34	26	22	21	17	2
European	14	12	22	52	19	25	84	53	61
Other	1,741	1,461	1,620	3,322	2,602	3,322	2,682	3,292	2,519

*This number included 685 Ugandan Asians who arrived in Birmingham from the 15th September until the 31st December, 1972.

IMMUNISATION

Sections 26 and 28 National Health Service Act, 1946

The following figures are extracted from the detailed tables at the end of this chapter of the Report. They demonstrate the main trends in immunisation during 1973.

	<i>Public Health Department</i>	<i>General Practitioners</i>	<i>Total</i>
Children who completed primary immunisation against diphtheria	6,781	10,798	17,579
Children who completed primary immunisation against poliomyelitis	6,471	8,543	15,014
Children who received reinforcing immunisation against diphtheria	6,729	7,872	14,601
Children who received reinforcing immunisation against poliomyelitis	7,148	5,873	13,021

It will be seen that over sixty per cent of the primary immunisations and well over half the reinforcing immunisations against diphtheria are performed by general practitioners. A disquieting feature of the figures is that, whereas children immunised against diphtheria by the Public Health Department seem almost invariably to be immunised against poliomyelitis also, this is not so much the case with children immunised by general practitioners. Indeed, nearly a quarter of the children who receive primary diphtheria immunisation and more than a quarter of those who receive reinforcing diphtheria immunisation from their general practitioners do not receive immunisation against poliomyelitis concurrently.

VACCINATION AGAINST RUBELLA

Rubella vaccination was offered to girls in their second year in secondary school. Parents of 8,510 were approached and of these 7,982 accepted (93.8 per cent).

The scheme was extended to all female employees of the Corporation who were found by serological test to be susceptible to rubella and in whom there

was no possibility of pregnancy at the time of vaccination, or in the following two months.

Girls vaccinated by Public Health Department	7,500
Girls vaccinated by general practitioners	98
Female Corporation employees	
Blood samples taken	1,338
Negative	199
Vaccinated	164
Failed to attend for vaccination	35
Other females vaccinated by general practitioners	34

B.C.G. VACCINATION

School Children (13 years old)

During the year 12,222 children had B.C.G. vaccination in schools, as compared with 11,420 in 1972.

The parents of 14,651 children were approached and of these 13,841 (94.47 per cent) accepted the skin test and vaccination with B.C.G.

During the period 14,523 were skin tested. Of these, 992 had been previously vaccinated either at contact clinics or by special request in this City or elsewhere.

TABLE 1—CHILDREN NOT PREVIOUSLY VACCINATED

Skin tests performed	13,531
Positive	393
Doubtful	—
Failed to attend for reading of test	877
Negative	12,261
Vaccinated with B.C.G.	12,222

Thirty-nine children who gave a negative reaction to skin test were not vaccinated for various reasons, swimming, illness, etc. A number of these were later re-tested and vaccinated.

There were 3.1 per cent of children in whom vaccination was considered unnecessary because of a positive reaction, grade two or more. This is a substantially lower figure than in recent years, but because grade one reactors

are now considered negative and in need of vaccination a valid comparison can be made only with 1972:—

1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
10.4%	8.8%	10.6%	6.9%	11.4%	9.0%	5.9%	6.5%	4.0%	3.1%

TABLE 2—CHILDREN WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN VACCINATED

Skin tests performed	992
Positive	980
Doubtful	—
Failed to attend for reading of test	1
Negative	11

(Re-vacc: 11)

A sample of children from each school vaccinated with B.C.G. during the previous year was given a skin test:—

Conversion tests performed	874
Tests read	777
Converted	749 (96.4%)
Negative	28
Doubtful	—
Failed to attend for reading of test	97

CHILDREN X-RAYED DURING 1973

Of the 14,523 initially skin tested, 1,373 were found to give a positive reaction (980 children who had been previously vaccinated and 393 who had not).

All were offered X-ray during 1973, together with 55 children who defaulted during 1972—

X-ray appointments offered	1,428
Failed to attend	60
X-rayed during preceding 12 months	16
Abnormal	16
Normal	1,336

Appointments for X-ray were offered to children for whom vaccination with B.C.G. was inadvisable—

X-ray appointments offered	16
Failed to attend	3
Normal	13

Colleges of Further Education

STUDENTS NOT PREVIOUSLY VACCINATED

Skin tests performed	261
Failed to attend for reading of test	28
Positive	86
Negative	147
Vaccinated with B.C.G.	146

STUDENTS WHO HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY VACCINATED

Skin tests performed	121
Failed to attend	—
Positive	118
Negative	3
(re-vac: 3)	

One hundred and fifteen students were offered X-ray appointments.

Failed to attend	4
X-rayed during preceding 12 months	2
Normal	108
Abnormal	1

Tuberculosis arising in Educational Establishments

Eight cases of tuberculosis occurred in one college of further education and six city schools (two cases occurred in the same school). Many of the contacts had been through the routine B.C.G. vaccination procedure a short time previously. Special visits were, however, made to the institutions concerned, to deal with those children and students who had not been covered by the routine visits. (Two schools will be screened early in 1974.)

CHILDREN AND STUDENTS WHO HAD NOT BEEN PREVIOUSLY VACCINATED

Skin tests performed	139
Positive	12
Negative	119
Failed to attend for reading of test	8
Vaccinated with B.C.G.	46

A case of tuberculosis occurred in a play centre run by volunteers; this was followed up by the tuberculosis health visitor.

CHILDREN AND STUDENTS WHO HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY VACCINATED

Skin tests performed	47
Positive	43
Failed to attend for reading of test	4

X-ray was offered to those giving a positive tuberculin reaction, those for whom tuberculin testing was unnecessary or inadvisable, those who failed two appointments for tuberculin testing or vaccination and those who refused tuberculin testing:—

Children and Students

X-ray appointments offered	245
Failed to attend	36
X-rayed during preceding 12 months	1
Normal	206
Abnormal	2

Staff

X-ray appointments offered	95
Failed to attend	20
Normal	73
Abnormal	2

Notifications in 1973 of tuberculosis in persons aged 13-33 years previously tuberculin tested or vaccinated with B.C.G.

One who was tuberculin positive in 1950

One " " " " " 1953

One " " " " " 1958

One " " " " " 1966

One " " " " " 1969

One " " " " " 1970

Three who were " " " 1971

Two " " " " " 1972

Two " " " " " 1973

One who was vaccinated with B.C.G. in 1955

One " " " " " 1956

One " " " " " 1957

One " " " " " 1964

One " " " " " 1967

Two who were " " " " " 1969

One who was " " " " " 1971

Two who gave a strongly positive reaction at Canterbury House Immigrant Clinic in 1968

One " " " " " " " " " " " 1969

One " " " " " " " " " " " 1970

One " " " " " " " " " " " 1973

(this child was vaccinated with B.C.G. in Uganda).

One whose parents refused skin test, etc., in 1964—X-rayed as a refusal, the result was normal,

One who was already under the care of the Chest Clinic, not seen at Public Health Department.

Three-year follow-up by X-ray of strongly tuberculin positive children

Children positive during 1970

Appointments offered	50
Failed to attend	31
Normal	19
Abnormal	—

Contacts, Hospital Staff and Corporation Staff

Skin tests performed	1,207
Positive	131
Doubtful	—
Failed to attend for reading of test	59
Negative	1,017
Vaccinated with B.C.G.	1,008

Nine negative reactors were not vaccinated for various reasons.

When necessary, two appointments for skin testing were offered; 160 persons failed both appointments.

Twenty-eight babies from maternity hospitals were vaccinated without preliminary skin test; in addition 101 babies were vaccinated at the hospitals.

Conversion tests are carried out on this group who are at greater risk than the normal population—

Conversion tests performed	1,173
Converted	990
Negative	128
(Re-vacc: 37)	
Doubtful	—
Failed to attend for reading of test	55

Children of Immigrant Families

B.C.G. vaccination was again made available to babies and children of immigrant (mainly Asian) parents as being persons at special risk.

Skin tests performed	2,129
Positive	12
Failed to attend for reading of test	162
Negative	1,955
Vaccinated with B.C.G.	1,947

Eight negative reactors were not vaccinated for various reasons.

Conversion tests were carried out on this group:—

Conversion tests performed	1,773
Converted	1,381
Negative	261
	(Re-vacc: 69)
Failed to attend for reading of test	131

The examination of immigrant children prior to school entry continued as in previous years. The examination includes a Heaf test; grade two, three and four Heaf reactors are referred to the Chest Clinic and negatives and grade one reactors are referred to the Immunisation Section for further examination.

Skin tests performed by Immunisation Section	1,278
Positive	477
Doubtful	—
Failed to attend for reading of test	55
Negative	746
Vaccinated with B.C.G.	743

This group includes a substantial number of children apparently already vaccinated with B.C.G. although an accurate history is not always obtainable.

X-ray appointments were offered to those who gave a more strongly positive tuberculin reaction than they had done at the school clinic a few months previously—

X-ray appointments offered	369
Normal	286
Abnormal	9
Failed to attend	74

Children below school age notified by the immigration authorities as newly arrived in the United Kingdom were called to the B.C.G. Section for examination.

Skin tests performed	54
Positive	5
Doubtful	—
Failed to attend for reading of test	7
Negative	42
Vaccinated with B.C.G.	42

Conversion tests were carried out on this group—

Conversion tests performed	35
Positive	32
Negative	2
Failed to attend for reading of test	1

Visitors

Thirteen visits were paid to the Section by medical students and student nurses for the purpose of observing the B.C.G. clinics.

YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION

As in previous years yellow fever vaccination clinics were held on Wednesdays between 1400 and 1500 hours. Appointments are not necessary for these clinics. An International Certificate is issued at the time of vaccination and a charge is made.

During the year 2,862 persons were vaccinated against yellow fever. Of these, 892 attended from addresses within the City and 1,970 from outside. Vaccination was performed at times other than the normal clinic session for the benefit of 79 people who had to travel at very short notice.

	<i>Under 9 months of age</i>	<i>9 months— 5 years</i>	<i>6–21 years years</i>	<i>22–70 years</i>	<i>Over 70 years</i>
Persons Vaccinated	nil	149	837	1,852	24

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

240 smallpox vaccinations were given concurrently with yellow fever vaccinations by the Department.

Four cases of smallpox occurred in London in April and May 1973. Special clinics were held at the Public Health Department and Birmingham Airport for those persons travelling abroad. 2,853 persons were vaccinated.

CHOLERA VACCINATION

Because of an outbreak of cholera in Italy in the latter part of the year, special clinics were held at Birmingham Airport in September for travellers to the area. 238 persons were vaccinated.

DIPHTHERIA, PERTUSSIS, TETANUS, POLIOMYELITIS, MEASLES
NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO COMPLETED A **PRIMARY** COURSE DURING 1973

Age Group	Year of Birth	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	Total Children	Total Adult
Infants and Children	DIPH.	1	2	1		3	4				1							12	—
	DIPH.-TET.	261	912	239	154	205	172	104	94	65	62	47	18	1	5			2,339	—
	TRIPLE	799	2896	414	111	13												4,233	—
	TET.					1	1	3		1	1	13	31	46	86	100	93	376	127
	POLIO		2747	1833	497	354	258	163	117	99	70	57	43	19	7	9	3	6,276	1,613
	MEASLES		1605	1288	430	445	317	139	108	74	65	43	13	10	5	2	1	4,545	—
Adolescents	DIPH.																	—	—
	DIPH.-TET.	4	28	4	2	8	5											51	—
	TRIPLE	18	86	18	8	3												133	—
	POLIO		73	57	19	11	4											164	—
	MEASLES		15	16	8	3	1											43	—
Young Adults	DIPH.																	—	—
	DIPH.-TET.		2					1	1	2								6	2
	TET.									1				2	3	3	3	12	39
	POLIO						1	1	3	1	1			2	2	1		12	91
Adults	DIPH.																	—	—
	DIPH.-TET.									2	1	1						4	—
	TET.										1	1	2	21	19	7	4	55	1
	POLIO									1	1	1	1	4	5	2		15	—

DIPHTHERIA, PERTUSSIS, TETANUS, POLIOMYELITIS, MEASLES
NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO COMPLETED A PRIMARY COURSE DURING 1973 (CONT.)

Year of Birth		1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	Total Children	Total Adults
Council House	DIPH.																	—	—
	DIPH.— TET.																	—	—
	TRIPLE		2		1													3	—
	TET.																	—	323
	POLIO		2	1			1											4	111
	MEASLES		1	1										1				3	—
General Practitioners Premises	DIPH.		1															1	—
	PERT.																	—	—
	DIPH.— TET.	115	704	270	76	60	152	43	15	12	7	15	7	6	1	3	1	1,487	12
	TRIPLE	678	5656	2200	328	190	158	45	23	9	9	3	4	3	3	1		9,310	5
	TET.	4	26	23	44	49	55	64	79	81	92	130	109	130	170	144	143	1,343	5,049
	POLIO	280	4967	2165	365	220	317	80	41	27	18	14	14	10	7	9	9	8,543	79
	MEASLES	85	2100	1761	489	260	221	52	35	20	17	8	10	9	2	3	1	5,073	11
Totals	DIPH.	1	3	1		3	4				1							13	—
	PERT.																	—	—
	DIPH.— TET.	380	1646	513	232	273	329	148	110	81	70	63	25	7	6	3	1	3,887	14
	TRIPLE	1495	8640	2632	448	206	158	45	23	9	9	3	4	3	3	1		13,679	5
	TET.	4	26	23	44	50	56	67	79	83	94	144	142	199	278	254	243	1,786	5,539
	POLIO	280	7789	4056	881	585	581	244	161	128	90	72	58	35	21	21	12	15,014	1,894
	MEASLES	85	3721	3066	927	708	539	191	143	94	82	51	23	20	7	5	2	9,664	11

CHOLERA VACCINATION

Because of an outbreak of cholera in Italy in the latter part of 1972, special clinics were held at Birmingham Airport in September for travellers to the area. 238 persons were vaccinated.

DIPHTHERIA, PERTUSSIS, TETANUS AND POLIOMYELITIS
NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO RECEIVED **REINFORCING** INJECTIONS
AND DOSES DURING 1973

Year of Birth		1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	Total Children	Total Adult
Personal and Child Health Centres	DIPH.					22	20	7										49	—
	DIPH.- TET.			1		3556	2302	312	146	91	72	36	24	4	2			6546	—
	TRIPLE																	—	—
	TET.				1					1	1	14	34	55	102	99	114	421	192
	POLIO			1		3536	2318	334	166	96	55	34	42	60	107	109	131	6989	2856
Primary Series	DIPH.																	—	—
	DIPH.- TET.					48	48											96	—
	TRIPLE																	—	—
	TET.																	—	—
	POLIO					48	48											96	—
Incorporation off, Hospitals, Institutions	DIPH.																	—	1
	DIPH.- TET.					7		6	5	4	1	1					1	25	2
	TRIPLE																	—	—
	TET.							1	1	2	2	1			2	1		10	163
	POLIO					10	3	3	9	8	3	1				1		38	31
Schools	DIPH.																	—	—
	DIPH.- TET.						5	1		2								8	—
	TRIPLE																	—	—
	TET.								1			1	4	16	21	27	10	80	7
	POLIO						1	1		2		2	4	6	2	2		20	3

Food and Drugs Act 1955

Milk. The change-over to collection of farm milk in the Midlands by large tanker lorries instead of chain collection is virtually complete and the

DIPHTHERIA, PERTUSSIS, TETANUS AND POLIOMYELITIS
NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO RECEIVED REINFORCING INJECTIONS
AND DOSES DURING 1973 (CONTINUED)

<i>Year of Birth</i>		1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	<i>Total Children</i>	<i>Total Adults</i>
Council House	DIPH.																	—	—
	DIPH.- TET.					2	2			1								5	—
	TRIPLE																	—	—
	TET.																	—	285
	POLIO					3	1			1								5	227
General Practitioners Premises	DIPH.					1	3											4	—
	DIPH.- TET.		34	154	62	1048	2186	377	97	42	30	29	20	8	6	3	3	4,099	14
	TRIPLE		381	881	169	857	1198	171	48	21	13	11	8	3	2	6		3,769	10
	TET.			10	26	40	71	74	88	105	108	129	114	130	154	142	131	1,322	3,473
	POLIO		22	175	182	1701	2949	464	156	71	36	28	21	18	19	13	18	5,873	338
TOTALS	DIPH.					23	23	7										53	1
	DIPH.- TET.		34	155	62	4661	4543	696	248	140	103	66	44	12	8	3	4	10,779	16
	TRIPLE		381	881	169	857	1198	171	48	21	13	11	8	3	2	6		3,769	10
	TET.			10	27	40	71	75	90	108	111	145	152	201	279	269	255	1,833	4,120
	POLIO		22	176	182	5298	5320	802	331	178	94	65	67	84	128	125	149	13,021	3,455

LABORATORY SERVICES

(a) ANALYTICAL LABORATORY

The following samples were examined during the year:—

Samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act 1955:

Milk	184
Other foods	1,777
Drugs	317
	<hr/>
	2,278
Special drugs (Research Section) (208, hospital drugs 19)	227
Miscellaneous samples	8,089
	<hr/>
	10,594
	<hr/>

The demands of environmental pollution have resulted in a 25 per cent workload increase on 1972. The following comparison of samples examined for the last four years illustrates the changing pattern of the work of the laboratories and needs no further comment.

	1970	1971	1972	1973
Food and Drugs Act samples	3,512	3,281	2,249	2,278

Other work illustrating main changes:—

Atmospheric pollution

(Deposit gauge, SO₂ determinations,
dusts, etc.)

	192	192	1,112	2,597
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Bloods for lead	—	—	—	806
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Waters	934	730	1,165	1,901*
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Total "Other work" Samples	4,438	4,600	5,801	8,316
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Total Samples Examined	7,950	7,881	8,050	10,594
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*Increase largely from checking lead in mains water.

Food and Drugs Act 1955

MILK. The change-over to collection of farm milk in the Midlands by large tanker lorries instead of churn collection is virtually complete and the

familiar sight of farmers' churns at city dairies is almost a thing of the past. The following 184 samples of milk were examined:

Skimmed carton	2	Bottled	106
Semi-skimmed carton	2	Farm churn	19
Full cream carton	44	Farm churn (antibiotics)	10
Goats' milk	1		

The semi-skimmed milk represents an innovation largely initiated by the E.E.C. The fat content should be between 1.5 and 1.8 per cent (S.I. 1973. 369 and E.E.C. Regulation 1411./71.) However, informal carton sample C 4199 had the following composition:—

Solids-not-fat	8.4%
Fat	1.6%
Freezing point depression	0.510°C (Minimum should be 0.530°C)
Extraneous water	At least 3.4%

A formal follow-up sample, C 4203, had a similar composition. The Health Committee authorised a prosecution in this case and at the Hearing a plea of Guilty was made and a fine of £5 imposed. No other milk sample contained extraneous water and no sample was deficient in composition from natural causes. One carton of U.H.T. milk was sour (0.36 per cent lactic acid) because of spoilage through damage to the carton.

Ten formal samples of a farmer's churn milk were taken for antibiotic checking and were follow-up samples of informal milk hygiene samples (see later) found to contain traces of penicillin. In the event, all the formal samples were free from antibiotics.

The average composition of the 168 whole-milk samples examined was 8.75 per cent solids-not-fat and 3.82 per cent fat, making a total solids content of 12.57 per cent—good quality milk.

OTHER FOODS. Out of a total of 1,777 samples, 43 or 2.4 per cent received adverse reports, the corresponding figure for 1972 being 1.2 per cent. These figures refer to routine sampling only and do not include cases of foreign matter in food referred to food inspectors by the public and dealt with later in this report.

New, more stringent, Labelling of Food Regulations S.I. 1970. 400 came into operation on 1st January, 1973. The following samples were reported as incorrectly labelled:—

Raspberry jam	C 3646
Raspberry jam	C 3662
Stuffing	A 5964
Ice lolly preparation	C 3669
Steak and kidney pie	A 6580
Crystal vinegar	C 3884
Vanillin sugar	C 3892
Black pudding	A 6617
Beef dripping	A 6618
Preservative tablets (4)	C 4108, C 4117 C 4131, C 4132
Lemon curd	A 6203
Mango juice	C 3501
Marzipan	A 7036
Extract of coffee with milk and cream	A 7088

The majority of these samples did not give the name and address of the packer, were not described adequately or were mis-described.

Soft Drinks. Indian tonic water C 6537 contained no quinine (a minimum of 0.5 grain of quinine sulphate per pint is legally required). The bottle was of clear glass and had probably been stored in sunlight—this decomposes the alkaloid.

Cola drink A 6078 was devoid of caffeine which suggests that an insignificant amount (or none) of cola **nut** extract was present. Reputable cola drinks contain about 100 p.p.m. caffeine, some of which is probably added as “fortification”.

Super syrup C 3877 was labelled as “Containing 40 per cent lemon juice” whereas 20 per cent was found on analysis. (Legal **minimum** is 25 per cent.)

Blackcurrant Health Drink C 3773 was deficient in Vitamin C (not less than 85 mg/fl oz. declared: only 65 mg/fl oz. found).

Shandy A 6856. Yeast present. 2.5 per cent proof spirit present (should be between 1.5 and 2.0 per cent).

Carton Orange Squash A 6698. Sample had fermented—carton was faulty.

Meat Products. Beef Sausage B 6497 contained 775 p.p.m. sulphur dioxide preservative—well in excess of the 450 p.p.m. permitted by the Preservatives in Food Regulations 1962.

Stewed Steak with Gravy A 6887 contained only 67 per cent meat (a repeat gave 70 per cent) compared with the minimum legally required of 75 per cent.

Pork Sausage C 4115 was taken as a follow-up of a complaint—contained only 75 per cent meat (32 per cent fat, 25 per cent lean). (Standard is a minimum of 65 per cent with at least 32 per cent lean.)

Pork Sausage C 4155 was a formal follow-up sample of C 4115. Lean meat 25 per cent, Fat 32 per cent, i.e. a deficiency of 7.5 per cent of lean meat. Prosecution authorised but case did not reach the Courts.

Meat Burgers A 6952. Contained a maximum of 74 per cent meat. These were an "open" meat product and it is felt that all meat burgers should contain a minimum of 80 per cent meat. The special labelling of this product created technical difficulties in legally enforcing this standard.

OTHER FOODS. Creme Caramel is traditionally an egg custard type of product but a packeted mix B 6494 was devoid of egg, the latter being replaced by a substitute gelling agent. The firm concerned promised to revise the formulation so as to include egg.

Crab Paste (2) B 6477 and B 6478 contained only 57.5 per cent and 53.3 per cent crab meat respectively (legal minimum is 70 per cent). The manufacturers were told of the deficiencies and repeat samples taken a short time later gave crab contents well over 70 per cent.

Raisins B 6503 contained 0.8 per cent liquid paraffin (legal maximum is 0.5 per cent).

Instant Low Fat Milk C 3686—Moisture content was 7.2 per cent (should be less than 5.0 per cent).

Canned Mixed Pickle in Oil A 6546 contained 2.4 p.p.m. lead.

Canned Mixed Pickle in Oil A 6543 contained 4.0 p.p.m. lead.

(The legal maximum is 2.0 p.p.m.)

Tomato Paste A 6315 was deficient in tomato solids—28.30 per cent declared—22.5 per cent found by analysis.

Potassium Carbonate Solution (bottled) C 4058. This article was a colourless 50 per cent w/v solution of potassium carbonate closely resembling mineral

water (lemonade) in appearance since it was in a mineral water bottle. No indication was given on the label as to its use (namely a meat tenderiser) and no caution was given as to its strongly alkaline nature and danger if swallowed. The product was removed from open public sale.

Beef Suet A 6865 contained only 77·8 per cent fat. (Standard is a minimum of 83 per cent.)

INCORRECT DRUGS. Of 317 "Over the Counter" drugs sampled informally under the Food and Drugs Act 1955, twelve were found to be incorrect. The most important were the following:—

Hexachlorophene is a widely used skin antiseptic but cases of poisoning among babies have occurred from absorption of excessive amounts through the skin. Three samples of baby powder A 5976, B 3642 and C 3844 were all labelled as containing this antiseptic and had been sold without caution or any restriction whatsoever. On 30th July, 1973, the Medicines (Hexachlorophane Prohibition Order) 1973. 1120 came into operation and laid down close controls over the sale of medicated baby powders, soaps, etc.

Nerve Tonic Tablets C 3874—Deficient in Vitamin C (20 mg per tablet declared, whereas only 9 mg present).

Kaolin and Morphine Mixture C 4051. Deficient in kaolin. B.P.C. requires between 13·8 and 18·4 per cent of "acid insoluble matter" which is a measure of the kaolin but only 3 per cent was present. It is probable that a stock bottle was not shaken adequately before taking out a portion.

Sample of Analgesic Tablets C 4059, Multi-Vitamin Tablets C 4107 and Strong Ammonia were incorrectly labelled.

All the above incorrect foods and drugs were referred to the Medical Officer of Health for suitable action to be taken.

Local Drug Testing Scheme. Eighty-five pharmacies were visited and two hundred and eight samples taken for analysis. The main groups of samples included:—

						<i>Number Taken</i>	<i>Number Incorrect</i>
Eye ointments	..	..	..	..	..	52	4
Ear drops	..	..	..	..	..	25	—
Phenytoin tablets	..	..	..	..	..	17	—
Sedative/hypnotic preparations	..	..	..	..	..	14	1
Anti-rheumatic preparations	..	..	..	..	..	15	—
Bronchial relaxants and decongestants	..	..	..	..	..	21	—

The eye ointments were sampled as a follow-up of the 1971 survey when one in six samples was incorrect. Of fourteen Chloramphenicol Eye Ointments, four contained active ingredient outside the stringent range of 0·95-1·05 per

cent required by the B.P.C. Amounts found varied from 0·8 to 1·4 per cent. The manufacturers were notified and promised a full overhaul of their production process.

Of the Phenytoin Tablets four samples (all of one manufacturer), were visibly larger in diameter and up to 30 per cent heavier than other specimens. These contained the correct amount of drug but their strength had been queried by patients. Being sugar-coated, no requirement for diameter is fixed by the B.P.

One sample of Butobarbitone tablets taken in the hypnotic preparation group, badly failed the B.P. disintegration test. This product was old stock and was discarded by the pharmacist together with other drugs of uncertain age.

Hospital Samples

Six samples were examined for the Birmingham and Midland Hospital Pharmacy Committee. These consisted of samples of methylated spirit (3), tincture of iodine, a mouth ulcer preparation and a coloured capsule for identification.

Miscellaneous Samples

These totalled 8,089 and were made up as follows:—

Public Health Department

Milk and dairies samples	1,701
Air pollution (deposit gauges, SO ₂ determinations) ..	1,596
Dusts (heavy metal content)	847
Directional gauge, high volume air samples	154
Bloods (lead content)	806
Waters	1,536
Daily fluoride determinations	365
Urines	118
Food inspectors' samples	129
Miscellaneous	180
	<hr/> 7,432

Other Corporation Departments and Committees

Water Department (waters 287, urines 3, Na ₂ SiF ₆ 3) ..	293
Weights and Measures Department	15
Public Works Department	2
Parks Department	25
Housing Department	17
Education Department	8
Central Purchasing Department	54
	<hr/> 414
Private Miscellaneous Samples	243

8,089

MILK AND DAIRIES SAMPLES

These samples are taken to check the bacterial cleanliness, degree of heat treatment and hygiene generally of dairy products sold within the City. For milk, official tests to assess the cleanliness of heat treated milk and to check the efficiency of the heat treatment given are laid down in the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963. These refer to pasteurised, sterilised, UHT. and untreated milk.

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Number Examined</i>	<i>Number Incorrect or Comments</i>
<i>Milk</i> (Bottled, Churn, Dispenser, Whirlcool, Carton)	676	Nineteen dispenser, one carton and one whirlcool samples failed the official "Methylene Blue" keeping quality test. Two U H T samples failed the official "bacterial content" (colony count) test. Thirteen experimental samples of semi-skimmed sterilised milk just failed the official Turbidity Test. (New milk processing plant being tested.)
<i>Ice-Cream</i>	505	A Methylene Blue Test is used as a provisional indication of bacterial cleanliness. Grades 3 and 4 (unsatisfactory) 115 samples. Seven samples had labelling irregularities, six samples had compositional faults (fat deficiencies, and all from one manufacturer).
<i>Ice-Lollies</i>	47	All samples were sufficiently acid to ensure reasonable bacterial cleanliness. One sample had 35 p.p.m. Copper (maximum is 20 p.p.m.).
<i>Fresh Cream</i>	278	Nineteen samples failed the Methylene Blue Test (used as an indication of bacterial cleanliness).
<i>Imitation Cream</i>	12	One sample contained Coliform organisms (not E. Coli).
<i>Whole Egg</i>	18	All samples had received adequate heat treatment.
<i>Egg White</i>	6	All samples had received adequate heat treatment.
<i>Churn and Bottle Washings</i>	34	All samples reasonably clean.
<i>Raw Milk for Antibiotics</i>	125	Four samples from one farmer contained traces of penicillin. Formal follow-up samples taken but all satisfactory. One other sample contained 0.03 i.u. penicillin per ml (> 0.05 is significant).

WATERS. The total of 1,823 waters examined (287 from the Water Department) included effluents from sewage systems in the Rivers Bourne and Blythe catchment area, sub-floor and similar waters for determination of origin and routine testing of the Elan, River Severn (Trimpey) and Whitacre domestic systems.

The question of city mains water and plumbo-solvency received considerable attention during the year and in all 708 special samples were taken. The most important of these were 341 pairs of "first-draw-off" and "normal use" samples of tap water from older city houses with lead pipe supplies and the results of these were as follows:—

	<i>"First Draw-Off" Waters</i>			<i>"Normal Use" Waters</i>		
W.H.O. limit	0.30 mg/l lead		0.10 mg/l lead
Number of samples	341		341
Samples below limit	304		295
Samples above limit	37		46

A breakdown of those samples above the limit gives the following:—

<i>(a) "First Draw-Off" Samples</i>				<i>(b) "Normal Use" Samples</i>			
<i>Samples above 0.3 mg/l lead</i>				<i>Samples above 0.10 mg/l lead</i>			
0.30 to 0.39	..	..	19	0.10 to 0.19	..	..	34
0.40 to 0.49	..	..	12	0.20 to 0.29	..	..	6
0.50 to 0.59	..	..	4	0.30 to 0.39	..	..	3
0.60 to 0.69	..	..	2	0.40 to 0.49	..	..	3
} 37 Samples				} 46 Samples			

Routine laboratory testing of mains water for plumbo-solvency continued throughout the year. The monthly average lead content of first draw-off waters from the overnight erosion test supply was 0.29 mg/l lead with a range of 0.22 to 0.39 mg/l lead. The corresponding figures for 1972 were 0.36 mg/l lead with a range of 0.23 to 0.55 mg/l lead. In the lead strip tests, the monthly average was 100 units compared with 113 in 1972. The results suggest a slight drop in plumbo-solvency.

As in previous years, no difficulty has been experienced in maintaining the fluoridation of the Birmingham mains supply at a level of 0.9 to 1.1 mg/l F. Daily tests are performed (weekends included) to check the fluoride level.

SAMPLES OTHER THAN WATER. One hundred and twenty-nine food or medicine complaints or enquiries were received directly from the Food Inspectors. Specimens of Japanese oysters and hake were tested exhaustively for

heavy metal content especially lead, zinc and mercury, with generally satisfactory results, the mercury contents being 0.35 and 0.09 p.p.m. respectively (limit is 0.5 p.p.m.). Two specimens of bran, one sold for animal feed and the other for humans, were tested comparatively. The fibre contents were almost identical (7.4 per cent and 7.3 per cent) and both samples were equally clean and free from insect fragments and dirt. Some hazel nuts had had their husks coloured and polished with iron oxide ("bole")—a permitted practice. Some "gob stopper" sweets caused alarm when what appeared to be medicinal tablets were found at the centre. The tablets were made of cornflour only and were used as nuclei when forming the various layers of coloured sugar around the sweet—this is done in a rotating drum.

Two separate complaints of the taste of UHT. carton milk of the same dairy were well founded, hydrogen peroxide being present to the extent of one per cent in one case and 0.09 per cent in the other. This substance originated from the use of 33 per cent hydrogen peroxide spray to sterilise the inside of the wax cartons. A fault had developed in the process which normally ensures removal of all peroxide by a blast of hot air before addition of milk.

Coloured Powders Used in Home Enamelling

At the request of the Medical Officer of Health, a total of fifteen different coloured powders used in home enamelling were examined for lead content. The total lead varied from 7.3 to 50 per cent depending on the colour. Some of the lead pigments required strong acid for solution but nevertheless even decinormal hydrochloric acid—the strength of stomach acid—dissolved out appreciable amounts at 37°C overnight. No fume or loss of lead was observed during fusion of the powders. The question of the labelling of the powders with some sort of cautionary notice seems well worth considering.

Air Pollution: The following work was carried out for the Chief Air Pollution and Noise Abatement Officer during the year:—

(a) *General:* Air Pollution Deposit Gauges for measuring general atmospheric pollution (grit, dust, tarry matter, etc.) are sited at eight selected points in the City, collect the rainwater and are changed monthly. The contents (liquid and solid) of the deposit gauges are examined for, among other things, lead, copper, chromium, zinc, cadmium and nickel. Alongside these gauges are lead peroxide "candles", also changed monthly and used to measure the sulphur dioxide content of the atmosphere.

Daily monitoring of the air in the City Art Gallery and at Aston Hall for sulphur dioxide content continued throughout the year.

Selective Testing: Sixty-four Directional Atmospheric Deposit Gauge Samples for specific metal determinations were received to pin-point emissions from suspect factory sources. Ninety high volume air filter specimens were examined, chiefly for lead.

