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**BOROUGH OF HARWICH**



*Essex*

# Annual Report

FOR 1957

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health  
& Public Health Inspector

Casey & Cox, Printers, 43, Victoria Street, Dovercourt, Essex

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# BOROUGH OF HARWICH

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## HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

*Medical Officer of Health :*

J. ROLAND HETHERINGTON,  
L.R.C.P. and S.E., L.R.F.P., and S.G., D.P.H.

*Public Health Inspector :*

A. E. PRICE, CERT. R.S.I., and S.I.J.E.B.

## HEALTH COMMITTEE

JANUARY—MAY

*Chairman :* Councillor J. P. Benstead

Councillors E. Gant, H. Gochin, S. C. Simmons, Mrs. E. M. Smith,  
A. G. B. Stooke.

JUNE—DECEMBER

*Chairman :* Councillor E. Gant

Councillors J. P. Benstead, H. Gochin, Mrs. M. D. Hambrook,  
S. C. Simmons, Mrs. E. M. Smith, A. G. B. Stooke.



TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE  
BOROUGH OF HARWICH

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen.

The Annual Report for 1957 is presented herewith for your perusal. This is drawn up on the lines indicated in Ministry of Health Circular 1/58.

Your attention is respectfully directed, particularly to the following items :

**POPULATION.** The decline in the population in the year from 15,090 to 13,760 means that the number of people living in the town is lower than at any time in the past 10 years. There is reason to believe that the decrease is largely composed of persons under the age of 40, i.e., that section of the community which would be wage earning. Consideration should be given to devise methods whereby reversal of this tendency is stimulated and the formation of schemes to make the Borough a "desirable place for residence".

**INCIDENCE OF CANCER.** The Ministry of Health Circular 7/57 makes special reference to the connection between smoking and Lung Cancer ; although the Circular was issued to Local Health Authorities only, some interesting figures are revealed by an examination of the Vital Statistics of the Borough for the past years. This information is given as an appendix to the Report.

**CARE OF THE AGED.** This problem is assuming greater importance than in previous years and is also not in any way losing its complexity. There are numerous voluntary organisations in the Borough which cater for the elderly by arranging facilities for frequently meeting together. The value of these opportunities for a "cup of tea and a chat" are inestimable. In addition these organisations undertake to visit their members in their own homes from time to time. On the official side, periodical visits are paid, as and when necessary, by Health Visitors and officials of the Assistance Board and County Welfare Committee.

In spite of all the work thus carried out there remains a number of elderly people who do not come into contact with any of the organisations ; for the more part these individuals value their



independence as a precious thing and constantly refuse either to admit any visitor to their homes or to enter into the social amenities of any of the various "Clubs". Doubtless there is often an understandable fear of being "put away". It is people of this disposition who, when attacked by illness, may lie in bed without any medical or nursing attendance and who may finally die in utter loneliness. This constitutes an almost insoluble problem and even "Good Neighbour Clubs" cannot achieve any success with those who deliberately make themselves recluses.

**HOUSING.** In view of the number of houses which have been erected in recent years both by the Council and by private enterprise, it is of interest to note that the number of applicants on the housing list remains more or less the same at about 450. The comments in this section of the Report relating to properties which are unoccupied for a large part of each day, are worthy of note.

**FOOD POISONING.** The low incidence of Food Poisoning in the Borough is to some extent a credit to the care exercised by food handlers. It is gratifying to comment on the ready co-operation of nearly all Food Traders and proprietors of catering premises in providing food that is wholesome and attractive.

It gives me much pleasure to record the help given by the Members of the Council, and also the assistance from the Area Health Committee, the Hospital Board and similar bodies. Likewise I wish to place on record the help and co-operation of the Officials of the Borough, and the continued loyal support of each of the members of the Health Department.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. ROLAND HETHERINGTON,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.  
TOWN HALL, HARWICH.

June, 1958.



# ANNUAL REPORT 1957

## SECTION A

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The area of the Borough is 1,512 acres.  
 Population (estimated mid-year 1957) 13,760  
 Number of Dwelling Houses 4,451  
 Rateable Value ... £142,764  
 Sum represented by a Penny Rate, £568 18s. 1d.

