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BOROUGH



OF LUTON

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1947

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Medical Officer of Health.

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BOROUGH



OF LUTON

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Public Health Department,
Town Hall,

LUTON.

January, 1948.

His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and
Councillors of the Borough of Luton.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This Annual Report for the year 1947 relates to the last complete year during which the Borough Council will be responsible for personal health services developed and administered over a long period of years.

On 5th July, 1948, the Council's Isolation Hospital and Maternity Institutions vest in the Minister of Health under the Health Service Act, 1946; and other personal services become the responsibility of the Bedfordshire County Council under the same Act.

The Council's hospitals would be transferable to the Minister of Health whatever the local government status of the town, but, as you are well aware, the loss of other services to the County Council is consequent upon the accident that Luton is not a County Borough.

As I stated in the Annual Report for 1946, the status of the Borough has been under review since June of that year, yet unfortunately at the end of 1947, i.e. eighteen months after the Local Government Boundary Commission opened their inquiry, we have no information that they have reached a decision.

Partly, no doubt, as a consequence of the inadequacy of trained personnel to meet national demands, and partly because of the great difficulty of securing housing accommodation for newcomers to the town, it has proved impossible during 1947 to recruit sufficient staff to make good wastage. It is almost certain, moreover, that the prevailing uncertainty about the borough's future as a unit of health administration has aggravated these difficulties. Health visitors, for instance, in the employ of the council at the end of the year numbered only five as against an approved establishment of ten; and at one time it seemed almost inevitable that the Spittlesea Isolation Hospital would have to be closed for want of nursing staff although the demand for beds was insistent.

I regret to report, therefore, that after maintaining full services during the whole of the war period it has proved impossible to do so during 1947 for reasons beyond the control of the Council.

The population of the borough increased again during 1947 from a little over 107,000 at the beginning of the year to close on 110,000 at the end of the year. The Registrar-General estimated the civilian population at the 30th June, 1947, to be 108,940.

The birth rate for 1947 reached a level of 21.3, the highest recorded for many years with the exception of the peak figure of 22.7 in 1944 (see Table 2, p. 6).

The stillbirth rate was the lowest ever recorded—a rate of 21.1, as against the high rate of 31.8 for the previous year.

Infantile mortality remained at the low level it has held since 1944. The rate for 1947 was 36 per thousand live births.

In common with the rest of the country, Luton experienced a high incidence of infantile paralysis. The outbreak was, indeed, the outstanding medical event of the year, within the purview of the Health Department. Between the 28th May (the date of occurrence of the first case) and the end of the year 47 confirmed cases occurred in the borough with 8 fatalities. Details of the age and sex distribution of the cases, classified according to severity, are given in Appendix I which contains also a graph showing the spread of cases during the period 2nd August to 31st December. Effective treatment and after-care for the sufferers were secured in a manner which has already been reported.

With the exception of infantile paralysis, there was no unusual incidence of notifiable infectious disease. There were 471 notifications of measles, 100 whooping cough, 178 of scarlet fever, and 5 of diphtheria; but not a single death was attributed to these causes.

Once more there have been many staff changes during the year, amongst them the retirement of Miss Lilian Dally who was Matron to the Isolation Hospital for twenty-five years.

Your Public Health Committee as well as individual members of the Council have shown a consistent understanding of the Department's difficulties during another year of transition, and the public have accepted with forbearance the contraction of services which circumstances beyond local control have forced upon us.

I should like to place on record my indebtedness to the entire staff of the health department who have, without exception, served the public willingly and efficiently.

Finally, I wish to refer to the change in the Chairmanship of the Public Health Committee consequent upon an altered constitution of the Council. In November, 1947, Councillor A. J. Mander, O.B.E., J.P., replaced Alderman W. G. Roberts, J.P., who rendered great service to the health services of the Borough during his ten years as Chairman of the Health Committee.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

F. GRUNDY,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (from 1st April, 1939)	...	...	...	...	8,736 acres
Population (Census, 1931)	...	...	...	...	68,523
Registrar-General's Estimate for mid-1947 (Provisional)					108,940
Number of inhabited houses, 1st April, 1947	...	...			29,200
Rateable value (1st April, 1947) unreduced	...	...			£894,618
Rateable value (1st April, 1947) reduced	...	...			£781,132
Sum represented by Penny Rate (est. 1947-48)	...	...			£3,225

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1947

			<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Notified live births	Legitimate	...	2,612	1,363	1,249
	Illegitimate	...	156	88	68
	All	...	2,768	1,451	1,317
Notified stillbirths	Legitimate	...	64	28	36
	Illegitimate	...	2	—	2
	All	...	66	28	38
Total Live and Stillbirths (Notified)	...		2834		
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births*...				...	21.1
Registered live births*	...		2,321		
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population (provisional)					21.3
			<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Registered Deaths*	...		1,027	546	481
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population				...	9.4
Death from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of Registrar-General's short list) :—					

	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 registered total births</i>
No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis	1	0.4
No. 30 Other Puerperal causes	1	0.4
Total	2	0.8

Death Rates of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 registered live births (provisional)	...	36
Legitimate per 1,000 legitimate live births (provisional)	...	35
Illegitimate per 1,000 illegitimate live births (provisional)		48

* Corrected for inward and outward transfers.

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL
DEATH RATES AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES
IN THE YEAR 1947.

(England and Wales, London, 126 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns).

(Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	LUTON.	ENGLAND AND WALES.	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Administrative County.
* Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population					
Births :					
Live	21.3	20.5‡	23.3	22.2	22.7
Still	0.46	0.50‡	0.62	0.54	0.49
Deaths :					
All causes	9.5	12.0‡	13.0	11.9	12.8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	—	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02
Diphtheria	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Influenza	0.04	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.08
Smallpox	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	—	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01
Rates per 1,000 live births					
Deaths under 1 year of age ...	37	41†	47	36	37
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	3.0	5.8	8.0	3.7	4.8
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population					
Notifications :					
Typhoid Fever	—	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.07	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.05
Scarlet Fever	1.64	1.37	1.54	1.37	1.31
Whooping Cough	0.92	2.22	2.41	2.02	2.80
Diphtheria	0.04	0.13	0.15	0.14	0.14
Erysipelas	0.06	0.19	0.21	0.18	0.22
Smallpox	—	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Measles	4.35	9.41	9.13	9.58	5.29
Pneumonia	0.40	0.79	0.89	0.68	0.64
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still)					
(a) Notifications :					
Puerperal Fever	11.05	7.16	8.99	6.27	1.21 Ø 6.94
Puerperal Pyrexia					
(b) Maternal Mortality :					
Puerperal Infection (No. 147) ...	0.42	0.16	Not available		
Abortion with Sepsis (No. 140)...					
Abortion without Sepsis (No. 141)	—	0.06			
Others		0.85			
Total	0.42	1.17			

* A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

† Per 1,000 related births.

‡ Rates per 1,000 Total population.

Ø Including Puerperal Fever.

TABLE 2. COMPARATIVE STATISTICS FOR 1937-1947

Year	LIVE BIRTHS		STILLBIRTHS		DEATHS		INFANT DEATHS			Rate per 1000 live births	MATERNAL DEATHS			
	Number	Rate per 1000 estimated population	Number	Rate per 1000 total births	Number	Rate per 1000 estimated population	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks - 12 months	TOTAL		Sepsis	Other	Number	Rate per 1000 total births
1937	1,530	17.1	61	38.3	935	10.5	33	24	57	37	—	6	6	3.77
1938	1,567	17.3	49	30.3	872	9.6	45	25	70	44	2	4	6	3.71
1939	1,528	16.5	61	38.4	945	10.0	34	23	57	37	1	3	4	2.51
1940	1,543	15.0	35	21.3	1,128	11.3	40	42	82	53	—	2	2	1.21
1941	1,440	13.9	47	31.6	1,036	10.0	38	36	74	49	—	2	2	1.29
1942	1,820	18.0	69	36.5	998	9.8	42	39	81	44	—	1	1	0.52
1943	1,902	19.2	60	30.6	994	10.0	41	39	80	42	2	5	7	3.56
1944	2,282	22.7	58	24.8	1,040	10.3	40	43	83	36	—	3	3	1.3
1945	1,905	18.9	52	26.6	960	9.5	34	28	62	33	1	2	3	1.5
1946	2,096	19.9	71	32.8	1,019	9.6	51	20	71	34	2	1	3	1.4
1947	2,321	21.3	50	21.1	1,027	9.4	47	37	84	36	1	1	2	0.88