City Dust Survey: The number of city dusts submitted was stepped up towards the end of the year and in all 847 samples were examined (294 for lead and the usual five toxic metals) and 553 for lead only.

Lead in Blood: In October the new A A 6 Techtron Atomic Absorption apparatus purchased by the Health Committee was brought into full use and a total for the year of 806 specimens of venous blood was examined. The accurate analytical determination of lead in blood is a most difficult exercise especially when pressure of numbers is involved and much experience and collaboration with other laboratories is essential.

The blood samples came from residents of the Gravelly Hill Motorway area and from residents and children in areas around certain factories using lead and represented part of one of a number of important surveys to be made in the future, linking up with others already done.

OTHER CORPORATION DEPARTMENTS. Apart from the 287 samples of water received from the Water Department and already mentioned, a wide range of 157 specimens was received from other Corporation Departments. For the Central Purchasing Department 54 tender and delivery samples of soaps and synthetic detergents were analysed for contract purposes.

The Weights and Measures Department submitted several interesting samples under the Trade Descriptions Act. A complaint that a certain "Bulb Fibre with Oyster Shell and Charcoal" contained negligible amounts of the latter two ingredients was justified but confused by the presence of an additional constituent—about 5 per cent undeclared cockle shells. Some machine washed clothes with a number of holes in the garments were received for examination, the suspect cause being the detergent used. Tests on the latter exonerated it completely and incriminated the machine. A specimen of paraffin was found to be of genuine premium grade and not "regular".

Two specimens of texturised vegetable protein T.V.P. were received from the School Meals Section of the Education Department. Such material is being considered as a meat supplement or substitute. T.V.P. is very nutritious and its use as an *additional* ingredient to meat dishes to enhance the protein content

can have no objections. Its use as a meat *replacement* however raises several important issues and judgment must await the publication of a report by the Food Standards Committee.

The use of a proprietary weedkiller containing borate and bromacil resulted in three samples of soil being examined on behalf of the Housing Department. The weedkiller had been inadvertently used on a **garden** instead of paths and had rendered the soil incapable of plant growth. Traces of active ingredients were detected in the soils (0.3, 0.6 and 0.3 p.p.m. bromacil were present). Normal leaching out of the chemicals by rain will eventually restore the soil to fertility but this can take a year or more.

Another specimen of soil from landscaped gardens in which plants were not thriving was received from the Parks Department. The soil had been treated with sludge fertiliser suspected of containing excessive amounts of toxic heavy metals. Determinations of lead, cadmium, nickel, chromium, zinc and copper showed that the soil contained five to ten times the normal amount of these metals.

PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS AND INSTITUTIONS. One hundred and six cases of food or medicine complaints were received directly from the public and after investigation referred to the Food Inspectors for further action. Among the "lighter" cases were a bottle of stout containing a large number of raffle tickets, an "earwig" in some fish and chips which turned out to be a potato rootlet and "sugar" which when sprinkled on grapefruit caused "frothing", the cause being a culinary mix-up with bicarbonate of soda being used instead of sugar.

A group of 46 assorted cosmetics was received to ascertain whether their labelling transgressed the Trade Descriptions Act 1968. The only possible fault to find concerned two creams and one lotion with strawberry, raspberry and banana respectively in the title but with no actual fruit present. It was considered that the description referred to the odour of the specimens and all were passed as satisfactory.

PROGRESS IN FOOD AND ASSOCIATED LEGISLATION. The need to harmonise our existing food regulations with those of the E.E.C. has been responsible for most of the legislative activity of the year. New regulations issued included the following:—

- (1) The Arsenic in Food (Amendment) Regulations 1973.
- (2) The Lead in Food (Amendment) Regulations 1973.

The arsenic and lead contents of food are controlled in a rather general way by existing regulations. For food additives (colours, preservatives, anti-oxidants, etc.) it is now policy both in this country and in the E.E.C. to lay down individual specifications of purity which include separate arsenic and lead limits. The new regulations legally enforce this view.

(3) The Colouring Matter in Food Regulations 1973.

These will operate from 1st July, 1974, and harmonise E.E.C. and our own legislation. There will thus be one list of permitted food colours for all member countries.

(4) The Separated Milk Regulations 1973.

Throughout the E.E.C. countries the only separated milk that can legally be sold is now semi-skimmed (fat 1.5 to 1.8 per cent) or skimmed milk (fat maximum 0.3 per cent.)

(5) The Milk and Dairies (Semi-Skimmed and Skimmed Milk) (Heat Treatment and Labelling) Regulations 1973.

These regulations require that semi-skimmed and skimmed milk sold to the public shall have been heat treated by pasteurisation, sterilisation or by the prescribed continuous flow method.

(6) The Milk and Dairies (Milk Bottle Caps) (Colour) Regulations 1973.

(7) The Skimmed Milk with Non-Milk Fat (Amendment) Regulations 1973.

(8) The Cooking Utensils (Safety) Regulations 1972.

These regulations restrict the lead content (to a maximum of 0.2 per cent) of any tin or other metallic coating used on any surface of a utensil designed to come in contact with food. Some years ago it was not uncommon to find cheap "tinned" frying pans made of iron coated with a solder containing 50 per cent lead.

Proposals to harmonise British and E.E.C. preservative, anti-oxidant, cheese and miscellaneous additives in food regulations were issued during the year.

A Food Standards Committee supplementary report on condensed milk received a mixed reception. The report reviewed certain recent milk processing developments producing a new type of condensed milk termed "fresh milk concentrate" which is akin to the well-known evaporated milk. Whereas, however, the latter is sterilised and has a characteristic flavour, the former is pasteurised and of a different flavour. Labelling and compositional requirements were suggested for the new product. One objection to the proposals is

that an unnecessary proliferation of only mildly varying types of condensed milk would result.

In February, 1973, the Government made an important statement in the House of Commons regarding the date marking of food. It is hoped to make regulations on open date marking to come into effect in 1975.

On 1st December, 1973, new editions of the British Pharmacopoeia (B.P.) and of the British Pharmaceutical Codex came into operation. The familiar B.P. is much enlarged in size of page but, rather disappointingly, many monographs simply refer to the European Pharmacopoeia for specification requirements—a penalty to be paid in the interests of unification.

(b) PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

Dr. J. G. P. Hutchison, Director of the Public Health Laboratory, has kindly supplied the following information:—

VENEREAL DISEASES EXAMINATIONS FOR BIRMINGHAM FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1973

<i>Specimens:</i>		<i>Examinations:</i>	
Bloods	26,650	Wasserman Test	24,803
		Gonococcal Fixation Test ..	1,218
		V.D.R.L. Test	25,438
		Reiter P.C.F. Test	455
C.S. Fluid	442	Wassermann Test	442
		Cell count	25
TOTAL	27,092	TOTAL	52,381

Blood specimens for Wassermann reaction examined during the year ending 31st December, 1973, from Birmingham Ante-Natal Centres and Maternity Hospitals.

	<i>Number of specimens</i>	<i>"Diagnostic" reactors</i>
From Ante-Natal Centres	1,190	5
From Maternity Hospitals	10,611	42

TUBERCULOSIS

Notifications

There were 431 new notifications of tuberculosis in 1973, a substantial reduction from the total of 524 in 1972, and the lowest figure ever recorded. The notification rate at 0.43 per 1,000 is also lower than in any previous year, and shows a rather greater fall than has occurred for several years.

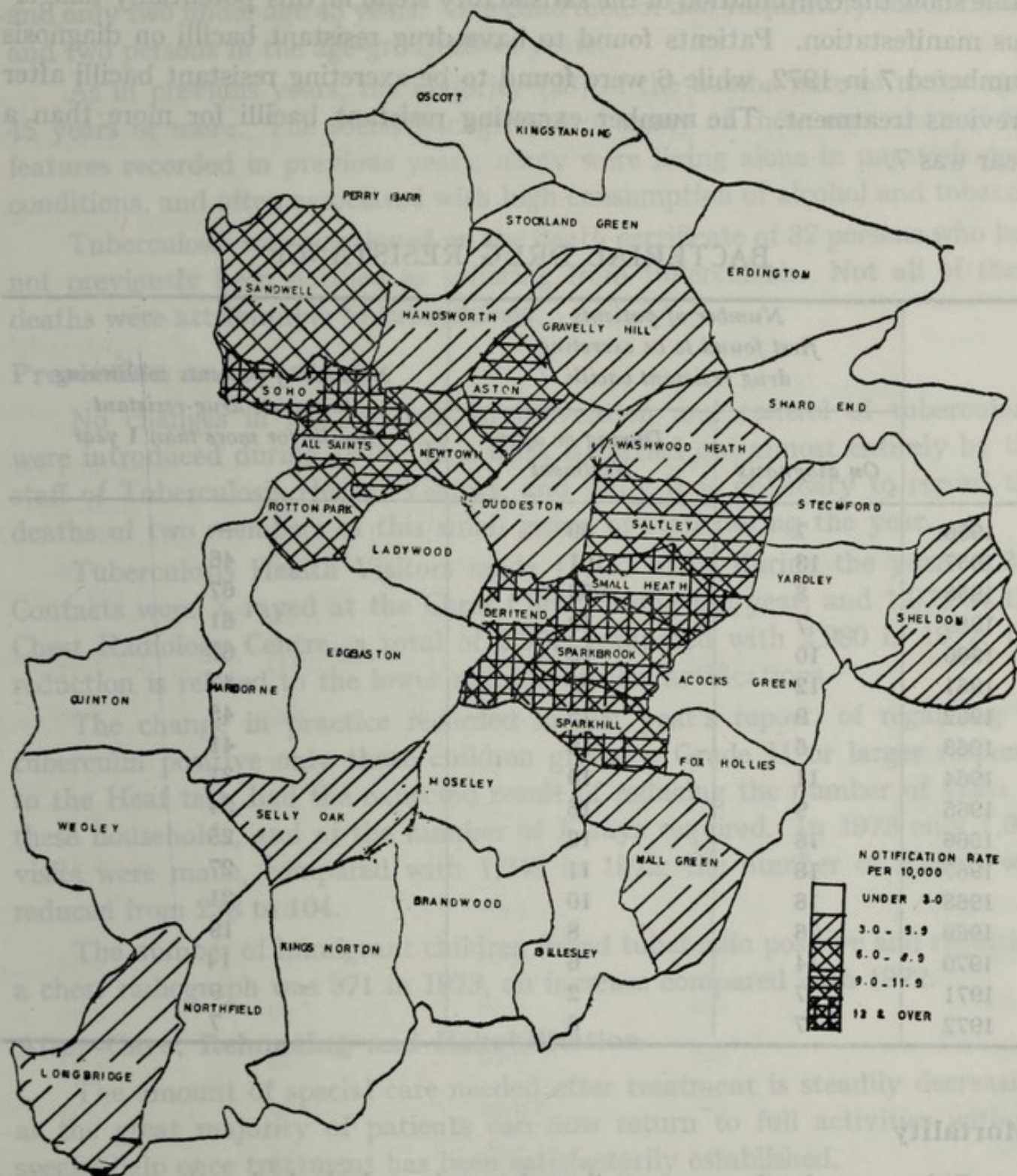
The decline in notifications has occurred in both respiratory and non-respiratory forms of tuberculosis, and by about the same proportion in each. Both sexes have shared in the fall, and again, to about an equal extent, though the decline in non-respiratory forms in females is very small. Some improvement is also shown in most age-groups, though the number in any one ten-year group is now small. The decline is perhaps rather greater in children and younger adults than in older age-groups.

Of special importance, it is particularly satisfactory to record that the number of notifications of persons from abroad has shared in the general decline, and is indeed proportionately rather greater than for those born in Great Britain, probably because the immigrant groups are predominantly young adults. Between 1972 and 1973 notifications of persons born in Great Britain fell from 183 to 165, while for those born in India, the figures fell from 110 to 90, and for Pakistan from 144 to 106, and for West Indies from 17 to 8.

Notification Rates in City Wards

The notification rate has been calculated separately for each ward of the City, and the results are summarised on the map for comparison with the similar analysis made in the report for 1966. The number of wards with less than 3 notifications per 10,000 population has increased from 9 to 20, reflecting the general downward trend of notifications. These wards lie mainly at the periphery, especially to the north and south of the City. The number of wards with from 3 to 12 notifications per 10,000 has declined from 27 to 14, whilst the number of wards with more than 12 notifications per 10,000 has increased from 4 to 5. This tendency for wards to accumulate in low-incidence or high-incidence groups is another reflection of the extent to which the epidemiological pattern of tuberculosis in the City is determined by tuberculosis in immigrants from Asia, most of whom live in a small number of wards just around the centre of the City.

The greatest number of notifications for any one ward was 48 for Soho; the lowest number was 1, from Quinton.



Bacterial Drug Resistance

The most recent information available is for 1972, and the results in the table show the continuation of the satisfactory trend in this potentially dangerous manifestation. Patients found to have drug resistant bacilli on diagnosis numbered 7 in 1972, while 6 were found to be excreting resistant bacilli after previous treatment. The number excreting resistant bacilli for more than a year was 7.

BACTERIAL DRUG RESISTANCE

	<i>Number of patients first found to be excreting drug resistant bacilli</i>		<i>Number of patients continuing to excrete drug-resistant bacilli for more than 1 year</i>
	<i>On diagnosis</i>	<i>During or after treatment</i>	
1956	7	90	—
1957	13	101	46
1958	8	39	67
1959	7	19	61
1960	10	18	67
1961	12	29	47
1962	9	15	45
1963	6	16	41
1964	11	19	31
1965	9	16	34
1966	18	12	25
1967	18	11	27
1968	18	10	21
1969	26	8	19
1970	14	6	14
1971	7	2	9
1972	7	6	7

Mortality

Thirty-one deaths were attributed to tuberculosis during the year, giving a rate of 0.31 per 1,000 per year. The number of deaths and the death rate has shown no very consistent trend for almost 10 years, and there is unlikely to be any dramatic improvement in the present fairly small number of deaths. It

is worth recalling that 20 years ago, the annual number of deaths was about ten times as great as it is now and included many deaths of young people. In 1973 there was no death from respiratory tuberculosis under the age of 25 years, and only two under age 45 years. One child died of non-respiratory tuberculosis, and two persons in the age-group 25-44 years.

As in previous years, the majority (23) of the deaths were of males aged 45 years or more. The social background of many of these men showed the features recorded in previous years; many were living alone in unsatisfactory conditions, and often associated with high consumption of alcohol and tobacco.

Tuberculosis was mentioned on the death certificate of 32 persons who had not previously been notified as suffering from tuberculosis. Not all of these deaths were attributable to tuberculosis.

Prevention and Control

No changes in the methods of prevention and control of tuberculosis were introduced during 1973. This work is carried out almost entirely by the staff of Tuberculosis Health Visitors, and sadly it is necessary to record the deaths of two members of this small group of staff during the year.

Tuberculosis Health Visitors made 11,447 visits during the year. 1,259 Contacts were X-rayed at the Chest Clinic during the year, and 1,072 at the Chest Radiology Centre, a total of 2,331, compared with 2,980 in 1972: the reduction is related to the lower number of new notifications.

The change in practice recorded in last year's report, of regarding as tuberculin positive only those children giving a Grade II or larger response to the Heaf test, had the expected result of reducing the number of visits to these households, and of the number of X-rays required. In 1973 only 1,009 visits were made, compared with 1,349 in 1972; the number of X-rays was reduced from 238 to 104.

The number of immigrant children found tuberculin positive and requiring a chest radiograph was 371 in 1973, an increase compared with 1972.

After-Care, Rehousing and Rehabilitation

The amount of special care needed after treatment is steadily decreasing as the great majority of patients can now return to full activities without special help once treatment has been satisfactorily established.

Grants of free milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	268
Issues of beds, bedding and nursing utensils	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Grants of clothing or fuel from Tippet's Bequest Fund	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Disinfections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

Applications for help with rehousing were made by 78 persons during the year: additional points were allocated to 46, and 12 recommendations for rehousing under the quota scheme were made. The number of families rehoused under the points scheme was 23, and a further 6 were rehoused under the quota system.

Thirty-one patients returning to work were assisted by reports to the Disablement Resettlement Officer, and two attended courses at the Industrial Rehabilitation Unit.

TABLE 1

TUBERCULOSIS—ALL FORMS

PRIMARY NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS FOR THE YEARS 1901—1973

	<i>Primary Notifications</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 population</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 population</i>
1901—1910 (average)	—	—	1,309	1.65
1911—1920 („)	—	—	1,284	1.46
1921—1930 („)	1,824	1.91	1,031	1.08
1931—1940 („)	1,284	1.24	883	0.85
1941—1950 („)	1,297	1.25	727	0.72
1951—1955 („)	1,321	1.18	292	0.26
1956—1960 („)	962	0.88	128	0.12
1961—1965 („)	741	0.67	72	0.07
1966	692	0.63	49	0.04
1967	649	0.59	40	0.04
1968	632	0.59	41	0.04
1969	591	0.54	29	0.03
1970	611	0.56	51	0.05
1971	521	0.51	27	0.03
1972	524	0.52	44	0.04
1973	431	0.43	31	0.03

TABLE 2

RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS

PRIMARY NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS FOR THE YEARS 1901—1973

	<i>Primary Notifications</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 population</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 population</i>
1901—1910 (average)	—	—	998	1.25
1911—1920 („)	—	—	1,059	1.20
1921—1930 („)	1,533	1.61	892	0.94
1931—1940 („)	1,082	1.05	793	0.76
1941—1950 („)	1,124	1.10	660	0.65
1951—1955 („)	1,183	1.06	272	0.24
1956—1960 („)	856	0.78	119	0.11
1961—1965 („)	619	0.59	66	0.06
1966	586	0.53	45	0.04
1967	529	0.48	37	0.03
1968	493	0.46	38	0.04
1969	455	0.42	27	0.02
1970	465	0.43	46	0.04
1971	370	0.37	20	0.02
1972	391	0.39	37	0.04
1973	324	0.32	27	0.03

TABLE 3

NON-RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS

PRIMARY NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS FOR THE YEARS 1901—1973

	<i>Primary Notifications</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 population</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 population</i>
1901—1910 (average)	—	—	317	0.40
1911—1920 (")	—	—	224	0.26
1921—1930 (")	290	0.31	139	0.14
1931—1940 (")	202	0.19	90	0.09
1941—1950 (")	160	0.16	67	0.07
1951—1955 (")	139	0.12	20	0.02
1956—1960 (")	106	0.10	9	0.01
1961—1965 (")	102	0.09	6	0.01
1966	106	0.10	4	0.00
1967	120	0.11	3	0.00
1968	139	0.13	3	0.00
1969	136	0.13	2	0.00
1970	146	0.13	5	0.00
1971	151	0.15	7	0.01
1972	133	0.13	7	0.01
1973	107	0.11	4	0.00

TABLE 4

NOTIFICATIONS OF RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS BY SEX
AGE GROUP AND PLACE OF BIRTH

Age group Years	MALES					
	1953/55 (Mean)	All birthplaces			Born in British Isles 1973	Born Elsewhere 1973
		1971	1972	1973		
0—4	39	23	15	17	14	3
5—9	34	14	11	7	5	2
10—14	29	13	10	7	4	3
15—19	64	11	35	15	3	12
20—24	64	24	23	16	3	13
25—34	114	27	29	27	9	18
35—44	101	40	19	35	19	16
45—54	112	31	46	32	18	14
55—64	92	30	27	31	25	6
65+	34	13	26	19	18	1
All Ages	683	226	241	206	118	88

FEMALES						
Age groups Years	1953/55 (Mean)	All birthplaces			Born in British Isles 1973	Born Elsewhere 1973
		1971	1972	1973		
0—4	32	19	16	15	13	2
5—9	36	10	14	3	3	0
10—14	29	5	11	9	5	4
15—19	75	16	14	10	5	5
20—24	73	18	22	18	6	12
25—34	112	30	21	18	6	12
35—44	53	21	20	12	2	10
45—54	30	9	12	9	3	6
55—64	23	8	12	12	10	2
65+	14	8	8	12	8	4
All Ages	477	144	150	118	61	57

TABLE 5

NOTIFICATIONS OF NON-RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS BY SEX
AGE GROUP AND PLACE OF BIRTH

MALES						
Age group Years	1953/55 (Mean)	All birthplaces			Born in British Isles 1973	Born Elsewhere 1973
		1971	1972	1973		
0—4	5	3	3	1	1	0
5—9	12	2	3	0	0	0
10—14	5	6	3	2	0	2
15—19	6	10	12	3	0	3
20—24	9	11	6	7	0	7
25—34	14	18	21	10	0	10
35—44	3	21	16	17	0	17
45—54	5	10	9	9	4	5
55—64	2	6	4	3	2	1
65+	2	4	1	1	0	1
All Ages	63	91	78	53	7	46

FEMALES

Age group Years	All birthplaces				Born in	Born
	1953/55 (Mean)	1971	1972	1973	British Isles 1973	Elsewhere 1973
0—4	8	2	3	2	2	0
5—9	7	3	0	2	2	0
10—14	7	2	2	4	1	3
15—19	10	3	2	4	1	3
20—24	11	13	9	8	0	8
25—34	15	11	12	13	3	10
35—44	6	13	12	14	2	12
45—54	4	7	6	1	0	1
55—64	2	3	4	3	1	2
65+	2	3	5	3	1	2
All Ages	72	60	55	54	13	41

TABLE 6

NOTIFICATION OF NON-RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS
BY SITE OF DISEASE
(all ages, both sexes)

				Total	Born in British Isles	Born Elsewhere
Disseminated .. ..	..	..	..	8	0	8
Meningitis .. ..	..	..	..	1	0	1
Bones, joints and spine .. ..	..	..	..	8	2	6
Abdomen .. ..	..	..	..	13	6	7
Glands .. ..	..	..	..	60	9	51
Other sites .. ..	..	..	..	17	3	14
				107	20	87

TABLE 7

DEATHS FROM RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS
BY SEX AND AGE GROUP

Age Group Years								Males	Females
0—4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
5—14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
15—24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
25—44	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
45—64	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	2
65+	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	1
All Ages	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23	4

TABLE 8

PLACE OF BIRTH OF INDIVIDUALS NOTIFIED AS SUFFERING
FROM TUBERCULOSIS IN BIRMINGHAM

1956/7 1958/9 1960/1 1962/3 1964/5 1966/7 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973
(mean) (mean) (mean) (mean) (mean) (mean)

British Isles

England	773	626	531	433	355	307	241	218	216	176	173	157
Scotland	15	8	12	13	9	9	10	12	4	5	7	5
Wales	19	16	11	16	11	13	6	5	6	3	3	3
Ireland	131	122	110	86	78	63	57	55	42	44	34	34

Rest of

<i>Europe</i>	12	10	8	7	8	6	8	4	1	3	2	3
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Asia

India	27	26	19	33	65	101	122	120	127	110	110	90
Pakistan & Bangladesh	26	60	90	110	134	134	153	139	162	143	144	106
Others	9	13	6	10	12	5	4	5	10	9	9	3

<i>Africa</i>	4	2	3	4	4	7	13	9	18	11	23	20
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America

<i>West</i>												
Indies	11	13	26	15	20	16	15	12	13	14	17	8
Others	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	0

<i>Not known</i>	26	18	20	13	10	8	3	12	10	2	2	2
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TOTALS	1,054	916	837	741	707	670	632	591	611	521	524	431
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TABLE 9

NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS (All Forms)
IN CHILDREN IN BIRMINGHAM 1973

Place of birth of parents Age group of children notified (years) No. born in U.K.

			0-4	5-9	10-14	0-14	0-14
U.K. ...	..	..	10	5	3	18	18
Ireland	..	..	4	1	2	7	7
Pakistan & Bangladesh	..	..	5	3	6	14	3
India	..	..	12	2	5	19	12
British Caribbean	1	1	4	6	6
Other	3	0	2	5	4
			35	12	22	69	—

No. of children born in U.K.	30	10	10	—	50
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CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Section 22—National Health Service Act 1946

Health Centres and Personal and Child Health Centres

At the close of the year there were fourteen buildings designated as Health Centres and 36 Personal and Child Health Centres, with an additional twelve subsidiary clinics.

Work at local authority clinics included:—

(1) *Ante-Natal Clinics*

These were combined with children's clinics. Expectant mothers attending for examination totalled 28, with a further 821 attending for blood tests only.

(2) *Post-Natal Examinations*

Nine primary examinations were made and two re-examinations.

(3) *Relaxation and Mothercraft Classes*

1,439 sessions were held, at which 1,637 expectant mothers made 6,260 attendances.

(4) *Children's Consultations*

The numbers attending in the birth to 2 year age group continued to drop, a reflection of the falling birth rate. The take-up of this service in the older age group up to 5 years, however, increased.

(5) *Training Classes—Handicapped Children*

Classes were held weekly in 18 centres. The number of children receiving physiotherapy and training totalled 184, who made 7,138 attendances.

(6) *Sewing Classes*

14 groups were held, during school term time, every week. The attendances totalled 3,991.

(7) *Chiropody*

Some 48 sessions were held by one chiropodist. The number of appointments given totalled 594, actual attendance for treatment 385. Average per session 8.0.

(8) *Screening test for deafness*

7,564 tests were carried out on pre-school children, of these 6,349 were on the 0-1 year olds.

(9) *Interviews*

The number of interviews of individuals by health visitors, other than during clinic sessions, totalled 27,634.

(10) *Health Education*

(a) *Parents' Evenings*

658 attendances were made to the sessions held.

(b) *Slimming groups*

These were held weekly in the evening in twelve centres. The attendances 'snowball' and waiting lists have been drawn up.

STATISTICS

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics

(1) LOCAL AUTHORITY CLINICS

(a) Expectant mothers attending combined ante-natal and children's

Clinics:

Number of clinics held	..	..	..	..	..	1,368
First attendances	..	..	..	..	..	82

(b) Primary post-natal examinations at clinics

Total post-natal examinations	11
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(c) Mothers attending for blood tests only

	821
--	----	----	----	----	----	-----

(2) GENERAL PRACTITIONERS' CLINICS AT CENTRES

Ante-natal:

New expectant mothers attending	..	..	..	..	1,951
Total attendances	..	..	..	..	13,584
Blood tests taken	..	..	..	..	1,669

Post-natal:

Primary post-natal examinations	..	..	..	..	1,112
Re-examinations	..	..	..	..	23
Gynaecological examinations	..	..	..	..	433
Number of clinics held	..	..	..	..	1,731

RELAXATION CLASSES

Number of sessions held weekly by physiotherapists	..	..	..	4
" " " " " " midwives	..	..	..	4
" " " " " " health visitors	..	..	..	13
" " " " " " physiotherapists and health visitors	..	..	..	0
" " " " " " midwives and health visitors	..	..	..	9
Individual expectant mothers attending	..	..	..	1,637
Booked for hospital confinement	..	..	..	1,498
Booked for domiciliary confinement	..	..	..	139
Sessions held	..	..	..	1,509
Total attendances	..	..	..	7,021

Child Consultation Clinics

(1) PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN VISITED IN THEIR OWN HOMES WHO ATTENDED CLINICS AND COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEAR'S FIGURES

Year	0-12 months	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years
1972	67.7	59.4	32.9	22.7	16.9
1973	65.3	59.2	31.6	22.8	17.0

(2) FREQUENCY OF ATTENDANCES AS A PERCENTAGE OF ATTENDERS IN EACH AGE GROUP

Children who made	0-12 months		1 year		2-5 years	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
1-5 attendances	69.3	71.4	75.2	76.0	94.6	96.3
6 or more attendances ..	30.7	28.6	24.8	24.0	5.4	3.7

(3) NUMBER OF SESSIONS HELD									
(a)	With a medical officer in attendance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,774
(b)	Without	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,067
	First attendance—0-5 year olds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,489
	Total attendances—0-5 year olds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	81,437
	Average per session	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.8
	Total number examined by a doctor	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28,041
	Average number examined by a doctor per session	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10.1
	Children referred	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,060

(4) ANTE-NATAL AND CHILD CONSULTATION CLINICS —CHILD ATTENDANCES

Number of combined sessions:

(a)	With a medical officer in attendance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,047
(b)	Without a medical officer in attendance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	321
	First attendance—0-5 year olds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,038
	Total attendances—0-5 year olds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18,688
	Average per session..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13.6
	Total number examined by a doctor	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,120
	Average number examined by a doctor per session	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9.6

(5) SESSIONS HELD WITH GENERAL PRACTITIONERS FOR THEIR CHILD PATIENTS

(a) In local authority premises:

Attendances:

	Under 1 year	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,116
	1 year	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,145
	2-5 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,644
	Over 5 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	101
	Total number of attendances	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11,006
	Number of examinations by general practitioners	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,570
	Seen by health visitors only	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,971
	Attendances for immunisation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,366
	Attendances at health talks given by health visitors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,391
	Total number of sessions held	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,731.5

(b) General practitioners' surgeries:

Attendances

	Under 1 year	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,723
	1 year	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,784
	2-5 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,676
	Over 5 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	155
	Number of examinations by general practitioners	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,250
	Seen by health visitors only	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,149
	Attendances for immunisation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,150
	Attendances at health talks given by health visitors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	379
	Total number of sessions held	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,301

SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCES AT PERSONAL
AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRES in 1973
(and comparison with 1972 attendances)

<i>Clinic Attendances</i>	1972	1973	Increase	Decrease
Total Individual Children who Attended Centres				
<i>Percentage of visited children who attended centres</i>				
0-12 months	67.7	65.3		2.4
1 year	59.4	59.2		0.2
2 years	32.9	31.6		1.3
3 years	22.7	22.8	0.1	
4 years	16.9	17.0	0.1	
<i>Frequency of attendance in age groups</i>				
(a) 1-5 attendances				
0-12 months	69.3	71.4	2.1	
1 year	75.2	76.0	0.8	
2-5 years	94.6	96.3	1.7	
(b) 6 or more attendances				
0-12 months	30.7	28.6		2.1
1 year	24.8	24.0		0.8
2-5 years	5.4	3.7		1.7
<i>Children's Consultation Clinics</i>				
Number held. 1. With doctor	2,559	2,774.5	215.5	
2. Without doctor	2,150	2,067		83
New children attending	11,648	10,489		1,159
Total attendances	96,660	86,660		10,000
Average attendance per clinic	20.5	17.3		3.2
Total examinations by doctor	27,746	28,041	295	
Average seen by doctor per clinic	10.6	10.1		0.5
Children referred elsewhere	1,166	1,060		106
<i>Antenatal and Children's Combined Clinics</i>				
Number held. 1. With doctor	1,243	1,047		196
2. Without doctor	344	321		23
New Children attending	2,840	2,038		802
Total attendances	24,823	18,588		6,235
Average attendances per clinic	15.6	13.6		2
Total of examinations by doctor	12,884	10,120		2,764
Average seen by doctor per clinic	10.3	9.6		0.7
Health talks—number of mothers	1,135	1,377	242	
<i>Infant Health Clinics with General Practitioners</i>				
Total attendances	12,767	11,006		1,761
Examinations by general practitioner	4,953	3,570		1,383
Seen by health visitor only	6,442	5,971		471
Attendances for Immunisation	5,732	5,366		366
Attendances at health talks given by health visitors	1,301	1,391	90	

SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCES AT PERSONAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRES

—continued

<i>Clinic Attendances</i>	1972	1973	<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<i>Attendance for Remedial Exercises</i>				
Individual children attending	86	*		
Total attendances	653	*		
<i>Hearing Tests</i>	8,180	7,564		616
<i>Toddlers' Training Class Attendances</i> ..	15,055	15,560	505	
(pre school playgroups)				
<i>Training Classes for Handicapped Children</i>				
<i>Attendances</i>	5,542	7,138	1,596	
<i>Exercises for the Elderly, Attendances</i> ..	5,399	4,643		756
<i>Number of Individual Interviews outside</i>				
<i>clinic sessions</i>	26,438	27,634	1,196	
<i>Antenatal and postnatal Clinics</i>				
Local Authority:—				
1. No. combined with children	1,587	1,368		219
New expectant mothers registered ..	50	28		22
Total attendances	116	82		34
2. Mothers attending for blood tests ..	1,577	821		756
3. Primary postnatal examinations ..	5	9	4	
Total postnatal examinations ..	5	2		3
(b) General Practitioner Clinics at Child				
Health Centres				
Antenatal:				
Total examinations of mothers ..	15,920	13,584		2,336
New mothers registered	2,268	1,951		317
No. of mothers having blood tests				
taken	1,744	1,669		75
Postnatal:				
Primary postnatal examinations ..	1,306	1,112		294
Re-examinations	23	23		
Gynaecological examinations ..	419	433	14	
<i>Relaxation Classes</i>				
Individual mothers attending	1,721	1,637		84
Sessions held (relaxation only)	1,442	1,509	67	
Sessions held (combined with Rem. Ex.) ..	157	108		49
Total attendances	7,021	6,260		761
Attendances at associated Mothercraft				
Classes	7,001	6,147		854

SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCES AT PERSONAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRES —continued

Clinic Attendances	1972	1973	Increase	Decrease
<i>Chiropody Clinics for Antenatal Mothers and Children</i>				
Total sessions held	45	48	3	
Number of appointments given	496	594	98	
Total attendances	351	385	34	

*Included in 1973 figures under Training Classes for handicapped children.

PERSONAL AND CHILD HEALTH AND SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

DENTAL CARE FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS, PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN AND SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1973

Introduction

The year now under review was the last complete year in which the Personal and Child Health and School Dental Service were under local authority control since it passes to the Birmingham Area Health Authority (Teaching) on 1st April, 1974. As in previous years, the statistical information supplied to the central departments in relation to dental inspection and treatment is included at the end of this section.