#### I. LIVE BIRTH RATE

	M	F	Total
Live births, legitimate ... ..	114	93	207
"    "    illegitimate ... ..	3	5	8
Total live births ... ..	117	98	215
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population ...	15.625		
Corrected birth rate ... ..	16.875		
(Comparability Factor 1.08)			

#### 2. STILL BIRTHS AND INFANT MORTALITY

	M	F	Total
Still births, legitimate ... ..	3	2	5
"    "    illegitimate ... ..	1	—	1
Total Still Births ... ..	4	2	6
Still birth rate per 1,000 population	0.44		
Still birth rate per 1,000 births	27.1		
Deaths of infants under one year ...	2	4	6
Death rate of infants under one year per 1,000 live births ...	27.91		

**TABLE I**  
**INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1957**

Cause of Death	Did not Survive one week	Lived over one week but less than four weeks	Survived one month, died under one year	Total
Prematurity	5	—	—	5
Birth Injuries	—	—	—	—
Malformations	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	—	—	—	—
Gastro Enteritis	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	—	—	1	1
	5	—	1	6

### 3. DEATH RATE

Deaths during year	...	...	M 82	F 74	Total 156
Crude death rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	11.33		
Corrected death rate			13.14		
(Comparability factor 1.16)					

The principal causes of death during the year were:—

Diseases of Blood and Circulatory System (15, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21)	...	...			80
Cancer, all forms (10, 11, 12, 13 and 14)	...	...	...	...	40
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) (23, 24 and 25)				...	3
Tuberculosis, all forms	...	...	...	...	1

These groups together account for nearly 79% of the deaths in the Borough.



**TABLE II****Deaths at various ages during 1957**

Under 1 year	...	...	6
1 and under 2	...	...	—
2 and under 5	...	...	1
5 and under 15	...	...	2
15 and under 25	...	...	—
25 and under 35	...	...	1
35 and under 45	...	...	5
45 and under 55	...	...	14
55 and under 65	...	...	35
65 and under 75	...	...	38
75 and under 85	...	...	43
85 and upwards	...	...	11
			—
			156
			—

From these figures it will be noted that more than one-third of the deaths occurring during the year were of people 75 and over.

**TABLE III**

Causes of Death			M.	F.	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	1	0	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	0	0	0
3	Syphilitic Disease	...	1	1	2
4	Diphtheria	...	0	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	...	0	0	0
6	Meningococcal infections	...	1	0	1
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	0	0	0
8	Measles	...	0	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	0	1	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	3	3	6
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	10	1	11
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	0	6	6
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	0	3	3
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	9	5	14
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	1	1	2
16	Diabetes	...	0	0	0
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	9	14	23
18	Coronary Disease, angina	...	14	10	24



<b>Causes of Death (continued)</b>				<b>M.</b>	<b>F.</b>	<b>Total</b>
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	2	2	4
20	Other heart disease	...	...	9	13	22
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	2	3	5
22	Influenza	...	...	0	0	0
23	Pneumonia	...	...	1	0	1
24	Bronchitis	...	...	0	1	1
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	0	1	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	0	0	0
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	0	0	0
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	1	2	3
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	1	0	1
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	0	0	0
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	0	0	0
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	12	5	17
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	0	1	1
34	All other accidents	...	...	5	0	5
35	Suicide	...	...	0	1	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	0	0	0
				<b>82</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>156</b>

**TABLE IV**

**Vital Statistics (1956 and 1957)**

	England and Wales		Essex		Harwich	
	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
Birth Rate (a)	15.6	16.1	14.8	15.2	18.78	16.87
Death Rate (a)	11.7	11.5	10.4	10.2	11.14	13.14
I.M. Rate (b)	23.8	23.0	20.3	19.3	23.08	27.91

(a)—Per 1,000 civilian population

(b)—Per 1,000 live births

**TABLE V**

**Vital Statistics for 1957 and certain previous years**

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1920	31.1	11.6	81
1925	20.2	10.6	50
1930	16.9	10.3	48.5
1935	16.4	10.1	47.8
1940	15.26	12.67	42.45
1945	21.78	12.45	36.86
1950	15.3	9.1	8.1
1951	15.08	10.07	23.04
1952	16.6	9.0	25.42
1953	14.8	11.04	27.8
1954	16.87	9.75	21.18
1955	15.1	8.68	23.59
1956	18.78	11.14	23.08
1957	16.87	13.14	27.91



## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

#### (a) Staffing

- (1) Medical Officer of Health: No change from previous year.
- (2) Public Health Inspector : No change from previous year.