TABLE 3. DEATHS OF LUTON RESIDENTS DURING THE YEAR 1947

CAUSE OF DEATH	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	1 month to 1 year	Total under 1 year	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75+
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	46	—	—	—	—	1	1	6	13	11	6	3	3	2
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	12	—	1	1	3	2	—	2	—	1	—	1	1	1
8. Syphilitic Disease	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	2
9. Influenza	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1
10. Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	7	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	—
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13M. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1
13F. Cancer of Uterus	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	3	3
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	5	3	3
15. Cancer of Breast	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	8	3
16. Cancer of all other sites	91	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	13	24	24	21
17. Diabetes	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	1
18. Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	134	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	6	24	37	65
19. Heart Disease	277	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	8	14	45	81	125
20. Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	8	4
Carried forward	655	—	2	2	4	4	2	12	21	33	53	112	180	232

32 14
2.3 1

DEATHS OF LUTON RESIDENTS DURING THE YEAR 1947 (continued)

CAUSE OF DEATH		All Ages	Under 4 weeks	1 month to 1 year	Total under 1 year	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75+
Brought forward	...	655	—	2	2	4	4	2	12	21	33	53	112	180	232
21. Bronchitis	...	45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	6	13	22
22. Pneumonia	...	54	4	16	20	5	—	—	1	1	3	2	6	7	9
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	...	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	4	5	2
24. Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum	...	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	2	3
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	7	—	6	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26. Appendicitis	...	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—
27. Other Digestive Diseases	...	29	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	5	9	5	7
28. Nephritis	...	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	5	5	6
29. Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
30. Other Maternal Causes	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Premature Birth	...	24	24	—	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32. Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease	...	30	19	9	28	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
33. Suicide	...	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	2	3
34. Road Traffic Accidents	...	9	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	3	2
35. Other Violent Causes	...	16	—	2	2	1	—	1	1	2	1	—	1	2	5
36. All Other Causes	...	94	—	2	2	—	—	—	2	1	3	5	4	14	63
Totals	...	1027	47	37	84	13	5	4	19	29	55	76	149	239	354

TABLE 4
NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1947 Civilian (Corrected in cases of revised diagnosis)

	Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	—	4	3	8	9	76	56	11	—	5	6	—	—	178
Diphtheria	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	5
Whooping Cough	9	14	12	23	18	22	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	100
Measles	12	50	75	88	73	161	5	3	3	1	—	—	—	471
Pneumonia	1	1	1	2	—	6	2	2	—	3	9	11	6	44
Anterior Poliomyelitis	5	2	3	5	3	5	2	2	2	2	6	—	—	37
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Polioencephalitis	—	—	1	—	1	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Dysentery	2	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	8
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	10	13	1	—	—	26
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	2	1	—	8
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	7
Jaundice	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	2	1	2	1	3	12
Totals	31	72	98	126	106	282	71	21	18	29	27	15	12	908

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Number of children immunised under the Council's scheme, 1943-47

				<i>Under 5 years</i>	<i>Over 5 years</i>	<i>Total</i>
1943	...	...	...	1,659	1,938	3,597
1944	...	...	...	1,037	97	1,134
1945	...	...	...	1,225	189	1,414
1946	...	...	...	1,191	105	1,296
1947	...	...	...	1,246	129	1,375

TABLE 5

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1947.
(According to Health Department Records)

Age at 31.12.47	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 to 9 years	10 to 14 years	Total under 15
Number Immunised	0	1,152	1,105	1,205	914	5,248	5,409	15,033
Estimated mid-year population, 1947	10,410					14,483		24,893

	<i>Under 5 years</i>	<i>Between 5 and 15 years</i>
Estimated percentage of the child population immunised at 31st December, 1947 ...	42%	73%
(a) Number of cases of diphtheria in children under 15 years of age notified during the year ...		4
(b) Number of cases included in (a) in which the child is known to have completed the course of immunisation not less than 12 weeks before the onset of the disease		2
(c) Number of deaths from diphtheria registered in the Authority's area during the year, of children under 15 years of age ...		0
(d) Number of deaths included in (c) in which the child is known to have completed the course of immunisation not less than 12 weeks before the onset of the disease ...		0

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

(a) Number of cases notified during the year ...	...	...	...	1
(b) Number of cases visited by officers of the Council	...	...	...	1
(c) Number of cases removed to hospital	...	...	...	Nil
(d) Number of cases for whom home nursing was provided by the Council	...	...	...	1
(e) Number of cases in which vision was impaired	...	...	...	Nil

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

DEATHS FROM DIPHTHERIA ARE SHOWN IN BRACKETS ON GRAPH.

PERCENTAGE OF IMMUNISED POPULATION 0-15 YEARS IN BRACKETS AT FOOT OF GRAPH.

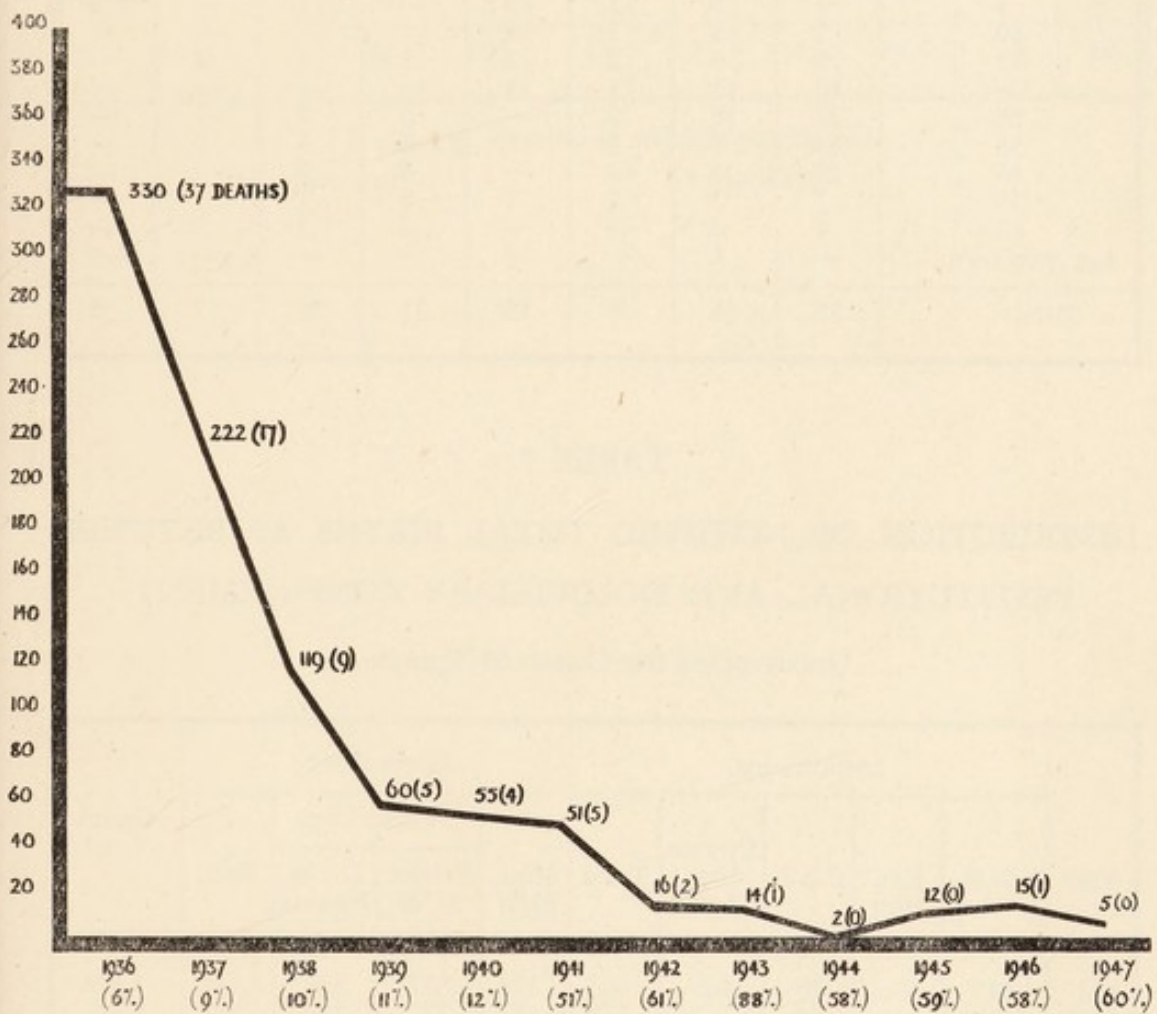


TABLE 6

PARTICULARS OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS AND ALL
DEATHS FROM THE DISEASE DURING 1947

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
1 "	1	4	—	3	—	—	—	2
5 "	1	1	1	3	—	1	—	2
10 "	1	3	1	2	1	—	—	—
15 "	9	8	2	3	1	5	2	—
20 "	10	13	1	1	—	—	—	—
25 "	22	18	2	—	5	8	—	—
35 "	14	8	1	1	6	5	1	—
45 "	14	3	—	—	4	2	—	—
55 "	7	3	1	1	2	1	1	—
65+	4	3	—	—	2	3	2	—
Age unknown	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	83	65	9	15	21	25	7	5