Staff

During the year three whole-time dental officers left the service. One had been with us for a considerable number of years but the other two were recently appointed. In addition two sessional dental officers left. Against these changes, however, must be set the appointment of four whole-time officers and five sessional dental officers. Taken over the year as a whole the staffing position improved until the summer, after which it declined substantially. Fortunately the last months again saw a marked improvement in recruitment of dental officers. The net result in terms of sessions worked during the year was a fall of 465 sessions which is equivalent to a little more than one whole-time dental officer working for a whole year.

Dental auxiliaries, who are by now well-known in the local authority dental services, made a substantial contribution to the total amount of dental care provided. During the year we lost one part-time auxiliary and two whole-time but succeeded in recruiting, again towards the end of the year, three whole-time and one part-time auxiliaries. In the case of dental auxiliaries 152 more sessions were worked in 1973 than in the previous year.

At the end of the year our staffing position was better than it had been for some time and the ratio of pupils to dental officers was approximately 8,000 to 1, which, while an improvement on the figure for 1972, was still far too high for a satisfactory service to be provided.

The situation regarding dental hygienists was less satisfactory since, while several came to us for short periods during the year, none stayed for any length of time. This reflects the higher remuneration which they can obtain working in other branches of the service or in spheres unconnected with dentistry.

Fluoridation

The adjustment of the level of fluoride in the drinking water supply to a level of 1 p.p.m. of course continued throughout the year. The annual survey of children's teeth was carried out in the Autumn but at the time of writing the results are not yet to hand. The improvement in children's teeth, however, was very obvious to anybody who had worked for some time among children in Birmingham.

Treatment

During 1973 treatment for mothers showed a further slight decline and represented a relatively insignificant fraction of the total amount of work done.

Treatment provided for pre-school children was much the same as for 1972 although both the number of fillings inserted and the number of teeth extracted decreased slightly.

Taking all classes of patients together there was a small increase in fillings from 53,499 in 1972 to 54,090 in 1973. On the other hand extractions continued the trend which has become apparent in recent years and fell from 23,840 in 1972 to 20,609 in 1973. Overall this represents a marginal decrease in the amount of work done but since it was accompanied by a fall of 465 dental officer sessions the average output per treatment session was marginally above that for 1972. It is clear, therefore, that the substantial improvement in efficiency which was commented on in the Annual Report for 1972 has been more than maintained. The ratio of permanent teeth conserved to those extracted in 1972 was 4.54 and in the year under review this had slightly improved to 4.82. For the first time, however, in 1973 a record was maintained of permanent teeth extracted for orthodontic purposes. If these are disregarded the ratio of permanent teeth conserved to those extracted because of caries became 7.08.

Orthodontics

Orthodontic treatment continued at much the same level as in 1973.

ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT

	Number
Cases under treatment b/f from 1972 ..	1,015
New cases, 1973	537
Completed, 1973	375
Discontinued, 1973	54
Cases under treatment c/f to 1974 ..	1,123

The number of completed orthodontic cases per dental officer on an overall basis was 18.4 which was slightly below that for 1972 but substantially above the national average.

Dental Laboratory

There was no change to report in the laboratory.

DENTAL LABORATORY DETAILS OF WORK UNDERTAKEN

Removable orthodontic appliances	Acrylic jacket crowns	121
completed 417	Gold basket crowns	13
Fixed orthodontic appliances com-	Full gold crowns	2
pleted 5	Post crowns	3
Orthodontic appliances repaired .. 168	Inlays	11
Record Models 81	$\frac{3}{4}$ gold crowns	1
Number of dentures finished .. 25	Bridges	1
Number of repairs and additions to		
dentures 8		

Dental Health Education

The difficulties in relation to dental hygienists unfortunately meant that the programme of dental health education in primary schools was severely

curtailed. It was, however, possible to continue to provide dental health education for expectant mothers at Selly Oak and Dudley Road Hospitals. A programme of talks to mothers in welfare centres and to mothers and children at pre-school playgroups was maintained. Talks were given to the Nursery Nurses Training Course and to the Health Visitors Training Course.

Accommodation

During the year two new clinics were opened. One of these was at the new health centre at Sparkbrook with three surgeries which replaced the temporary clinic at Sampson Road. A two-surgery clinic was also opened in the new health centre at Castle Vale. In both cases decor and lay-out are along modern lines and the equipment provided is up to date and permits the dental surgeon to work either standing up or sitting down as is the tendency with new graduates today.

In addition a purpose built mobile dental clinic was brought into service in October. This also was provided with up to date equipment and while, at the time of writing, it is too early to assess its full potential it would seem that this could be a very useful addition to our facilities.

Equipment

During 1973 the sum of £25,000 was made available to enable the programme for the replacement of obsolete equipment to be accelerated. There was inevitably some delay in supply but by the end of the year the major part of this equipment had been installed and was working satisfactorily. It is intended also to alter and up-grade certain aspects of many of the clinics in the way of improving lighting and reconditioning floors and to provide built-in cupboards and working tops and it is anticipated that this work will be carried out early in 1974. A considerable amount of publicity was obtained during the year both in connection with the new dental clinics and with the new equipment and it is felt that this has had a favourable effect on recruitment of dental officers and auxiliaries. X-ray facilities were available at all dental clinics with the single exception of Quinton Lane.

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

1. Staff

Number of Officers in local authority service		Full time equivalent inclusive of extra paid sessions worked (to one place of decimals)			
Full time	Part time	Administra- tive Duties	Clinical duties		Total full time equivalent
			School Service	P. & C.H. Service	

(a) DENTAL OFFICERS

Principal School Dental Officer	1		0.8	0.1	0.1	1.0
Salaried Dental Officers	13		0.2	12.4	0.4	13.0

Sessional Dental Officers

	26		9.6	0.1	9.7
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Totals ..	14	26	1.0	22.1	0.6	23.7
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(b) DENTAL AUXILIARIES AND HYGIENISTS

Dental Auxiliaries ..	7	2		6.3	1.7	8.0
Dental Hygienists ..	1			0.3	0.1	0.4

(c) OTHER STAFF

	<i>Number of Officers</i>	<i>Full time equivalent (one place of decimals)</i>
Dental Technicians	2	2.0
Dental Surgery Assistants	46	38.2
Clerical Assistants	3	3.0
Dental Health Education Personnel		

2. School Dental Clinics

Provided directly by the Authority	Fixed Clinics				Mobile Clinics		
	No. with ONE surgery only	No. with TWO or more surgeries	Total number of surgeries		Total number of clinics		Total number of sessions worked in 1973
			Avail.	In Use	Avail.	In Use	
	3	18	41	40	1	1	36

3. Inspections

	<i>Number of Pupils</i>		
	<i>Inspected</i>	<i>Requiring Treatment</i>	<i>Offered Treatment</i>
(a) First inspection—school ..	49,993	} 38,818	} 34,280
(b) First inspection—clinic ..	17,778		
(c) Re-inspection—school or clinic	4,402	3,104	
Totals ..	72,173	41,922	34,280

Note: Sections 4, 5 and 6 below should include all work done by Dentists, Auxiliaries and Hygienists.

4. Visits

	<i>Ages 5-9</i>	<i>Ages 10-14</i>	<i>Ages 15 and over</i>	<i>Total</i>
First visit in the calendar year	9,695	11,274	2,813	23,782
Subsequent visits	11,798	19,279	5,538	36,615
Total visits	21,493	30,553	8,351	60,397

5. Courses of Treatment

Additional courses commenced	694	997	320	2,011
Total courses commenced ..	10,389	12,171	3,133	25,693
Courses completed	—	—	—	20,217

6. Treatment

Fillings in permanent teeth ..	8,391	20,898	8,069	37,358
Fillings in deciduous teeth ..	12,173	2,126	—	14,299

Permanent teeth filled	6,209	16,493	6,726	29,428
Deciduous teeth filled	10,202	1,717	—	11,919

Permanent teeth extracted ..	778	4,012	1,317	6,107
Deciduous teeth extracted ..	8,587	4,730	—	13,317

Number of general anaesthetics	3,048	2,478	398	5,924
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Number of emergencies ..	1,113	962	259	2,334
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Number of pupils X-rayed	2,283
Prophylaxis	8,131
Teeth otherwise conserved	763
Teeth root filled	163
Inlays	11
Crowns	191

7. Orthodontics

New cases commenced during the year ..	537	} Include cases treated by appliance only.
Cases completed during the year	375	
Cases discontinued during the year	54	
Number of removable appliances fitted ..	858	
Number of fixed appliances fitted	34	
Number of pupils referred to hospital consultants	15	

8. Dentures

Number of pupils fitted with dentures for the first time:—	<i>Ages 5-9</i>	<i>Ages 10-14</i>	<i>Ages 15 and over</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a) with full denture	—	7	—	7
(b) with other dentures ..	6	36	35	77
Total ..	6	43	35	84
Number of dentures supplied (first or subsequent time) ..	6	44	37	87

9. Anaesthetics

Number of general anaesthetics administered by Dental Officers ..

305

10. Sessions

Sessions	Adminis- trative sessions	Number of clinical sessions worked in the year					Total sessions
		School Service			P. & C. H. Service		
		Inspection at School	Treat- ment	Dental Health Educa- tion	Treat- ment	Dental Health Educa- tion	
Dental Officers (Inc. P.S.D.O.)	420	397	8,242	—	84	6	9,149
Dental Auxiliaries ..	—	—	2,600	50	148	62	2,860
Dental Hygienists ..	—	—	175	6	21	—	202
Total ..	420	397	11,017	56	253	68	12,211

DENTAL AUXILIARIES

Visits

	<i>Ages 5-9</i>	<i>Ages 10-14</i>	<i>Ages 15 and over</i>	<i>Total</i>
First visit in the calendar year	1,831	1,233	202	3,266
Subsequent visits	4,263	2,885	582	7,730
Total visits ..	6,094	4,118	784	10,996

Courses of Treatment

Additional courses commenced	127	107	29	263
Total courses commenced ..	6,221	4,225	813	11,259
Courses completed	—	—	—	3,079

Treatment

Fillings in permanent teeth ..	2,639	4,342	1,108	8,089
Fillings in deciduous teeth ..	4,868	577	—	5,445
Permanent teeth filled ..	1,874	3,195	876	5,945
Deciduous teeth filled ..	3,947	452	—	4,399
Deciduous teeth extracted ..	471	369	—	840
Prophylaxis	—	—	—	2,407

DENTAL HYGIENISTS

Visits

	<i>Ages 5-9</i>	<i>Ages 10-14</i>	<i>Ages 15 and over</i>	<i>Total</i>
First visit in the calendar year	45	68	26	139
Subsequent visits	33	110	43	186
Total visits ..	78	178	69	325

Courses of Treatment

Additional courses commenced			
Total courses commenced ..			
Courses completed			120

Treatment

Prophylaxis	—	—	—	274
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EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS

Part A. Attendances and Treatment

Number of Visits for Treatment During Year

	<i>Children 0-4 (inclusive)</i>	<i>Expectant and Nursing Mothers</i>
First Visit	965	255
Subsequent Visits	1,262	543
Total Visits	2,227	798
Number of Additional Courses of Treatment other than the First Course commenced dur- ing year	46	8
Treatment provided during the year—Number of Fillings	1,825	608
Teeth Filled	1,579	562
Teeth Extracted	872	355
General Anaesthetics Given	305	37
Emergency Visits by Patients	84	21
Patients X-rayed	8	36
Patients Treated by Scaling and/or Removal of Stains from the teeth (Prophylaxis)	401	177
Teeth otherwise Conserved	203	—
Teeth Root Filled	—	—
Inlays	—	—
Crowns	—	—
Number of Courses of Treatment Completed during the year	728	131

Part B. Prosthetics

	<i>Children 0-4 (inclusive)</i>	<i>Expectant and Nursing Mothers</i>
Patients supplied with full upper or full lower (First Time)	—	27
Patients Supplied with Other Dentures	—	31
Number of Dentures Supplied	—	80

Part C. Anaesthetics

General Anaesthetics Administered by Dental Officers

2

Part D. Inspections

Number of Patients given First Inspections during year

Children
0-4 (inclusive)

Expectant and
Nursing Mothers

1,432

281

Number of Patients in A and D above who required treatment

828

216

Number of patients in B and E above who were offered treatment

797

216

Number of Patients re-inspected during year

59

2

Part E. Sessions

Number of Dental Officer sessions (i.e. Equivalent Complete Half-Days) Devoted to Maternity and Child Welfare Patients (including Dental Auxiliaries):

For Treatment ..

253

For Health Education

68

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY

There were 1,044 confinements attended by Domiciliary Midwives in Birmingham in 1973.

The City Midwives delivered 2206 women.

3 mothers were delivered in the City by out of City midwives.

14 mothers were delivered out of City by City midwives.

1,108 patients were delivered by City midwives in General Practitioner Units.

39 patients were delivered by City midwives under the Sorrento Domiciliary Midwives Scheme.

Ante-Natal visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Total	11,087
Post-Natal visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	83,804

Hospital Discharges Nursed by Domiciliary Midwives

WOMEN DISCHARGED ON THE 9th DAY AND UNDER

Days	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
1st	50	36	40	36	34	39
2nd	596	641	589	476	519	429
3rd	1,725	1,891	2,175	2,316	2,236	2,094
4th	852	916	993	958	831	945
5th	553	572	617	925	691	761
6th	1,021	824	1,465	1,680	1,980	2,031
7th	1,826	2,513	3,175	2,328	2,378	2,147
8th	4,760	4,263	3,795	3,306	2,977	2,250
9th	934	880	783	752	723	688
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	12,308	12,536	13,632	12,777	12,369	11,384
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
10 days and over	918	1,000	1,022	1,046	1,240	1,470
Grand total of all discharges nursed by Domiciliary Midwives	..	..	..	..	..	12,854

CLINICS ATTENDED BY DOMICILIARY MIDWIVES

(a) Antenatal clinics held at general practitioners' own surgeries.							
Total No. of clinics	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,466
No. of patients seen	..	..	..	..	..	..	40,249
(b) Cytology clinics held at general practitioners' surgeries							
No. of patients seen	..	..	..	..	..	..	180
	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,548
(c) G.P. Unit clinics							
No. of patients seen	..	..	..	..	..	..	156
	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,621

BED BUREAU

Total number of patients seen	..	..	..	..	..	..	238
No. referred to social workers	..	..	..	..	..	..	50
No. added to emergency list	..	..	..	..	..	..	—

ANALYSIS OF DOMICILIARY CONFINEMENTS

No. of confinements	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,044
(a) Doctor present at delivery	..	..	..	..	..	..	145
(b) Doctor not present at delivery	..	..	..	..	..	..	899
Confinements conducted by Midwives in General Practitioner Units							1,108
Birmingham Maternity Hospital General Practitioner Unit	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,056
Good Hope Hospital General Practitioner Unit	..	..	..	..	..	..	42
Solihull Hospital General Practitioner Unit	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Sorrento Maternity Hospital Domiciliary Midwives Scheme	..	..	..	..	..	..	39

Nursing Homes

There are two homes taking unsupported mothers that are supervised by the Supervisor of Midwives. Deliveries in these homes were:—

Lyncroft Salvation Army Mother and Baby Home	..	..	..	..	..	15
The Grange Mother and Baby Home	..	..	..	..	..	26
Woodville Mother and Baby Home	..	..	..	..	..	Closed
Total No. of deliveries in Nursing Homes	..	..	..	..	..	41

MEDICAL AIDS

Total No. of Medical Aids to Mother during 1973	..	..	..	..	..	153
Total No. of Medical Aids to baby during 1973	..	..	..	..	..	79

Screening Procedures

The practice of performing the Barlow Test for ascertainment of a possible congenital dislocation of the hip continues to be a routine procedure. The following figures show the results of the tests carried out at home on babies born in 1973.

8,359 were tested.

8,241 gave a negative result.

118 gave a positive result.

All babies discharged from hospital into the care of the domiciliary midwives were tested on their tenth day.

Amino Acid Screening Programme

Total No. of babies tested	14,442
„ „ „ repeat tests	1,515
„ „ „ babies diagnosed amino acid disorders.. ..	- Phenylketonuria
	1 Histidinaemia
	- Hyperlipidaemia
	- Prolanaemia

Emergency Maternity Service—Flying Squad

During the year 27 calls were made on the Flying Squad of which 8 were out of City. An analysis of the Birmingham cases from 1968 to 1973 is as follows:—

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Retained placenta with or without haemorrhage	34	31	29	12	15	7
Haemorrhage—placenta expelled ..	14	20	7	8	5	1
Abortions	9	7	4	3	Nil	3
Antepartum haemorrhage	12	13	8	1	3	3
Other causes.. .. .	10	9	8	9	7	5

Practising Midwives

During the year 1973, 441 midwives notified their intention to practise in the City.

City domiciliary midwives	129
Independent domiciliary midwives	2
Midwives in institutions	283
Midwives in private nursing homes	5
Midwives in private agencies	10
Out of City midwives	12

Number of Midwives Ceasing to Practise in the City

Domiciliary midwives who left the City in 1973	Nil
Independent domiciliary midwives ceasing to practise	102
Hospital midwives ceasing to practise	2
Midwives in nursing homes ceasing to practise	

Pupil Midwives

During the year 177 pupil midwives completed their midwifery training, being part II and integrated training. 30 pupils were placed by the Supervisors with outside authorities, namely:—

Warley County Borough
Dudley County Borough and
Warwickshire County Council.

HEALTH VISITING

Section 24—National Health Services Act 1946

The known 0-5 years child population at the end of the year was 72,101, served by a whole-time equivalent of 122.4 health visitors with an average case load of 589. This shows a further decrease since 1972 in the number of visited children. Of these 16,475 were coloured accounting for 22.85 per cent of the load. There was a further rise in the number of visits to adults, 32,731 compared with 30,903 in 1972. The number of visits to all age groups during the year totalled 220,814.

Refresher Courses and In-Service Training

Twenty-two health visitors attended refresher courses. Seven selected health visitors took the course for Field Work Instructors.

Survey of Rickets and Scurvy in Pre-School Children

The following notifications were made in 1973, the 1972 figures are in brackets.

<i>Nationality</i>	<i>Rickets</i>	<i>Scurvy</i>
English	2 (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Irish	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Asiatic Indian	5 (11)	Nil (Nil)
West Indian	1 (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
Nigerian	1 (Nil)	

Health Visitors' Training Course, 1973-74

The response to advertisements and the results of the selection procedures are shown in the table below.

Enquiries	70
Application forms subsequently despatched	67
„ „ returned	60
Applications withdrawn/failure to attend interviews	19
Accepted by Training College	19
Accepted for sponsorship by Local Authority	18
Failed College Entrance test	17
Deferred to 1974-75 course	4
Application withdrawn after acceptance finalised	1

Seventeen students ultimately took the training course.

SUMMARY OF VISITS BY HEALTH VISITORS DURING 1973

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>First Visits</i>	<i>Revisits</i>	<i>Total Visits</i>
Born in 1973	Excluding Mentally Handicapped/Ill ..	16,726	12,438	29,164
	Mentally Handicapped	32	65	97
	Mentally ill	26	27	53
Others aged under 1 yr.	Excluding Mentally Handicapped/Ill ..	12,820	17,708	30,528
	Mentally Handicapped	24	75	99
	Mentally ill	3	21	24
Aged 1-4 years	Excluding Mentally Handicapped/Ill ..	47,644	47,045	94,689
	Mentally Handicapped	205	676	881
	Mentally ill	25	17	42
	Number of visits to children of pre-school age			155,577
All aged 5-16 years	Excluding Mentally Handicapped/Ill ..	3,715	2,983	6,698
	Mentally Handicapped	64	118	182
	Mentally ill	28	22	50
	Number of visits to children of school age ..			6,930
Adults 17-64 Years	Excluding Mentally Handicapped/Ill ..	16,422	14,233	30,655
	Mentally Handicapped	197	163	360
	Mentally ill	446	1,070	1,516
	Number of Visits to Adults			32,531
All aged 65+ Years	Excluding Mentally Handicapped/Ill ..	10,471	14,774	25,245
	Mentally Handicapped	18	20	38
	Mentally ill	176	317	493
	Number of visits to elderly adults			25,776
All Persons Visited	Excluding Mentally Handicapped/Ill ..	107,798	109,181	216,979
	Mentally Handicapped	540	1,117	1,657
	Mentally ill	704	1,474	2,178
	Total of all visits			220,814

HOME NURSING SERVICE

General Practitioner Attachment

The following table shows work undertaken by district nurses in practice premises.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Vaccination,</i>		<i>Blood</i>		<i>Observation</i>		<i>TOTAL</i>
	<i>Immunisation</i>	<i>Samples</i>	<i>Tests</i>	<i>Treatments</i>	<i>Injections</i>	<i>Visits</i>	
1968 ..	13,691	2,416	4,905	16,760	10,538	4,717	53,027
1969 ..	17,268	3,184	6,873	26,344	16,231	6,234	76,134
1970 ..	22,022	3,190	7,954	30,103	20,731	7,060	91,060
1971 ..	23,722	3,691	11,903	34,505	24,180	7,061	105,062
1972 ..	23,856	4,451	14,350	38,998	24,240	6,198	112,093
1973 ..	26,320	5,109	14,009	40,538	23,436	6,921	116,333

The total number of domiciliary visits for 1973 was 634,499, compared with 621,503 in 1972.

Emergency Night Nursing Service

The following is a summary of the work in recent years:—

	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Cases	130	119	110	147	201
Visits	716	823	874	979	1,271
Night Attendants ..	15	13	6	12	35

Marie Curie Memorial Foundation

During 1973 16 nurses were employed, who paid 369 visits to 77 patients. The sum of £1,682.96 has been paid in salaries and insurance contributions, and £78.62 was paid from the Welfare Grant to provide material comforts. The sum of £109.67 was received in donations.

Community Nurse Training School

Three district nurse training courses leading to the National District Nursing Certificate for State Registered Nurses were held during the year. A total of 49 took the course and all were successful. Seven of these were training for Worcestershire, one for Herefordshire and nine for Coventry. The remaining 32 were employed by Birmingham.

A total of 25 State Enrolled Nurses took the two training courses leading to the National District Nursing (E) Certificate and were successful. Of this number four were from Worcestershire and three from Coventry.

One in-service training course for Home Nursing Attendants was held, a total of 25 attending, nine of whom were from Coventry.

Community care courses were continued for student nurses, in the second year of their basic nurse training, from the five group schools of nursing in Birmingham. A total of 81 students spent 12 weeks gaining an insight into the community services.

Four groups of pupil nurses from the United Birmingham Hospitals, involving a total of 50, spent four weeks gaining experience in the home nursing service.

All courses are organised by the staff in the training school. Practical work is supervised by the Practical Work Instructors who meet regularly with the tutorial staff.

Observation Visits on the District

248 student nurses, 58 pupil nurses and 3 post-graduate students accompanied district nurses on their rounds for a day or half-day session.

Staff

The following table shows the number of nursing staff in post on the 31st December 1973, as compared with 31st December 1972.

	31st December 1972			31st December 1973		
	Full-time	Part-time	Total	Full-time	Part-time	Total
Divisional Nursing Officer	1	—	1	1	—	1
Principal Community Nurse Tutor ..	1	—	1	1	—	1
Community Nurse Tutor	1	—	1	1	—	1
Community Co-Ordinator	1	—	1	1	—	1
Area Superintendents	8	—	8	—	—	—
Nursing Officers (Home Nursing) ..	—	—	—	12	—	12
Assistant Superintendents	1	—	1	—	—	—
Senior Nurses	7	—	7	—	—	—
S.R.N.'s with district training	139	7	146	126	10	136
S.R.N.'s without district training ..	14	5	19	11	5	16
S.E.N.'s with district training	66	7	73	65	4	69
S.E.N.'s without district training ..	6	2	8	23	2	25
Student Nurses	—	17	17	—	11	11
TOTALS	245	38	283	241	32	273
Home Nursing Attendants	15	52	67	19	62	81
Full-time nurses seconded to work in the Geriatric Section included in the above	6	—	6	5	1	6

Children's Home Nursing Unit

NEW CASES VISITED BY THE UNIT

	1970	1971	1972	1973
Bronchitis and pneumonia	99	121	35	62
Tonsillitis, otitis media, adenitis	46	34	26	21
Abscesses, boils, skin lesions	140	111	53	65
Gastro-intestinal conditions, enemas	86	76	48	54
Infectious diseases	46	21	15	15
Disease of the central nervous system	20	2	3	27
Minor surgical (burns and scalds)	12	13	28	112
Diabetes mellitus	2	1	1	2
Pyrexia	41	43	9	34
Other medical conditions	72	103	218	188
Post-operative conditions	64	45	73	78
Orthopaedic conditions	3	2	11	13
Eye conditions	—	3	2	1
	631	575	522	672

Total visits to old and new patients:—6,270

(Total visits in 1972 were 5,943)

Statistics

CASES NURSED BY THE HOME NURSING SERVICE

(a) Number of patients attended in their homes

Cases on books, 1st January, 1973	5,212
New cases attended	13,386
Total cases attended	18,598

(b) Ages of patients

	1972	1973
Under 5 years	664	640
5-64 years	7,731	7,305
Over 65 years	11,049	10,653
	19,444	18,598

(c) Cases referred by

General practitioners	8,547
Hospitals	4,512
Public Health Department	197
Transferred from other sources	130
	13,386

LOAN OF NURSING EQUIPMENT

Section 28 National Health Service Act 1946

There has been a slight decrease in the loan of normal sickroom equipment during 1973, probably due to changes in home nursing methods, but there has been a marked increase in the number of items of special equipment on loan, especially those for use by incontinent patients. This trend results from the fact that many cases previously hospitalized are now nursed at home and the more sophisticated equipment such as lifting hoists, etc. is in special demand.

LOAN OF NURSING EQUIPMENT 1971-73

(a) Quantities of normal sick room equipment on loan during:—

	1971	1972	1973
Air rings and cushions	1,336	1,631	1,870
Back rests	1,621	1,842	1,344
Bed pans	1,396	1,655	1,440
Commodes	4,063	4,161	4,956
Leg cradles	1,248	1,428	1,044
Mackintosh sheets	381	380	50
Sick feeders	161	186	105
Urinals	940	1,220	1,373
Miscellaneous items	549	538	659
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	11,695	13,041	12,841
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

(b) Quantities of special equipment on loan during:—

	1971	1972	1973
Bedsteads	783	775	852
Self-operating tilting beds	5	5	3
Special mattresses	569	676	836
Ripple beds (anti-decubiti)	105	122	160
Fracture boards	350	344	450
Lifting poles and chains	387	367	441
Crutches—pairs	154	148	247
Walking sticks	2,552	2,585	3,509
Walking aids	2,370	2,473	3,293
Geriatric chairs	473	526	715
Lifting apparatus	78	91	113
Wheel chairs	2,298	2,132	2,615
Wheel chairs (self-propelling)	625	495	569
Enuresis units	257	236	235
Bath aids	1,296	1,343	1,310
Incontinence pants	728	757	1,240
(not returnable by patients)			
	<u>13,030</u>	<u>13,075</u>	<u>16,588</u>

DOMICILIARY LAUNDRY SERVICE

During 1973 the number of new applications for the loan and laundry of linen and for the provision of incontinence pads showed a slight decrease from 1,003 in 1972 to 966 in 1973. However, as the number of cases removed from the books during 1973 was exactly the same as in 1972, at the end of 1973 there was an increase in the number of patients receiving the service, a new record total of 420. An incontinence pad only service was provided for 180 persons and the total number of pads issued was 350,000—both figures showing a considerable increase over 1972. The weight of linen laundered was again 90 tons.

	1971	1972	1973
Number of cases on books 1st January	321	335	396
New applications during year	825	1,003	966
	<u>1,146</u>	<u>1,338</u>	<u>1,362</u>
Cases removed from books during year	811	942	942
	<u>335</u>	<u>396</u>	<u>420</u>

ANALYSIS OF CASES 1973

1973 Quarter ending	Number of applications	Service discontinued			
		Died	Hospital	Other reasons	Total
31st March ..	307	78	84	118	280
30th June ..	222	66	54	107	227
30th September ..	214	61	35	101	197
31st December ..	223	60	65	113	238
	966	265	238	439	942

LOAN OF FIREGUARDS

There was no change in policy on the issue of fireguards during 1973 although it is hoped that this service will be transferred to the Social Services Department after 1st April 1974.

FIREGUARDS

	1971	1972	1973
Number of guards on loan 1st. January	1,791	2,073	2,125
Number issued during year	595	405	566
	—	—	—
Total	2,386	2,478	2,691
Number returned during year	313	353	339
	—	—	—
Number of guards on loan 31st December	2,073	2,125	2,352
	==	==	==

Enuresis Alarms 1973

Demand is greatest for children aged 6, 7, 8 and 9.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Section 27—National Health Service Act, 1946

There was a decrease of 22,170 in the number of patients carried during 1973. This was partly attributed to the hospital manual workers' dispute and to the ambulance drivers' dispute. The number of calls dealt with by the Emergency Service, however, increased by over 400 during the year. The major problem facing the Ambulance Service during the year was a continuing and worrying shortage of ambulance staff. Recruitment did not keep pace with losses, particularly in the last few months of the year. In order to keep up with the demand for clinical admission and day care patients it was necessary to increase the number of private hire cars being used. The demand on the Bed Bureau was at a slightly increased level compared with 1972 but the number of beds obtained fell marginally.

Ambulance Driver H. Stapenell was awarded the British Empire Medal in the Birthday Honours List.

The Hospital Removal Cases are shown in the following table:

HOSPITAL REMOVAL CASES

	1972	1973
Directly Provided Service	373,356	334,072
Hospital Car Service	1,446	—
Private Hire Cars	72,007	90,132
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	446,809	424,204
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The trend in the number of cases conveyed by directly provided ambulances of the Removals Section of the Service over the past four years is illustrated:

Year	Patients conveyed by directly provided ambulances of Hospitals Removals Service	Comparison with previous year Decrease
1970	385,939	38,865
1971	384,297	1,642
1972	373,356	10,941
1973	334,072	39,284

Detailed statistics under various classifications are shown in the following table, which also gives comparative figures for the past five years.

HOSPITAL REMOVAL AMBULANCES (Directly Provided)

COMPARATIVE ANNUAL TOTALS OF CASES CARRIED ACCORDING TO CLASSIFICATION

<i>Analysis</i>		1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Clinic cases		351,601	318,974	317,915	307,666	273,151
Admissions		33,924	33,428	32,375	34,896	33,997
Discharges		22,943	18,501	19,131	16,350	14,517
Transfers		7,993	7,537	7,603	7,563	6,412
Emergency Maternity						
Service		116	83	50	38	26
Maternity		7,819	7,096	6,627	6,226	5,471
Miscellaneous		408	320	596	617	498
TOTALS		424,804	385,939	384,297	373,356	334,072

TOTAL NUMBER OF PATIENTS DIVIDED INTO STRETCHER AND SITTING CASES

(Directly Provided Ambulances)

		1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Stretcher cases		103,347	101,282	108,147	115,887	108,972
Sitting cases		321,457	284,657	276,150	257,469	225,100
TOTALS		424,804	385,939	384,297	373,356	334,072

Trends in this ratio over the past four years are shown:—

RATIO OF SITTING TO STRETCHER CASES

(Directly provided ambulances)

1970	2.81 : 1	1972	2.22 : 1
1971	2.55 : 1	1973	2.06 : 1

Accident Ambulances

Nine ambulances based on three Ambulance Depots and four Fire Stations continued to provide cover for accidents and other emergencies.

There was a small increase in the number of calls and casualties carried by the Accident Section, the comparative figures being as follows:

								1972	1973
Calls ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	31,087	31,601
Casualties ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27,106	27,541

Under mutual assistance arrangements with neighbouring authorities, the Service provided accident ambulances in response to thirty-six incidents outside the city boundary.