#### (b) Laboratory Facilities

No change from previous year.

#### (c) Health Services provided by the Essex County Council acting as Local Health Authority

##### (1) Ante Natal Clinic.

During the year 153 expectant mothers attended the clinic, the total number of attendances being 195. The tendency for expectant mothers to be supervised during pregnancy by the doctor who will be present at the confinement, is a practice which has much to commend it.

During the year 83 confinements took place at home (including 1 stillbirth) and 138 in hospital (including 5 stillbirths).

It is regretted that the provision of local hospital accommodation for maternity cases has not yet become a reality. In some quarters the view has been expressed that but for the control exercised by the Hospital Board, such provision would by now have been made out of voluntary funds.

##### (2) Midwives and District Nurses.

No change from previous year.

##### (3) Infant Welfare Clinics.

At the Harwich Clinic 257 children made 2,019 attendances, while at Dovercourt 250 made 1,463 attendances. In addition one or two of the General Practitioners in the town made arrangements for "special" surgery sessions, at which infants and young children were given priority.

The welcome assistance given by voluntary helpers at both the Local Authority Clinics has continued throughout the year, and their valuable service is much appreciated.

During the year infant foods were supplied at reduced prices as follows :—



Proprietary Brands of Dried Milk	1,513	pkts.
Cereal Foods	...	305 pkts.
Other Foods	...	767 pkts.

In addition medicaments supplied, where necessary free of cost, included proprietary vitamin preparations (Adexolin, Bemax, Cod Liver Oil Emulsion, etc.), some of which were supplied to children of school age.

Supervision was maintained in every case where vitamin preparations were advised to ensure that the optimum dose was being maintained. The danger of excess of Cod Liver Oil and Orange Juice and similar preparations are almost as serious as those of vitamin starvation.

With regard to Welfare Foods (i.e. those formerly supplied by the Ministry of Food) these were available at the Infant Welfare Clinics and also at the area Health Sub-office (259 Main Road, Dovercourt). In addition these were obtainable at the W.V.S. Centre, 280 High Street.

During the year welfare foods distributed comprised :—

	L.H.A. Clinics, etc. (3 sessions per week)	W.V.S. Centre (8 sessions per week)
National Dried Milk	... 2,895	4,163
Cod Liver Oil	... 754	974
Orange Juice	... 212	582
Vitamin Tablets	... 5,736	9,248

#### (4) Health Visiting.

This service has been maintained throughout the year and continues to be much appreciated by the various sections of the general public. During the year nearly 3,600 visits were paid to nearly 1,000 different households in the town.

Visits to elderly people occupied a larger proportion of the Health Visitors' time, and it would appear that this phase of their work will develop even more in future years.

#### (5) Home Helps.

This service has continued throughout the year and although the opinion continues to be expressed that it could be more efficiently administered locally, it is very gratifying to be able to report that during the year there has been a marked improvement in the service. At present there are 23 registered Home Helps in the Borough.



(6) **Provision of nursing equipment and apparatus.**

No change from previous year.

(7) **Vaccination and Immunisation.**

(a) **Vaccination against Smallpox.**

During the year 171 children were vaccinated against Smallpox, 47 at the L.H.A. Clinics and 124 by General Practitioners. While this is a gratifying improvement on previous years the percentage of children who are protected is still far short of what is desirable or safe.

(b) **Immunisation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.**

(1) Diphtheria :

**Primary Injection**

L.H.A.	97	
G.P.	92	
	—	189

**Boosting Dose**

L.H.A.	193	
G.P.	40	
	—	233

(2) Whooping Cough :

**Primary Injection**

L.H.A.	86	
G.P.	54	
	—	140

(c) **Vaccination against Tuberculosis.**

As in previous years protection against Tuberculosis was again offered to children of 13 years. Of the 187 children in the age group to whom vaccination was offered, acceptances were received from 169, all of whom were given a preliminary mantoux test. Of these 124 were mantoux negative and 122 received B.C.G. vaccination. In two cases only was there some slight reaction, but both of these cleared up within a short time.