TABLE 7

DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED TOTAL BIRTHS AS BETWEEN
INSTITUTIONAL AND DOMICILIARY CONFINEMENT

Uncorrected for Outward Transfers

Year	Institutional					Domiciliary				Grand Total
	B.M.H.	Em. Unit	P.A.I.	Private Nsg. Home	Total	Mun. M/W	Notified by		Total	
							Private M/W	Dr. & Parents		
1937	445	—	19	169	633	124	527	390	1,041	1,674
1938	540	—	26	172	738	477	271	210	958	1,696
1939	568	84	38	166	856	583	131	109	823	1,679
1940	588	175	21	194	978	674	—	106	780	1,758
1941	583	504	46	216	1,349	463	—	162	625	1,974
1942	576	681	58	329	1,644	508	3	196	707	2,351
1943	533	535	115	467	1,650	451	1	224	676	2,326
1944	631	609	190	508	2,028	534	39	156	729	2,757
1945	610	621	114	476	1,821	407	50	62	519	2,340
1946	667	678	215	582	2,142	397	—	95	492	2,634
1947	667	616	329	572	2,184	571	—	79	650	2,834

TABLE 8.
STILLBIRTHS.‡

Cause	B.M.H.	Em. Unit	L. & D.H.	St. Mary's Hosp.	Doctor	Midwife	Nursing Home	Total
Maternal Toxæmia	6	4	—	—	—	—	—	10
Chronic Maternal Disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Foetal malforma- tion ...	1	3	—	1	1	—	1	7
Prematurity ...	1	—	—	—	1	2*	1	5
Complications of labour ...	8	2	1	3	1	6	1	22
Other ...	6	1	—	3†	1	6	1	18
Total ...	22	10	1	7	4	14	4	62

‡ Excluding outcome of multiple pregnancies.

* 2 Macerated.

† 1 Macerated.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1 (A). BACTERIOLOGICAL AND SANITARY WORK (Medical Research Council Laboratory)

1947

Nose and Throat Swabs	...	...	...	8,697
Faeces and Urine	...	...	...	2,164
Sputum	...	...	...	184
Water	...	...	...	318
Milk	...	...	...	488
Ice-cream	...	...	...	102
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	1,785
Total				13,738

1 (B). PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME

No change.

1 (C). CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

An additional Infant Welfare Centre was opened for weekly sessions on Monday afternoons at the Leagrave Methodist Chapel Hall on 15th September, 1947.

The Stopsley Infant Welfare Centre was transferred to the Stopsley Nursery premises on 22nd September, 1947.

The central consultative clinic for infants was discontinued in July and the medical staff resumed the practice of regular attendance at infant welfare centres.

The Bury Park Cleansing Station closed down in February, 1947, when the premises were derequisitioned.

TABLE 9.

NUMBER OF ATTENDANCES AT ANTE-NATAL CLINICS
DURING THE YEAR 1947.

1947	Maternity Hospital		Beechwood Health Centre		Total Att'ces	Post- Natal Clinic Total Attends	School for Mothers Total Attends
	First Attends	Subs. Attends	First Attends	Subs. Attends			
January ...	5	416	178	758	1,357	48	47
February ...	5	329	106	645	1,085	53	28
March ...	4	298	145	741	1,188	60	7
April ...	5	341	121	684	1,151	95	21
May ...	2	366	108	679	1,155	60	35
June ...	2	301	121	713	1,137	67	33
July ...	3	316	108	704	1,131	78	24
August ...	2	316	131	579	1,028	74	26
September ...	36	233	134	712	1,115	71	39
October ...	2	315	152	725	1,194	46	57
November ...	3	272	101	657	1,033	51	40
December ...	1	232	113	671	1,017	66	14
Totals ...	70	3,735	1,518	8,268	1,3591	769	371

TABLE 10.

ATTENDANCES AT ANTE-NATAL CLINICS, 1937—1947.

	First Attendances	Subsequent Attendances	Total Attendances
1937 ...	927	3,264	4,191
1938 ...	1,018	3,686	4,704
1939 ...	1,616	3,967	4,960
1940 ...	1,630*	6,782*	8,412*
	695	2,025	2,720
1941 ...	2,022*	8,416*	10,438*
	587	1,788	2,375
1942 ...	2,136*	12,729*	14,865*
	652	3,022	3,674
1943 ...	2,038*	13,470*	15,508*
	611	2,855	3,466
1944 ...	2,170*	15,092*	17,362*
	535	2,020	2,555
1945 ...	1,918*	12,930*	14,848*
	420	1,485	1,905
1946 ...	2,585*	14,638*	17,223*
	526	1,477	2,003
1947 ...	2,150*	13,784*	15,934*
	562	1,781	2,343

* Includes Municipal Midwives' figures shown immediately below

TABLE 11.

NUMBER OF CONSULTATIONS, WEIGHINGS, ETC., AT
INFANT WELFARE CENTRES, DURING THE YEARS 1942—1947.

			First Attendances		No. on Register at end of year	Infants weighed
			Under 1 year	1-5 years		
1942	...	...	1,449	209	3,865	21,124
1943	...	...	1,508	132	3,829	28,262
1944	...	...	2,199	262	3,996	33,223
1945	...	...	1,645	128	3,585	30,364
1946	...	...	1,789	248	3,695	30,427
1947	...	...	1,975	128	4,277	29,409

Infants requiring supervised treatment who attended at the above centres were referred to the Dallow Road Minor Ailments Clinic; 1,464 attendances were made for treatment purposes.

INSTITUTE OF RAY THERAPY.

51 Cases were treated at the Institute on behalf of the Local Authority.
Lump sum payment £50.

DENTAL CLINIC.

Adults—

No. of sessions	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
No. of patients referred	...	...	...	...	...	...	142
No. of patients who attended	...	...	...	...	...	...	126
No. of attendances made	...	...	...	...	...	...	429
No. of cases in which dentures were supplied	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Cost of dentures	...	...	...	...	...	£145 16s. 3d.	
Amount recoverable from patients	...	...	...	...	...	£145 8s. 9d.	

Children—

No. of patients referred	...	...	...	...	...	...	126
No. of patients who attended	...	...	...	...	...	...	165
No. of attendances made	...	...	...	...	...	...	291

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

During the year 1947 the Inspectors were responsible for dealing with 22 cases on behalf of the Department.

TABLE 12.

HOME VISITS BY HEALTH VISITORS.

	Children under 1 year		Children 1-5 years		Expectant Mothers		Special Visits Infectious Disease, etc.	Infant Life Protection	Total Visits
	First Visits	Re-Visits	First Visits	Re-Visits	First Visits	Re-Visits			
1940 ...	1,679	3,993	239	8,099	—	325	6,376	205	20,196
1941 ...	1,963	5,008	112	8,583	—	219	5,422	131	21,438
1942 ...	2,203	5,698	273	7,765	—	56	8,665	65	24,725
1943 ...	1,986	8,594	45	8,603	—	238	4,997	203	24,666
1944 ...	2,760	7,981	173	7,451	—	171	3,980	288	22,804
1945 ...	2,608	6,233	183	8,399	—	66	3,417	489	21,395
1946 ...	2,394	4,948	181	7,744	60	19	4,352	250	19,948
1947 ...	2,832	4,194	359	7,072	68	—	4,439	119	19,083

CLEANSING OF PERSONS

Total attendances at cleansing station and central clinic ...	1,229
Number of heads cleansed ...	947
Number of individual cases of scabies treated during the year ...	157

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, PART VII.
CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

Number of persons who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year ...	12
Number of children :	
(a) At the end of the year ...	12
(b) Who died during the year ...	—
(c) On whom inquests were held during the year ...	—
Number of child protection visitors at the end of the year who were :	
(a) Health visitors... ..	1
(b) Female, other than health visitors ...	—
(c) Male	2
Number of other authorised visitors ...	Nil
Proceedings taken during the year ...	Nil

ADMINISTRATION OF THE MIDWIVES' ACTS.