A detailed analysis of calls, classified injuries, hospitals to which casualties were conveyed and the number of fatalities, with comparative figures for the previous year, is shown in the following tables:

ACCIDENT AMBULANCE CALLS

LOCATION OF CALLS								1972	1973
Street accidents involving vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,000	3,901
Factory accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	689	798
Private houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,199	14,803
Offices	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	72	88
Shops and restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	621	704
Outdoor (other than street accidents)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,046	5,801
Licensed premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	824	869
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	724	715
Cinemas and theatres	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46	79
Other premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,557	3,529
False alarms (malicious)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	309	314
TOTAL ..								31,087	31,601

NUMBER OF PERSONS OF VARIOUS AGE GROUPS CARRIED IN ACCIDENT AMBULANCES
DURING EACH HOUR OF THE DAY

Age Group	HOURS OF THE DAY																								Total
	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	
5 and under	73	24	30	24	23	20	18	35	47	76	111	129	190	175	146	203	197	160	148	155	101	121	95	69	2,370
6-10	14	7	10	6	8	8	9	10	50	68	81	68	132	129	118	170	183	146	152	116	98	89	75	29	1,776
11-15	38	15	11	10	6	5	4	14	59	54	80	115	121	195	139	120	159	147	97	126	101	97	91	54	1,858
16-20	239	153	121	66	50	29	30	59	80	81	97	98	146	150	144	140	193	169	120	141	109	171	346	349	3,281
21-25	204	151	110	73	50	27	29	66	98	89	79	131	112	100	102	156	113	119	101	125	88	179	181	311	2,794
26-30	131	95	67	52	22	31	30	61	61	69	80	89	83	85	130	134	107	85	98	99	69	83	161	199	2,121
31-35	79	59	69	41	28	25	18	39	59	38	61	83	69	69	71	105	89	85	80	61	65	91	118	121	1,623
36-40	92	50	48	30	23	20	23	41	43	61	59	45	68	65	69	83	61	85	68	69	71	78	79	119	1,450
41-45	54	45	33	20	18	22	19	38	61	55	58	62	81	61	83	78	75	76	60	48	78	54	97	118	1,394
46-50	68	39	31	23	20	17	19	45	51	58	55	81	71	59	91	103	98	54	81	47	69	62	129	115	1,486
51-55	38	31	24	20	13	14	17	30	57	50	71	68	63	69	81	99	79	69	62	55	78	63	89	98	1,338
56-60	59	38	31	23	11	13	23	41	59	68	82	80	99	78	87	85	74	65	48	49	41	69	88	81	1,392
61-65	40	23	21	14	15	18	25	39	39	69	60	89	89	70	79	95	77	70	68	58	78	64	91	59	1,350
66-70	36	24	15	16	10	11	19	25	29	47	75	124	91	61	92	79	81	68	47	59	44	63	54	48	1,218
Over 70	40	32	23	21	20	8	35	48	41	112	135	196	184	108	158	172	103	100	69	79	111	65	71	58	1,989
Unknown Age	6	4	3	2	6	2	3	4	5	3	3	6	8	7	4	5	4	4	2	1	3	2	5	9	101
TOTALS	1211	790	647	441	323	270	321	595	839	998	1187	1464	1607	1481	1594	1827	1693	1502	1301	1288	1204	1351	1770	1837	27,541

CLASSIFICATION OF INJURIES TO PATIENTS CARRIED IN AMBULANCES

	1972	1973
Fractures	1,964	2,023
Wounds	5,893	6,249
Collapse, fits, strokes	4,085	4,825
Abrasions and bruises	1,283	1,579
Drowning	3	7
Eye injuries	35	47
Dislocations and sprains	190	242
Hanging	4	3
Concussion, shock	906	1,161
Haemorrhage	337	388
Scalds and burns	458	402
Poisoning	1,665	1,749
Not classified	10,283	8,866
TOTAL	27,106	27,541

DESTINATION OF CASUALTIES

	1972	1973
Accident Hospital	5,236	5,805
General Hospital	6,806	6,859
Selly Oak Hospital	4,608	4,462
Dudley Road Hospital	4,766	4,634
East Birmingham Hospital	3,676	3,661
Queen Elizabeth Hospital	315	401
Other Hospitals	1,617	1,562
Casualties actually carried in ambulances but not taken to hospital	82	157
TOTAL	27,106	27,541

FATALITIES

	1972	1973
Number of persons found dead on arrival of ambulances	593	660

METHOD OF TRANSMISSION OF CALLS

	1972	1973
G.P.O. '999' System	24,302	24,926
Police Information Room	2,872	2,841
Exchange Telephone	1,527	1,509
Private Wire Telephone	18	94
Messenger	125	129
Radio	1,924	1,810
Observed by Ambulance Crew	319	292
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	31,087	31,601
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Ambulance Fleet

This was as follows:

Dual-purpose (Stretcher) Ambulances	70
Sitting Case Ambulances	26
Sitting Case Cars	1
Ambulance Coaches (20-seater)	6
	<hr/>
	103
	<hr/>

Conveyance of Patients by Rail

Wherever possible, long distance cases were conveyed on the ambulance/rail/ambulance basis. Some 385 cases were carried on this basis during the year as compared with 316 the previous year.

Service ambulances were provided at the request of other local health authorities to meet trains at New Street railway station and transport some 403 patients either to final destinations or to other trains to continue journeys.

Organisation

The Lord Mayor, Alderman Mrs. M. Brown, opened a new Ambulance Depot at Hob Moor Road, Small Heath, on the 13th November, 1973, and ambulances were transferred to the new Depot from Bordesley Green and Sheldon Fire Stations and Henrietta Street Depot. The Depot provides improved services to the hospitals and population in the East Birmingham area.

Training

Training has continued to be carried out for ambulance personnel from Birmingham and other neighbouring authorities. The details of the courses held are as follows:—

			No. of Courses held	Numbers attending	
Duration of Course				Birmingham	Other Authorities
Recruits—					
Initial training	..	6 weeks	3	12	45
Revisionary	..	2 weeks	10	35	91

Courses of driving instruction were continued and five new entrants qualified as drivers.

Maternity Cases

A further decrease occurred in the number of maternity cases conveyed from home addresses to various maternity hospitals during the year, the total being 5,471 as against 6,226 the previous year.

There were 26 calls for ambulances for the Emergency Maternity Service operated by the Birmingham Maternity Hospital, as compared with 38 in the previous year.

Mileage

The following table shows the division of mileage between the two sections of the Service over the past five years.

			1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Hospital removal							
ambulances	..	..	1,468,728	1,385,530	1,377,889	1,347,030	1,263,822
Accident ambulances							
	..	..	185,097	184,325	182,268	192,027	192,445
			1,653,825	1,569,855	1,560,157	1,539,057	1,456,267

Hospital Removal Ambulances

The following table shows the average miles per patient carried over the last five years:

Year	Cases Carried Monthly Average	Mileage Monthly Average	Miles per Patient Average
1969	35,400	122,394	3.45
1970	32,162	115,461	3.59
1971	32,025	114,824	3.58
1972	31,113	112,253	3.61
1973	27,839	105,319	3.78

Staff

		Strength at 31.12.73		
Operational and Depot Staff	Establishment	Men	Women	Total
Ambulance Officer	1	1	—	1
Deputy Ambulance Officer and Hospital Liaison Officer	1	1	—	1
Ambulance Depot Superintendents	3	3	—	3
Ambulance Training Officer	1	1	—	1
Section Officers	10	10	—	10
Clerks	6	2	3	5
Storekeeper	1	1	—	1
Depot Drivers	4	1	—	1
Depot Assistants	3	2	—	2
Ambulance Cleaners	13	3	—	3
Cooks and Cleaners	8*	—	6†	6
Leading Drivers	20	16	—	16
Drivers and Attendants	254	155	21	176
TOTALS ..	325	196	30	226

*4 whole time, 4 part time. †3 whole time, 3 part time.

Ambulance Control

Ambulance Control Officer	1	1	—	1
Assistant Control Officers ..	6	5	—	5
Section Officers	2	2	—	2
Senior Leading Control Operative	1	—	1	1
Leading Control Operatives	3	—	2	2
Control Operatives	34	1	22	23
TOTALS ..	47	9	25	34

Emergency Bed Bureau

The Ambulance Service continues to operate the Emergency Bed Bureau on behalf of the Regional Hospital Board. The number of requests received in 1973 again increased.

	1972	1973
Beds requested	18,290	18,413
Beds obtained	17,809	17,768

St. John Ambulance Brigade

Continued valuable assistance was given by the St. John Ambulance Brigade in providing ambulance crews for additional cover at certain periods, whilst the service is again indebted to those voluntary members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, the British Red Cross Society and the Women's Royal Voluntary Services, who acted as escorts for patients conveyed by rail.

Of the 448 applicants, 230 were sent to convalescent homes. The Birmingham Hospital Saturday Fund accommodated 214 and 6 were sent to homes more suitable to their individual needs. Of the remaining 228 applications, 153 were cancelled, mostly by the patients themselves and some by the Department after applicants failed to respond to any communications, or were found to be eligible to go free of charge under direct contributions to the Birmingham Hospital Saturday Fund. In the latter cases, applicants were instructed to apply through the firms where the contributions were made. After further reference to the general practitioners concerned, 75 applicants were refused as not coming within the Health Committee's terms of reference for recuperative convalescence (i.e. a recent acute illness or operation or special circumstances which have caused mental or physical ill health).

The following table gives the ages and sex of patients who took convalescence in 1973.

Age	0-4	5-12	13-14	15-16	17-18	19-24	25+	Total	1972	1971
Males	0	2	2	22	30	15	61	89	89	59
Females	0	4	12	31	78	34	159	187	187	131

As in previous years, applications were received from people in the 65+ age group who, although in reasonably good health, had not been able to afford a holiday for many years. Voluntary organisations who arrange spring and autumn holidays for old people at reasonable charges were suggested to such applicants, but in most cases their very limited financial resources precluded them from going any further in the matter. Where people in this age group were eligible for convalescence, age proved an obstacle to acceptance.

RECUPERATIVE CONVALESCENCE

During 1973, 448 applications for convalescence were dealt with by the Department, compared with 470 applications in 1972. As in previous years, the majority of applicants were referred by their general practitioners. Many enquiries, not included in the above figures, were received without the support of a medical certificate, medical evidence did not materialise and the applications are not recorded.

Of the 448 applicants, 220 were sent to convalescent homes. The Birmingham Hospital Saturday Fund accommodated 214 and 6 were sent to homes more suitable to their individual needs. Of the remaining 228 applications, 153 were cancelled, mostly by the patients themselves and some by the Department after applicants failed to respond to any communications, or were found to be eligible to go free of charge under direct contributions to the Birmingham Hospital Saturday Fund. In the latter cases, applicants were instructed to apply through the firms where the contributions were made. After further reference to the general practitioners concerned, 75 applicants were refused as not coming within the Health Committee's terms of reference for recuperative convalescence (i.e. a recent acute illness or operation or special circumstances which have caused mental or physical ill health).

The following table gives the ages and sex of patients who took convalescence in 1973.

									1973	1972	1971
Age	..	..	0-4	5-15	16-44	45-64	65-74	75+	Total	Total	Total
Males	..	..	0	2	2	22	20	15	61	89	59
Females	..	..	0	4	12	31	78	34	159	162	131

As in previous years, applications were received from people in the 65+ age group who, although in reasonably good health, had not been able to afford a holiday for many years. Voluntary organisations who arrange spring and autumn holidays for old people at reasonable charges were suggested to such applicants, but in most cases their very limited financial resources precluded them from going any further in the matter. Where people in this age group were eligible for convalescence, age proved an obstacle to acceptance.

The table below shows, in relation to each medical category, the number who applied for convalescence and the number who were accepted.

	<i>Applied</i>							<i>Accepted</i>
Respiratory disease	42	20
Debility	16	5
Post-operative	78	49
Rheumatism and arthritis	18	5
Mental illness	37	9
Organic nervous disease	5	1
Heart disease	28	14
Gastro-intestinal disorder	2	1
Anaemia	6	1
Accident	11	5
Hypertension	2	1
Ulcers, peptic	1	—
Tuberculosis	1	1
Arteriosclerosis	—	—
Senility	—	—
Miscellaneous	201	108

HEALTH EDUCATION

The Health Education Section continued during the year to provide a wide range of services in an attempt to meet the ever increasing demands for its expertise, but financial stringency has prevented the many new demands for its services being fully met.

1. Health Education of the General Public

The number of talks given to the public was 991 (adult 887, youth 104).

(a) CANCER EDUCATION

The general cancer education programme continued throughout the year in response to requests for lectures from organisations in the City. To stimulate interest in and increase attendance at cervical cytology clinics, posters and leaflets were distributed to health centres, libraries, industry and other departments of the Corporation. Requests for talks were received from various organisations.

(b) ASIAN IMMIGRANTS

Weekly health education classes for non-English speaking immigrants continued at Lansdowne Street Personal and Child Health Centre. These classes were conducted by the health visiting staff at the centre in conjunction with an interpreter provided by the Aston College of Further Education. Talks, films and demonstrations on a variety of subjects were presented, and included, 'Cancer Education', 'Personal Hygiene', 'Food and Health', 'Emergency Resuscitation', and 'Home Safety'. An average of 30 Asian women attended the classes.

(c) WINSON GREEN PRISON

Three courses are arranged each term throughout the year for the young offenders, long-term prisoners and first offenders, respectively. The courses cover personal and environmental health and include personal relationships and responsibilities, smoking and health, venereal disease, drug dependence and birth control.

(d) ANTI-SMOKING CLINICS

Three anti-smoking clinics were held during the year in Trafalgar House. Those attending were in the main recommended by successful participants of

previous clinics, the remainder by general practitioners, industry and general publicity.

(e) ADULT GROUPS

The general health education programme continued with visits on request to such organisations as Mother and Baby Clubs, Church Groups, Darby and Joan Clubs, Co-operative Guilds and Townswomen's Guilds. The most popular topics were home safety, personal health services, child development, cancer education and emergency resuscitation.

(f) CHECKWATE SLIMMING CLINICS

There are now ten evening and two afternoon Checkwate Slimming Clinics run by the Department in various parts of the City. Most clinics have a capacity attendance with a considerable waiting list, indicating the high level of interest shown by the general public, schools, hospitals and general practitioners, and the obvious value of such clubs in dealing with obesity and its attendant problems.

(g) YOUTH GROUPS

Courses of lectures were arranged for members of the Girls Brigade and Girl Guides taking Child Nurse Badge and Health Badge examinations.

(h) CARE WITH MEDICINES CAMPAIGN, APRIL—JUNE

As a result of press publicity, attention was drawn to the increasing incidence of poisoning accidents, and it was decided that the Public Health Department should organise a "Care with Medicines" campaign, with the theme "Don't Hoard Medicines", in an effort to create awareness of the problem and encourage suitable disposal of old medicines.

In conjunction with the Birmingham Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, Birmingham Salvage Department, Birmingham City Police, Birmingham Executive Council, Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, and the Birmingham Local Medical Committee, the campaign was launched at the end of April with an official opening by the Lord Mayor on 7th May.

A special poster, designed and produced by the Health Education Section, was distributed with other "Medicine with Care" posters and leaflets to pharmacists, general practitioners, industry, schools, welfare centre and school clinics, libraries, banks and various departments of the Corporation.

The collection of old medicines, fully supported by pharmacists in the City, the Salvage Department and the City Police, resulted in over 7 million doses (approximately one ton) of medicines, capsules and tablets being destroyed. A simple investigation has shown that a considerable number of citizens have themselves destroyed old medicines in their homes.

2. Health Education in Schools

(a) PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

In 1973 there was a marked increase in the number of talks given in schools, from 3,670 to 4,208. This can be attributed, in the main, to requests for short courses on various aspects of health education.

(b) ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COURSE FOR GRAMMAR SCHOOLS

The environmental health course was held in the Health Education Demonstration Room and attended by 70 pupils from the following Schools:—

King Edwards Grammar School for Girls, Edgbaston High School, King Edward VI Camp Hill, Lordswood Grammar School for Girls and Hartfield School.

The programme included lectures on "The Personal Health Services", "Infectious Diseases", "The Work of the Public Health Inspector", "Health, Housing and the Neighbourhood", "Sanitation and Water", and "Food Hygiene".

Visits of observation to Lifford Lane Refuse Disposal Works, Frankley Water Works, food premises and housing areas were also arranged.

Kings Norton Grammar School for Girls—a similar course was arranged and held at the school, with visits of observation.

(c) SPECIAL COURSES

City of Birmingham College of Education—a series of lectures was arranged for students and teachers undertaking a specialist course, subjects included "Personal", "Environmental" and "Mental Health" Services; "Smoking and Health"; and "Venereal Disease". Observation visits with health visitors and public health inspectors were also arranged.

Child Care Courses—courses for the Certificate of Secondary Education and for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme were arranged for the following schools:—Cardinal Newman, Blessed Humphrey Middlemore, Kings Norton

Grammar, Colmers Farm, Holte Comprehensive, Naseby Road, Pitmaston Secondary, Northfield Comprehensive, St. Bridgets.

Design for Living Course—courses were arranged for Kings Norton Grammar School for Girls and Northfield Comprehensive School. Subjects included “Work of the Health Visitor”, “Learning to Live”, “Family Planning”, “Venereal Disease”, “Smoking and Health”, “Drugs and Alcohol”.

First Aid Course for Teachers—a course on first aid for the British Red Cross Certificate was arranged by the Section. This was a preparatory course for leaders of “Outward Bound” courses for schoolchildren.

Queen Alexandra College for the Blind—a course on “Mothercraft” was arranged for the senior girls.

(d) STUDENT PROJECTS

This year 400 requests were received from students of schools and colleges for posters, leaflets, reports, charts, advice and information on their various study projects. Approximately 500 personal callers were dealt with.

(e) HOME SAFETY QUIZ COMPETITION IN SCHOOLS

Home Safety quiz competitions were again introduced to primary and secondary schools during the year to promote understanding of the causes of home and water accidents and their prevention.

With the co-operation and hard work of headteachers, teachers, public health staff, and fire prevention officers, these ventures were extremely successful. Classes had talks on home safety in preparation for the quiz, and literature on which questions were based was supplied by the Health Education Section. The quizzes were of educational value not only to the teams but also to the large number of supporters who were present.

Junior School Quiz—thirty-seven junior schools participated in the quiz—when Dorrington Junior School as winners of the Birmingham, and the Warwickshire County Quiz, went on to win the West Midlands Home Safety Committee's Inter-County Final.

Senior Schools—twenty senior schools participated in the quiz—when last year's winners, Lordswood Girls' School, went on to win the Birmingham, the County and Inter-county competitions.

3. Health Education for Professional Groups

(a) STUDENT NURSES

Lectures, discussions and visits of observation were arranged for student nurses from various hospitals in the City. The subjects included "Personal", "Environmental" and "Mental Health" Services.

(b) IN-SERVICE TRAINING

(i) *Two-day Family Planning Appreciation Courses*

Three courses on the 7th and 8th February, 1st and 2nd March and 26th and 27th May were arranged by the Health Education Section and held in the Health Education Demonstration Room.

Approximately 45-50 members of public health staff, i.e., health visitors, district nurses, school nurses and midwives attended.

(ii) *Corporation Departments—First Aid Course*

In response to the recommendations of Circular TR/244 Emergency Treatment of Casualties—Local Government Training Board Scheme, a St. John First Aid Certificate course was arranged by the Health Education Section at the request of various Departments in the Corporation, and held in the Health Education Demonstration Room.

4. Publicity

(i)

A steady level of publicity was maintained throughout the year with a substantial distribution of posters, leaflets and booklets to personal and child health centres, school clinics, nurseries, surgeries, libraries, industry and insertions in the press. Topics included "Cancer Education", "Home Safety", "Measles Vaccinations", "Maternity and Child Welfare", "Family Planning", "Food Hygiene" and "Dental Health".

(ii) *Schools*

Posters and leaflets were sent to all schools in the City; topics included "Burns and Scalds", "Poisoning", "Water Safety", "Home Safety" and "Anti-smoking".

(iii) Head Lice Campaign

The Health Education Section designed and produced a leaflet, "The Head Louse". Over 200,000 leaflets, one for each school child, were ordered in preparation for the campaign commencing January 1974. A 61 mm sound film, "War to the Last Itch", was purchased, and the Section designed and produced a display unit on the subject in support of the campaign.

(iv)

Display units were prepared and erected at Queensbridge School, Ward End School, Portland Road School. Subjects included "Smoking and Health", "Home and Water Safety", "Nutrition and Diet".

APPLICATIONS ON GROUNDS OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS									
Points awarded									
Total									
1974									
Psychological disorders	220	1,747	781	160	7	2,805	28-03	7-80	16-91
Neurological disorders	131	351	181	132	44	819	8-26	1-91	0-26
including fits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chest disorders	252	775	230	153	27	1,737	17-57	3-91	0-26
Wounds	43	14	5	2	2	67	0-68	0-15	0-01
Blindness	43	110	94	60	2	311	3-11	0-71	0-01
Rheumatism and arthritis	150	300	237	270	23	1,100	11-00	2-31	0-31
Other orthopaedic disorders	119	170	124	69	9	500	5-00	1-04	0-04
Cardiovascular disorders	220	122	170	122	1	1,155	11-55	2-44	0-44
Other physical disorders	94	91	94	84	18	381	3-81	0-81	0-01
Gastro-intestinal disorders	45	88	82	32	12	210	2-10	0-45	0-05
Genito-urinary disorders	43	82	24	15	—	167	1-67	0-33	0-03
General debility and disorders not otherwise classified	423	394	178	178	1	1,174	11-74	2-60	0-60
TOTALS	2,401	4,522	1,921	1,531	257	10,732	100%	..	..

PRIORITY IN REHOUSING ON MEDICAL GROUNDS

During the year 10,775 recommendations were made to the Housing Department compared with 9,818 in 1972. In addition there were 242 cases in which, on enquiry, no medical condition was found and a large but unrecorded number of cases in which the applicant requested the Health Department to review his case but in which there was insufficient change in the circumstances to justify a further recommendation to the Housing Department.

The figures given here do not include recommendations made from the Chest Clinic: these are recorded elsewhere in the report.

APPLICATIONS ON GROUNDS OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

	<i>Points awarded</i>				<i>Immediate rehousing recommended</i>	<i>Total applications</i>	<i>Percentage of total</i>
	NIL	10	20	30			
Psychological disorders ..	530	1,747	361	160	7	2,805	26.03
Neurological disorders							
including fits	131	351	161	132	44	819	7.60
Chest disorders	552	775	250	153	27	1,757	16.31
Wounds	13	14	5	3	—	35	0.32
Blindness	42	110	94	60	5	311	2.89
Rheumatism and arthritis	150	390	237	270	53	1,100	10.21
Other orthopaedic disorders	119	179	124	69	9	500	4.64
Cardiovascular disorders	229	423	376	436	91	1,555	14.43
Other physical defects ..	94	91	84	34	18	321	2.98
Gastro-intestinal disorders	45	96	32	25	12	210	1.95
Genito-urinary disorders	43	85	24	15	—	167	1.55
General debility and disorders not otherwise classified.. ..	453	394	173	174	1	1,195	11.09
TOTALS	2,401	4,655	1,921	1,531	267	10,775	100%

PARENT AND CHILD CENTRE

The Parent and Child Centre continues to thrive. Referrals during the year reached an all time high of 314 new cases. This is 80 more than in 1972 and represents nearly a 100 per cent increase over 1971 (162 cases). In spite of this large number of new referrals—and in marked contrast to the situation at Child Guidance Clinics—waiting lists have been practically eliminated. It would seem that the practice of seeing clients at the point of crisis and soon after referral shortens the treatment period and speeds the turnover rate. Thus the average length of treatment required to eradicate a behaviour problem in the pre-school child may now be 5 as against a previous 12 weeks. This method of "short-term intervention" is particularly appropriate for cases in which the disturbed behaviour is a result of faulty handling due to parental ignorance or for the alleviation of sudden stress as when a child experiences the loss of a parent through death, divorce or separation. When the disturbance has more deep-seated reasons—parental rejection or (often unacknowledged) marital conflict—the therapeutic process is naturally longer. During the year further experience has been gained in the techniques of conjoint family therapy. In this method one looks at the pattern of family interaction instead of the traditional focus on the "Identified patient" in an attempt to locate the origin of the behaviour problem.

Two therapists—generally a male and a female worker—pay visits usually at the client's home to engage the family in a systematic exploration of their patterns of interaction which, it is assumed, have contributed to the breakdown in family life. The Parent and Child Centre is probably the only Birmingham agency at present consistently to use this approach. The staff have begun to tape-record family interviews to be able to monitor progress together with the clients and also to evaluate their own performance. For teaching purposes the value of conjoint interviews would be greatly enhanced if the Centre had a one-way screen through which interviews could be followed "live" (with knowledge and permission of the clients) and the provision of audio-visual equipment.

The Centre's greatest strength lies in its present structure which enables social work help to be offered in flexible, varied ways to suit the needs of the client and the nature of the problem without the delays which encumber larger, more complex organisations. About 80 per cent of clients are seen in their own homes; the rest on Health Centre premises or in the playroom of the Centre. Mothers are sometimes seen in a group with or without their children for a discussion of problems of common interest. One such discussion group has been held at a nursery school in Winson Green at the request of the Head Teacher.

Another group has been meeting weekly at the Centre to help resolve excessive separation anxiety existing in the mother and child couple.

Each member of staff is conscious of the importance of maintaining close contact with the families in the community and this is achieved through regular verbal and written reports on work carried out with the families who have been referred. During the year a number of specialists in allied fields of community care were invited to meet the staff at the Centre when stimulating exchanges of views took place.

Four basic grade Social Workers were appointed during the year.

MOTOR VEHICLE (DRIVING LICENCES) REGULATIONS 1971

Regulation 22 (2) provides for a driving licence to be granted if an applicant suffering from epilepsy satisfies the following conditions:—

- (a) he shall have been free from epileptic attacks whilst awake for at least three years from the date when the licence is to have effect.
- (b) in the case of an applicant who has had such attacks whilst asleep during that period he shall have been subject to such attacks since before the beginning of that period.
- (c) the driving of a vehicle by him in pursuance of the licence is not likely to be a source of danger to the public.

For purposes of these Regulations, the Medical Officer of Health is medical advisor to the licensing authority. Driving licences issued under the provision of this Regulation are subject to annual renewal.

New applications pending at the end of 1972	..	..	..	..	7
New applications referred by Motor Taxation Office during 1973	..	..	..	..	77
				Total	84

Recommended for issue of a licence	63
------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----

Not recommended for issue of a licence	14
--	----	----	----	----	----

Pending at the end of 1973	7
----------------------------	----	----	----	----	---

Total	84
-------	----	----	----	----	----

Reapplications pending at the end of 1972	0
---	----	----	----	----	---

Reapplications referred by Motor Taxation Office during 1973	84
--	----	----	----	----	----

Total	84
-------	----	----	----	----	----

Recommended for issue of a licence	80
------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----

Not recommended for issue of a licence	4
--	----	----	----	----	---

Pending at the end of 1973	0
----------------------------	----	----	----	----	---

Total	84
-------	----	----	----	----	----

In addition, requests for advice were received from the Motor Taxation Office in 46 cases of various kinds other than epilepsy and in 36 cases we advised that a licence should be issued or renewed; in 5 cases we advised that a licence should not be held; 3 applicants did not proceed with their applications and 2 withdrew.

FIRST-AID AND STAFF WELFARE SERVICE

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS: CREMATATIONS

(JANUARY TO DECEMBER, 1973, WITH JANUARY, FEBRUARY
AND MARCH, 1974, SHOWN AS WELL IN VIEW OF
RE-ORGANISATION FROM 1st APRIL, 1974—)

I First-Aid and Staff Welfare Service

This service is under the supervision of the Medical Officer for Corporation Staff Welfare.

The number of attendances at the Council House and Bush House Surgeries, staffed and maintained by the Public Health Department, was 3,937—plus 969 in January, February and March, 1974.

Additional facilities are also provided, but by other Corporation Departments.

Employees from all Corporation Departments may make use of the service which works in co-operation with general practitioners and hospitals and is of great mutual benefit to employer and employee.

In collaboration with the Chief Public Health and Housing Inspector, Corporation Departments are advised and assisted in complying with the first-aid requirements of the Factories Act, 1961, and the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

II Medical Examinations

Medical Examinations carried out by:—

(a) The Medical Officer for Corporation Staff Welfare or his deputies:—

Non-manual employees . . . 2,074 plus 466—January-February and March, 1974.

Manual employees . . . 1,459 plus 304

On behalf of other Local
Authorities . . . 36 plus 4

(b) Other Local Authorities on
our behalf:— . . . 91 plus 8

The above figures relate only to the medical examinations carried out by the Medical Officer for Corporation Staff Welfare and do NOT include those done by:—

- (1) The School Health Service Medical Officers, on behalf of the Education Department and other Local Authorities.
- (2) The Panel of Medical Practitioners from whom 1,270 (plus 429—January, February and March, 1974) completed forms in respect of manual employees were received and dealt with in this department.
- (3) Other doctors with whom some Corporation Departments have special arrangements.
- (4) The doctors who advise the Treasurer of the City when the question arises of the pensioning-off of Corporation employees on grounds of permanent ill-health.

III Cremations

The Medical Officer for Corporation Staff Welfare is also the Medical Referee for the two Municipal Crematoria.

Number of Cremation Certificates Examined:—

Lodge Hill	..	..	3,188 plus	823—January- February and March, 1974					
Yardley	..	..	2,393 plus	707	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL	..	..	5,581 plus	1,530	..	..	..	..	..

FOOD HYGIENE

The supervision of the hygiene of food, food handling and food premises continued to be a shared responsibility and the Chief Public Health and Housing Inspector exercised control over foodstuffs and all food premises throughout the City with the exception of the central wholesale and retail markets which remained under the supervision of the Chief Veterinary Officer and his Food Inspection Section who supervised all slaughterhouses and bacon factories.

Veterinary services and the work of the City Analyst and the Food and Drugs Sampling Officers are dealt with elsewhere in the Report.

This chapter, therefore, consists of two parts, first the work of the Public Health Inspectorate and then that of the Veterinary and Food Inspection Section.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING

INSPECTOR'S SECTION

Licensed Premises

There were 726 notifications of licence applications received and at the end of the year the total of premises licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquor was 1,917 premises which included 730 public houses, 613 off-licences, 113 restaurants and 461 clubs.

Food Hawkers, Mobile Shops, Mobile Canteens, etc.

At the end of the year the number of persons registered to operate a mobile canteen or shop under the provisions of Section 42 of the Birmingham Corporation Act 1948 was 573.

INSPECTION OF PREMISES AND FOODSTUFFS

During the year a total of 36,184 visits was made in connection with food and the hygiene of food premises compared with 40,068 visits in 1972.

Food Premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970

					<i>Number of premises</i>	<i>Number to which Reg. 21 applies*</i>	<i>Number which comply with Reg. 21*</i>
Buchers (including 112 registered for food preparation)	..	..	..	..	832	832	832
Grocers ..	..	..	..	..	810	810	810
Greengrocers ..	..	..	..	..	621	621	621
Fishmongers ..	..	..	..	..	23	23	23
Other food shops	..	..	..	..	2,542	1,404	1,404
Horseflesh shops	..	..	..	..	1	1	1
Licensed premises	..	..	..	..	1,917	1,917	1,917
Bakehouses ..	..	..	..	..	67	67	67
Factory canteens	..	..	..	..	730	730	730
School canteens	..	..	..	..	524	524	524
Eating Houses and catering premises	..	..	..	..	1,088	1,088	1,088
Fish and chip friers ..	..	..	..	..	359	359	359
Breweries ..	..	..	..	..	6	6	6
Sweet manufacturers ..	..	..	..	..	14	14	14
Biscuit manufacturers	..	..	..	..	1	1	1
Potato crisp manufacturers	..	..	..	..	2	2	2
Jam makers ..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1
Mineral water factories	..	..	..	..	2	2	2
Registered food preparation premises (other than butchers)	..	..	..	..	68	68	68
Cold stores ..	..	..	..	..	4	4	4
Ice cream manufacturers	..	..	..	..	30	30	30
Egg pasteurisation plant	..	..	..	..	1	1	1
					9,643	8,505	8,505

* Regulation 21 requires the provision of facilities for washing food and equipment.

Complaints and Request Inspections for Foodstuffs

A total of 2,531 visits was made during the year in connection with complaints regarding foodstuffs and requests to examine food which was thought to be unfit. Complaints received totalled 1,217 compared with 999 in 1972

and below is a table setting out the various foods in respect of which complaints were received:—

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Total complaints</i>	<i>Foreign matter contained in</i>		<i>Food affected by mould</i>	<i>Other complaints</i>
		<i>Home produced food</i>	<i>Imported food</i>		
Milk	139	55	—	—	84
Butter	24	5	2	4	13
Cheese	52	4	1	22	25
Bread	132	67	—	51	14
Confectionery and sweets	110	56	—	20	34
Cereals	37	16	2	7	12
Jam	25	8	1	5	11
Meat	88	21	3	6	58
Cooked meat	33	3	1	5	24
Meat pies	78	14	—	38	26
Canned meat	63	14	13	7	29
Poultry	45	4	1	—	40
Fish	62	17	10	—	35
Fruit	20	4	4	4	8
Canned fruit	39	10	15	3	11
Vegetables	34	18	—	3	13
Canned vegetables	50	22	5	9	14
Other food	186	74	—	21	91
TOTALS	1,217	412	58	205	542

Imported Food, Inland Road Port and Inland Rail Port

During the year 836 notifications were received from seaport authorities of unexamined foods consigned to the City compared with 638 in 1972.

IMPORTS DEALT WITH AT THE CONTAINER BASE

				<i>Number of shipments</i>	<i>Number of containers</i>	<i>Number inspected</i>	<i>Tons</i>
Australia	..	..	..	66	953	146	16,530
Far East	..	..	..	44	153	60	2,382
Continent	...	...	..	14	14	14	90
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				124	1,120	220	19,002
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Imports dealt with at British Rail Inland Port.

At the British Rail Inland Port unexamined food in 130 containers totalling 1,986 tons of food, the bulk of which came from the Far East and Italy, were dealt with during the year.

All imported food was found to be satisfactory.

Legal Proceedings involving Food and Food Premises, etc.

During the year it was found necessary to institute legal proceedings in the following cases:—

	<i>Cases taken</i>	<i>Summonses issued</i>	<i>Fines imposed</i>
Section 2, Food and Drugs Act, 1955 (selling food not of the nature, substance or quality demanded by the purchaser) ..	17	17	£475
Section 8, Food and Drugs Act, 1955, (selling, offering or having in possession for the purpose of sale, food which is unfit for human consumption)	3	3	£90

MILK AND DAIRIES AND ICE CREAM

Dairy Premises, etc.

The number of dairy and allied premises licensed in accordance with the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963 (as amended) and under inspection at the end of the year was as follows:—

Pasteurising plants: all H.T.S.T.	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Sterilising plants	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
U.H.T.	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Milk distribution depots	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Retail purveyors of milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Shops (retailing pre-packed milk)	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,663

Untreated Milk

There are no known sales of milk of this designation within the City.

Complaints

A total of 139 complaints was received compared with 110 in 1972 and these are summarised as follows:—

Inadequately cleansed bottles	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
Foreign objects in bottles	..	..	..	..	..	..	48
Taints and souring	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Watery sterilised milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Other	..	..	..	..	..	..	13

Legal proceedings were authorized and summonses taken out in five cases involving milk sold in inadequately cleansed containers which were considered to be in breach of Section 27 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959. A conviction was obtained in each instance and fines totalling £120.00 were imposed.