**(d) Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.**

Protective vaccination against Poliomyelitis was given throughout the year to children born between 1947 and 1954 who applied before July, 1956. During the year 631 children were protected without any untoward reactions. The vaccine continued to be in limited supply and at the end of the year there were still a number of registered children unprotected.

During the year the same protection was offered to children born in 1955 and 1956, and those born between 1947 and 1954 were given a second opportunity of registering. Furthermore in December registrations were invited from children born in the years 1943 to 1946, those born in the first-half of 1957, and also from expectant mothers.

**(8) Ambulance Service.**

No change from previous year.

**(9) School Health Service.**

During the year 486 children underwent a routine medical examination, 240 had "special" examinations and 856 had a follow-up examination for defects previously discovered.

The nutrition of the children in general showed the same satisfactory level as in previous years.

There was no change with regard to the ancillary services during the year.

During the year 319 children attended the school clinic.

In spite of the fact that it was possible to increase the number of sessions of the dental clinic for a time during the year, there is still an enormous amount of arrears to be dealt with.

The speech therapy sessions continued throughout the year, as also did the clinics conducted by the hospital board—Ophthalmic, Orthopaedic and Physiotherapy. In addition a number of children had to be referred to the Child Guidance Clinic at Colchester.

**(d) Health Services provided by the Hospital Board.**

**(1) Harwich and District Hospital.**

No change from previous year.



(2) Tuberculosis Service.  
Mass Miniature Radiography.

The fourth-biennial campaign was undertaken in September. The number of persons examined was :—

	1955 Total	1957			
		Miniature Mass X-Ray	Recalled		Chest Clinic
			Large X-Ray	Investi- gation	
British Railways ...	720	639	11	2	2
Bernards ...	212	235	4	—	—
Various ...	321	536	29	3	2
Public ...	1045	809	13	3	3
Drs' Cases ...	—	1	1	—	—
Schools ...	416	540	6	1	—
	2714	2760	64	9	7

These figures reveal that the response is about the same as in 1955.

(3) Venereal Disease.

This service has continued throughout the year. The decline in the incidence of infection has been maintained.



There is again an increase in the number of houses depending on cesspools for foul drainage. It is gratifying to know that at the time of preparation of this report that the extension of the Brookman's Farm Sewerage System is in hand, and that soon after mid-1958 practically all houses and other properties within the catchment area of Brookman's Farm Sewerage System, will be connected, or in a position to be connected; thus practically all properties within the Borough will be on a main drainage system.

### (III) Scavenging

Household and other refuse is collected weekly, (together with with all types of salvage) by direct labour. The time taken to collect same is gradually increasing, due to the increase in the number of new dwellings, which since the war amounts to 861 private and Council houses. These are generally well set back from the highway, thus increasing the time taken to collect the refuse.

Disposal is by Controlled Tipping on the land to the north of the Sea Wall at Dovercourt Beach, during the winter months, and on Corporation land to the north of the Cemetery at Upper Dovercourt during the summer months.

### Uncontrolled Dumping

Wanton dumping on vacant plots is a habit so ingrained in certain members of the population that it would appear to be with us forever. It must be emphasized that this Borough maintains an **adequate Refuse Disposal Service** and **ALL RESIDENTS** should be aware that this Authority will at anytime make a special collection of any household refuse of a bulky nature such as old furniture, bedding, etc., but **not** of garden waste or building debris. Much garden refuse which is dumped on vacant sites could be composted (even in the smallest garden) and returned to the soil.

### Salvage

The following is the weight of Salvage collected and sold during the year, and the figures for 1956 are shown for comparison.

	1956			1957		
	T.	C.	£ s. d.	T.	C.	£ s. d.
Waste Paper ...	100	13	875 7 8	78	3½	740 14 2
Metals ...		16¼	114 12 7		16½	54 15 1
Rags and Sacking ...	6	18	173 2 1	4	7½	109 13 6
	108	7¼	£1163 2 4	83	7½	£905 2 9



Good prices are still to be obtained for Waste Paper, Rags, and Metals, and it would appear that a sound and regular market will be found for Waste Paper for some years to come, should at any time the outlet for Waste Paper stop, then careful consideration would have to be made in respect to the incineration of paper, as excessive amounts can cause some difficulty with Controlled Tipping.