Distribution of Midwives, 31st December, 1947.

(a) Private Practice (Independent) ...	1
(b) Municipal Midwives ...	8
(c) In Private Nursing Homes ...	6
(d) Public Assistance Institution ...	10
(e) Borough Maternity Hospital ...	18

TABLE 13.
NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM MIDWIVES.

	Nursing Homes	Muni- cipal Midwves.	P.A.I.	Mat. Hosp. & Ext.	Inde- pendent Practice	Total
(a) Intention to practise ...	6	10	10	18	1	45
(b) Intention to cease prac- tise ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Change of address ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Change of name ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
(e) Sending for medical help	—	111	—	—	—	111
(f) Stillbirths occurring in practice ...	—	10	—	—	—	10
(g) Deaths occurring in practice—						
(i) Mothers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) Infants ...	1	2	—	—	—	3
(h) Laying out the dead ...	—	8	—	—	—	8
(i) Liability to be a source of infection ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
(j) Substitution of artificial feeding ...	2	15	—	—	—	17

Supervisor of Midwives.

Routine inspection visits ...	...	...	...	...	...	—
" " " (Midwife out) ...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Special enquiry visits in respect of notifications :						
(a) Medical help ...	...	...	...	...	...	102
(b) Stillbirths ...	...	...	...	...	...	19
(c) Deaths occurring in practice	...	...	...	...	...	—
(d) Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(e) Laying out the dead ...	...	...	...	...	...	—
(f) To supervise disinfection ...	...	...	...	...	...	—

Other visits :

Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Home helps ...	...	...	...	...	...	116
Nursing mothers ...	...	...	...	...	...	146
Labour visits ...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Nursing Homes ...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Administration of Gas and Air Analgesia ...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ante-Natal and Post-Natal ...	...	...	...	...	...	99
Administration ...	...	...	...	...	...	676
Total	...	...	...	...	...	1,211
Ante-Natal Clinics attended ...	...	...	...	...	...	146

Medical Aid.

During the year medical aid was sought in 111 of the midwives' cases.

During this period 89 accounts amounting to £137 18s. 6d. were received from medical practitioners for services rendered in response to requests for medical help from midwives, and the sum of £116 15s. 5d. is recoverable from patients.

TABLE 14.
NUMBER OF CASES ATTENDED BY MIDWIVES.

District Number	Acting as Midwife	Acting as Maternity Nurse	Total
1	57	29	86
2	—	—	—
3	47	22	69
4	59	23	82
5	51	33	84
6	26	49	75
7	49	35	84
8	21	8	29
9	28	31	59
Total ...	338	230	568

TABLE 15.
NUMBER OF VISITS PAID BY MIDWIVES.

District Number	Expectant Mothers	Nursing Mothers	Post-Natal	Total
1	694	2,086	219	2,999
2	—	—	—	—
3	615	1,922	210	2,747
4	668	1,717	268	2,653
5	488	1,443	176	2,107
6	375	1,521	151	2,047
7	734	1,718	135	2,587
8	274	611	66	951
9	156	1,128	98	1,382
Total ...	4,004	12,146	1,323	17,473

TABLE 16. NUMBER OF PATIENTS ATTENDING
MIDWIVES' ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

District Number	No. of Clinics	No. of First Attendances	Subsequent Attendances	Total
1	25	92	307	399
2	—	—	—	—
3	24	64	228	292
4	23	92	352	444
5	22	57	181	238
6	22	50	177	227
7	23	95	204	299
8	12	21	80	101
9	23	91	252	343
Total ...	174	562	1,781	2,343

TABLE 17.
NUMBER OF PATIENTS ATTENDING CONSULTANT CLINICS.

District Number	No. of Clinics Attended	Attendances of Patients		Total
		Ante-natal	Post-natal	
1	31	138	31	169
2	—	—	—	—
3	22	134	11	145
4	22	109	14	123
5	22	67	11	78
6	19	23	4	27
7	25	91	18	109
8	13	32	5	37
9	8	46	—	46
Total ...	162	640	94	734

TABLE 18.

LEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS OCCURRING IN THE MUNICIPAL
MIDWIFERY SERVICE DURING 1947.

(excluding multiple births)

The number of previous pregnancies (irrespective of outcome) being :

Age of Mother at Maternity	Pregnancy Order (including present pregnancy)									Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9+	
Years										
15-20	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16
20-25	50	28	13	3	1	—	—	—	—	95
25-30	27	49	40	18	4	2	1	1	1	143
30-35	5	32	47	27	9	10	3	3	—	136
35-40	5	25	18	10	5	11	5	5	3	87
40-45	1	3	6	2	6	5	—	3	7	33
45+	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
All Ages	104	137	124	60	25	28	10	12	12	512

Multiple births ... 4 Illegitimate births ... 37
 *Stillbirths ... 14
 * 1 pair also illegitimate.

TABLE 19.

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION, Public Health Act, 1936.

Name of Nursing Home	Date of Registra- tion with Luton Borough Council	DIVISION OF BEDS			
		Maternity	Surgical	Medical	Total
Westdale	1.7.36 formerly with Beds. C.C.	5	—	—	5
Strathallan	3.10.47	—	—	5	5
The Mount	5.6.45	12	—	—	12
The Chase	3.4.46	10	—	—	10
TOTALS		27	—	5	32

During the year 61 women were delivered in the Westdale Nursing Home, 39 in the Haven Nursing Home, 211 in the Mount Nursing Home, and 214 in the Chase Nursing Home.

Mrs. Blanche Gighall, S.R.N., S.C.M., 18 Conway Road, was granted a certificate in respect of the "Strathallan Nursing Home," 18 Conway Road, on 3rd October, 1947.

The keeper of the "Haven Nursing Home" retired on the 10th June, 1947, and the premises are no longer used as a Nursing Home.

BOROUGH MATERNITY HOSPITAL.
Clinical and Administrative Statistics.

	<i>Borough Maternity Hospital.</i>	<i>Extension</i>	<i>Total.</i>
No. of patients in hospital—1.1.47 ...	23	25	48
No. of patients admitted during the year	749	690	1,439
No. of patients discharged during the year	744	696	1,440
No. of patients in hospital—31.12.47 ...	26	19	45
No. of patients died during the year ...	2	—	2
Admissions :			
No. of patients admitted for confinement—			
Borough	551	598	1,149
Other	103	16	119
No. of patients admitted for ante-natal or post-natal treatment—			
Borough	70	73	143
Others	25	3	28
	749	690	1,439
No. of patient days* :			
(a) Ante-natal or post-natal treatment	827	716	1,543
(b) Confinements... ..	9,886	8,567	18,453
(c) Total	10,713	9,283	19,996
Average duration of stay of women de- livered in hospital			
Daily average for the year	15.2 days	13.9 days	42
Maximum number of patients on any one day	29	30	59
Number of patients delivered by :			
(a) Midwives	564	544	1,108
(b) Doctors	87	72	159
Operations performed :			
Forceps delivery	40	36	76
Caesarean Section	5	—	5
Caesarean Section and sterilisation	3	—	3
Hysterotomy and sterilisation	—	—	—
Ruptured membranes for induction of labour	9	5	14
Manual removal of placenta	2	7	9
Perineal suture	127	117	244
Episiotomy	7	23	30
Other operations	2	—	2
Forceps rate... ..	5.9%	5.8%	
No. of deliveries	667	616	1,283

*Includes patient-days at Chaul End Nursery Building.