Ice Cream and Iced Lollipops

Registration of persons and premises for the manufacture and sale of ice

cream is effected under Section 54 of the Birmingham Corporation Act 1953 as extended by Section 58 of the Birmingham Corporation Act 1954, as follows:—

Persons

(a) For manufacture and sale of ice cream	.. .. .	176
	<i>146 in respect of manufacture of soft ice cream on mobile vehicles</i>	
(b) For manufacture and sale of iced lollipops	.. .. .	20
(c) For the sale of ice cream and iced lollipops	.. .. .	3,330

Premises

(a) For the manufacture of ice cream	.. .. .	30
	<i>25 in respect of shops with soft ice cream freezers</i>	
(b) For manufacture and sale of iced lollipops	.. .. .	20

Out of a total of 182 samples of ice cream taken from mobile vans 92 (47 Grade III and 45 Grade IV) were unsatisfactory, whereas only 24 unsatisfactory samples (14 Grade III and 10 Grade IV) out of a total of 318 samples came from manufacturers' and retailers' premises.

SAMPLING OF MILK, ICE CREAM AND ALLIED PRODUCTS

Milk

Routing sampling was continued on the same scale as in 1972.

PASTEURISED MILK

			<i>Methylene Blue Test</i>		<i>Phosphatase Test</i>	
			<i>Submitted</i>	<i>Failed</i>	<i>Submitted</i>	<i>Failed</i>
From dairies inside City:						
From roundsmen	..	..	154	Nil	156	Nil
From schools	..	..	63	Nil	66	Nil
From vending machines	..		29	1	29	Nil
From churns	..	..	28	Nil	29	Nil
From dispensers	..	..	181	18	Nil	Nil
From dairies outside City:						
From roundsmen	..		51	Nil	51	Nil
From cartons	..	..	7	Nil	7	Nil
From churns	..	..	2	Nil	3	Nil

Six samples were declared "void" on account of excessive atmospheric shade temperatures and are not included in the above totals.

STERILISED MILK

						<i>Turbidity Test</i>	
						<i>submitted</i>	<i>failed</i>
From dairies inside City	..	..	..	..	..	32	Nil
From dairies outside City	..	..	..	..	..	16	Nil

ULTRA HEAT TREATED MILK

						<i>Colony Count Test</i>	
						<i>submitted</i>	<i>failed</i>
From dairies inside City	..	..	..	..	..	55	1
From dairies outside City	..	..	..	..	..	27	1

MILK PRIOR TO PROCESSING

						<i>Antibiotic</i>	
						<i>submitted</i>	<i>positive</i>
From processing dairies	..	..	..	..	..	135	3

One sample of goats' milk was submitted to the methylene blue test and examined for Brucella with satisfactory results.

Churn and Bottle Washing

Examination of churns and bottles after their run through the washing plant at the dairies gave the following results:—

Churns	..	..	..	..	..	13 samples taken: 1 unsatisfactory
Bottles	..	..	..	..	..	21 samples taken: all satisfactory

Fresh Cream

A total of 278 samples were submitted for the provisional methylene blue test:—

<i>Number of samples</i>	<i>Decolourisation time</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
19	Nil	Unsatisfactory
32	$\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 hours	Unsatisfactory
227	More than 4 hours	Satisfactory

Samples of bacteriological examination are obtained from retail outlets and from bulk containers and utensils at confectionery bakeries. Of the 278 samples examined, 51 (18 per cent) fell below the recommended standard. Adverse results were followed up and appropriate advice given, but much of

the cream was processed and packed outside the City and there were difficulties in establishing reasons for all failures. Mode of transport and stock rotation undoubtedly have some bearing. Improved results are undoubtedly due to voluntary date coding introduced by many producers in anticipation of obligatory coding due in 1975.

Imitation Cream

Samples taken from bakeries gave the following results:

			Plate Count			<i>B. coli</i> present
			No. of samples	satisfactory	unsatisfactory	
Unopened tins	..	..	6	6	Nil	Nil
Mixing bowls	..	..	6	6	Nil	2

Ice Cream

Results of samples submitted to the provisional methylene blue tests were as follows:—

Grade			Manufactured on premises in the City	Manufactured on premises outside the City	Total 1973	Total 1972
1 and 2	..	..	217	168	385	571
3 and 4	..	..	107	7	114	125

A total of 258 samples were submitted for chemical analysis, six of which were unsatisfactory.

Iced Lollipops

Forty-nine samples were obtained for bacteriological examination and nine for chemical analysis to detect presence of metallic contamination. All bacteriological samples were satisfactory. One chemical sample contained 35 parts per million copper (the recommended standard is 20 parts per million).

Egg

Twenty-four samples of pasteurised egg were taken for the alpha-amylase test. All were satisfactory. Twenty-two samples were examined for food poisoning organisms. All were satisfactory.

SAMPLING OF OTHER FOOD AND DRUGS

See that part of this Report dealing with the work of the Analytical Laboratory.

SHELLFISH

Of the various shellfish on sale, mussels are considered to be the most likely to give unsatisfactory results. The following table shows the numbers of samples taken and the results obtained. In each case an average of two pools of five mussels each were taken.

<i>Source</i>	<i>Number of Samples</i>	<i>Not exceeding 5 B. coli Type 1 per 1 ml. of fish (satisfactory)</i>	<i>Exceeding 5 but not exceeding 15 B. coli Type 1 per 1 ml. of fish (suspect)</i>	<i>Exceeding 15 B. coli Type 1 per 1 ml. of fish (unsatisfactory)</i>
A	58	57	—	1
B	16	15	1	—
C	6	6	—	—
D	6	5	1	—
E	2	2	—	—
F	2	2	—	—
G	1	1	—	—
H	1	1	—	—
I	1	1	—	—
TOTAL	93	90	2	1

The "unsatisfactory" sample from source "A" was thought to have resulted from the inclusion in the sample of a dead mussel, as only one of the two pools was affected. All other samples from this source gave satisfactory results and no further action was taken.

The "suspect" sample from source "B" proved to be an isolated case as subsequent samples from this source all gave satisfactory results. The "suspect" sample from source "D" was from the last of the six consignments sampled and no further supplies have been received in the City.

In addition to the samples of mussels, two samples of oysters and one sample of prawns were taken. All proved satisfactory.

VETERINARY AND FOOD INSPECTION SECTION

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

At the end of 1973 there were nine licensed private slaughterhouses. The public abattoir closed down on 31st December.

Meat inspection is carried out by a staff of authorised meat inspectors under the supervision of veterinary officers. Animals are examined ante and post-mortem to ascertain their fitness for human consumption. Visits are made as necessary to the private slaughterhouses: 3,193 such visits were made in 1973.

The meat inspection staff are also responsible for ensuring that high standards of hygiene are maintained in the slaughterhouses and that slaughtering is carried out humanely: and for the inspection of the vehicles used for the transport of animals and of meat.

It is not usually necessary to take legal action to ensure compliance with the required standards, verbal warnings and/or advice usually being sufficient.

Animals Slaughtered in the City

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered at slaughterhouses in the City with comparative figures for 1972.

		<i>Beasts</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Public abattoir:	1973	18,574	478	79,744	56,386	155,182
	1972	22,720	616	174,757	86,130	284,223
Private slaughterhouses:	1973	602	89	110,643	67,301	178,635
	1972	496	142	76,824	65,754	143,216
TOTAL	1973	19,176	567	190,387	123,687	333,817
	1972	23,216	758	251,581	151,884	427,439

Incidence of Disease

The following table shows the incidence of various diseases in food animals slaughtered in the City.

	CONDEMNATIONS							
	<i>At Public Abattoir</i>				<i>At Private Slaughterhouses</i>			
	<i>Carcases</i>		<i>Offal</i>		<i>Carcases</i>		<i>Offal</i>	
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Partial</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Partial</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Partial</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Partial</i>
ADULT CATTLE:								
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Johne's disease ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Actinobacillosis								
(-mycosis)	—	—	—	31	—	—	—	—
Septicaemic conditions	8	—	8	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia and/or								
pleurisy	2	6	2	1,016	—	—	—	3
Peritonitis	6	84	6	120	—	—	—	—
Mastitis	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hepatic abscess ..	—	159	—	2,134	—	—	—	7
Fascioliasis (fluke) ..	—	—	—	3,071	—	—	—	12
Parasitic pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Echinococcosis ..	—	—	—	275	—	—	—	—
Telangiectasis ..	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis (C. bovis)								
(a) Rejected ..	—	—	—	23	—	—	—	2
(b) Refrigerated ..	23	—	—	23	2	—	—	2
Tumours	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Bruising	—	61	—	1	—	—	—	—
Emaciation and oedema	18	36	18	—	—	—	—	—
Other conditions ..	13	428	13	810	—	—	—	4
CALVES:								
Congenital tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Septicaemic conditions/								
fever	6	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
Joint-ill or navel-ill ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bruising	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Emaciation and oedema	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Immaturity	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other conditions ..	9	—	9	5	—	—	—	—

	CONDEMNATIONS							
	<i>At Public Abattoir</i>				<i>At Private Slaughterhouses</i>			
	<i>Carcases</i>		<i>Offal</i>		<i>Carcases</i>		<i>Offal</i>	
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Partial</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Partial</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Partial</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Partial</i>
PIGS:								
Swine erysipelas ..	4	2	4	—	1	—	1	—
Tuberculosis	8	—	8	1,331	2	—	2	1,543
Septicaemic conditions/ fever	76	—	76	—	13	—	13	—
Pneumonia and/or pleurisy	35	121	35	5,194	14	313	25	8,079
Tumours	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pyaemia	140	—	140	—	28	—	28	—
Jaundice	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Arthritis	27	317	27	—	3	72	3	—
Abscess	30	280	30	56	15	197	15	6
Echinococcosis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ascariasis	—	—	—	5,607	—	—	—	1,467
Bruising	—	135	—	—	4	134	4	—
Emaciation	6	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
Other conditions ..	76	238	76	2,748	61	12	61	2,159
SHEEP:								
Septicaemic conditions/ fever	6	—	6	—	72	33	72	—
Pyaemia	54	—	54	—	233	—	233	—
Pneumonia and/or pleurisy	11	92	11	23	68	275	68	4
Jaundice	—	—	—	—	4	—	4	—
Arthritis	8	114	8	—	18	238	18	—
Tumours	1	—	1	—	1	2	1	—
Fascioliasis (fluke) ..	—	—	—	5,950	—	—	—	12,036
Abscess	1	35	1	—	2	88	2	—
Cysticerous ovis ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Echinococcosis ..	—	—	—	7,663	—	—	—	25,638
Bruising	—	30	—	—	9	85	9	—
Emaciation and oedema	172	—	172	—	1,225	1	1,225	—
Other conditions ..	77	337	77	209	3	166	3	226

Licensing of Slaughtermen

The slaughtering or stunning of animals in a slaughterhouse is permissible only by persons holding a licence granted by the local authority. Licences, other than renewals of existing licences, are granted subject to the condition that the holder may slaughter or stun animals only under the supervision of an experienced slaughterman; a full licence is then granted when the slaughterman has gained experience and can demonstrate his efficiency.

At the 31st December, 1973, there were 74 licences in force, 14 of which were provisional.

There are no knackers' yards in Birmingham.

CENTRAL WHOLESALE AND RETAIL MARKETS

The markets concerned are the wholesale fish, fruit and vegetable markets; the Bull Ring Centre market hall and the Bull Ring open-air market. Senior food inspectors are engaged on work in these markets where a continuous check is made on the foodstuffs passing through and on the standards of hygiene.

FOODSTUFFS JUDGED AS UNFIT									
							1972		
							1973		
							<i>t.</i>	<i>c.</i>	<i>q.</i>
Meat and offal	..	..	..	..	..	..	301	3	1
Fish	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	9	2
Poultry, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	35	4	1
Fruit and vegetables	..	..	..	..	..	..	717	8	1
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	68	3	3
							1,139	9	0
							1,019	0	3

These figures represent all foodstuffs rejected as unfit for human consumption. The bulk of these foodstuffs—897 tons 19 cwt. 1 qr.—was surrendered at the wholesale and central markets, public abattoir and private slaughterhouses before it reached the retail outlets. The remainder—121 tons 1 cwt. 2 qr.—was surrendered to the public health inspectors at food premises and shops throughout the City.

VETERINARY SERVICES

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS

The Department is responsible through its Veterinary Section for carrying out the duties of the Local Authority under these Acts and the Orders made under them. In addition to those specifically mentioned below, these duties include the publication of the Orders of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; the supervision of the cleansing and disinfection of infected premises; the issuing of licences for the movement of animals; and the enforcement of Orders made for the protection of animals and poultry from unnecessary suffering during transit.

Two veterinary officers have been appointed local veterinary inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in Birmingham, and in that capacity make diagnostic inquiries in the case of suspected scheduled diseases.

Swine Vesicular Disease

Restrictions on the movement of pigs, swill and slaughterhouse refuse which were imposed in December, 1972, continued in force in the City until 12th January, 1973. Further outbreaks of Swine Vesicular Disease resulted in restrictions being re-imposed from 20th January to 19th April 1973, and from the 3rd to 21st November, 1973. During these periods, nearly 3,000 licences were issued.

Dead Animals

Animals found dead on arrival at their destinations or which may die whilst awaiting slaughter, and pigs which die on private premises, are examined to ascertain the presence or otherwise of anthrax or other scheduled contagious diseases. The following table shows the numbers found dead during the year:—

	<i>Beasts</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
City Abattoir	2	—	27	39
Other Slaughterhouses	—	—	3	41
Pig Keepers' Premises	—	—	—	—
	2	—	30	80

The result of the examination was negative in each case.

Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order 1957

This Order provides for the licensing by local authorities of plant used for the boiling of waste food intended for feeding to animals or poultry. At the 31st December, 1973, 12 licences remained in force.

Pig Keepers' Premises

These premises are visited to examine dead pigs, to inspect the records which are required to be kept under the Movement of Animals (Records) Order 1960, and to check that the provisions of the Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order 1957, are complied with. Additionally, visits are made to see store pigs which have been brought into the City under licence, during the period of 28 days' detention prescribed by the licence. During the year 308 store pigs were licensed to premises in the City and 37 visits were made.

Certificates for Export

Export certificates are issued when required for animal casings, meat and dogs which are to be exported. The form of certificate varies according to the requirements of the country of destination; in the case of dogs for certain destinations, blood samples have to be taken and submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture laboratory for examination.

PET SHOPS

The Pet Animals Act 1951 regulates the sale of pet animals and makes it an offence to keep a pet shop except under the authority of a licence granted by the local authority.

The licensing and inspection of pet shops is carried out by the Veterinary Section and during the year 170 visits were made to proposed new pet shops and to existing pet shops, to ensure that the conditions of the licence were being observed.

At the 31st December, 1973, there were 57 licensed pet shops in the City.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS

The Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 regulates the keeping of boarding establishments for dogs and cats and makes it an offence to keep such an establishment except under the authority of a licence granted by the local authority.

The licensing and inspection of these premises is carried out by the Veterinary Section and during the year 5 visits were made in connection with the granting of licences and to ensure that, where licences had been granted, the conditions of the licence were being complied with.

At the 31st December, 1973, there were nine licensed animal boarding establishments in the City.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS

The Riding Establishments Acts 1964 and 1970 require local authorities to inspect and license riding establishments. There were two licensed riding establishments in the City and, during 1973, nine visits were made.

CARE OF CORPORATION HORSES ETC.

Veterinary Attention

Animals belonging to the Corporation receive veterinary attention from one of the Department's veterinary officers whenever necessary. During the year, treatment was given to the Police horses and to dogs belonging to the Parks, Police and Water Departments.

Horses

In July, 1973, the 23 horses which were owned by the Department were purchased by the Police. As requested by the Police, veterinary advice and attention has continued to be given.

At the same time, the blacksmith who was employed on shoeing of the horses and on general work for the Public Works Department was transferred to that department.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Staff

The difficulties of recruiting and retaining qualified staff continued during the year with no improvement over preceding years. In order to arrest this continued deterioration authority was sought and obtained for an increase in the number of trainees and the establishment for student public health inspectors was increased from 24 to 40.

The number of staff employed on district duties at the end of the year was as follows:—

	<i>Establishment</i>	<i>In Post</i>	<i>Vacancies</i>
District Inspectors	12	12	—
Senior Assistant District Inspectors ..	12	12	—
Assistant District Inspectors	54	34	20
Student Public Health Inspectors ..	40	40	—
Technical Assistants	24	21	3

The number of students under training at the end of the year was as follows:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of students</i>
First year : Degree	3
Diploma	17
Second year: Degree	3
Diploma	7
Third year : Degree	2
Diploma	3
Fourth year: Degree	3
Diploma	2

—

40

—

During the year, six students qualified (two with degrees) and were appointed to the staff.

Inspections

Despite the serious staff shortage which continued throughout the year the number of inspections undertaken fell only by three per cent when compared with 1972. The most serious drop was however in the number of routine inspections of food and food premises which resulted from the pressures of other work in the field of urban renewal and housing improvement programmes.

Comparative figures are:—

1970	..	..	..	..	..	..	351,256
1971	..	..	..	..	..	..	329,615
1972	..	..	..	..	..	..	319,905
1973	..	..	..	..	..	..	308,811

Total visits made by inspectors, including those engaged on certain special duties:—

								% of Total
Visits by public health inspectors and technical assistants								
on district	..	..	..	..	..	..	237,457	76.89

Visits by Shops Act Inspectors:—

Under the Shops Act 1950 17,081

Under the Offices, Shops and Railway

Premises Act 1963 7,242 24,323 7.87

Visits by rodent control inspectors 16,728 5.42

Visits by food inspectors 30,303 9.82

308,811 100.00

The total of visits by staff engaged on general district duties during 1973 was made up as follows:—

		% of total
House inspections	126,605	53.32
Inspection of food premises	6,130	2.58
Visits re. infectious diseases	6,247	2.63
Inspection of outworkers' premises	694	0.29
Inspection of tents, vans and sheds	50	0.02
Inspection of stables and pigsties	18	0.01
Inspection of tips	319	0.13
Visits to burials, exhumations, etc.	18	0.01
Inspection of pleasure fairs and circuses	39	0.02
Visits re sampling of water (not by water sampling officer)	1,664	0.70
Visits re taking of rag flock samples	1	0.00
Inspection of offensive trade premises	17	0.01
Inspection of factory premises	1,538	0.65
Inspection of surface air-raid shelters	2	0.00
Inspection of common lodging houses	63	0.03
Inspection of premises re Town and Country Planning applications	2,428	1.02
Inspection of public houses	66	0.03
Visits by students under instruction by qualified inspectors	12,484	5.26
Joint visits made by qualified inspectors	4,152	1.75
Other successful visits	37,738	15.89
Unsuccessful visits	29,424	12.39
Visits re lectures and demonstrations to visitors	167	0.07
Visits to offices and shops	2,858	1.20
Inspections re rodent control	4,736	1.99
	<hr/> 237,458 <hr/>	<hr/> 100.00 <hr/>

HOUSING

The year 1973 has seen the continued implementation of the Council's policy to conserve as much of the City's existing housing stock as possible and, in January, a massive programme embodying this principle was approved. This Urban Renewal Programme is an ambitious one involving the treatment of areas of housing outside the existing areas of redevelopment by the creation of 28 Renewal Areas and the declaration of a total of 68 General Improvement Areas. The number of houses involved totals nearly 70,000 and the programme is phased over the next five years.

There has been set up a Joint Conference to consider ways and means of expediting Urban Renewal comprising representatives of the various Committees involved. In addition, an Urban Renewal Officer has been appointed

for inter-departmental co-ordination and liaison purposes and to serve the Conference.

The programme's emphasis is on retention by up-grading and improving as many sub-standard houses as possible, and is a reversal of the previous policy of clearance and redevelopment by which most of the worst houses in the City had been cleared away. However, there are still several thousand houses inside and outside the proposed areas which cannot be saved and will have to be represented as unfit over the next few years. This work has placed great strain on the already depleted inspectorial staff.

General Improvement Areas

Six new areas were declared bringing the total number of declarations up to the end of 1973 to 15 involving some 10,695 houses.

The following table indicates the position in relation to declared General Improvement Areas at 31st December, 1973:

G.I.A. Number	Date of Declaration	Total Dwellings	Dwellings Inspected	Grants		Remarks
				Applications Received	Work Completed	
301 Summerfield 1	9. 1.70	268	202	144	105	{ Awaiting completion of environmental improvements
302 2	9. 1.70					
303 Storchley 1	9.10.70	281	221	59	6	{ Awaiting completion of improvements to water services
304 2	9.10.70	602	511	170	42	
305 3	9.10.70	392	262	87	20	
318 4	13. 4.73	102	101	47	5	
101 Broadway	9.10.70	1,446	1,108	266	74	
102 Handsworth 1	9.10.70	1,002	827	245	104	{ Awaiting completion of Improvement to water services
103 2	8.10.71	817	276	86	27	
104 3	8.10.71	757	88	62	17	
201 Bordesley Green	13. 7.73	960	93	64		{ Inspection of dwelling-houses progressing
202 Digby Park	13. 7.73	1,942	514	128		
203 St. Benedicts	13. 7.73	1,230	625	97		
401 Ombersley	9.11.73	601				
402 Runcorn	9.11.73	295	178	1		
		10,695	5,006	1,456	400	

Renewal Areas

The involvement of the Public Health Department in the Urban Renewal programme increased during the year and the 'lifing' of some 12,700 dwellings in 26 Renewal Areas was completed in the early part of the year.

Following discussions with Corporation Departments involved 'lifing' plans were presented to the Urban Renewal Conference and approved in July 1973. Properties in these areas were broadly classified in "retention" or "non-retention" categories and residents in the areas concerned notified of the classifications by letter. In pursuance of the policy of public participation residents were invited to make representation on these classifications and by the end of the year some 1,200 such representations had been received. Inspections of the properties concerned were commenced and owners provided with a schedule of works necessary to rehabilitate their dwellings. At the end of the year 1,596 properties in Renewal Areas had been inspected involving 1,615 visits.

In November 1973 a series of public meetings was commenced aimed at involving owners and occupiers in the areas in the formulation of proposals for their areas. These meetings were still continuing at the end of the year.

Clearance Areas

In 1973, 586 unfit houses were included in 21 clearance areas bringing the total number of representations since 1955 to 32,274.

Compulsory Purchase Orders, Clearance Orders, Public Local Inquiries

Two Public Local Inquiries were held in connection with Housing Compulsory Purchase Orders made at which 44 houses were the subject of objections.

In addition there were 10 Orders containing 71 houses which were unopposed and confirmed.

Certificates of Unfitness

Six Town and Country Planning Compulsory Purchase Orders were made in respect of St. James, Queens Road (Part 3), St. Clements, Sparkbrook West One, Rotton Park, Newtown Extension and James Street comprehensive development areas which resulted in the inspection of 807 houses for inclusion in Certificates of Unfitness Orders made under the Land Compensation Act 1961.

Individual Unfit Houses

The following summary sets out the action taken during the year.

(1) Houses represented as unfit for human habitation under Part II of the Housing Act 1957	32
(2) Owners' undertakings accepted:	
(a) Not to re-let for human habitation	Nil
(b) To make fit for human habitation	1
(3) Demolition Orders made	11
(4) Closing Orders made as demolition would affect adjacent buildings	6
(5) Houses to be acquired by Local Authority	4
(6) Demolition following making of an Order, or accepting an Undertaking	9
(7) Demolition following representation only (no Order made)	Nil
(8) Undertaking to make fit complied with	7
(9) Houses made fit after the making of Closing Orders	2
(10) Parts only of buildings represented as unfit for human habitation	3
(11) Closing Orders made on parts of buildings	3
Total number of individual dwellings dealt with between September 1939 and 31st December 1973	2,512

During the year the owners of 104 houses were served with notices under Section 9 (1) or 9 (1A) of the Housing Act 1957, requiring them to carry out works to bring the premises up to an approved condition and 53 such notices have been complied with.

Housing Improvement and Improvement Grants

HOUSING ACT, 1964

HOUSING ACT 1969

Enquiries and applications regarding improvement grants continued to pour into the Department and by the end of the year 4,240 formal applications had been received, an increase of 1,173 over the total for 1972. The increase in applications was all from owner occupiers and these amounted to 78 per cent of the total received.

During the year 3,150 grants were approved compared with a total of 2,400 in 1972—of this total approximately 98 per cent were discretionary grants.

Applications for Improvement Grants during 1973

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

	<i>Formal applications received during the year</i>	<i>Applications approved during the year</i>	
	<i>Number of dwellings</i>	<i>Number of dwellings</i>	<i>Amount of grant which the Council have decided to pay</i>
(a) Conversions	183	218	£213,029.00
(b) Improvements by Landlords	735	740	£394,429.00
By Owner-occupiers	3,269	2,135	£760,375.00

STANDARD GRANTS

	Applications		Grants Paid						
	Received (No. of dwellings)	Approved (No. of dwellings)	No. of dwellings	Total Amount £	Number of amenities provided				
					Fixed bath or shower	Wash basins	Water supplies	Water closet	Sinks
Improvements by Landlords	18	13	43	6,246	} 54	76	66	131	3
by Owner-occupiers	35	44	97	9,919					

449 applications for discretionary grants were rejected.

Since the first improvement grant was paid in the City in 1952, £3,729,152 has been paid out in 24,309 grants made up as follows:—

Landlords	...	...	...	8,264	£1,660,897
Owner-occupiers	...	...	...	16,045	£2,068,255
				<u>24,309</u>	<u>£3,729,152</u>

Since the improvement schemes were operated 29,843 applications have been approved made up as follows:—

Owner-occupiers	19,112
Landlords	10,731
	<hr/>
	29,843
	<hr/>

Compulsory Improvements—Tenants' Representations

A further 110 tenants exercised their rights under the Housing Act 1964 and wrote to the Corporation during the year asking them to use their powers to secure the provision of bathrooms by their landlords. However, the total figure of 2,002 tenants who have written so far since the introduction of the Housing Act 1964 occupy only a small proportion of the number of tenanted properties which are still without bathrooms. The following statistics show the action taken so far in regard to tenants' representations:—

Representations received (from August 1964)	2,002
Rejected (property has insufficient life, etc.)	8
Withdrawn (at tenants' request)	17
Preliminary notices served	1,402
Satisfactory undertakings received	45
Immediate improvement notices served	1,237
Improvement work completed	885

Qualification Certificates

A further 433 applications were received bringing the total up to 8,735 since the Act came into force and at the end of the year the position was as follows:—

DWELLINGS ALREADY PROVIDED WITH STANDARD AMENITIES

	1973	Total
Applications received and under consideration	184	6,599
Applications refused	158	2,478
Qualification Certificates issued	270	2,540

DWELLINGS LACKING STANDARD AMENITIES WHERE IMPROVEMENT WORKS ARE PROPOSED

Applications received and under consideration	249	2,136
Applications refused	—	8
Certificates of provisional approval issued	195	1,574
Certificates of provisional approval refused	Nil	Nil
Qualification certificates issued	240	882
Applications withdrawn	407	544

Certificates of Disrepair

A tenant of a house which is subject to control under the Rent Act 1968 may apply for a certificate of disrepair if the landlord has either failed to carry out repairs which the tenant considers necessary or has declined to give an undertaking in accordance with the Act.

The following figures indicate the action taken in 1973:-

Part I—Applications for Certificates of Disrepair

Number of applications for certificates	1
Number of decisions not to issue certificates	1

Part II—Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	5
Objections by tenants to cancellation	—
Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenant's objections	—
Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	5

Rent Restriction Acts

Part VI of the Rent Act 1968 continued the provisions relating to the rents of furnished lettings formerly contained in the Furnished Houses (Rent Control) Act 1946 and under Section 74 of the 1968 Act the Local Authority have a duty to maintain a Register of rents approved, reduced or increased by the Rent Tribunal. The Chief Public Health and Housing Inspector is Registrar for the City for the purposes of Section 74.

During the year 305 notifications were received from the Rent Tribunal, resulting in 202 entries being made in the Register maintained under the Act; no certified copies of registered entries were issued to members of the public during the year.

The provisions of Part II of the Rent Act 1965, which first authorised the setting up of Rent Assessment Committees and the appointment of Rent Officers, were also continued by the Rent Act 1968. During the year a number of enquiries received in the Department relating to the assessment of a fair rent were referred to the Rent Officer.

Houses in Multiple Occupation

There were no applications for the registration of houses newly intended to be used in multiple occupation—the total dealt with so far remained at 242. Under the City of Birmingham (Registration of Houses in Multiple Occupation) Scheme 1965, houses must be registered if they are:—

(a) Houses in which, on the 1st January, 1966, there were either more than two separate occupancies (including that of a person having an estate or interest in the whole house) or more than four individual lodgers—this is defined in the Scheme as a '1961 Act house'.

or

(b) Houses in which, after the 1st January, 1966, it is intended there shall be either more than two separate occupancies (including that, if any, of a person having an estate or interest in the whole house) or more than four individual lodgers—this is defined in the Scheme as a '1965 Act house'.

The registration of '1961 Act houses' is automatic on application and supplying of the necessary particulars. The registration of '1965 Act houses' is not automatic and may be refused, or conditions may be attached to the approval.

At the end of the year there were 4,006 houses registered compared with 4,115 at the end of 1972. The following is a summary of action taken during the eight years since 1st January 1966 when the Scheme came into operation.

'1961 Act houses' remaining on the register						3,926
(i.e., those already occupied so as to be registrable at 1st January, 1966).						
'1965 Act houses'						
(i.e., those intended to be newly let in multiple occupation).						
(a)	Registration approved					80
(b)	Registration refused					
	(i) House unsuitable				113	
	(ii) Use detrimental to locality				17	
	(iii) Unsuitable person in control				Nil	130
(c)	Applications not proceeded with					32
(d)	Applications pending at the end of year					Nil
Total of applications						242

Legal action taken during the eight years since the commencement of the Scheme involved the following cases:—

Failure to register '1961 Act houses'	170 cases
	£475 fines
Failure to supply information and the establishing of '1965 Act houses' in contravention of the Scheme	41 cases
	£487 fines
Appeals heard in county court against refusal to register '1965 Act houses'	1 appeal — allowed

During the year another 168 premises were referred to the City Engineer, Surveyor and Planning Officer for consideration under the Town and Country Planning Act 1962, bringing the total so far referred to 1,500 premises in respect of which the following action has been taken:—

Number of premises in respect of which enforcement action to discontinue was authorised	950
Number of premises where the use in multiple occupation has ceased ..	600
Number of premises in respect of which no planning action was taken (use established or no change of use)	265

In 175 cases the user appealed to the Minister against the enforcement action to discontinue, but 69 were withdrawn. Of the 80 heard so far, 54 appeals were dismissed, 22 were allowed and the decision of four is awaited.

Conditions in houses in multiple occupation in certain areas of the City continued to give rise to concern and statutory action was again necessary during the year, details of which follow:—

Notice under Section 170 of the Housing Act, 1957, to ascertain details of ownership	56
Management Order made	25
Notice of intention to give a direction to limit occupants	13
Direction given	15
Notice under Section 15 of the Housing Act, 1961, to require facilities ..	12
Notice under Section 90 of the Housing Act, 1957 to abate overcrowding	8
Notice under Section 14 of the Housing Act, 1961, to make good neglect of proper standards of management	26
Notice under Section 19(9) of the Housing Act, 1961, requiring information re occupancies	19
Direction varied to permit an increased number of occupants	1

To summarise the action taken by this Department since the coming into operation of the Housing Act 1961 until the end of 1973 the following details are given:—

	No. of premises
Direction given to limit occupants	2,475
Management orders made applying management regulations	1,272
Notices served requiring provision of facilities under Section 15 of the Housing Act 1961	1,791
Control orders made and houses taken over in order to protect occupants under Section 73 of the Housing Act, 1964	4
Legal proceedings for failure to maintain proper standard of manage- ment, to abate nuisances and over-crowding, to provide information and rent books, and offences against direction limits:	
Number of cases	3,239
Penalties imposed:	
Fines	£21,858
Imprisonment	1 case 2 months
Work carried out by Department at default or request to comply with notice served under the Public Health and Housing Acts:	
Jobs completed	1,360
Cost of works	£96,045

Abatement of Nuisances

During the year a total of 5,165 nuisance notices was served, 866 being informal preliminary notices whilst 4,299 were statutory notices served under the provisions of the Public Health Acts and the Birmingham Corporation Acts.

The total of 4,299 statutory notices was made up as follows:—

Nuisances under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936—dealing mainly with roofs, spouting, fallen plaster, defective floorboards, broken sashcords, and window frames.. .. .	1,278
Stopped up drains, soil pipes, water closets and private sewers, dealt with under the Birmingham Corporation Act, 1946, as amended by the 1954 Act	651
Urgent nuisances, badly leaking roofs, broken water closet pedestals, etc., dealt with under Section 26 of the Public Health Act, 1961 ..	545
Provision or improvement of piped water supply—Section 138, Public Health Act, 1936, as amended by Section 30, Water Act, 1945 ..	1,601
Yard paving and drainage—Section 56, Public Health Act, 1936 ..	36
Unsatisfactory drainage—Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936 ..	149
Filthy or verminous premises—Section 83, Public Health Act, 1936 ..	6
Removal of noxious matter, Section 79, Public Health Act, 1936 ..	10
Byelaw infringements—nuisances	23
Replacement of earth closets, etc.—Section 47, Public Health Act, 1936..	—
Additional water closets—Section 44, Public Health Act, 1936 ..	—
Provision of water closets—Section 39, Birmingham Corporation Act, 1935	—
	<hr/> 4,299 <hr/>

Urgent Nuisances

The Powers contained in Section 59 of the Birmingham Corporation Act 1946, continue to be used to require the clearing of obstructed drains, waste pipes and water closets. The powers are similar to those in Section 22 of the Public Health Act 1961, but work can be carried out at default of an owner after 24 hours' notice compared with 48 hours required by the 1961 Act.