#### IV. Disinfection

The steam disinfecting plant at the Old Isolation Hospital Depot was used 27 times and in addition 54 premises were disinfected after infectious disease or other complaints.

#### V. Pest Destruction

During the year 1,059 rats were trapped (no credit is given for rats poisoned). 119 Wasps' Nests were destroyed. In addition 72 dogs were dealt with in the Humane Electrocuting Cabinet. This was installed on 20th January, 1951, by the R.S.P.C.A., with the co-operation of the Harwich Borough Council and the indefatigable work of the local representative, Mrs. M. K. Whelpton. During the seven years in which this cabinet has been in use it has been operated by fully insured volunteers. The R.S.P.C.A. has now decided that the cabinet is no longer suitable and its use was therefore terminated at the end of 1957.

#### VI. Sanitary Inspection of the Area

	Nature of inspection	Total Visits
1	Drainage	27
2	Infectious Diseases	5
3	Housing inspection (including Slum Clearance)	91
4	Tenancy applications	42
5	Verminous premises	1
6	Rat and mice destruction	84
7	Food inspection	198
8	Bakehouses	12
9	Factories	41
10	Disinfections	58



## SECTION D

### HOUSING

#### Erection of New Houses

The following table covers the period from the cessation of hostilities :

	1946 to 1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Total
Erected by Council							
—Houses	216	47	119	35	2	2	421
—Flats	66	12		43	4	4	129
Erected by Private Enterprise—Houses	50	31	38	79	50	60	308
—Flats				3			3
	<hr/> 332	90	157	160	56	66	861

It is noted on inspection of many properties, that owing to the changing mode of life, there are in many houses considerable signs of dampness, brought about in many instances by the fact that both the husband and wife are out at work all day, and the only means of heating the living room is by the use of electricity or oil heaters. This form of heating in itself does not build up any latent heat in the carcase of the building, thus in the colder months of the year the walls, both internally and externally, get progressively colder and colder. Condensation thus readily builds up on the internal plaster, especially in rooms which are heated by oil. It would appear that where houses are lived in, in such manner, some form of built in heating is the answer, i.e., floor warming built into the floors, walls, etc. This position is also acute in the case of large roomed older houses, especially when occupied by persons of the low income group (they being unable to purchase the high cost solid fuels in sufficient quantities to keep even one room of the dwelling in a properly aired condition). It would appear that some form of district heating would be the answer to this problem.



## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### I. Food Premises.

(a) *Food Premises in the area :*

Bakers and Confectioners	...	7
Butchers	... ..	11
Confectioners & Tobacconists	...	3
Cafes	... ..	10
Fishmongers	... ..	6
Fish Fryers	... ..	8
Greengrocers	... ..	5
Grocers	... ..	14
General Stores	... ..	15
Public Houses and Hotels	...	29
Slaughter Houses	... ..	1
	Total	109

(b) *Premises Registered under Sect. 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :*

Manufacture of Sausages, etc.	... ..	12
Milk and Dairies	... ..	6
Manufacture of Ice Cream	... ..	—
Sale of Ice Cream. (In every case this is sold from wrapped cartons or containers. There is no sale of loose ice cream from registered premises.)	... ..	42

From time to time during the summer months travelling salesman from areas outside the Borough appear, and on inspection have been found to comply with regard to the regulations in respect of hygiene.

Frequent visits are made to all shops where food is stored, or for sale. These premises are found to be kept in a clean condition and comply with the regulations.

#### 2. Bakehouses.

There are six bakehouses in operation, and frequent inspections are made. All premises are kept in clean condition. Gradually the baking of bread is ceasing throughout the Borough owing to the packed and cut loaves now being placed on the market by factory bakehouses.

**TABLE VI**  
**MEAT INSPECTION**

**Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or in part**

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Goats
Number killed (if known) .....	118	8	18	191	232	
Number inspected .....	118	8	18	191	232	
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	2	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci .....	1.7%	—	—	—	1.8%	—
<b>Tuberculosis only :</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Cysticercosis :</b>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	2	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration .....	2	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned .....	—	—	—	—	—	—



**TABLE VII**  
**FACTORIES ACT — INSPECTIONS**

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority ... ..	31	14	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	12	20	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority* (excluding out-workers' premises)...	11	7	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>54</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

\*i.e. Electrical Station (Section 103 (1) ). Institutions (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).