				<i>Borough Maternity Hospital</i>	<i>Extension</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of viable children born	...	...	...	642	605	1,247
No. of stillbirths	...	...	...	25	11	36
No. of infantile deaths	...	...	...	11	10	21
Miscarriages	...	...	...	8	6	14
Causes of infantile death :						
Birth injury with shock or asphyxia	...	...	...	—	1	1
Congenital heart disease, Spina Bifida, Anencephalus, etc.	...	...	...	1	2	3
Hydrocephalus	...	...	...	—	—	—
Cleft palate : debility	...	...	...	—	—	—
White asphyxia	...	...	...	—	—	—
Enteritis	...	...	...	—	—	—
Icterus Neonatorum	...	...	...	—	—	—
Broncho-pneumonia	...	...	...	1	—	1
Prematurity	...	...	...	9	7	16
Erythroblastosis	...	...	...	—	—	—
Feeding :						
No. of infants wholly breast fed on leaving institution	...	...	...	463	454	917
No. of infants who at any time received a supplementary or complementary feed	...	...	...	166	147	313

TABLE 20. LEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS OCCURRING IN THE
COUNCIL'S MATERNITY INSTITUTIONS DURING 1947
(excluding multiple births).

The number of previous pregnancies (irrespective of outcome) being :

Age of Mother at Maternity	Pregnancy Order (including present pregnancy)									Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9+	
Years										
15-20	47	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	51
20-25	224	96	21	—	1	—	—	—	—	342
25-30	143	149	42	9	6	3	1	—	1	354
30-35	64	86	50	15	7	2	1	—	—	225
35-40	23	45	37	14	13	5	4	4	6	151
40-45	7	3	10	6	2	4	3	2	1	38
45+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
All ages	508	383	160	44	29	14	9	6	9	1,162

Multiple births...18 (in one case one set of twins stillborn; in two cases one of a twin pair stillborn, and in one case one set of twins also illegitimate)
Stillbirths...32 (in two cases also illegitimate) Illegitimate...53

Training School : Midwifery—Part II.

No. of pupil midwives who passed the examination of the
Central Midwives Board during the year

				<i>Patient days Chaul End Unit</i>		
				<i>Hospital Patients</i>	<i>Extension Patients</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a) Ante-natal and Post-natal treatment				—	—	—
(b) Puerperium ...	...	...	...	2,319	1,990	4,309
Total	...	...	...	2,319	1,990	4,309

SPITTLESEA ISOLATION HOSPITAL

TABLE 21

SPITTLESEA HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

(According to diagnosis at admission)

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Cerebro-spinal Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Polio-myelitis and Encephalitis	Other*	No. of Patient days
January ...	1	2	1	1	—	9	366
February ...	3	—	1	—	—	9	298
March ...	3	—	—	2	—	9	264
April ...	3	—	—	—	—	7	151
May ...	8	—	—	2	3	7	241
June ...	3	1	—	2	2	6	280
July ...	3	1	—	1	3	6	296
August ...	2	—	—	—	19	4	309
September	—	—	—	3	19	4	351
October ...	—	1	—	—	18	2	321
November	—	—	2	—	9	—	268
December	5	—	2	—	4	4	200
Total ...	31	5	6	11	77	66	3345

* Other cases total for year include : Measles 8, Meningitis 17, Paratyphoid 3.

SPITTLESEA ISOLATION HOSPITAL

Available bed days	20,862	
Actual bed days of patients...	3,345	
Percentage of bed occupation	16.03%	
Maximum number of patients on any one day	17	
Minimum number of patients on any one day	3	
No. of patients in hospital 31.12.46	12	
No. of patients admitted during the year	196	
		208
No. of patients discharged well	180	
No. of patients who died	19	
No. of patients remaining in hospital 31.12.47	9	
		208

NURSERIES.

	<i>Manor Road</i>	<i>Alder Crescent</i>	<i>Stopsley</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of Children on Register 1.1.47	78	82	54	214
No. of Children added to Register ...	81	92	30	203
No. of Children removed from Register	78	104	50	232
No. of Children remaining on Register 31.12.47	81	70	34	185
No. of Children on waiting list 31.12.47	5	Nil	4	9

REPORT

OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,

LUTON.

1st January, 1948.

The Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and
Councillors of the Borough of Luton.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In last year's report I mentioned the difficulty in securing the expeditious repairing of dwelling-houses and that deterioration of property was particularly noticeable. I hoped at the time that in 1947 the position would improve and a nearer pre-war standard of repair would be attained. Difficulties, however, were encountered early in the year, caused by the severe frosts in January and February, when a large number of water closets were damaged, and although representations were made to Ministry Departments for an increased allocation of materials to the town, it was December before sufficient w.c. pans became available, and certain houses had been without sanitary accommodation for as long as ten months.

Throughout the year cast-iron goods, timber and cement were in short supply and in many instances the requirements of notices were not complied with for many months. These conditions are reflected in the number of Statutory Notices served—an increase of 92 per cent. over 1946.

As usual, the inspection of meat and other foods has been given high priority, and all animals slaughtered for food have been inspected. Every effort has been made to save as much food as possible, special care being taken in doubtful cases.

During the year, the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations came into force, and although they do not provide the desired power for enforcing clean handling and protection from contamination of ice cream during all stages, they will ensure a much cleaner article immediately after manufacture. The equipment required for manufacturing ice cream to comply with the Regulations is new, and after the Dairy and Ice Cream Exhibition it was possible to advise manufacturers of the various types of equipment that would become available. Many premises are now ready, and from others, orders have been placed for the new equipment; it is therefore envisaged that by the time the season commences most manufacturers will be ready to produce a cleaner product than hitherto.

The number of rat and mice infestations found has increased, due possibly to more house-to-house visiting as required by the Ministry of Food Scheme and because the sewers have not yet been treated. To cope with the full programme for rat and mice infestation, it has been found necessary to appoint an additional Rodent Operative.

During the year, 567 outworkers' premises were inspected. This function had to be suspended for several years because of the war and staff shortages. Its reintroduction will cover new outworkers and ensure that work is being carried out in wholesome premises.

During the year, there has been no change in Staff, and the work of the Department has run relatively smoothly. Special leave was granted by the Public Health Committee to Mr. Freestone to visit America, wherefrom he brought most interesting and useful information.

In conclusion, I wish to thank members of the Staff and other Officers of the Council for the ready assistance they have given throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR J. NICHOLS,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

GENERAL.

Luton, which has an area of 8,736 acres, is situated in a valley between the Chiltern Hills at 200 to 400 feet above sea level in the town, rising to 400 to 600 feet above sea level on the surrounding hills. It is mainly built upon the upper chalk, with loam and clay deposits.

Meteorology.—The Luton Meteorological Station, which is under the control of the Borough Engineer, is situated in Wardown Park, New Bedford Road, from which the following observations were taken :—

Sunshine.—1,518.2 hours of sunshine were recorded during the year, the sunniest day being the 28th May, 1947, when 14.3 hours were recorded.

Rainfall.—The total rainfall recorded during the year was 19.52 inches, the wettest day being the 27th June, 1947, when 1.03 inches of rain were recorded.

Temperatures.—The maximum temperature during the year was 90° F., recorded on the 3rd September, 1947, and the minimum temperature was —3.0° F., on the 24th February, 1947, the mean temperature being 47.6° F.

Wind.—The prevailing wind during the year was south-west.

WATER SUPPLY

Luton has an abundant supply of excellent water which is distributed throughout the Borough by the Luton Water Company, and is derived from deep wells in the chalk situated in Crescent Road and Runley Wood. Chlorination of the supply is carried out, the average amount of chlorine pumped into the supply being 0.2 parts per million.

From information received from the Luton Water Company, the total amount of water supplied during the year ended 31st December, 1947, was 1,650,000,000 gallons. Assuming a population of 109,000 the total number of gallons used per head per day was approximately 41, an average of 18 gallons per head per day for industrial purposes, and 23 gallons per head per day for domestic use.

The following information, concerning the plumbo-solvency of the water, is supplied by the Luton Water Company :—

“ We are informed by the Water Pollution Research Laboratory that the water supplied from our chalk wells at Crescent Road is slightly plumbo-solvent. Tests were carried out on a length of unused lead pipe and it was found that although the percentage of lead dissolved in the water was relatively small this quantity was not reduced over a period of 14 days by any insoluble coating being formed on the inside of the pipe. In these circumstances although the quantity of lead dissolved in the water is small we are advised by the Water Pollution Research Laboratory not to use lead pipe for drinking water services. Plumbo-solvency is not usually associated with waters as hard as that supplied by this Company, but we understand that the percentage of carbon dioxide in the water is rather higher than normal which accounts for this exceptional case.