Action was taken as follows:—

Birmingham Corporation Act, 1946—Section 59

(Defective drains requiring urgent attention):

Total number of notices served during 1973 (involving 526 jobs)	651
Work carried out by owners in specified time	257
Orders given by this Department in default of owners' compliance ..	192
Orders given by this Department at request of owners	59
Payments to the Department's contractors	£5,412·60
Average cost per job	£21·65
The maximum charge in respect of any job was	£633·82
and the minimum was	£1·10

During the year notices were served in respect of obstruction in 26 private sewers affecting 188 houses.

Action to remedy urgent nuisances, apart from drains, etc., was taken under Section 26 of the Public Health Act 1961 as follows:—

Public Health Act, 1961—Section 26

(Defective houses requiring urgent attention):

Total number of notices served during 1973 (involving 515 jobs)	545
Work carried out by owners in specified time	252
Orders given by this Department in default of owners' compliance ..	203
Orders given by this Department at request of owners	29
Payments to the Department's contractors	£9,613.73
Average cost per job	£41.45
The maximum charge in respect of any one job was	£660.00
and the minimum was	£1.50

Enforcement Section

This Section is responsible for the legal enforcement of the Department's obligations and duties as detailed by the various Acts of Parliament, Regulations, Orders and Bye-Laws delegated to the Health Committee by the Birmingham City Council.

Legal proceedings were instituted during the year in 231 instances and details of the summonses issued (under the various Acts of Parliament, Regulations, Orders and Bye-Laws) are indicated in the following analysis:

Summonses taken out during 1973

	Summonses	Fines £
<i>Public Health Act, 1936</i>		
General nuisances	72	—
<i>Food and Drugs Act, 1955</i>		
Section 2: Selling food not of the nature, substance or quality demanded by purchaser	17	475
Section 8: Selling, offering or having in possession for purpose of sale food which is unfit for human consumption	3	90
<i>Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959</i>		
Regulation 27(1): Dirty milk bottles	5	120

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970

Dirty, defective or insufficiently equipped premises and offences in connection with handling of food ..	66	1,075
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Housing Act, 1957

Section 170: Requiring information as to ownership of premises	1	—
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Housing Act, 1961

Section 19(2): Direction to prevent or reduce overcrowding of houses let in multiple paying occupation	9	270
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Housing Acts, 1961 and 1964, Birmingham Corporation Act, 1965 and Scheme

Section 22: Registration of houses let in multiple occupation:— '1965 Act Houses'	1	10
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Housing (Management of Houses let in multiple Occupation) Regulations, 1962

Failure to maintain good standard of management	3	30
---	---	----

Landlord and Tenant Act, 1962

Sections 1 and 4: Failure to provide rent books ..	1	—
--	---	---

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Section 4: Cleanliness of premises .. .	1	20
Section 6(4): Temperature of Offices		
Provision of a thermometer ..	1	5
Section 8: Sufficient and suitable lighting ..	1	20
Section 9: Provision of Sanitary Conveniences	1	20
Section 10: Provision of Washing Facilities ..	1	10
Section 16(1): Obstruction of Floors and Passages	1	30
Section 16(2): Provision of handrails to stairs ..	1	30
Section 50: Display of abstracts of parts of Act for information of employees	1	5

Clean Air Act, 1956

Section 1: Prohibition of dark smoke from chimneys	2	45
Section 11: Prohibition of smoke in smoke controlled area .. .	1	20

Clean Air Act, 1968

Section 1:	Dark smoke from trade premises ..	23	890
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Shops Act, 1950

Section 47:	Sunday trading (closing of shops on Sunday)	15	255
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Late Night Refreshment Houses Act, 1969

Section 7:	Keeping open without a licence ..	8	205
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Slaughter of Poultry Act, 1967

Slaughter of Poultry (Humane Conditions)

Regulations, 1971

Section 3	} Causing unnecessary distress to birds awaiting slaughter	2	50
Regulation 3			

Section 3	} Provision of adequate ventilation for birds awaiting slaughter	2	50
Regulation 4			

Section 3	} Provision of adequate lighting to premises for birds awaiting slaughter	1	25
Regulation 5			

The Magistrates made nuisance orders in 29 cases. Other prosecutions taken under the general nuisance procedure of the Public Health Act 1936 were either completed or work was in hand at the time of the Court hearings.

A further function of this Section is the arrangement and execution of all works required to comply with the various statutory notices served under the delegated Acts of Parliament and nuisance orders made by the City Magistrates at Victoria Law Courts.

These works have been of a varied nature and have included the removal of large accumulations of rubbish, general property repairs, provision of new water supplies, drainage and paving works, works in houses let in multiple occupation and the provision of bathrooms and internal water closets by outbuilding conversion or construction and bedroom conversion.

The total cost of works carried out during the year was £45,597·96.

The following analysis indicates the work undertaken by this Section during 1973:—

	Jobs	Houses	Cost
<i>Sections 93, Public Health Act, 1936</i>			
<i>General nuisances—repairs to defective houses.</i>			
At default of owners—for non-compliance	18	18	754.95
By agreement	10	11	1,050.55
<i>Section 56, Public Health Act, 1936</i>			
<i>Paving of courts, yards and passages</i>			
At default of owners	8	21	633.61
By agreement	1	5	126.95
<i>Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936</i>			
<i>Provision of satisfactory drainage</i>			
At default of owners	18	33	845.89
By agreement	4	5	136.56
<i>Section 138, Public Health Act, 1936</i>			
<i>(as amended by Section 30, Water Act, 1945, and Section 78, Public Health Act, 1961)</i>			
<i>Houses already having internal water supply but where supply was insufficient—</i>			
At default of owners	46	203	11,136.40
By agreement	65	302	17,546.62
<i>Section 19, Housing Act, 1964</i>			
<i>Provision of bathrooms, water closets, together with other amenities, by outbuilding and bedroom conversion—</i>			
At default of owners	3	3	1,784.30
By agreement	1	1	560.00
<i>Section 4, Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949</i>			
<i>Works carried out to prevent rodent infestation</i>			
At default of owners	6	6	112.14
By agreement	5	7	85.64
<i>Section 9(1A), Housing Act, 1957</i>			
<i>Repair of unfit houses capable of being rendered fit at reasonable cost—</i>			
At default of owners	3	3	3,774.13
By agreement	11	11	5,133.46

Common Lodging Houses

One common lodging house closed down in May reducing the number of registered premises to three providing a total accommodation for 330 men only.

The following visits were made during the year when conditions were found to be satisfactory:—

Day visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Night visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49
									—
								TOTAL	63
									—

Tips and Tipping

During the year inspectors made a total of 319 visits to established tips and also in connection with complaints of fly tipping. The general standard of controlled tipping continued to be satisfactory but nuisances arose from fly tipping especially on tips which were supposedly completed or where security arrangements were inadequate.

By the end of the year more tips had been completed and there was only one private site operating, while Corporation Departments had a total of nine sites which were mostly small and used sporadically.

Canal Boats

During the year the number of boats inspected within the City was 19 and the number of inspections each quarter was as follows:—

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
4	2	4	9

The 19 boats inspected were registered for the accommodation of 58 persons and when inspected were found to be carrying 14 men, 10 women and five children; a total of 29 persons.

All the boats were in good condition and conforming with the Act and Regulations.

No cases of infectious disease affecting canal boat personnel were reported.

The total number of boats now registered in Birmingham is 104 of which 61 are motor boats and 43 ordinary boats.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

Notifications of infestations were received from the public on 13,700 occasions during the year.

The complaints received in the Department resulted in the inspection of 16,728 properties. Comparative figures for the previous years are as follows:—

	1970	1971	1972	1973
Notifications	12,564	12,340	12,144	13,700
Inspections:				
(visits and re-visits) . .	15,301	16,616	16,375	16,728

As a result of these inspections, treatments were found to be necessary in 9,718 instances (5,335 rats, 4,383 mice).

Formal action, as defined in Section 4 of the Act, had to be carried out in 50 instances during the year.

All purely domestic premises are treated free of cost to the occupiers, whilst in the case of industrial premises of all types a charge is made.

Salvage Department Refuse Disposal Works

The very nature of the work of refuse disposal makes all of the works liable to rat infestations. Heavy rat infestations have been encountered in the works over the years but sustained treatments, including the use of acute poisons, have been successful in reducing the number of rats.

The research Laboratories of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food were supplied with approximately 700 live rats during the year which were obtained from the hoppers at these works.

Sewer Treatments

As in previous years a contractor has been employed to carry out this work, and a total of 5,264 manholes were poisoned during the year using a direct poison.

Pigeon Control

The feral pigeon is still a problem in Birmingham but the measures taken by the Department have had effect and the position is much improved.

Treatment was both by trapping and by the use of narcotics—narcotic treatments were carried out at 32 sites in the City during the year.

The total number of pigeons accounted for during 1973 was 1,424.

Starlings

The use of lights flashed on various buildings as the starlings came into roost has proved to be the most efficient method of "persuading" the starlings to leave and more or less desert the City centre.

One night each week has been sufficient for the work and this was carried out for 28 weeks during the year. The expected autumnal influx of the birds did not take place in the City centre this year, but whether this was due to the disturbance caused by the lights is not known. However, a "starling count" in the City centre was carried out during October—approximately 1,000 birds being counted on the various buildings each night during the month.

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951

At the end of the year the number of premises registered under Section 2 of the Act was 20 and the number of premises licensed for the storage of rag flock under Sections 6 and 7 was three.

Supervision of Offices and Shops

SHOPS ACT 1950

The work of the four Shops Act Inspectors for the year is summarised as follows:—

GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Visits—Shops Act, 1950 (including Sunday and night visits)	17,081
Visits—Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	7,242
	<hr/>
	24,323
	<hr/>

STREETS PATROLLED

Half-day, night closing and Sunday trading	8,939
--	-------

OFFENCES REPORTED

Half-day closing:	
Sales after closing time	19
Night closing:	
Sales after closing time	10
Sunday trading:	
Illegal sales	82
Warning letters sent	111
Legal proceedings where warning letters have been ignored:	
Sunday trading:	
Motor traders	2
Drapers	1

Fines totalling £255 were imposed by the magistrates on the three traders found guilty of 15 offences.

OFFICES SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

The narrative report covers the ninth complete year's working under the Act and supporting Regulations. The total number of premises registered at the end of the year was 13,289, representing a decrease of 17 when compared with the total of 13,306 for 1972. This small decrease is again due to the large number of cancellations recorded during the year, which amounted to 692 and after accounting for 675 new registrations.

A further 4,149 general inspections have been carried out during the year of which 675 were in respect of new registrations and 3,474 were repeat inspections of previously registered premises.

The total number of employed males has increased by 1,153 and employed females has decreased by 3,405 at the end of the year to a combined total of 104,404. This figure shows an overall decrease of 2,252 persons employed when compared with the combined total of 106,656 for 1972.

<i>Class of premises</i>	<i>Premises newly registered during the year</i>	<i>Total registered premises</i>	<i>Total persons employed</i>	<i>General inspections during the year</i>
Offices	275	4,900	51,923	1,660
Retail	346	6,869	37,405	2,104
Wholesale	39	602	7,976	154
Catering	15	901	7,029	226
Fuel storage	—	17	71	5
TOTALS . . .	675	13,289	104,404	4,149

The number of inspectors appointed under Section 52 of the Act is 80. The total number of visits of all kinds made by inspectors to registered premises amounted to 9,285 for the year, which represents a decrease of 1,145 when compared with the figure of 10,430 for 1972. These visits resulted in the service of 232 preliminary notices dealing with the main requirements of the Act. At the same time, the works specified in 234 preliminary notices were completed to the satisfaction of the Department.

Following statutory examination of lifts and hoists under the Hoist and Lift Regulations there were 152 adverse reports received of which, in 89 cases, repairs had been effected by the end of the year.

Notifiable Accidents

Information was received on 242 "notifiable" accidents which is a decrease of 69 when compared with the figure of 311 for the previous year, and it was considered necessary to investigate 70 of these cases (one of which was fatal). Information was also received on a further 35 accidents which were not notifiable.

Below is an analysis of the principle causes or factors involved in the notifiable accidents:—

Accidents involving:						
Machinery	..	..	..	..	..	13
Transport	..	..	..	..	..	12
Falls of persons	..	..	..	..	..	95
Stepping on or striking against object or person						21
Handling goods	..	..	..	..	..	39
Struck by falling object	..	..	..	..	..	31
Fires and explosions	..	..	..	..	..	—
Electricity	..	..	..	..	..	1
Use of hand tools	..	..	..	..	..	6
Not otherwise specified	..	..	..	..	..	24
TOTAL						242

Infectious Diseases

Visits made by public health inspectors in connection with enquiries into cases of food poisoning and certain infectious diseases totalled 3,554 for the year; this figure includes those visits made to obtain specimens for bacteriological examination.

A further 2,750 visits were made in connection with the arrival of immigrants, see page 47.

Disinfestation and Disinfection

The Disinfecting and Cleansing Station is operated under the supervision of a Depot Superintendent and is situated in Bacchus Road, Winson Green.

Public health inspectors investigate all complaints of infestation by bugs, fleas, flies, cockroaches, blackbeetles, crickets, ants, etc., received by the Department from the occupiers of domestic and business premises, and after investigation, the necessary arrangements for treatment are made with the Depot Superintendent.

During the year 1,663 houses received such treatment as compared with 1,193 in 1972. Work is also carried out in business premises, hospitals, licensed houses and restaurants, schools, factories and public baths. Steam flies and cockroaches continue to be the main source of infestation in kitchens and food preparation premises. The number of treatments effected in premises, as above, amounted to 277 for the year, which is an increase of 35 when compared with the previous year.

Service to the Tuberculous

Two houses were disinfected following the removal of patients to new housing accommodation.

Disinfection

Once again, the Department continued to assist certain aged people in essential cleansing of their homes, including the removal of rubbish, and during the year 57 houses were cleansed and 100 beds, together with bedding, were removed for destruction.

The steam disinfectors were kept working daily during the year, principally in the disinfection of large quantities of bedding, blankets and clothing. One complete operation of a steam disinfecter is referred to as a "stove" and the above work amounted to 1,887 complete stoves for the year.

Clinic Treatment for Scabies and Lice

Bathing facilities for the cleansing of scabies patients and verminous persons are provided in the Clinic at Bacchus Road. A daily service is operated until 1715 hours during the week, except Saturday, when the Clinic closes at 1200 hours. No treatments are provided on Sunday.

Details of treatment carried out in the year were as follows:—

				<i>Scabies</i>	<i>Body Lice</i>	<i>Pubic Lice</i>	<i>Head Lice</i>
<i>Bacchus Road Clinic (men)</i>							
Men	..	..	..	795	392	98	17
Boys	..	..	..	106	—	—	—
Second treatments			..	7	—	—	—
TOTAL				908	392	98	17

Bacchus Road Clinic (women)

	Scabies	Body Lice	Pubic Lice	Head Lice
Women	612	11	35	43
Girls	633	—	—	38
Boys	497	—	—	27
Second treatments ..	13	—	—	—
TOTAL	1,755	11	35	108

Children referred to in the above figures were treated at the same time as their mothers.

The number of treatments at the Clinic for scabies again fell by 12 per cent during the year and this is commented on elsewhere in the Report. The treatment of men for body lice decreased also and was 55 cases less than in the preceding year.

Late Night Refreshment Houses Act 1969

Licences without conditions	45
Licences with conditions imposed:	
To close at:	
2300 hours	15
2330 hours	1
2400 hours	40
0100 hours	6
0400 hours	1
	<u>63</u>
Total licences issued during 1973 ..	108

The proprietors of five refreshment houses appealed to the courts against the conditions imposed and in three cases the appeals were dismissed, in one case an unrestricted licence was granted and in one case an extended licence (from 11.00 p.m.) to 1.00 a.m. was allowed.

In three cases, proprietors of refreshment houses contravened the Act by keeping open in contravention of the conditions of the licence and when charges were heard the magistrates imposed fines totalling £205 for the eight offences disclosed.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

Early in 1974 Mr. Neville Borg, City Engineer, Surveyor and Planning Officer, kindly provided the following information upon the investigations and sewerage work undertaken during 1973 by the Public Works Department.

Main Drainage

The replacement of the outfall sewer serving the Hockley Valley has proceeded well in the last year. The initial contracts are nearly finished and when completed a length of new sewer from the old Saltley Sewage Works to Thimblemill Lane just east of Lichfield Road will be available. Further contracts to connect branch valley sewers and to extend the main run are being prepared.

The outfall sewers for the Markets area and the internal drainage to suit the initial stages of the development have been completed and the storm water retention tank is now operational but not yet fully instrumented.

Reconstruction of the outfall sewers in the Edgbaston area is now complete and work in the Stirchley and Cotteridge area is still proceeding. Work is also well advanced on the reconstruction of the Saltley Western, Cole Valley Western and Ladywood Valley sewers.

The monitoring of the performance of the storm retention tanks on the Bourn Brook and Coldbath Valley sewers has continued and the Markets tank mentioned above will soon be included. Results of this monitoring have continued to show a marked reduction in river pollution.

Research work undertaken by the Public Works Department in collaboration with the Department of the Environment has continued and a new project to determine surface water pollution from motorways has been started.

Surface Water Drainage and River Works

Work on the Hockley Brook Relief Culverts has continued and the third and final contract is now well advanced.

Work on rivers has again progressed and a new low level walkway has been constructed in the River Rea channel through Cannon Hill Park.

Further schemes are in preparation for the improvement of the Rivers Rea and Cole including construction of walkways.

Housing

Main drainage work on the North Worcestershire Development has continued. The Hawkesley outfall sewer has been completed and the internal drainage of the estate is well advanced. At Frankley the outfall is nearing completion and the internal drainage has recently started. At Kitwell work on the outfall sewer has started, this being mainly in tunnel.

Redevelopment work in the City has proceeded in Boulton, South Aston, Summerfield, and St. Andrews, and schemes have been prepared for St. Clements. All these areas need new sewers which will be on the totally separate system.

Sewers constructed by private developers decreased considerably in 1973, the total length being only about 56% of the 1972 figures.

Water Pollution Control

Trade effluent control has continued and the policy of encouraging manufacturers to recycle water is still reducing effluent discharges to the sewers.

Regular inspections of the majority of the City's surface water outfalls again continued and a number of local sources of pollution were corrected.

The chemical and biological survey work on rivers was continued and the situation is largely the same as in 1972, i.e. a slight improvement in the River Cole, and the River Rea and Bourn Brook remain satisfactory. Work has also started on surveying the River Tame although this is "main" river and not strictly a City responsibility. The work should however be of benefit in locating polluted outfalls.

Toxic Waste Control

The special section of the Main Drainage Division dealing with toxic waste control is now well established and is achieving significant results in detecting offenders against the Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act 1972.

Statistics

Main Drainage. During 1973 the Corporation constructed 58.24 km of foul and surface water sewers and culverts within the City. This is a 71% increase on the 1972 figures—about half of this increase being due to the North Worcestershire housing Developments.

In addition 2.16 km of rivers or brookcourses were improved or constructed and private developers constructed 3.74 km of foul and surface water sewers.

Up to the end of 1973 the total length of public sewers within the city boundary amounted to 3,076 km (1,910 miles) of which 1,882 km (1,170 miles) were foul water and 1,194 km (740 miles) were surface water. This is an overall increase of 47 km after making deductions for old sewers which have been abandoned or demolished.

Pollution Control. During 1973 112 new Consents to drain to foul water sewers were issued. After allowing for firms which have closed down, the number of industrial premises now under control is 875, this being an increase of 38 on 1972 figures. In order to exercise control 14,302 samples were taken from discharge points. In addition 28 legal samples were taken leading to the prosecution of 8 firms discharging beyond their Consent conditions.

Toxic Waste Control. During the first year's operation (August 1972 to August 1973), 6,371 Part 1 Notifications for removal of poisonous waste were received from manufacturers, these relating to approximately 21 million gallons of liquid waste and 16,500 tons of solid waste.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The reorganisation of Local Government, effective from 1st April, 1974, will bring about major changes in the administration of the collection and disposal of refuse in the City. The responsibility for refuse collection will be undertaken by the Environmental Department of the new District Council, whereas the task of refuse disposal will pass to the new West Midlands County Council.

As the Salvage Department will cease to exist from 31st March, 1974, it is interesting to look back over its history. In 1853 the Corporation decided to take over from contractors the work of collecting the night soil and other house refuse, and disposing of it to local farmers and to tip. The Department responsible for this was known as the Interception Department, from the interception system of preventing the fouling of the town sewers. There were two depots for the reception of refuse, at Shadwell Street and Montague Street. In 1911 the Department was renamed the Refuse Disposal Department, and by that time further destructors had been opened at Holliday Street, Montgomery Street, Rotton Park Street and Nechells, while three more at Handsworth, Aston and Lifford were transferred to the City due to boundary changes.

It was during the first world war that the Department began salvaging operations, and in November 1918 the Department was renamed the Salvage Department. In the same year the first electric vehicle was purchased enabling a continuous system of refuse collection to be introduced which made the service more efficient and replaced the horse-drawn wagons.

In 1922 the erection of Brookvale Road Works was commenced, and this was followed in 1926 by Tyseley Works. Meanwhile the Montague Street Works had been extended and Rotton Park Street Works was rebuilt and extended. The number of depots had been reduced from fourteen to five, and the Department adopted a policy to incinerate all refuse and to dispense with the tipping of crude refuse as much as possible.

About this time the organic plant was installed at Montague Street Works where a popular fertiliser was produced for many years and a special plant was in operation for the processing of kitchen waste for the manufacture of sterilised food for pigs and poultry.

The first major reconstruction to take place after the last war was the building of a new works at Lifford in 1961, and this was followed in 1966 by the building of a new works at Castle Bromwich. Soon after this event the

construction of the M.6 Motorway closed down Brookvale Road Works, and this was replaced by the latest works at Perry Barr.

On the collection side, since the war the dustless system has been introduced over more than half the City, and is now being phased out in favour of a "carry out and return" method using plastic dustbins. Another recent innovation has been the introduction of the plastic sack system.

The years ahead will undoubtedly see many more changes with the growing public awareness of the important role of the environmental cleansing services in helping to improve the quality of everyday life.

Refuse Collection

During 1973 the Salvage Department further developed the re-organisation of the methods of refuse collection which it commenced in 1971. The replacement of metal dustbins with plastic sacks and the phasing out of the dustless system of refuse collection in favour of plastic dustbins emptied on a "carry out and return" basis has continued. By the end of 1973 38,000 sacks per week were being collected under the sack system and 79,000 bins per week were being emptied by the "carry out and return" system.

It is necessary to ensure that the Department's vehicle renewal policy takes into account these changes in the methods of refuse collection. Where possible dustless vehicles have been converted to open-back vehicles for use on the "sack" system and "carry out and return" system of refuse collection. At the end of the year the composition of the refuse collection fleet was:—

Dustless loading vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	80
Bulk loading vehicles	...	..	...	...	...	...	38
Open back vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	113
Bulky refuse collection vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Container handling vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Cesspool/trade effluent vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	5

The total amount of house and trade refuse collected during the year was 283,181 tons and in addition a further 27,299 tons of trade effluent and cesspool contents were dealt with.

The public demand for the collection of bulky items of household refuse continues at a high level. During 1973 the Department collected 6,666 tons of such material from City households.

Under the Civic Amenities Act 1967, in addition to the removal of bulky household refuse, 1,188 abandoned cars were dealt with.

Refuse Disposal

A total of 289,244 tons of house and trade refuse was disposed of by the Department in 1973. The following table shows the distribution of refuse between the various disposal points:—

<i>Treated at Incinerators</i>	<i>Tons</i>
Montague Street	35,502
Lifford	48,855
Perry Barr	86,715
Tyseley	42,084
Castle Bromwich	52,815
<i>Tipped direct at Sites</i>	23,273
Total	289,244

THE CITY'S WATER SUPPLY

Sources

During 1973 the **Elan Valley** reservoir complex in mid-Wales continued to be the principle source of water supply in the City. The whole of the gathering ground was under the control of the Water Department who exercised all possible care to ensure that the streams remained unpolluted. The Welsh water is conveyed to Birmingham by means of an aqueduct 118 km in length but its discharging capacity of 4,200 litres per second is frequently insufficient for all requirements. At these times river abstraction works constructed on the north bank of the Severn at **Trimpley** (about 3 km upstream of Bewdley) are brought into operation and water derived thereby is clarified, softened and pumped, via a 24 km-long aqueduct, to Frankley Works in Birmingham for final treatment. Trimpley Works is capable of supplying water at a constant rate of 850 litres per second and there is provision for doubling this capacity if future demand increases as it is anticipated. In dry weather the flow of water in the Severn may be augmented by discharge from Llyn Clywedog where the waters of a Welsh tributary are impounded to provide a reserve of water sufficient for this purpose.

The Water Department also operated river abstraction works at **Whitacre** (near Coleshill) but the water derived therefrom was reserved almost exclusively for supply in bulk to two neighbouring water undertakings, to satisfy whose future requirements may involve the expansion of these works to double their present capacity of 275 litres per second. Water from this source can be fed into the Birmingham distribution system, if required, and advantage of this was actually taken on three occasions in 1973 during major road construction operations in the Sutton Coldfield area. No supply within the City boundary, however, was affected.

One other local source was maintained by the Water Department, this being a deep well situated at **Short Heath** which has a reliable yield of 105 litres per second. The water obtainable is extremely hard in character for which reason it is pumped only in emergency and during 1973 was used once—for a brief period of 5 hours in July.

Treatment Works

In the **Elan Valley** the water is drawn from Caban-coch Reservoir, the supply to which is augmented by discharge from three upper reservoirs—Craig-goch, Pen-y-garreg and Claerwen. During 1973 the practise continued

of dosing the raw water with hydrated lime before it was passed through the coarse sand rapid gravity filters. This treatment reduces the tendency of the water to be aggressive towards lead and iron and removes most of the suspended matter, mainly peat particles, and manganese. Following filtration, sufficient sodium silicofluoride was added to give a fluoride-ion concentration of 1 mg per litre and the water was also marginally chlorinated.

At **Trimpley** water abstracted from the river and stored in a small bank-side reservoir to improve its quality was pumped to upward-flow reaction tanks for coagulation and softening, using chlorinated ferrous sulphate and lime. Chlorination, fluoridation and pH correction also take place here.

The raw water taken from the two Warwickshire streams, the Bourne and the Blythe, into the bankside reservoirs was transferred to the large Upper Shustoke reservoir which constitutes an important step in the purification sequence as well as ensuring adequate supply to the treatment plant at **Whitaker** whatever the condition of the rivers might be. Copper sulphate was sometimes added to control algal growth in the reservoir. The water drawn off for filtering was first passed through micromesh strainers and chlorinated. Filtering was assisted for about two months in early spring and a like period in autumn by the addition of a coagulant, ferric sulphate, these being the times when algal growth is usually most prolific. After filtration a larger dose of chlorine was applied, any excess being removed after a period of contact by the use of sulphur dioxide. This water, however, was not fluoridated.

Final treatment of the waters derived from the Elan and Severn sources was carried out at **Frankley**. During 1973 the 40 Elan rapid gravity sand filters each capable of dealing with 105 litres per second satisfactorily processed water drawn from Frankley and Bartley reservoirs into which the Elan aqueduct discharges. The 14 filtering units previously constructed at the Severn Supply terminal works, each of 130 l/s capacity, were equally efficient. These newer filters can deal with Severn, Elan or mixed waters and their output passes through a chlorine contact tank into a mixing chamber where it is blended with that of the Elan filters, also sterilized with chlorine. The construction of six more 'Severn' filters was completed in September. The practice of dosing with small quantities of hydrated lime to maintain the pH value of the water leaving the works at about 7.6 was continued except at those times when the admixture of Severn water was of a sufficient proportion to produce this level.

On 138 days during 1973 the water distributed was derived solely from the Elan source, for 9 days in October the Trimpley pumps were operated at

their maximum rate to test the installations whilst during the remainder of the year the proportion of Severn water used varied between 5 per cent and 10 per cent of the water distributed.

Improvement of Supplies

Work continued on the scheme to improve supplies in the Northfield Level zones which include areas of new housing development. Construction of the auxiliary pumping station at Frankley was completed and the pumps tested. The laying of the new ductile-iron rising main of 800 mm internal diameter to Northfield Reservoir was also completed and there remained to be done only the 300 mm connections into the reservoir.

Civil engineering work associated with the provision of stand-by electricity generating at Frankley commenced in October. Two sets of 100 kW diesel alternators were on order which when installed will safeguard supplies in the pumped zones should the power supply from the grid at any time be found insufficient.

Following completion of the new Northfield 800 mm main, the 18 in. main formerly used was internally cleaned and lined with cement mortar so that it could be used on the Warley Level zone to supply the extra water which will be needed for the housing development taking place at Frankley to the south-west of Egghill Lane.

The existing 12 in. main in Walkers Heath Road was also extended by 1,600 metres of new main to supply the housing development at Hawkesley.

Supply to the Low Level zone which covers much of the eastern part of the City was improved by the laying of 800 metres of 42 in. steel main between Edward Road and Belgrave Road, Edgbaston, adjacent to the 42 in. cast-iron main laid in 1902. Also in the Low Level zone 3,900 metres of 30 in. main and 3,900 metres of 24 in. main in Kingsbury Road were internally cleaned and lined with cement mortar.

Diversion of Mains

An unusually large number of both trunk and service mains had to be diverted during 1973 on account of road improvement schemes—in particular at Coventry Road, Sheldon, Hagley Road and the Middle Ring Road (Islington Row, Nechells Parkway and Bristol Road-Pershore Road sections) and also on account of the Market Development Scheme.

Quality Control

Work carried out during the year under the direction of the Waterworks Chemist in the Department's laboratory included the bacteriological examination of 317 samples from raw waters, 616 samples from partially treated waters and 965 samples from the fully treated waters and from the distribution system. The results obtained on these samples which included 169 from newly sterilized mains show the water to have been of satisfactory purity following treatment and confirm that this quality was maintained during distribution. A slight fall in the bacteriological quality of the water in the zone fed by Hagley Road Reservoir was rectified by chlorinating the incoming water sufficiently to maintain a free chlorine residual through the reservoir.

Chemical analyses were carried out on samples from the various sources, reservoirs and treated waters at least monthly and biological counts were undertaken weekly on river sources and the associated reservoirs and treated waters.

357 samples were taken during the year from houses supplied by means of lead service pipes and 93 per cent of these were found to contain less than the WHO European Standard upper limit of 0.1 mg/l although, in each case, the sample consisted of the first 2.5 litres of water drawn from the tap at the time of sampling. The remaining 7 per cent were all collected from houses where there was little morning use of water so that the sample could have stood in the service pipe for a considerable time. The average lead concentration in all the samples was less than 0.05 mg/l.

Over 1,900 samples were collected to confirm the accuracy of fluoride addition to the water supply.

ROUTINE SAMPLING OF CORPORATION WATER

Elan and Severn Mixed Supply

Samples of fully treated water entering the distribution system at Frankley Works were taken twice weekly for examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service and their findings showed the water to be consistently satisfactory except for one occasion when *E. Coli* was present.

Monthly samples taken from covered reservoirs in various parts of the City and from householders' taps confirmed that the water reached the consumer in a similar excellent condition. A typical sample result is as follows:—

Date—18th April, 1973. *Address*—13 Victoria Road, Handsworth.

Plate count per ml after 48 hours at 37 C	..	..	..	..	9
Esch. coli Type 1 per 100 ml	..	..	..	..	nil
Other coliform organisms per 100 ml	..	..	..	..	nil

Whitacre Water (principally reserved for bulk supply to Coventry and Nuneaton)

Weekly samples of water taken directly from the rivers Bourne and Blythe, from Shustoke Reservoir and those taken twice weekly from the pumping distribution mains were also subjected to bacteriological examination and the results show how marked is the improvement achieved by the first stage of treatment—storage in a large reservoir. They also demonstrate the efficiency of the subsequent stages of purification. Average results for 1973 were:—

	<i>Plate count per ml 48 hours at 37C</i>	<i>Esch coli. Type 1 per 100 ml</i>
River Bourne	9,150	6,020
River Blythe	6,630	3,500
Shustoke Reservoir	445	270
Final treated water	12	nil

Short Heath Well

22 samples of water from the Department's deep well were taken during the year. Esch. coli Type 1 was absent from 100 ml in all cases (even without any form of treatment).

Chemical Analysis

The Table following page sets out the number of samples taken from various untreated, partly treated and fully treated waters for submission to the City Analyst and their average chemical constituents together with extreme values discovered in individual cases. The figures for the treated Elan/Severn water show remarkably little variation throughout the year and by comparison with waters derived from other sources, emphasise the very low level of mineral content present in this excellent, soft water.

Lead in Drinking Water

The City Analyst in his report on page gives details of the results obtained throughout 1973.

Fluoride

The fluoride content limits of 0.9 to 1.0 mg/litre F were maintained throughout the year.

Radioactivity

The radioactivity of Birmingham and Whitacre mains water is monitored regularly every two weeks. These results have demonstrated only very low levels of radioactivity, all being well within the limit advised by the Medical Research Council and the International Commission on Radiological Protection.

PRIVATE WELLS

INDUSTRIAL

There are now 60 premises within the City which are known to use water from boreholes.

Details are as follows:—

	<i>Number of Premises</i>	<i>Number of Wells</i>
Breweries using well water for all purposes	5	13
Hotels and blocks of flats using well water for all purposes	2	2
Hospitals using well water (stand-by only)	1	1
Food preparation premises using well water	3	6
Industrial premises using well water for all purposes ..	14	21
Industrial premises using well water for industrial purposes only	35	53
	—	—
	60	96
	—	—

During the year 71 bacteriological samples and 55 chemical samples were taken from various premises. The reports obtained from these samples indicated that the water from the boreholes, although hard, was in a state of high bacteriological purity.