## SECTION F.

### NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The year under review was characterised by an epidemic of Measles during the spring and early summer. In addition there was a seasonal increase in Whooping Cough. Both of these diseases, however, were of a benign type with no fatal cases.

The year has been almost free from any incidence of Typhoid or Paratyphoid fever. One case of Dysentery was reported. There were two small outbreaks of Food Poisoning reported. One involved four persons in one family, and the other three persons in one family. It was impossible to establish any connection between these two outbreaks, and investigations failed to reveal any organismal cause.

In other respects the health of the Borough as regards Notifiable Infectious Diseases could be regarded as very satisfactory.



TABLE IX

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1957

Age	New Cases Notified During Year						Deaths During Year					
	Pulmonary		Meninges & C.N.S.		Other		Pulmonary		Meninges & C.N.S.		Other	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-25	1	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	3	3	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—



TABLE X

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1957  
Total Cases Notified

DISEASE	AGE IN YEARS										Total	
	0-1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65-			
Scarlet Fever ...	5	2	13	19	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	40	
Acute Poliomyelitis, Paralytic...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis, Non-paralytic	13	42	67	130	9	2	—	—	—	—	263	
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	4	
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Encephalitis, Post-infectious	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Encephalitis, Infective ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	7	
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmic Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Infective Hepatitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2



TABLE XI

MONTHLY NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1957

DISEASE	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	J'NE	J'LY	AUG.	SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	16	3	8	6	2	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis, P'lytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" Non-paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	3	37	25	69	81	35	11	2	—	—	—	—	263
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	4
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis, Inf'ct'v	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" Post-Infectious	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	7
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	6
" Meninges & C.N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" Other ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Ophthalmic Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis ...	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2



TABLE XII

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND TUBERCULOSIS CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE PAST TEN YEARS**

(Figures in parenthesis indicate Number of Deaths during each year)

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Scarlet Fever ...	4(0)	5(0)	2(0)	5(0)	73(0)	29(0)	2(0)	3(0)	1(0)	1(0)
Whooping Cough ...	42(0)	1(0)	3(0)	24(0)	—	57(0)	4(0)	33(0)	45(0)	40(0)
Acute Poliomyelitis, Paralytic	1(0)	3(0)	—	1(1)	—	2(1)	1(0)	5(0)	—	—(0)
Acute Polio, Non-paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2(0)	—	—
Measles ...	274(0)	2(0)	214(0)	91(0)	242(0)	80(0)	180(0)	79(0)	9(0)	263(0)
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	3(0)	1(0)	2(0)	1(0)	4(0)	14(0)	—	1(0)	1(0)
Meningococcal Infection ...	1(0)	—	—	2(0)	—	—	6(0)	1(0)	2(0)	1(1)
Acute Pneumonia ...	10(5)	3(5)	—	2(0)	—	6(4)	1(2)	8(1)	2(9)	4(1)
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis, Infective ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis, Post-infectious	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	1(0)	—	1(0)	2(0)	3(0)	1(0)	—	1(0)
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1(0)	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	1(0)	—	3(0)	4(0)	4(0)	3(0)	1(0)	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	2(0)	5(0)	—	2(0)	7(0)
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	6(1)	13(4)	4(3)	8(5)	9(3)	14(0)	6(0)	13(2)	4(0)	6(1)
Tuberculosis, Meninges & C.N.S	—	—	—	1(0)	—	—	—	0(1)	—	—
Tuberculosis, Other ...	1(0)	2(0)	3(0)	4(1)	4(0)	—	2(0)	3(0)	1(0)	2(0)
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	2(0)	1(0)	—	1(0)	1(0)	1(0)	—	—	1(0)	2(0)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis ...	1(0)	3(0)	2(0)	7(0)	1(0)	12(0)	101(0)	1(0)	2(0)	2(0)



## CANCER MORTALITY

An examination of the incidence of mortality due to the various forms of Cancer during past years reveals some interesting facts. Table A gives the actual number of deaths for each year together with the death rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year population. The figures for Tuberculosis and also the total Death Rate for each year are given for comparison.