In the past no lead service pipes have been fitted in the Borough at any rate during the present century, and instructions to plumbers carrying out work in the area of supply have always insisted on the use of steam quality galvanised tube for all water services. However, short lengths of lead pipe connecting the galvanised pipe to wash basins or to water closet cisterns have been permitted, and it is considered that the use of such short lengths is not a source of danger. This practice is still continued although the Company prefers the use of copper throughout the whole of the plumbing installations and the total avoidance of lead wherever possible."

Extensions of mains have been carried out in the following districts and roads during the year 1947 :—

Farley Hill Estate	Turner's Road
Ashcroft Road Estate	Bushmead Road
Dunstable Road	Farringdon Road
Abingdon Road	Manor Farm, Stopsley
Dunstable Road Schools	

There are now only six houses in the Borough which obtain their water supply from wells. Negotiations are proceeding for the extension of mains to replace three of these.

The following is a summary of the samples of water taken during the year from all sources. Details of samples which were adversely reported upon are given below.

Number of samples of water examined by the Public Analyst	...	19
Number of samples of water examined by the Local Authority	...	199
Total		218

Number of samples of water obtained from :—

Crescent Road Pumping Station	...	101
Runley Wood Pumping Station	...	98
Shallow and Deep Wells, etc.	...	9
Other sources	...	10
		— 218
Number of samples found upon examination to be satisfactory	...	215
Number of samples found upon examination to be unsatisfactory—		
Presence of Bacillus Coli	...	3*
		— 218

* Samples obtained from two wells. One well is not now used for drinking purposes, mains water being available. At the other premises the work of supplying mains water is in progress.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The drainage of the Borough is on the separate system, except in the old part of the Borough which is semi-separate.

The soil water sewage is dealt with at the New Mill End Sewage Purification Works by sedimentation, burning and filtration, the effluent being discharged into the River Lea at New Mill End.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The following table shows the number of pail closets, earth closets and cesspools in the Borough at the end of December, 1947 :—

Pail closets	...	...	...	...	32
Earth closets	...	...	...	...	0
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	159

During the year two cesspools were abolished.

All pail closets are emptied either once or twice weekly between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Cesspools are emptied by means of mechanical plant as and when required. 106 cesspools were emptied during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1947.

PUBLIC CLEANSING—REFUSE DISPOSAL

The following information is supplied by the Director of Public Cleansing.

The system of refuse disposal is wholly controlled tipping. The weight of house and trade refuse disposed of during the year was 30,098 tons, 13 cwt., 2 qrs.

Further improvements were made in the frequency of refuse collection during 1947, and by the end of the year half the town was receiving a weekly collection.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE.

Complaints reported to Public Health Department	...	...	1,963*
Primary Inspection :—			
Where nuisances were found	...	...	2,244*
Where complaint was received and no nuisance found	...	...	96
Under Housing Acts	...	...	148
Where Infectious Disease has occurred	...	...	268
Bakehouses	...	...	92
Caravans, Tents, etc.	...	...	16
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	6
Cowsheds	...	...	19
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	297
Factories	...	...	71
Fish Frying Premises	...	...	46
Fish Curing Premises	...	...	6
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	265
Food Preparing Premises (Ice Cream)	...	...	211
Food Storage Premises	...	...	284
Markets and Shops	...	...	342
Marine Stores	...	...	1
Offensive Trades	...	...	12
Offices	...	...	2
Outworkers' Premises	...	...	567

Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
Restaurant Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
Slaughterhouses (for meat inspection)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,750
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Theatres and Amusement Halls	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Urinals—Public and Private	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Work Places (other than those in list above)	...	...	...	...	...	...	11

OTHER VISITS OR INSPECTIONS.

Drainage. Number of drains tested or exposed	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,186
Investigations of Infestations of Insect pests (excluding bugs)	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Investigations of Bug Infestations	...	...	...	...	...	...	148
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Visits to obtain Water Samples for Analysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	223
„ under The Food and Drugs Act, for Samples, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	712
„ to property under notice or work in progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,369
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	732
							17,502

* These figures do not include 495 complaints and 1,107 primary visits in connection with Rats and Mice, which are dealt with elsewhere in the Report.

ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

Drainage reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
„ repaired, trapped, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
„ unstopped	...	...	...	...	...	...	287
Chambers constructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Repairs to chambers or new covers	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Cesspools emptied because of overflow	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
„ repaired or rendered impervious	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Soil or vent pipes—new fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
„ „ repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Water closets—repaired or supplied with water	...	...	...	...	...	...	359
„ „ new pans or pedestals fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	209
„ „ additional constructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Waste Pipes—repaired or trapped	...	...	...	...	...	...	89
„ „ or R.W.P.'s disconnected from drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
„ „ R.W.P.'s and eaves gutters repaired...	...	...	...	...	...	...	309
Sinks provided or replaced	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Accumulations of refuse removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Animals, fowls, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Brickwork or pointings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	196
Coppers repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Damp Proof courses inserted	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dustbins supplied	...	...	...	...	...	...	181
Fireplaces, stoves and flues repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	122
Flooring and other woodwork repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	241
Floors—concrete or quarried repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	34

Gas fittings or services repaired	...	...	...	...	...	41
Gullies in street unstopped	...	...	...	...	...	15
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	7
Plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	...	385
Rat infestations abated...	...	...	...	...	...	1,105
Rent Books made to comply with Regulations of Housing Act	...	...	...	...	...	8
Roofs made watertight	...	...	...	...	...	417
Stagnant water removed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Walls and ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	42
Water supplies reinstated or made sufficient	...	...	...	...	...	44
Water supplied to houses previously supplied by wells	...	...	...	...	...	24
Windows—Cords, fasteners and glass repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	218
Verminous rooms fumigated	...	...	...	...	...	296
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ventilation—sub-floor provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Yards and passages paved	...	...	...	...	...	17
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	148
Total	...	...	...	...	...	5,165

STATUTORY NOTICES.

NUMBER OF LEGAL NOTICES ISSUED FOR ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

	<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied with</i>
Number of Outstanding Notices, 31st Dec., 1946	50	50
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 39	39	15
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 45	52	34
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 56	8	6
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 93	101	56
Luton Corporation Act, 1911. Section 36	21	13
	271	174

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Premises inspected where notifiable diseases have occurred	...	268
Cases removed to Isolation Hospital	...	122
Rooms disinfected after infectious, contagious or other disease, etc.	...	329
Premises where repairs or redecorations have been carried out after infectious diseases	...	23
Rooms where walls and ceilings were rubbed down after infectious disease	...	146
Visits paid to ascertain if notices to repair or redecorate have been complied with	...	61
Rooms disinfected by occupiers	...	124
Premises visited tracing infectious diseases	...	231
Articles disinfected by steam at request of owners	...	1,242
Articles destroyed by burning at request of owners	...	55
Total visits paid to infected premises	...	729

DISINFECTANT.

During the year 40 gallons of disinfecting fluid were supplied to the public, free of charge, for use in premises where cases of infectious disease, etc., had occurred.

LIBRARY BOOKS.

During the year 677 library books were withdrawn from circulation and were disinfected before they were returned.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

There are two Public Swimming Baths in the Borough, both owned by the Corporation.

The Public Baths are situate in Waller Street, Luton, and consist of a covered Swimming Pool, 46 Slipper Baths and 1 Vapour Bath, whilst the Open Air Swimming Pool, situate off New Bedford Road, Luton, caters for Swimming and Bathing only.

During the season of 1947 the following number of bathers were dealt with :—

						<i>Waller Street Baths</i>	<i>Open Air Swimming Pool</i>
Civilians	...	...	...	...	...	113,638	78,907
Members of H.M. Forces	...	...	...	...	...	11,706	Nil
Total	...	...	...	...	...	<u>125,344</u>	<u>78,907</u>

Chloroscope examinations of the water are carried out by the Attendants approximately three times per day, and in addition, samples of water are sent to the Public Analyst for examination every two months.

The baths were closed for a short period during the heighth of the outbreak of Poliomyelitis. Samples of water from the Public Swimming Baths and other bathing places in the town were examined by the Public Analyst and in the Medical Research Council's Laboratory.

THEATRES.

Inspection of Sanitary Accommodation in the Cinemas and the Theatre has been made during the year.