DWELLINGS WITHOUT INTERNAL WATER SUPPLY

At the 31st December, 1973, only 15 houses remained without an internal supply, of which three were unfit houses included in declared Clearance Areas, and 12 were houses whose occupants did not desire an internal supply.

Swimming Baths

There are 31 swimming baths in the City which were sampled at least once per month without prior notice for bacterial condition and chlorine concentration.

The successful control of contamination in the bath water is primarily achieved by continuous filtration and chlorination. Of the 364 samples taken during 1973, 298 came within the adopted requirements of no more than 11 organisms per 1 ml and the absence of coliform organisms in 100 ml. Free chlorine is the principal sterilising agent and the following table sets out month by month the number of samples which failed to achieve the highest degree of purity:—

Month	No. of samples taken	No. of samples with viable count more than 11 per 1 ml.	No. of samples with faecal coliform detected in 100 mls.
January	26	1	—
February	30	2	—
March	25	2	—
April	30	5	—
May	29	2	—
June	28	10	—
July	29	9	—
August	48	18	—
September	34	7	—
October	29	10	—
November	30	—	—
December	26	—	—
—	—	—	—
—	364	66	—

Throughout the year the baths were heavily used, particularly during the Summer months. Sampling of two private and 18 school swimming baths was carried out during the year and these complied with the bacterial and chemical standards.

DWELLINGS WITHOUT INTERNAL WATER SUPPLY

At the 31st December, 1973, only 15 houses remained without an internal supply, of which three were unit houses included in declared Clearance Areas, and 12 were houses whose occupants did not desire an internal supply.

Swimming Baths

There are 31 swimming baths in the City which were sampled at least once per month without prior notice for bacterial condition and chlorine concentration.

INDUSTRIAL PREMISES

Sanitary Accommodation in Factories

The number of visits paid to industrial premises, defined as "factories" under the Act, totalled 1,538 for the year, representing a decrease of 1,006 inspections when compared with 1972. This considerable drop in the number of inspections results from shortages of trained staff.

The total number of premises registered in 1973 was 4,554 compared with the figure of 4,166 for 1972.

Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	66	21	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	4,422	1,493	121	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ..	66	24	2	—
TOTALS ..	4,554	1,538	123	—

Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they are reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found		Referred		Number of cases in which pros- ecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S1) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)					
(a) Insufficient	3	5	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	191	206	—	13	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outworkers) ..	10	8	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	205	219	—	14	—

Outworkers

Section 133 of the Factories Act 1961 requires the employers of outworkers to supply the Local Authority with lists of their names and addresses during the months of February and August in each year.

In their August return 32 employers gave the following particulars:—

LIST OF OUTWORKERS, 1973

Nature of Work	Number of Outworkers in August			

Wearing apparel	56
Electro-plate	345
Brass and brass articles	9
Paper Box making	54
Carding, etc., buttons, etc.	207
TOTAL	671

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NOISE AND VIBRATION CONTROL

Noise and vibration control continues to be a major part of the work of the Environmental Protection Unit. The number of complaints received due to noise from all sources, except motorways and other roads, was virtually the same as the number received in 1972. A detailed record of complaints of noise from motorways and other roads was not maintained during the year.

TABLE I

ANALYSIS OF NOISE COMPLAINTS, 1971-73

Source of Noise	Number of complaints			Source of Noise	Number of complaints		
	1971	1972	1973		1971	1972	1973
Air compressors	16	21	28	Machine noise			
Air blowers	3	7	5	(factories)	10	21	50
Building site plant	—	—	16	Motor cycle speedway			
Car breakers	5	3	1	racing	5	1	—
Car repairers	18	29	27	Material handling	5	13	17
Cooling towers	4	2	10	Metal fabrication	2	3	4
Concrete mixers	1	—	—	Oil and gas burners			
Coin-operated				(industrial furnaces)	—	3	—
laundries	4	6	7	Pile driving	3	8	9
Drophammers	1	—	—	Pumps	3	6	10
Dust and fume				Refrigerators	8	2	9
arrestors	5	—	—	Rolling Mills	—	2	—
Earth moving machines	4	11	2	Steam exhausts	—	—	5
Engine testing	1	3	3	Sewing machines			
Fans (general)	22	41	22	(industrial)	1	2	1
Generators	—	3	13	Vehicle movements	10	31	32
Horns	—	—	6	Woodwork machinery	2	2	3
Power Presses	5	11	—	Miscellaneous	15	43	32
Pneumatic drills	46	69	20	Motorways and roads	—	168	—
				TOTAL	199	511	332

Land Compensation Act 1973

Subsequent to the White Paper, "Development and Compensation—Putting People First", the Land Compensation Act 1973 was passed in May. This included statutory powers to mitigate the nuisance caused by noise from highways and other public works. Under the provisions of Section 20 of the Act, the Noise Insulation Regulations 1973 were made and came into operation on the 1st September. These regulations enable highway authorities to provide sound proofing to eligible buildings where a highway, a highway with an additional carriageway, or an altered highway was first opened to the public after the end of October, 1969, and before the 17th October, 1972, and makes the provision of soundproofing to eligible buildings mandatory where a highway or a highway with an additional carriageway was opened after 16th October, 1972.

For the purposes of the "Noise Insulation Regulations" the Department of the Environment, as the highway authority for the M6 Midlands Motorway Link System, have appointed consultants to identify the properties which will be eligible for soundproofing and this Department are to act as agents for the soundproofing work.

Although the provisions of the Land Compensation Act and the Noise Insulation Regulations are necessary because of the high noise levels experienced around motorways and main roads, there is an urgent need for more research into the development of quieter road vehicles.

Airport Noise Survey

In June and July a pilot noise survey of Birmingham Airport was carried out by the University of Southampton, Institute of Sound and Vibration Research. In the subsequent report it was concluded that a number of houses and at least one school are subjected to too much noise. The report recommended that the future of properties in the higher noise zones should be considered carefully and that grants for noise insulation of houses should be made available on a graduated scale proportional to the severity of the noise experienced, that one school should be re-sited or soundproofed immediately and that a close watch should be kept on noise levels in Tile Cross, Garretts Green and Kitts Green areas. It must be emphasised that the recommendations are based on what was a pilot survey only. The report raised several issues involving several Council departments and an interdepartmental committee of officers was set up to consider the implications of the report and made recommendations.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION CONTROL

The tables and chart at the end of this part of the report show that during 1973 there was a slight increase in the amount of solid matter being deposited throughout the City and also an increase in the ground level concentrations of sulphur dioxide. These increases are not considered significant when comparing the values with those of 1959 when the Clean Air Act provisions first took effect.

Heavy Metals Survey

Samples are being taken at the rate of about 50 per week both inside and outside houses and particular attention is being given to areas around factories using lead.

A limited amount of work has been done on monitoring contamination of workers' clothing to determine to what extent this is responsible for contamination in the home.

The work of the specialised pollution monitoring team was augmented by projects being done for the department by the University of Aston on the lead situation around the Midland Links Motorway System and by work done by Warren Spring Laboratory in conjunction with the Department in carrying out investigations into heavy metal concentrations around industrial premises.

Five Towns Survey (Pollution from Vehicles)

The Department of the Environment have commissioned a study of the pollution from road vehicles. Birmingham has been chosen as one of the cities and the Environmental Protection Unit have co-operated in the selection of a site which conforms to many exacting criteria and will be responsible for the servicing of the equipment. The study will last for five years.

Domestic Smoke Control

During 1973 one smoke control order became operative—

<i>Order No.</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>No. of Dwellings</i>
160	Yardley, Stechford and Garretts Green	3,830	24,945

Additionally, one more order was made and submitted to the Department of the Environment for confirmation.

On 1st December, 1973, the number of dwellings and acreage covered by Smoke Control Orders was as follows:—

<i>Dwellings in Areas</i>	<i>% of City</i>	<i>Acreage in Areas</i>	<i>% of City</i>
217,660	65%	36,105	70%

No. of dwellings in City	..	..	..	..	335,254
Acreage of City	..	..	..	..	51,598

Despite the fact that there was little or no shortage of solid smokeless fuel during the year the trend towards conversion of coal burning appliances to gas fires continued and, as the table below shows, in 1972 86 per cent of coal burning appliances were replaced by gas fires in conversions under smoke control orders.

ANALYSIS OF SMOKE CONTROL ADAPTATIONS IN DOMESTIC PREMISES 1971 TO 1973

Types of Appliances	1971			1972			1973		
	<i>No. of Appliances</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No. of Appliances</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No. of Appliances</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>%</i>
(a) <i>Solid fuel</i>									
Open fires	254	375	10.3	531	758	8.1	332	512	8.1
Room heaters (inc. partial central heating)	114			222			173		
Independent boilers (inc. full central heating)	7			5			7		
(b) <i>Gas appliances</i>									
Gas fires	2,796	2,938	80.5	7,714	7,907	84.3	5,248	5,423	86.3
Central heating (by independent boiler or back boiler)	142			193			175		
(c) <i>Electric appliances</i>									
Fires, radiators and convectors	195	332	9.1	438	705	7.5	205	350	5.6
Storage heaters	137			267			145		
(d) <i>Oil fired appliances</i>									
Boilers (central heating)	5	5	0.1	6	6	0.1	1	1	—
TOTAL	3,650	3,650	100.0	9,376	9,376	100.0	6,286	6,286	100.0

Installation of New Furnaces

Under the provisions of Section 3 of the Clean Air Act 1956 an intention to install a new furnace must be notified to the Local Authority.

The table given below shows the numbers of furnaces installed during the year compared to the figures for 1970 onwards.

	1970	1971	1972	1973
No. of Notifications	252 + 107 notifications of plant conversion to gas firing	292 + 87 notifications of plant conversion to gas firing	202	171
No. of Furnaces	567 + 256 furnaces converted to gas firing	539 + 80 furnaces converted to gas firing	460	469

Heights of Chimneys

The Environmental Protection Unit continued to maintain close liaison with the Building Surveyor's and Town Planning Sections of the Public Works Department. The following details summarize the number of applications for chimney height approval.

(a) Clean Air Act, 1968, Section 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	37
(b) Building Regulations, 1972	..	..	..	..	..	..	86

STATUTORY ACTION RELATING TO AIR POLLUTION

1. Domestic Contraventions

Inspection of established smoke control areas to check on contraventions of the smoke control orders was carried out for several weeks during the winter and a total number of 156 such contraventions were reported. In each case letters were sent to the householders concerned.

2. Industrial Contraventions

(a) Clean Air Act, 1956:

- (i) Section 1—Emission of dark smoke from chimneys:
2 cases. Total fines, £65.

(b) Clean Air Act, 1968:

- (i) Section 1—Emission of dark smoke from industrial or trade premises, i.e., from bonfires:
17 cases. Total fines, £660.

The fines imposed were higher on average than in previous years and reflect the increasing concern about pollution.

Measurement of Air Pollution

The following tables and graph show the results obtained from 8 deposit gauges and lead peroxide instruments.

TABLE I MONTHLY RECORD OF SOLID MATTER DEPOSITED — EXPRESSED IN TONS PER SQUARE MILE (1973)

Station	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Great Charles Street ..	16.4	41.4*	20.8	16.5	19.3	9.0	9.0	5.0	5.7	14.0	25.0	16.0	198.1
West Heath ..	1.9	4.2	4.1	4.8	3.7	8.1	6.5	11.2	2.4	2.8	2.2	1.8	53.7
Edgbaston ..	3.0	5.9	5.8	7.2	22.6	4.2	4.4	7.7	2.8	2.8	3.2	4.0	73.6
Carnegie Institute, Hockley	7.7	10.9	10.0	9.1	9.4	10.0	9.9	8.3	8.8	5.4	8.6	8.6	106.7
Spring Lane, Erdington ..	3.5	6.2	4.4	4.8	7.7	9.0	10.8	6.7	6.2	2.9	5.2	4.5	71.9
Treatford Lane ..	3.8	6.1	4.4	7.7	16.2	9.8	17.8	6.4	5.0	4.3	6.8	3.6	91.9
Tower Hill ..	3.1	5.2	4.0	4.7	4.4	8.1	11.0	6.4	5.9	4.9	6.2	2.1	66.0
Bradford Street ..	6.8	16.3	23.8	12.2	16.1	18.6	22.0	21.2	19.9	10.4	34.8	8.9	211.0

* Abnormally High

TABLE II MONTHLY RECORD OF SULPHUR DETERMINATION BY THE LEAD PEROXIDE METHOD — EXPRESSED AS MILLIGRAMS OF SO₂ PER 100 SQUARE CENTIMETRES PER DAY (1973)

Station	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Average
Great Charles Street ..	3.3	*	3.3	2.7	2.1	1.6	1.6	1.3	2.0	4.1	6.2	3.9	32.1	2.9
West Heath ..	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.8	0.3	0.8	0.45	0.45	0.5	1.1	1.1	1.0	18.0	1.5
Edgbaston ..	1.8	1.3	1.8	1.6	1.0	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.8	2.0	1.6	1.4	16.0	1.3
Carnegie Institute, Hockley ..	2.2	2.1	1.8	1.3	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.9	2.0	1.7	15.8	1.3
Spring Lane, Erdington ..	2.1	2.0	1.7	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.9	1.6	1.8	1.6	16.2	1.4
Treatford Lane ..	1.2	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.5	1.0	0.6	0.35	0.45	0.9	1.2	0.9	17.5	1.5
Tower Hill ..	1.2	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.5	1.6	0.5	0.45	0.5	1.1	1.1	0.8	14.9	1.2
Bradford Street ..	1.5	1.0	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.8	2.0	1.5	1.2	15.2	1.3

* Laboratory Accident

TABLE III

Station and type of area.	Yearly total of solid deposit in tons per square mile				Sulphur dioxide as mgms of SO ₂ per 100 sq. cms. of lead peroxide per day.			
	1971	1972	1973	Inc. or Decr. 1972-73	1971	1972	1973	Inc. or Decr. 1972-73
GREAT CHARLES STREET Commercial	200.1	196.4	198.1	+1.7	2.6	2.6	2.9	+0.3
WEST HEATH Residential	34.1	57.1	53.7	-3.4	0.8	0.7	1.5	+0.8
EDGBASTON RESERVOIR Residential	74.3	71.0	73.6	+2.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	-0.1
CARNEGIE INSTITUTE, HOCKLEY Industrial and residential ...	107.5	108.2	106.7	-1.5	1.7	1.5	1.3	-0.2
PUBLIC WORKS DEPOT, SPRING LANE Mainly Residential ...	64.4	57.2	71.9	+14.7	1.4	1.2	1.4	+0.2
TREAFORD LANE, ALUM ROCK Residential	56.2	53.7	91.9	+37.2	0.8	0.6	1.5	+0.9
TOWER HILL Residential	57.2	51.8	66.0	+14.2	1.0	0.8	1.2	+0.4
BRADFORD STREET Industrial	162.1	130.2	211.0	+80.8	1.3	1.2	1.3	+0.1

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

REPORT

of the

PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

E. LESLIE MILLAR, C.B.E., M.D., M.Sc., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer

NATALIE M. JOHNSTON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Senior Administrative Medical Officer for Personal and Child Health Services

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1973

**MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL SERVICES
SUB-COMMITTEE
OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Responsible for School Health Service Matters**

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COUNCILLOR MISS S. R. R. WRIGHT, B.SC. (SOC.) (ex officio as Chairman of the Education Committee)

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MRS. E. R. POWELL

REV. B. RICE, B.D., M.A.

Chief Education Officer:—

K. BROOKSBANK, D.S.C., M.A., M.ED.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee

I have the honour to present for your consideration the report on the work of the School Health Service for 1973.

The national policy decision that there shall be a single Child Health Service in each Area to meet the needs of children from birth to leaving school was in line with the views that had been gaining strength for decades and had formed the basis of arrangements which central government departments had advocated to local authorities. It was gratifying to find the National Health Service reorganisation to be such as to facilitate even closer integration between the services for school and pre-school children, upon which Birmingham had embarked in 1968. However, the report which follows, together with the reports in earlier pages upon the services for pre-school children, demonstrate how great an administrative task this will be, especially if, as has been latterly the case, the new service is bedevilled by insufficiency of staff. That Birmingham offers a superb range of services for monitoring and improving the health of children is well known and one hopes that this fact will continue to attract staff whose main interest in life is in their work.

It must be said that prior to 1968 there was a rapidly growing collaboration between the School Health and Public Health Services here, but assuming responsibility for the School Health Service since 1968 has provided me with one of life's great challenges and interests.

At the close of an era in the history of the School Health Service, I pay tribute to the successive Education Committees whose responsibility it has been and the generations of staff who have striven with the Committees to develop the Service to its present standard of excellence. In particular, I thank my contemporary colleagues, Committee and staff, for their friendly help which I have so greatly enjoyed and from which I have so much benefited.

E. L. MILLAR.

GENERAL INFORMATION

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS:—

Nursery	31
Primary	324
Selective	25
All ability	48
Other secondary	44
Special	40
Country Study Centres	3
Total	515

Number on rolls at end of year:—

Primary and Secondary Schools (including Nursery Schools)	197,432
Special Schools	3,567

MEDICAL AND DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

MEDICAL INSPECTION

The medical inspection of pupils continues according to the established pattern and children are seen as soon as possible after entry to school and during the last year of school attendance when there is an opportunity to take into account fitness and suitability for the various possible kinds of employment.

Percentage of parents attending with children in the various age groups

<i>Year of Birth</i>	<i>Boys</i>		<i>Girls</i>	
	<i>Percentage</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	
1969 and later	..	94.3	..	95.2
1968	..	95.4	..	94.6
1967	..	88.7	..	91.5
1966	..	84.9	..	87.9
1965	..	73.4	..	81.0
1964	..	69.6	..	75.4
1963	..	81.1	..	78.1
1962	..	83.5	..	85.2
1961	..	78.6	..	84.5
1960	..	34.7	..	45.0
1959	..	21.3	..	30.9
1958 and earlier	..	19.8	..	29.3

Classification under the heading "Physical Condition" on the School Medical Record

The classification of children as 'unsatisfactory' is a matter of standards for each of the medical officers carrying out medical inspections, but through the years, on average, there is little variation in the statistics. In 1973 the number of children classified as unsatisfactory was less than 2 per cent and in the main these are the children most likely to need follow-up procedures although, of course many others are referred for specific advice or treatment whose physical condition is not so classified.

The relevant findings for the year under review follow according to this classification:

Age groups inspected (By year of birth)	Number of pupils inspected	Physical condition of pupils inspected			
		SATISFACTORY		UNSATISFACTORY	
		Number	% of col. 2	Number	% of col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1969 and later . .	2,332	2,254	96.7	78	3.3
1968	6,707	6,625	98.8	82	1.2
1967	5,036	4,948	98.3	88	1.7
1966	2,402	2,336	97.3	66	2.7
1965	868	845	97.4	23	2.6
1964	544	522	96.0	22	4.0
1963	1,146	1,114	97.2	32	2.8
1962	2,686	2,657	98.9	29	1.1
1961	1,154	1,131	98.0	23	2.0
1960	330	318	96.4	12	3.6
1959	877	864	98.5	13	1.5
1958 and earlier	10,672	10,487	98.3	185	1.7

MINOR AILMENT AND INSPECTION CLINICS

The 15 school clinics provide facilities not only for consultation by medical officers and the treatment of minor ailments but also regular treatment sessions for dentistry. Most of them are equipped with a U.V.R. treatment room and 11 also have a physiotherapy gymnasium.

Child Guidance Clinics: 29 George Road Birmingham B15 1PJ.

23B Lozells Road Birmingham B19 2TL.

201 Sladefield Road Birmingham B8 2SY.

455 Yardley Wood Road Birmingham B13 0TA.

Speech therapy sessions are held at the Child Guidance Clinics above, Aldridge Road and Warstock Lane School Clinics and Bonshaw House, Bristol Road.

Dental sessions are also held at Nechells Green and Castle Vale Health Centres, Treafoord Lane, Carnegie Institute, Sparkbrook, and Quinton Personal and Child Health Centres.

Chiropody and orthodontic treatment are provided at Lancaster Street Clinic.

Physiotherapists attend special schools, formerly junior training centres, weekly by arrangement.

At the Consultation and Assessment Clinic, Canterbury House, 85 Newhall Street, an asthma clinic is held twice weekly attended by a chest physician; an aural clinic attended by E.N. & T. specialists is a daily feature. Ascertainment sessions are held by school medical officers and a medical ophthalmologist (responsible for the ascertainment of blind and partially sighted children) attends twice weekly. Sessions for the examination of immigrants are held as required.

Sessions are arranged as necessary at various clinics for the medical examination of manual and non-manual staff.

The number of sessions devoted to particular forms of treatment varies according to demand and the following table indicates the number of sessions usually held.

Clinic	Number of schools served	Work undertaken (No. of sessions per week)					
		Minor ailments and consultations		Refrac- tion	Ortho- paedic	U.V.R.	Dental
		Doctor sessions	Total attendances				
Aldridge Road, Great Barr	16	1	3,699	0.5	2	—	10
Albert Road, Aston ..	25	2	3,585	0.5	—	—	14
Albert Road, Harborne ..	51	3	6,288	1.0	4	1	20
Church Lane, Kitts Green	41	3	6,967	1.0	—	1	18
Harvey Road South							
Yardley	29	2	7,211	0.5	4	2	18
Ladywood Middleway ..	27	2	6,016	—	—	—	20
Lancaster Street	30	3	10,277	1.0	2	—	34
Maas Road, Northfield ..	48	2	5,587	2.0	2	1	20
Mowbray Street	34	2	6,924	0.5	3	1	20
Slade Road, Erdington ..	39	3	4,506	0.5	—	—	10
Soho Hill, Handsworth ..	41	3	8,160	1.0	4	—	17
Stratford Road, Sparkhill	36	3	7,186	1.0	3	2	16
Warren Farm Road,							
Kingstanding	15	1	4,967	1.0	1	—	15
Warstock Lane, Kings							
Heath	39	1	6,041	1.0	4	2	8
Yardley Green Road,							
Little Bromwich ..	32	2	2,411	0.5	—	1	20

IMMIGRANT CHILDREN

A summary of the defects found at the special clinics which have been held throughout the year for the examination of immigrant children is given below:—

Total number examined 1,793

Defects found:—

Skin	8
Eyes (a) vision	75
(b) squint	24
(c) colour blind	2
(d) other	6
Ears (a) hearing	7
(b) otitis media	2
(c) other	1
Nose and throat	1
Speech	2
Cervical gland	1
Heart	6
Lungs	1
Umbilical hernia	40
Asthma	8
Orthopaedic	12
Spastic	2
Pigeon chest	3
Epilepsy	1
Abscesses	1
Persistent albuminuria	6
Mentally handicapped	3

Tuberculosis:—

Positive results Grade I	449
Grade II	36
Grade III	31
Grade IV	1

In order to benefit maximally from the educational facilities offered children need to be fit and well. It is therefore most useful to have a screening examination performed before school entry for certain children newly arrived in Great Britain. It is done before school entry so that at the same time the child can be examined for infectious conditions which could be detrimental to the child himself (e.g. intestinal parasites) or to the community at large (e.g. T.B.).

After their preliminary screening children may be referred to family doctors or hospitals if any further investigations are thought necessary and, if not apparently fit to attend ordinary school or language centre, children are referred to the central office of the School Health Service for action to be taken to decide whether or not they need special educational treatment.

Shortage of staff has prevented us from extending the examination to all children from overseas, irrespective of the country of origin, and it has been necessary to concentrate, as in the past, on children from tropical and sub-tropical countries in whom certain conditions are most notably present.

THE WORK OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH NURSING STAFF

Mrs. V. M. Lutwyche, Divisional Nursing Officer, reports:—

Follow-up and Home Visiting

The number of children previously reported by the nursing staff as having a defect and requiring further follow-up was 3,991.

Reported as progressing satisfactorily	2,026
Needing further observation and possibly treatment at a later date ..	1,476
Given appointments to attend the local clinics for further medical advice	489

A total of 5,634 (including 1,545 no access) visits were made to the homes of pupils.

Vision Surveys

During 1973 a total of 96,959 of Birmingham's school population had their vision tested, either by the orthodox methods or by the Keystone apparatus. The results were as follows:—

Normal vision	79,767
Kept under observation—to be tested again at a later date	5,538
Referred to the school medical officer or general practitioner	4,281
Vision defect and wearing glasses	5,494
Vision defect, having glasses but not wearing them	1,879

Of the 11,125 children who had colour vision tests, 344 boys and 20 girls were referred for further testing.

Nurses' General Survey

The number of children found by the nursing staff to have some visible defect and referred to the school medical officer or general practitioner was 3,742.

Nurses, whilst visiting the schools, interviewed and advised 2,655 individual parents and guardians.

Treatment Carried Out by Nursing Assistants

<i>In school clinics:</i>	<i>0-4 years</i>	<i>5-16 years</i>	<i>Adults</i>
Treated for scabies	266	1,758	133
,, ,, impetigo	23	256	7
,, ,, other conditions (medical baths, etc.)	13	14	2
Demonstrations to parents (how to cleanse infested hair):			
Number of parents or guardians ..	706		
Number cleansed	1,503	260	1,179
Number of children voluntarily cleansed prior to W.R.V.S. or camping holidays ..	317	7	310
Total attendances of children requiring weekly or fortnightly supervision	4,381	170	4,211

The number of children followed-up and inspected in school for pediculosis was 102,796".

CHIROPODY CLINIC

Mr. H. Wildbore reports:—

"There was a slight increase in the number of treatments carried out during 1973. Total new cases numbered 530, 304 of these being verrucae. The total attendances at the clinic numbered 2,486 and 3,202 treatments were carried out.

During the year several silicone rubber appliances were used for corrective treatment and children needing appliances involving more complicated techniques were again referred to the School of Chiropody at Matthew Boulton Technical College.

There was an increase in the treatments for ingrowing toe nails. Three members of the staff have now taken the necessary post-graduate training in local analgesia. The use of this has proved to be a great advantage.

It was only possible to inspect children's feet at three junior schools during the year. Over 500 children were seen. Of these 20 per cent of boys and 42 per cent of girls were considered to have very unsatisfactory shoes".

ANALYSIS 1973

Number of
cases

Plantar warts—single	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	160
Plantar warts—multiple	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	144
Corns and callouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	113
Nail conditions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	96
Pes cavus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Pes valgus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Hallux valgus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47
Other conditions of 1st segment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Various conditions of lesser toes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	160
Painful heels	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Pains in forefoot and tarsal region	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Bursitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Sweat conditions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Tinea pedis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Sundry other conditions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47
								<u>844</u>

Total number of new cases	..	..	..	..	..	..	530
„ „ „ re-examinations	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,956
„ „ „ attendances	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,486
„ „ „ treatments	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,202
„ „ „ discharged	..	..	..	..	..	..	485
„ „ „ referred for further treatment	..	..	..	..	..	..	37
„ „ „ still under treatment	..	..	..	..	..	..	200
„ „ „ of cases of verruca discharged	..	..	..	..	..	..	283
„ „ „ attendances before discharge	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,653
Average attendances per case of verruca	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.84

Summary of Foot Inspections carried out at Schools during 1973

Only 3 schools were visited and the children seen were aged 7-10 years.

							Girls	Boys
Number of children seen	..	..	..	..	..	..	247	257
Conditions observed:								
Pes valgus	..	..	..	..	..	..	64	80
High arches	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	4
Hallux valgus	..	..	..	..	..	..	54	29
Hallux varus	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	17
Other conditions of 1st segment	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	2
Hammer or mallet toes	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
Latero-medial curvatures	..	..	..	..	..	..	80	84
Overriding 2nd toes	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3
Overlapping 5th toes	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	5
Other irregularities of lesser toes	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	37
Corns and callouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	24
Verrucae	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	7
Thickened nails	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	4
Other nail conditions	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2
Genu valgum	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	9
Squinting patellae	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	—
Footwear:								
Short	..	..	..	..	..	..	79	48
Inadequate in other ways	..	..	..	..	..	..	25	4
Referred for treatment:								
Chiropody	..	..	..	..	..	..	81	83
Physiotherapy	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	4

ULTRA-VIOLET RAY TREATMENT

Treatment by ultra-violet rays is still of value in certain cases and 142 children were treated. At the end of the course of treatment 106 of them showed improvement. Only 6 failed to benefit but 30 children did not complete the course.

CONVALESCENT TREATMENT

The Education Committee provides a fund to enable a limited number of children recovering from acute illness to have a period of convalescence. Approval is given in selected cases recommended by the doctor in charge of the case and where the parents cannot afford to pay the cost. The scheme is intended to supplement that of the convalescent arrangements of the hospitals and to deal with children who fall outside the scheme for recuperative convalescence which they provide.

This is a valuable ancillary provision and 5 children benefitted by a period of convalescence under the scheme in 1973.

EYE DEFECTS

The number of children examined who suffered from defective vision (excluding squint) was:—

<i>Age group inspected (By year of birth)</i>	<i>Number of children examined</i>	<i>Number found to have defective vision</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1969 and later	2,332	72	3.1
1968	6,707	257	3.8
1967	5,036	232	4.6
1966	2,402	125	5.2
1965	868	56	6.5
1964	544	45	8.3
1963	1,146	113	9.9
1962	2,686	255	9.5
1961	1,154	89	7.7
1960	330	36	10.9
1959	877	109	12.4
1958 and earlier	10,672	1,507	14.1
TOTAL	34,754	2,896	8.3

Mr. Mark Tree reports:—

“The children seen at the eye clinic at Canterbury House have shown an increasing predominance of Asian and West Indian children over the usual white population. The former, who often originate from villages in Pakistan, frequently reveal the scarring and disfigurement of neglected eye injuries and inflammations.

We continue to see cases of hydrocephalus to supervise progress after operation for closure of spina bifida. There are also increasing numbers of cases referred for visual assessment following brain damage from complications and difficulties in delivery at birth.

We have also seen a number of children with deep intra-ocular haemorrhage and retinal scarring from assault and battering”.

ASTHMA CLINIC

Dr. J. Morrison Smith, Chest Physician, reports:—

“The number of patients treated were as follows:—

New	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	275
Recalls	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,810
										<hr/>
TOTAL	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,085
										<hr/>

191 were referred directly through the general practitioner and 73 through the school clinics with the consent of the general practitioner.

These figures show little change compared with 1972.

Domiciliary visits:—successful 99, no access 31, Total 130.

Only special visits could be done because of lack of staff.

The following papers were published in 1973:—

‘Increased Dosage of Disodium Cromoglycate’, British Medical Journal, 5.5.73.

‘Evaluation of Systemic Steroid Treatment in Children with Asthma’, The Practitioner, Vol. 221, Page 664.

‘Skin Tests and Atopic Allergy in Children’, Clinical Allergy, Vol. 3, Page 269.

‘A Clinical Trial of Beclomethazone Dipropionate in Children and Adolescents with Asthma’, Clinical Allergy, Vol. 3, Page 249”.

ORTHOPAEDIC DEFECTS

Mr. H. Piggott, F.R.C.S., has continued to hold sessions at Mowbray Street Clinic. He examines those children referred by the school medical officers where the need for consultant advice is evident. All the physiotherapists attend his clinics so that they not only benefit by the advice about treatment that is given for patients under their care but they also see children brought forward by their colleagues.

Number of defects referred to the orthopaedic surgeon, 156.

The most common of these were scoliosis 17, torticollis 10, hallux valgus 13, knock knees 21 and pes cavus 11.

Number of physiotherapists in post at 31st December, 1973:

Full-time 1. Part-time 9. Total full-time equivalent	..	..	..	4.0
Number of individual children treated during the year	..	..	..	1,150
Total number of defects treated	..	..	..	1,158

The results of treatment were as follows:

Cured or much improved	..	..	..	..	..	..	469
Slightly improved	..	..	..	..	..	..	358
Unchanged	..	..	..	..	..	..	166
Discontinued attendance before completion of treatment	..	..	..	..	..	..	165

The following table shows the type of treatment given, the number of children treated and the total attendances made:

	No. of children	No. of attendances
Remedial exercises	1,100	10,215
Massage..	90	389
Radiant Heat	25	150
Electrical treatment	15	142
Other purposes	287	783
TOTAL		11,679

SPEECH THERAPY

Miss E. Sprayson, Chief Speech Therapist, reports as follows:—

"Number of cases under treatment in clinics	948
Number of cases referred for treatment to Clinics	933
Number of cases opened during the year in clinics	506
Number of diagnostic interviews in clinics	135
Number of cases who did not attend interview in clinics	116
Number of cases closed during the year in clinics	390
Number of cases on the waiting list for clinic appointment on 31st December, 1973	512
Number of children seen in special schools during the year	127

At the beginning of the year Mrs. E. Simons, Senior Speech Therapist, left the Service. Her post was not filled until Miss K. Tanner was appointed in November. Mrs. A. Etheridge and Mrs. B. Board were appointed to full-time posts in August and Mrs. I. Tromans in September. Mrs. Tromans resigned in December.

In September, Heads from five infant and five nursery schools or classes met senior staff to discuss in-service training for one member of their staff. There was general enthusiasm for such a scheme which was subsequently arranged. It took place on one half day a week over a ten-week period at the Warstock Clinic.

The Speech Therapy Clinic at Aldridge Road was established in January 1973 to provide clinical experience for second and third year students studying for the Diploma of Speech Therapy.