It is significant that in 1917, forty years ago, the mortality rate for Tuberculosis and for Cancer were the same. The former has shown a steady decline most noticeable within the past five or six years, coincident with the discovery and use of Streptomycin and other drugs inimical to the Tubercle Bacillus. The number of cases of Tuberculosis notified has remained almost unchanged.

On the other hand the mortality from Cancer over the same period shows a definite increase, particularly within the past few years.

Table B gives the age group in which deaths from Cancer have occurred over the past decade. Definite increases are observed in the 55-60, 60-65 and 70-75 groups. In the 75-80 group there is a slight decline while the other groups show no significant change.

An indication of the site of the fatal neoplasm is given in Table C. This reveals a marked increase in the incidence of Lung Cancer. In other sites there has not been much variation. In 1948-1952 there occurred 8 deaths from Lung Cancer (7 Male and 1 Female); in the subsequent five years the corresponding number was 31 (28 Male and 3 Female). While one might not be justified on the evidence at present available in saying **categorically** that cigarette smoking is the chief or even a major cause of this increase, research carried out definitely indicates that at least there is a strong and suspicious relationship. The need for immediate and intensive research is obvious. Until irrefutable evidence is forthcoming the cigarette is emphatically "suspect No. 1". For devotees of "my lady nicotine" the course is obvious.



TABLE A

CANCER MORTALITY

	Estimated Population	CANCER			TUBERCULOSIS			Tuberculosis Notifications	Death Rate all Causes
		M	F	Total	Death Rate	M	F		
1917	10,990	4	5	9	0.82	6	3	9	11.2
1927	11,870	10	9	19	1.60	3	6	9	12.04
1937	12,690	19	5	24	1.89	3	4	7	11.79
1947	11,800	9	7	16	1.36	5	1	6	12.88
1948	12,570	10	13	23	1.83	-	1	1	10.1
1949	13,820	18	7	25	1.81	3	1	4	10.05
1950	14,110	13	12	25	1.77	2	1	3	9.1
1951	14,390	15	7	22	1.54	2	4	6	10.07
1952	14,210	10	9	19	1.34	2	1	3	9.0
1953	14,590	13	10	23	1.58	-	-	-	11.04
1954	15,250	15	8	23	1.51	-	-	-	9.75
1955	15,310	12	9	21	1.37	1	2	3	8.68
1956	15,090	18	15	33	2.12	-	-	-	11.14
1957	13,760	22	18	40	2.91	1	-	1	13.14

TABLE B

CANCER MORTALITY

AGE AT DEATH

	Under 50		50—55		55—60		60—65		65—70		70—75		75—80		80+		TOTAL		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
1945	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	3	1	4	1	1	3	—	10	13	23
1949	3	—	—	3	3	1	4	4	1	4	4	3	3	1	2	1	18	7	25
1950	—	3	—	2	2	4	6	2	2	2	—	2	3	—	3	2	13	12	25
1951	2	—	3	1	3	1	1	3	—	2	2	2	2	1	4	3	15	7	22
1952	2	—	1	—	1	2	3	3	3	2	3	1	1	—	3	2	10	9	19
1953	2	2	—	—	2	2	3	3	1	3	3	3	—	6	4	3	13	10	23
1954	3	1	1	—	2	4	2	2	2	4	4	2	2	1	1	—	15	8	23
1955	—	2	1	2	3	4	4	5	1	2	6	2	2	—	—	—	12	9	21
1956	1	1	2	2	4	5	5	9	7	7	3	3	3	5	1	4	18	15	33
1957	—	4	1	—	6	7	9	4	4	7	8	1	2	3	4	4	22	18	40



TABLE C

CANCER MORTALITY

SITE OF DISEASE

	Alimentary		Respiratory		Breast		Genital Urinary		Elsewhere		TOTAL	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1948	3	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	7	14	10	13
1949	5	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	13	17	18	7
1950	1	2	3	1	3	3	1	1	9	14	13	12
1951	5	-	1	-	3	3	1	1	9	12	15	7
1952	2	2	3	-	3	3	1	1	5	8	10	9
1953	4	2	2	-	2	2	-	-	7	13	13	10
1954	3	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	8	12	15	8
1955	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	10	7	12	9
1956	2	1	1	1	5	5	3	3	6	11	18	15
1957	3	3	10	1	1	6	3	3	9	14	22	18