Minor Sanitary defects were found and attended to.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During the year ended 31st December, 1947, 82 complaints of verminous premises were received, and in all instances where bugs were found, disinfection was carried out. The use of liquid vermicide containing DDT was relied upon for treating the infestations, and proved satisfactory. In a few instances re-infestations occurred.

TABLE 22.

The following table shows the number of premises and rooms dealt with during 1947 :—

	Number of Premises		Number of Rooms	
	Found to be infested	Disinfested	Found to be infested	Disinfested
Number of Council Houses	48*	48*	119*	119*
Number of other Houses	96	96	157	157
Number of cases where disinfestation has been carried out prior to removal from Clearance Areas, etc. into new Council Houses	—	—	—	—
Number of cases where disinfestation has been carried out by Corporation Disinfecting Officer	144	144	276	276
Number of cases where disinfestation has been carried out by Occupants or Contractors	—	—	—	—
Number of complaints of infestation received (82)	78	78	189	189
Number of cases found by Sanitary Inspectors	66	66	87	87

* Includes 34 houses (74 rooms) in slum areas, acquired by the Council for the purpose of demolition at an early date.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

From the 1st July, 1946, the scheme for the free treatment of dwelling-houses has been in operation. The scheme has not been very satisfactory because the treatment of sewers has only recently been started. Every effort is now being made to complete the scheme to coincide with the completion of sewer treatment.

The Corporation Controlled Refuse Tip receives special attention, and at no time during the year has the infestation been out of hand.

TABLE 23.

The following table shows the amount of work carried out during 1947 :—

	Complaints received	Infestations dealt with	Treatment completed	Premises requiring re-treatment	Bodies found	Number of Rats destroyed according to Ministry formula
Private Dwellings { Rats Mice	344 48	948 48	948 48	— —	510 236	614 —
Business Premises { Rats Mice	61 42	68 43	66 43	2 —	546 633	11,727 —
Totals { Rats Mice	405 90	1,016 91	1,014 91	2 —	1,056 869	12,341 —

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937
INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

FACTORIES, FACTORIES NO MECHANICAL POWER, AND
WORKPLACES

Premises inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	977
Premises inspected and found satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	909
Premises inspected and found unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Factories where defects were found and referred by H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Reports on action taken sent to H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Number of defects remedied as a result of H.M. Inspector's notifications	...	...	...	...	...	...	23

LIST OF DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, FACTORIES (NO
MECHANICAL POWER), AND WORKPLACES

Abstract not posted	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Buildings reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cleanliness, want of	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Dilapidations, General	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Drains choked or defective	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Floors defective	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Lighting insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Noise, nuisance from	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Rat or Mice infestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	111
Roofs defective	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Trade Refuse, burning of	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ventilation, want of	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Water Closet, not separate for sexes	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ no ventilated Lobby	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ not lighted	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ dirty condition	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
„ „ needing repair	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ „ not screened	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ „ without indication	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ „ insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Washing facilities absent or inadequate	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Water supply insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

300

The Local Authority again considered the using of basement bake-houses, and because the time is inopportune to close these premises, the position will again be reviewed in 1948.

REGISTERED FACTORIES AND FACTORIES (NO MECHANICAL POWER)

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The following is a classified list of the Factories and Factories (No Mechanical Power) on the Register at the 31st December, 1947.

FACTORIES

Artificial Flowers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Beer Bottling, Coffee Roasting and Grinding	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Bleachers, Dyers and Felt Body Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Boilers Manufacturer	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Boot Repairers	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Brass and Aluminium Founders	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Breeze Block Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Brush Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Builders	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cardboard Box Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Cellulose Spraying	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Chemical Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Chocolate, Cocoa and Sweet Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cigarette Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Coach and Motor Body Builders	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Corn Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dry Cleaning and Dyeing	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Electric Appliances	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Electrical Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Electro-Platers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Feather Dyeing and Mounting	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Felt Products	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fireplace Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
French Polishers (Cabinets)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Furriers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Garment Makers and Menders and Corset Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
General Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Glass Workers	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Hat Blockers and Blockmakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Hat Lining Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Hat Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	243
Hat Materials Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ice-Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Iron Founders	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Jigs and Tools Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Joiners, Woodworkers and Carpenters	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Knitted Hood Makers and Proofers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Leather Goods	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Machine Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Millinery	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Carried forward 498

	Brought forward	498
Mineral Water Manufacturers and Brewers ...	...	6
Motor Vehicle Engineers, Repairs and Cycle Repairs	...	45
Pattern Makers	...	3
Photographic Printers and Developers	...	4
Plastics ...	...	2
Printers and Letterpress Printers	...	23
Sausage Makers, Pie Makers, etc.	...	11
Saw Mills	...	2
Sewing Machine Engineers	...	2
Sheet Metal Workers	...	8
Soap Powders Manufacturers	...	1
Stone Masons	...	3
Tailors and Clothiers	...	29
Tinsmiths	...	1
Toilet Requisites	...	2
Trailer Caravans	...	1
Typewriter Repairs	...	1
Undertakers	...	2
Upholsterers	...	4
Miscellaneous	...	32
		680

FACTORIES (NO MECHANICAL POWER)

Basket Makers ...	...	1
Blacksmiths and Wheelwrights	...	6
Boot Repairers ...	...	1
Builders' Yards and Brickmakers	...	3
Coach Builders and Repairers, Motor Vehicle and Cycle Repairers	...	4
Dress and Coat Makers' Alterations ...	...	4
Electrical Engineers	...	1
Feather Work ...	...	1
French Polishers	...	1
General Engineers	...	2
Hat and Millinery Manufacturers	...	12
Joiners	...	4
Knitted Goods ...	...	1
Photographers	...	1
Radio Repairs	...	1
Sheet Metal Workers	...	2
Sweet Manufacturers	...	2
Tailors ...	...	5
Upholsterers	...	3
Washing Powders Manufacturers	...	1
Watch, Clock, Jewellery and Typewriter Repairs	...	2
Weighing Machine Repairers and Scale Makers	...	2
Miscellaneous ...	...	12
		72

TABLE 24. OUTWORKERS RETURNS.

OUTWORKERS LISTS																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
Section 110, Factories Act, 1937																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
Section 107, Factory and Workshop Act, 1901																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
Nature of Work	Lists received from Employers and other Authorities						Notices served on occupiers as to keeping or sending lists	Prosecutions		Outwork in un-wholesome premises, Sec. 111.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
	Sending once in the year		Sending twice in the year		Failing to keep and permit inspection of lists	Failing to send lists																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
	Outworkers		Outworkers				Instances	Notices served	Prosecutions	Instances made Sec. 153 P.H.A. 1936	Local Authorities to whom lists of outworkers have been forwarded	Number of lists	Workmen	Contractors	Lists received from other Authorities																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
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Making, etc., Wearing Apparel	99	1	738	15	4	46	-	-	-	5	5	-	Where cases have arisen work has been withheld by verbal arrangement	Dunstable B.C. Harpenden U.D.C. Potters Bar U.D.C. Amphill R.D.C. Hitchin R.D.C. Hemel Hempstead R.D.C. Luton R.D.C. Wing R.D.C.	7	17	-	Corporation of London Chelsea M.B. Finsbury M.B. Hackney M.B. Kensington M.B. Southwark M.B. Stepney M.B. St. Marylebone M.B. City of Westminster M.B. Dunstable B.C. Hemel Hempstead B.C.	2 1 3 2 2 1 1 3 2 2	2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Contractors Workmen Numbers of lists																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
Brush Making	-	-	-	1	-	73	-	-	-	-	-	-	No separate Records kept		1	43	-		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

The homes of all outworkers are visited by the Sanitary Inspectors who deal with any nuisance or other irregularity

HOUSING.

I.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	2,542
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	7,713
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Acts... ..	1
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose. Visits to properties already recorded in (2) (a) ...	148
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	2,178

II.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	1,807
---	-------

III.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	0
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By Owners ...	0
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied...	221
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By Owners ...	174
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	5

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

Housing Act, 1936 :—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	99
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	172
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	950
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	23
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year. (14 families in 7 houses)	7
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	56
(d) Cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	1
(e) (i) Number of Council houses found to be overcrowded at end of year	12
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	24
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	118
(f) Number of cases of overcrowding in Council houses relieved during the year	4

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 MILK

Registered :—

Cowkeepers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Wholesalers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

Registered Purveyors for Sale of :—

Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	...	8*
Tuberculin Tested Milk (Certified)	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	...	7
Ungraded Loose Milk	...	...	...	...	...	31
Prepacked Milk only	...	...	...	...	...	150

* Includes three purveyors holding Dealers' Licences to sell Pasteurised Milk for the purpose of selling "Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised" Milk.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER

The following licences were granted during 1947 :—
Tuberculin Tested Milk (Certified)—

Supplementary	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Tuberculin Tested Milk—								
Establishment at which the Milk is bottled	...	...	...	...	...	1		
Establishment where Milk is sold in bottles as supplied by wholesaler	...	...	...	...	...	7		
						—		8
Pasteurised (Holder)	...	...	...	...	...	3		
Pasteurised (H.T.S.T.)	...	...	...	...	...	1		
						—		4
								— 13
Number of Milk Vendors resident in Borough	...							181

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

During the year 205 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination and Table 25 shows the results of these examinations.