Speech Therapy sessions were held at the following clinics during the year:—

George Road Speech Therapy Centre	Warren Farm Road Child Welfare Centre
Lozells Speech Therapy Centre	Harborne Lane Child Welfare Centre
Ward End Speech Therapy Centre	Warstock School Clinic
Kings Heath Speech Therapy Centre	Aldridge Road School Clinic"

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

Return for the year ended 31st December 1973

Number of pupils on registers of maintained and assisted Primary and Secondary Schools (including Nursery and Special Schools) in January 1974, as in forms 7, 7M and 11 Schools	200,999
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PART I.—MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING NURSERY AND
SPECIAL SCHOOLS)

TABLE A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

<i>Age Groups inspected. (By year of Birth)</i>	<i>No. of Pupils who have received a full medical examination</i>	PHYSICAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED		<i>No. of Pupils found not to warrant a medical examination.</i>
		<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	
		<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	
(1) 1969 and later	(2) 2,332	(3) 2,254	(4) 78	No Selective Medical Examinations were carried out in 1973
1968	6,707	6,625	82	
1967	5,036	4,948	88	
1966	2,402	2,336	66	
1965	868	845	23	
1964	544	522	22	
1963	1,146	1,114	32	
1962	2,686	2,657	29	
1961	1,154	1,131	23	
1960	330	318	12	
1959	877	864	13	
1958 and earlier	10,672	10,487	185	
TOTAL	34,754	34,101	653	

Column (3) total as a percentage of Column (2) total 98.12%

Column (4) total as a percentage of Column (2) total 1.83%

TABLE B—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of special Inspections	19,269
Number of Re-inspections	8,917
TOTAL	28,186

TABLE C—INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(a) Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons	297,983
(b) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	11,494
(c) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944)	1,164
(d) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act, 1944)	1,039

PART II—TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING NURSERY AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS)

TABLE A—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	<i>Number of cases known to have been dealt with</i>
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint ..	744
Errors of refraction (including squint)	4,876
TOTAL	5,620
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed	11,016

TABLE B—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

	<i>Number of cases known to have been dealt with</i>
Received operative treatment—	
(a) for diseases of the ear	533
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsilitis	1,279
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	391
Received other forms of treatment	4,527
TOTAL	6,730

Total number of pupils still on the register of schools at 31st December 1973 known to have been provided with hearing aids:—

(a) during the calendar year 1973	..	..	..	..	68
(b) in previous years	..	..	..	..	418

TABLE C—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

					<i>Number known to have been treated</i>
(a) Pupils treated at clinics or out-patients departments	..	..	..	..	1,920
(b) Pupils treated at school for postural defects	..	..	..	..	508
TOTAL	..	..	..	..	2,428

TABLE D—DISEASES OF THE SKIN

(Excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table C of Part I)

								<i>Number of pupils known to have been treated</i>
Ringworm—(a) Scalp	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49
(b) Body	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	57
Scabies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,388
Impetigo	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	404
Other skin diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,080
TOTAL	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,968

TABLE E—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

					<i>Number known to have been treated</i>
Pupils treated at Child Guidance clinics	..	..	..	..	1,153

TABLE F—SPEECH THERAPY

					<i>Number known to have been treated</i>
Pupils treated by speech therapists	..	..	..	..	1,075

TABLE G—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

	<i>Number known to have been treated</i>
(a) Pupils with minor ailments	12,518
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements.. .. .	5
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination	12,222
(d) Other than (a), (b) and (c) above.	
Asthma	1,076
U.V.R.	142
Chiropody	765
TOTAL (a)-(d).. ..	26,728

Screening Tests of Vision and Hearing

Vision testing is carried out as a routine by school nurses and children are tested during their first year at school and at the ages of 7, 9, 11, 13 and 15.

Colour vision testing of both boys and girls at the age of 10 is carried out by school nurses and school medical officers.

Specialist aural nurses and nursing assistants undertake the routine audiometric testing of school entrants during their first year at school. This is followed where necessary by further investigation and treatment at the Aural Clinic.

SUMMARY OF WORK, 1973

	<i>No. of children inspected or treated</i>
School Medical Officers	
Visits to schools, 2,680	
Routine inspections	34,754
Special inspections	19,269
Re-inspections	8,917
Ophthalmic Clinics:	
Number of spectacles prescribed by the ophthalmic surgeons	2,998
Orthopaedic Clinics:	
Number examined by the orthopaedic surgeon	151
Number treated by the physiotherapists	1,150
Child Guidance Clinics	1,153
Speech Therapy Clinics	1,075
Ultra-Violet Ray Treatment	142
Dental Clinics (completed courses of treatment)	20,217
Orthodontic Clinic (completed courses of treatment)	375
Asthma Clinic	1,076
School Nurses and/or Nursing Assistants:	
Examinations of children for uncleanness	297,983
Vision tests	96,959
Home visits	5,634
Chiropody Clinic	765

HANDICAPPED PUPILS

MEDICAL SUPERVISION OF SPECIAL SCHOOLS

The system of medical inspection carried out in all schools of the City is of course extended to the special schools. A child assessed as being in need of a special school education has already been examined to assess the degree of handicap but it is all the more important to keep such children under constant review. Only thus can progress be noted and any developments dealt with. The medical officers responsible for ascertainment are also those who undertake the periodic medical inspections. By this means the same doctor has an opportunity to keep in touch with the children he or she already knows and takes a personal interest in their welfare.

BIRMINGHAM CHILDREN ON REGISTERS OF SPECIAL SCHOOLS MAINTAINED BY THE AUTHORITY AS AT DECEMBER 1973

Educationally sub-normal children

Residential	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	212
Day	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,785

Maladjusted children

Residential	65
Day	82

Deaf and partially hearing children

Day	141
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Partially sighted children

Day	148
-----	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-----

Delicate children

Residential	149
Day	179

Physically handicapped children

Residential	41
Day	204

Hospital schools	121
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Handicapped pupils (maladjusted) boarded in hostels maintained by
the Education Committee

12

EXTRA DISTRICT CHILDREN ATTENDING BIRMINGHAM SPECIAL SCHOOLS AS AT DECEMBER 1973

Educationally sub-normal children	12
Deaf and partially hearing children	107
Partially sighted children	65
Delicate children	19
Physically handicapped children	112
Children at hospital special schools	87
Maladjusted children	5

RESULTS OF SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS 1973

Results of examinations of children during the year with a view to their receiving or continuing to receive special educational treatment:—

Number of children seen	1,524
Recommended for day (E.S.N.) school	212
Recommended for residential (E.S.N.) school	50
Recommended for residential open-air school	57
Recommended for day open-air school	99
Recommended for residential (P.H.) school	17
Recommended for day (P.H.) school	51
Recommended for residential school for epileptics	—
No action	67
To stay in special school	52
For trial in ordinary school	68
To stay in ordinary school	105
To leave special (E.S.N.) schools in order to take up employment	4
To leave open-air schools to take up employment	2
Decision deferred	173
To be excluded from school temporarily	—
Educationally sub-normal needing special provision	62
Recommended for home teaching	414
Recommended for Carlson House School for Spastics	8
Recommended for maladjusted schools	83

ASCERTAINMENT AND PLACINGS OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN 1973

	(1) <i>Blind</i> (2) <i>Partially Sighted</i>		(3) <i>Deaf</i> (4) <i>Partially Hearing</i>		(5) <i>Physically Handicapped</i> (6) <i>Delicate</i>		(7) <i>Maladjusted</i> (8) <i>Educationally Sub-normal</i>		(9) <i>Epi- leptic</i>	(10) <i>Speech Defects</i>	(11) <i>Total</i>
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
A. Handicapped pupils newly placed in special schools or boarding homes	—	19	—	24	67	125	64	335	—	10	645
B. Handicapped pupils newly ascertained as needing education at special schools or in boarding homes	—	14	1	25	71	158	80	299	—	12	660

BIRMINGHAM CHILDREN IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS NOT MAINTAINED BY THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE AS AT 1st DECEMBER 1973

Blind and partially sighted pupils	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Deaf and partially hearing pupils	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
Epileptic pupils	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Physically handicapped pupils	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Spastic pupils	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52
Educationally sub-normal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64
Pupils with speech defects	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Delicate pupils	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Maladjusted pupils	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Autistic pupils	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3

WORK OF THE REMEDIAL GYMNASTS

Mr. W. Collins, Senior Remedial Gymnast, reports:—

“The schools regularly attended were:

Hallmoor	The Shenstone	Haseley Hall
Astley Hall	Hunters Hill	Uffculme
The Pines	Collingwood	The Hamilton

Schools for the physically handicapped were also visited to carry out vital capacity readings. Pupils at the above mentioned schools also had spirometer readings where necessary.

The number of children being sent to us for individual therapy sessions increases and it is now impossible to carry out these instructions without discontinuing group therapy.

Number of children treated for specific and secondary postural defects	508
Number of treatments carried out	15,567
Number of discharges	108

Hydrotherapy sessions were held at Monument Road, Stechford and Sparkhill Baths.

Number of children attending for hydrotherapy	83
Number of hydrotherapy treatments	2,708"

SCHOOLS FOR THE PARTIALLY SIGHTED

Mr. Mark Tree reports:—

"With regard to the partially sighted I have completed my regular review of their progress. In those cases where visual improvement has led to consideration of normal schooling I have encountered disturbed reaction from parents who are apprehensive of the effects of transfer of their child to ordinary school. The schools for the partially sighted are more controlled and have a kindly atmosphere. Their structure and organisation has evolved with the experience gained over many years".

HOME TEACHING SERVICE

The following information has been received from Mrs. K. J. Rawsthorne, Supervisor of Home Teaching:—

Number of teachers employed during the year	124
Total number of pupils receiving home teaching during the year	549
Returned to ordinary schools	243
Admitted to special schools or units	93
Admitted to hospital	7
Sent to remand homes or detention centres	4
Reached statutory school leaving age	12
Moved out of city	7
Died	2
Home teaching discontinued because of lack of co-operation	7
Still receiving tuition at end of year	174
	<hr/>
	549
	<hr/>

The above figures include the following groups:—

Educationally sub-normal children	97
Maladjusted/emotionally disturbed children	91
Pregnant girls	52

CHILD GUIDANCE SERVICE

Mr. W. J. Bannon, Chief Psychologist, reports:—

“The first full year of the extended Service saw quite a remarkable increase in recruitment of psychologists and social workers. The establishment for the former (19) was completely filled and the number of social workers in post (10) was the highest ever. More striking was the fact that eight of the ten social workers were fully professionally qualified.

New premises were acquired for a Child Guidance Centre in the Selly Oak area and further increases in establishment were made to staff this centre. Unfortunately, the prospects of psychiatric help at this centre seem remote. The consultant sessions in the Service at present number only eight.

Experience over the year in the new field of pre-school children indicates that the establishment of two psychologists for pre-school children will require to be increased to five or six. Calls on social workers' time have also increased with the work of psychologists in this field”.

The year's figures are as follows:

On waiting list at 31.12.72	239
Cases referred during 1973	1,265
	<hr/>
	1,504

Sources of Referral

Parents	127
School medical officers	228
General practitioners	51
Hospitals, etc.	7
Head teachers	567
Probation officers	9
Other agencies	276
	<hr/>
	1,265

Seen

New cases treated	1,153
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Not seen

Failed to attend	176
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On waiting list 31.12.73	175
----------------------------------	-----

	351
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Reasons for referral

Behaviour problems	674
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Nervous symptoms	143
--------------------------	-----

Habit disorders	38
-------------------------	----

Educational problems	308
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Multiple problems	102
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	1,265
--	-------

Cases closed during year

After diagnosis and advice	212
------------------------------------	-----

Improved	326
------------------	-----

Placed away from home,	31
--------------------------------	----

Did not materialise	176
-----------------------------	-----

Other reasons	243
-----------------------	-----

	988
--	-----

Special Educational Treatment Assessments (Primary and Secondary Schools)

Assessed as educationally sub-normal (44%)	122
--	-----

Not educationally subnormal (56%)	154
---	-----

	276
--	-----

SPECIAL SERVICES AFTER-CARE SECTION

Miss D. Bibby, After Care Officer, reports:—

“The After Care Section continues its service to former pupils of special schools, besides carrying on case work among the families of children currently attending special school”.

The number of cases being visited is as follows:

		1973 school-leavers under supervision	Pre-1973 school-leavers under supervision
Left schools for the educationally subnormal	Boys	88	178
	Girls	69	105
Left schools for other handicaps ..	Boys	48	83
	Girls	17	57
Had home teaching	Boys	0	17
	Girls	5	32
Left ordinary school	Boys	2	11
	Girls	2	9
TOTAL		231	492

Number of present school attenders currently under supervision 310

CAREERS ADVICE AND EMPLOYMENT OF HANDICAPPED YOUNG PEOPLE

Mr. H. Heginbotham, Principal Careers Officer, reports:—

“During the year, careers advisers have interviewed 312 handicapped young people in the Authority’s schools and in independent institutions in order to advise about further education, training and choice of employment. The marked increase in the number of deaf children is due to the fact that two groups of leavers were interviewed during the period under review.

As in previous years, careers advisers had to consider what was the most appropriate course of action for a young person to follow. Possibilities included entering into employment, following a course of assessment, of further education or training, or attending a social welfare centre or adult training centre.

Careers advisers were involved in making the necessary arrangements as well as helping young people to find a place either on a course or in a job. The improved employment situation made it easier for handicapped school leavers to obtain employment.

Careers advisers receive great assistance from many individuals and organisations, in particular the School Health Service and the staff of special schools. I look forward to maintaining the same high degree of co-operation with colleagues in the reorganised health service”.

TABLE I

NUMBER OF FIRST INTERVIEWS DURING THE YEAR

1st January 1973 to 31st December, 1973

(1972 figures in brackets)

	Boys	Girls	Total
Birmingham Special Schools:—			
E.S.N.	90 (112)	65 (66)	155 (178)
Physically handicapped	11 (18)	7 (13)	18 (31)
Deaf	35 (3)	23 (3)	58 (6)
Partially sighted	5 (6)	3 (1)	8 (7)
Delicate	— (16)	8 (—)	8 (16)
Maladjusted	4 (5)	1 (8)	5 (13)
Hospital	10 (2)	6 (—)	16 (2)
Home teaching	1 (2)	1 (7)	2 (9)
Special units in ordinary schools	6 (6)	1 (5)	7 (11)
Handicapped children in ordinary schools and colleges of further education	16 (17)	10 (20)	26 (37)
Other special schools	7 (4)	2 (2)	9 (6)
TOTAL.. .. .	185 (191)	127 (125)	312 (316)

TABLE II

HANDICAPPED YOUNG PEOPLE IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS
AND COLLEGES OF FURTHER EDUCATION

	Boys	Girls	Total
Ear defects	—	2	2
Eye defects.. .. .	4	2	6
Diseases of genito-urinary system	—	1	1
Diseases, injuries, deformities of			
Upper limbs	2	1	3
Lower limbs	3	—	3
Maladjustment	1	2	3
Mental subnormality	1	—	1
Asthma	2	—	2
Others	3	1	4
	—	—	—
	16	9	25
	—	—	—

TABLE III
ANALYSIS OF REGISTER OF DISABLED PERSONS
(1972 figures in brackets)

	Boys		Girls		Grand Total	
	1973	(1972)	1973	(1972)	1973	(1972)
Amputation:—						
One arm (including partial) ..				(1)		(1)
Arthritis and rheumatism			1	(1)	1	(1)
Diseases of the heart and circulatory system	1	(1)	1		2	(1)
Bronchitis, asthma, etc.	1	(4)	1		2	(4)
Diseases of the skin			1		1	
Ear Defects:—						
Deaf without speech	4	(2)	1		5	(2)
Deaf with speech	5	(4)	3	(4)	8	(8)
Hard of hearing	1	(2)	7	(3)	8	(5)
Eye defects	3	(3)	1	(4)	4	(7)
Injuries to head, face, neck, throat ..	2				2	
Diseases, injuries, deformities of:—						
Upper limb	3	(4)	1	(3)	4	(7)
Lower limb	2	(2)	1	(2)	3	(4)
Paralysis of lower portion of body			1		1	
Other spinal diseases and injuries ..	2	(2)		(3)	2	(5)
Mental disorders:—						
Mental subnormality	2	(2)	5	(3)	7	(5)
Epilepsy	5	(1)	8	(3)	13	(4)
Other organic nervous diseases ..	7	(8)	2	(6)	9	(14)
Other general diseases not mentioned above, e.g., leukaemia, anaemia, etc.	1	(2)	2		3	(2)
Obesity, diabetes, etc.	1	(1)		1	1	(2)
TOTALS	40	(38)	36	(34)	76	(72)

SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND SCHOOL MEALS

School Buildings

The building of new schools and other educational buildings in accordance with the Education Committee's building programme has continued and during the year 7 new primary and secondary schools and one Further Education project were completed. At 31st December 16 primary and secondary schools, 3 Further Education projects and 4 special schools were under construction.

During the year major alterations and improvements providing additional accommodation were completed at 7 schools and 22 were under construction.

School Meals Service

DINNERS SUPPLIED TO CHILDREN, JANUARY—DECEMBER, 1973

	<i>Free</i>	<i>Paid</i>	<i>Total</i>
Nursery	39,069	176,926	215,995
Nursery Classes	30,868	121,340	152,208
Primary	2,873,290	8,255,081	11,127,771
Secondary Modern	905,642	1,967,781	2,873,423
Comprehensive	436,651	1,158,946	1,595,597
Bi-Lateral	80,231	239,357	319,588
Grammar Technical	130,646	1,486,524	1,617,170
Special	126,399	301,877	428,276
	<u>4,622,796</u>	<u>13,707,832</u>	<u>18,330,028</u>

DAILY NUMBER OF CHILDREN HAVING DINNERS 1973

	<i>Secondary</i>	<i>Primary (including Special Schools)</i>	
January	36,838	67,735	
February	36,273	68,122	
March	18,697	28,577	(Gas dispute)
April	32,832	66,442	
May	33,270	69,410	
June	30,793	67,973	
July	29,085	66,833	
August	—	—	
September	41,863	64,988	
October	41,384	67,067	
November	41,132	69,013	
December	39,760	66,765	

Number of meals served on a given day during holidays compared to the number served on a day during term.

	<i>In term</i>	<i>In holiday</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Easter	98,616	818	·83%
Spring	101,326	700	·69%
August	86,646	850	·98%
Christmas	104,118	450	·43%

Number of children eligible for free meals, December, 1973, 31,621.

Number of children taking dinners on a given day, September, 1973:

<i>Paid</i>	<i>Free</i>	<i>Total</i>
82,106	25,510	107,616

Children taking school dinners were 61·07% of those in attendance in October.

MILK IN SCHOOLS SCHEME Primary Schools only

Number of children taking milk on a given day in September, 1973.
(Statistics as supplied to the Department of Education and Science.)

No. of children entitled to free milk on grounds of age	42,142
Percentage to number of children present	95·86%
No. of children entitled to free milk on health grounds	5,492

EXAMINATION OF ADULTS

Examination of Teachers and Entrants to Colleges of Education

School medical officers have examined the candidates for admission to colleges of education and intending teachers, other than those who were examined on the completion of the approved course of training before entering the teaching profession.

28 medical examinations were carried out for other authorities whilst 29 intending teachers for Birmingham were examined in their own areas so that unnecessary travelling might be avoided. During the year 18 candidates were referred either for a specialist opinion and recommendation or for a report from the general practitioner.

The following table shows the number of candidates examined:

	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
College of Education students ..	1,167	1,334	1,314	1,369	938
Intending teachers	333	160	210	203	276
College of Art students	35	62	84	45	—*
	<u>1,535</u>	<u>1,556</u>	<u>1,608</u>	<u>1,617</u>	<u>1,214</u>

*Separate figure not now available.

Examination of Manual and Non-manual Staff

The number of manual and non-manual staff (excluding teachers) examined during the year was 1687

MISCELLANEOUS

BELL HEATH, BOCKLETON AND STANSFELD COUNTRY STUDY CENTRES AND OGWEN COTTAGE OUTDOOR PURSUITS CENTRE

The above Centres held residential courses for pupils attending Birmingham schools during the year ended 31st March 1974.

The following parties and pupils attended each Centre during the year.

			<i>Bell Heath</i>	<i>Bockleton</i>	<i>Stansfeld</i>	<i>Ogwen</i>
Number of parties	..	..	33	47	22	17
Number of pupils	..	..	1,133	1,408	635	557

Sharpness Centre, Berkeley, Gloucestershire

This is a new Centre and commenced taking residential parties in March of this year. The maximum number in each party is 16 pupils but it is hoped that this will be increased to 32 pupils in September 1974 when further work has been done on the second bedroom.

Medical Examination

Before visiting the above Centres each pupil is required to have a Free from Infection examination and this examination is arranged and carried out by the School Health Service a few days before his departure.

Reports from Centres

The Warden at Ogwen Cottage reported two cases of suspected appendicitis during the year. On each occasion the pupil was taken to Caernarvon Hospital for observation. When the doctors were satisfied that there was nothing serious, both pupils returned to the Centre.

The Matron at Bell Heath Country Study Centre reported 1 boy taken to Bromsgrove Hospital with croup. The boy was kept in for two days and the parents collected him and took him home.

CHILDREN IN PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

This year 28 children were examined in connection with theatrical licences including television performances.

There were 2,618 children examined for part-time employment under the byelaws regulating the employment of children and of these 7 were found unfit.

INDEX

A

Abatement of Nuisances, 165
 Accidents, 22, 23
 Accident Ambulances, 117
 Airport—health control, 47
 Ambulance service, 115
 Amino Acid Test, 105
 Analytical laboratory, 61
 Animal Boarding Establishments, 152
 Antenatal Clinics, 84, 85
 Area of City, 16
 Attendances, Personal and Child Health Centres, 88
 Atmospheric pollution, 196

B

B.C.G. vaccinations, 50
 Bed Bureau, 122
 Birmingham Hospital Saturday Fund, 124
 Births—incidence and rates, 16, 24, 25, 27
 Blood tests, expectant mothers, 86
 Bottle washing, 144

C

Canal boats, 171
 Cancer, 21, 22
 Canteens—mobile, 138
 Care of mothers and young children, 84
 Causes of death, 18, 19
 Certificates of disrepair, 162
 Certificates, qualification, 161
 Child Consultation clinics, 86
 Children's Home Nursing Unit, 111
 Child health centres, 84
 Churn and bottle washing, 144
 Clean Air Act, 1956, 198
 Cleansing Station, 176

Clearance areas, 158
 Clinics—Local Authority, 85
 Common lodging houses, 171
 Community nurse—training, 109
 Complaints, Foodstuffs, 139
 Milk, 142
 Consultation clinics, 86
 Contacts—tuberculosis, 54
 Convalescence, recuperative, 124
 Cream, fresh, 144
 Cream, imitation, 145
 Cremations, 137

D

Dairies, 142
 Dead animals, 151
 Death rate, 19, 25, 26, 27
 Dental health education, 93
 Dental service, 91
 Diphtheria, 29, 46, 49, 57
 Diseases, infectious, 46, 175
 Disease, Heart, 19, 20
 Disease, swine vesicular, 151
 Diseases of Animals Acts, 151
 Disinfection after tuberculosis, 176
 Disinfestation and disinfection, 175
 Domiciliary Midwifery, 103
 Drainage, 178
 Driving Licences—epileptics, 135
 Drugs, 61
 Dysentery, 29, 46

E

Egg sampling, 145
 Emergency maternity service, 105
 Encephalitis, 30
 Enforcement section, 167
 Environmental health service, 154

N.B.—School Health Service items:—pages 202-234

Environmental protection, 194
Epidemiology, 29
Epilepsy—driving licences, 135
Expectant mothers
 relaxation classes, 84

F

Factories—sanitary accommodation, 191
Fireguards, loan of, 114
First aid—staff, 136
Fluoridation of drinking water, 92, 188
Food and Drugs Act, 1955, 61
Food hawkers, 138
Food hygiene, 138
Food poisoning, 31
Food premises, Food Hygiene Regulations, 139
Food premises, inspection, 139
Food sampling, 62
Foods, unfit, 150

G

General practitioners—children's clinics, 87

H

Health Committee, functions of
 Sub-Committee, 6
Health Committee members, 5
Health Education, 126
Health visiting, 107
Health Visitors' Training Course, 107
Health Visitors—tuberculosis, 77
Heel prick test, 105
Home Nursing Service, 109
Home Nursing Service, Children's Unit, 111
Horses, 153

I

Ice Cream, 142, 145
Iced lollipops, 142, 145
Illegitimacy, 16, 18, 24, 27
Imitation cream, 145
Immigrants, arrival of, 47
Immunisation, 49, 57, 59
 diphtheria, 29, 46, 49, 57
 poliomyelitis, 41, 46, 49
Imported food, 141
Improvements, compulsory, 161
Improvement grants, 159
Industrial premises, 191
Infant mortality, 17, 18, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28
Infectious diseases, 46, 175
Infectious diseases—follow-up visits, 175
Infective Jaundice, 36, 46
Inland Rail Port, 141
Inland Road Port, 141

L

Laboratory Services, 61
Laundry service, Domiciliary, 113
Lead, 70
Leprosy 37 46
Leptospirosis 38
Leukaemia 22
Licensed premises inspection of 138
Loan of nursing equipment 112
Loan of fireguards 114
Local drug testing scheme 65
Lodging houses 171
Lollipops iced 142 145

M

Malaria 38, 46
Markets, retail, wholesale, 150
Maternal mortality, 19
Maternity bed bureau, 104, 122
Maternity service—emergency, 105

N.B.—School Health Service items:-pages 202-234

Measles, 39, 46
 Meat inspection, 147
 Meat, condemnation of, 148
 Medical examinations—staff, 136
 Medical Officer for Staff Welfare, 136
 Meningitis, 39, 46
 Midwifery—domiciliary, 103
 Milk and dairies, 142
 Milk sampling, 61, 143
 Mobile canteens, 138
 Mobile shops, 138
 Motor Vehicle (Driving Licences) Regulations, 1970, 135
 Multi-occupation, housing, 163

N

National Health Service Act:—
 Section 22—Care of mothers and young children, 84
 Section 24—Health visiting, 107
 Section 26 and 28—Immunisation and vaccination, 49
 Section 27—Ambulance service, 115
 Noise Control, 194
 Nuisances—abatement of, 165
 Nuisances, urgent, 166
 Nursing equipment, loan of, 112

O

Outworkers, 192
 Offices, Shops and Railway Premises, supervision of, 173

P

Paratyphoid fever, 40, 46
 Parent and Child Centre, 133
 Personal and Child Health centres, 84
 Pet shops, 152
 Pigeon control, 172

Pig keepers, 152
 Points scheme, 132
 Poliomyelitis, 41, 46, 49
 Poliomyelitis immunisation, 41, 49
 Pollution, atmospheric, 196
 Population, City, 16
 Population by wards, 27
 Postnatal clinics, 84, 85
 Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, 172
 Priority rehousing, 132
 Public Health Inspection, 155
 abatement of nuisances, 165
 canal boats, 171
 clearance areas, 158
 certificates of disrepair, 162
 common lodging house, 171
 disinfestation and disinfection, 175
 enforcement section, 167
 houses in multiple occupation, 163
 improvement grants, 159
 infectious diseases, 175
 inspections, 155
 prevention of damage by pests, 172
 Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951, 173
 Rent Restriction Acts, 162
 staff, 154
 supervision of shops, 173
 tips and tipping, 171
 urgent nuisances, 166
 Public Health Laboratory Service, 73

Q

'Q' fever, 41

R

Radiological examination of water, 189
 Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951, 173

N.B.—School Health Service items:—pages 202-234

Recuperative convalescent care, 124
 Refreshment houses, 177
 Refuse collection and disposal, 181
 Rehousing 78, 132
 Relaxation classes 84
 Rent Restriction Acts 162
 Riding establishments, 153
 Rodent control, 172
 Routine Sampling of Corporation Water, 187
 Rubella, 49

S

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Adult Examinations, 233
 After Care Section, 227
 Ascertainments (placing of handicapped children), 224
 Asthma Clinic, 214
 Child Guidance Service, 226
 Chiropody, 210
 Convalescent Treatment, 213
 Country Study Centre, 234
 Employment and After Care of the Handicapped, 228
 Employment of Children—Part-time, 234
 Extra District Children attending Birmingham Special Schools, 223
 Eye Defects, 213
 Follow-up and Home Visiting, 209
 General Information, 204
 Handicapped Children—Employment, 228
 Home Teaching Service, 225
 Home Visiting, 209
 Immigrant Children—Medical Examination of, 208
 Maintained Special Schools—Numbers on Register, 222
 Medical Inspection and Treatments, 205, 216
 Minor Ailments and Inspection Clinics, 206

Milk in Schools, 232
 Non-Maintained Special Schools—Numbers on Register, 224
 Nursing Assistants—Work of, 210
 Nursing Staff—Work of, 209
 Ophthalmic Examinations, 213
 Orthopaedic Defects, 215
 Outdoor Pursuits Centres, 234
 Partially Sighted—Schools for, 225
 Remedial gymnasts—Work of, 224
 School Building, 231
 School Clinics—Summary of Work, 221
 School Meals, 231
 Special Examination Results, 223
 Special Services, Sub-Committee Members, 202
 Special Schools—Medical Supervision, 222
 Speech Therapy, 216
 Staff—Manual and Non-Manual—Medical Examination, 233
 Statistics, Medical, 217
 Summary of Work, 221
 Ultra Violet Ray Treatment, 213
 Vision Surveys, 209
 Salvage and refuse collection, 181
 Sampling of:—
 corporation water, 68, 187
 egg, 145
 food and drugs, 61
 milk, 61, 143
 swimming bath water, 189
 Scabies, 42, 176
 Scarlet fever, 42, 46
 School children—B.C.G. vaccination, 50
 Screening, procedures (midwifery), 105
 Scrub Typhus, 42
 Sewerage, 178
 Shellfish, 146
 Shops, supervision of, 173
 Slaughterhouses, 147
 Smallpox, 43
 Smoke control programme, 196
 St. John Ambulance Brigade, 123
 Staff, 8

N.B.—School Health Service items:—pages 202-234

Staff—medical examinations, 136

Statistics:—

- care of mothers and young children, 85
 - Child Health, 85
 - dental service, 95
 - health visitors, 108
 - Home Nursing Service, 111
 - midwifery, 103
 - tuberculosis, 78
 - vital, 16
- Stillbirths, 17
- Suicides, 19
- Supervision of offices, shops and railway premises, 173
- Supervision of industrial premises, 191
- Swimming bath water—sampling of, 189
- Swine vesicular disease, 151

T

- Tetanus, 43, 46
- Tips, 171
- Town and Country Planning Acts, 193
- Training of health visitors, 107
- Training of pupil midwives, 106
- Tuberculosis, 74
- B.C.G., 50
 - contacts, 54
 - disinfection, 176
 - mortality, 76
 - rehabilitation, 77
 - rehousing, 77
 - statistics, 78
- Typhoid, 43, 46

U

- Unfit houses, 156
- Urgent nuisances, 166

V

- Vaccination
- B.C.G., 50
 - cholera, 56
 - smallpox, 56
 - yellow fever, 56
- Verminous premises, articles and persons, 175
- Veterinary section, 147
- Veterinary Services, 151
- Vital Statistics, 16

W

- Water:—
- fluoridation of drinking water, 188
 - dwellings without internal supply, 189
 - radioactivity, 189
 - sampling of, 68, 187
 - swimming bath, 189
 - supply, 184
 - private wells, 189
- Wells, 189
- Whooping cough, 45, 46

Y

- Yellow fever vaccination, 45, 56

N.B.—School Health Service items: pages 202-234

Recuperative convalescent care, 174
 Refreshment houses, 177
 Refuge collection and distribution, 181
 Rehousing, 138
 Rehabilitation, 78, 132
 Urgent nuisances, 186
 Relaxation classes, 186
 Rent Restriction Acts, 161
 Rilling establishments, 153
 Rodent control, 172
 Routine Sampling of Corporations, 187
 Rubella, 49
 Vaccination, 187
 Cholera, 56
 Smallpox, 56
 Yellow fever, 56
 Verminous premises, articles and persons, 178
 Veterinary Services, 147
 Veterinary Services, 187
 After Care Section, 187
 Vital Statistics, 187
 Ascertaining the (a) health of children, 224
 W
 Asthma Clinic, 212
 Child Guidance Service, 228
 Water—
 Fluoridation of drinking water, 188
 Dwellings without internal supply, 188
 Radioactivity, 189
 Sampling of, 188, 189
 Handpumps, 189
 Swimming bath, 189
 Employment of, 184
 Supply, 184
 Extra District Child Welfare, 189
 Wells, 189
 Birmingham School of Hygiene, 189
 Whooping cough, 43, 44
 Eye Defects, 213
 Follow-up and Home Visiting, 202
 General Information, 202
 X-ray
 Employment—children, 189
 Yellow fever vaccination, 45, 56
 Home Visiting Service, 202
 Home Visiting, 202-204
 Immunity—children, 189
 Maps—Schools, 189
 Medical Inspection and Treatment, 202, 216
 Minor Inspections and Inspections, 202

Staff—medical examinations, 186
 Statistics—
 Care of mothers and young children, 88
 Child Health, 88
 Dental services, 88
 Health visitors, 188
 Home Nursing Service, 111
 Midwives, 103
 Tuberculosis, 78
 Visiting, 18
 Stillbirths, 17
 Statistics, 19
 Supervision of offices, shops and railways, 173
 Supervision of industrial premises, 173
 Swimming bath water—sampling of, 189
 Swine vaccination, 181
 T
 Tetanus, 43, 46
 Tips, 171
 Town and Country Planning Act, 188
 Training of health visitors, 107
 Training of public health nurses, 107
 Tuberculosis, 74
 B.C.G., 50, 51, 56
 Contacts, 54
 Distinction, 176
 Mortality, 78
 Rehabilitation, 176
 Reposing, 77
 Statistics, 78
 Typoids, 43, 46
 N.H.—School Health Service, 202-204
 Sewage, 175
 Shellfish, 44
 Shops, 173
 Slaughtering, 141
 Smallpox, 56
 Smoke control programme, 186
 St. John Ambulance, 186
 S, 186