TABLE 25. BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

	Total samples submitted	Coliform present out of 3 tubes			Per- centage satis- factory	Methylene Blue Test		Per- centage satis- factory	Phosphatase		Per- centage satis- factory
		1	2	3		Passed	Failed		Passed	Failed	
Ungraded Milk ...	9	2	1	0	66.66	8	1	88.8	—	—	—
Pasteurised ...	108	—	—	—	—	81	27	75.0	97	11	89.72
Heat Treated ...	27	—	—	—	—	24	3	88.8	23	4	85.15
Tuberculin Tested ...	19	2	2	4	68.42	13	6	68.42	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (Certified) ...	2	0	0	0	100	2	0	100	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	6	—	—	—	—	5	1	83.33	6	0	100
Sterilised ...	13	—	—	—	—	13	0	100	13	0	100

TABLE 26.

SUMMARY OF CHEMICAL ANALYSES OF MILK SAMPLES.

Period	No. of Samples Examined	AVERAGES	
		Fat %	Solids not Fat %
January	18	3.55	8.68
February	10	3.58	8.68
March	22	3.61	8.96
Quarter ended 31.3.47 ...	50	3.58	8.80
April	20	3.64	8.86
May	10	3.47	8.83
June	18	3.22	8.76
Quarter ended 30.6.47 ...	48	3.45	8.82
July	10	3.61	8.71
August	18	3.24	7.98
September	10	3.52	8.46
Quarter ended 30.9.47 ...	38	3.41	8.30
October	10	3.85	8.95
November	11	3.70	8.67
December	12	3.26	8.55
Quarter ended 31.12.47 ...	33	3.58	8.71
Year ended 31.12.47 ...	169	3.51	8.68

A number of unsatisfactory samples was taken from large bulk supplies and it was impossible to trace the Milk to its source of production, but in 25 cases, the matter was taken up with the County Councils, Producers and Retailers concerned.

EXAMINATION OF MILK

SECTION 25, FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Twenty-two samples of milk were taken and tested by guinea-pig inoculation, and all samples were found to be free from tubercle bacilli.

In five samples there was serological evidence of *Brucella abortus*, and reports on two samples were sent to the County Medical Officer of Health.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WASHED MILK BOTTLES AND CHURNS

Forty-seven washed milk bottles, six washed churns and two samples of rinse water were taken for examination.

Of the forty-seven milk bottles examined, twenty-two were found to be satisfactory, the count being less than 600 bacteria per pint bottle.

Of the twenty-five milk bottles found to be unsatisfactory, the number of bacteria was uncountable in twenty samples, and the counts for the remaining five bottles were as follows :—

TABLE 27
(1-pint bottles rinsed with 20 c.c. saline)

Sample No.	20	24	52	53	55
Bottle Count	7,100	2,200	1,260	720	840

Where the examined bottles were found to be unsatisfactory the matter was taken up with the dairyman, and advice given.

The following table shows the results of the examinations of the six churns :—

TABLE 28.

Sample No.	1	2	3	4	5	6
Colony Count per Churn	15,000	5,000	5,000	15,000	5,000	2,250,000

REGISTRATIONS OF PREMISES USED FOR THE MANUFACTURE, STORAGE OR SALE OF FOOD

	Premises on Register, 1946	Added to Register, 1947	Removed from Register, 1947	Totals
Sale and Storage of Ice-cream	68	11	5	74
Manufacture of Ice-cream	19	3	1	21
Manufacture of Preserved Foods	66	2	—	68
Fish Frying and Curing	27	—	—	27
Butter, Margarine, Wholesale dealers or Factories	17	—	—	17

ICE-CREAM

Thirty samples of ice cream, ten samples of various ingredients, and three samples of biscuits were examined in the Medical Research Council's laboratory.

Judging the samples of ice cream on the time taken to decolourise Methylene Blue and applying the Public Health Laboratory Service grading, the results of the examinations are shown below :—

Public Health Laboratory Service Grading			
GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4
10	7	4	9

Those falling in categories 3 and 4 were samples considered unsatisfactory, and necessitated further investigation either at the place of manufacture or at the premises from which the ice cream was sold.

In two of the ice creams graded in 1 and 2 above, faecal coli was reported present, and further investigation was necessary in these instances.

All the ingredients examined were found satisfactory.

One of the three samples of biscuits was unsatisfactory.

TABLE 29
MEAT INSPECTION IN SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed	3,238	1,589	3,435	8,131	296	16,689
Number Inspected	3,238	1,589	3,435	8,131	296	16,689
Percentage of number killed which were inspected	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
All diseases except Tuberculosis : Whole carcasses condemned	3	11	10	18	6	48
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,233	661	19	674	27	2,614
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis	38.17%	42.29%	0.84%	8.51%	11.15%	15.95%
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcasses condemned	16	55	11	—	1	83
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	685	631	4	—	32	1,352
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	21.65%	43.17%	0.44%	—	11.15%	8.60%

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The amount of unsound food condemned and destroyed during the year comprised :—

<i>No. of Parcels</i>	<i>Article</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
2,483	Beef	142,777
56	Pork	1,566
230	Mutton	2,960
35	Meat, other than from Slaughterhouses ...	2,327
	Bacon and Ham	1
	Boneless Turkey	14
	Vegetables—Fresh and Canned and Soups ...	1,592
	Fish—Fresh and Canned	5,331
	Fish Cakes	133
	Butter, Margarine and Cheese	201
	Canned Milk	1,871
	Canned and Cooked Meat	1,884
	Crumpets, Cakes, Buns, etc.	175
	Flour and Bread	1,838
	Oatmeal	140
	Preserves	530
	Tea	17
	Cocoa	1
	Coffee	27
764	Cake and Pudding Mixture	80
	Fruit—Fresh and Canned	1,757
	Cereals	134
	Rolled Oats	266
	Sweets	39
	Biscuits	43
	Egg Powder	4
	Sugar	25
	Suet	13
	Meat Pies	38
	Steak and Kidney Puddings	24
	Pickles and Sauces	72
	Paste	5
	Macaroni	5
	Fruit Puddings	4
	Sundries	107
	74 tons 2 cwts. 0 qrs. 17 lbs.	
3,568		166,001

The above statement includes the weight of the entire carcasses and organs of 19 cattle, excluding cows, 66 cows, 21 calves, 18 sheep and lambs and 7 pigs.

TUBERCULOSIS IN CALVES.

During the year Veterinary Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were notified of nine calves examined in the slaughterhouses and found to be affected with Tuberculosis.

Reports from the Veterinary Inspectors concerned show that two dams were traced and dealt with.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

Number of Slaughtermen on Register at 31st December, 1946	...	35
Applications for Licences considered during 1947		2
Number of Slaughtermen on Register at 31st December, 1947	...	37

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

During the year 336 samples were taken, 149 being formal and 187 informal samples.

<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Nature of Sample</i>
—	4	Butter
—	4	Cheese
5	20	Meat Products
—	6	Confectionery, sweets, etc.
—	12	Fish—canned, and fish and meat paste
—	34	Fruit—fresh and preserved
—	31	Groceries—miscellaneous
—	15	Jam, honey, marmalade, etc.
—	5	Lard and Cooking Fat
—	4	Margarine
1	14	Milk and Milk Foods (canned)
132	—	Milk
—	19	Patent medicines and chemical substances
3	4	Sausages and sausage meat
—	12	Temperance drinks & non-alcoholic wines
8	3	Wines, spirits and beers
149	187	
336		

TABLE 30.

Of the samples analysed 28 were reported to be not genuine, details of which, and the action taken in regard thereto, are as follows :—

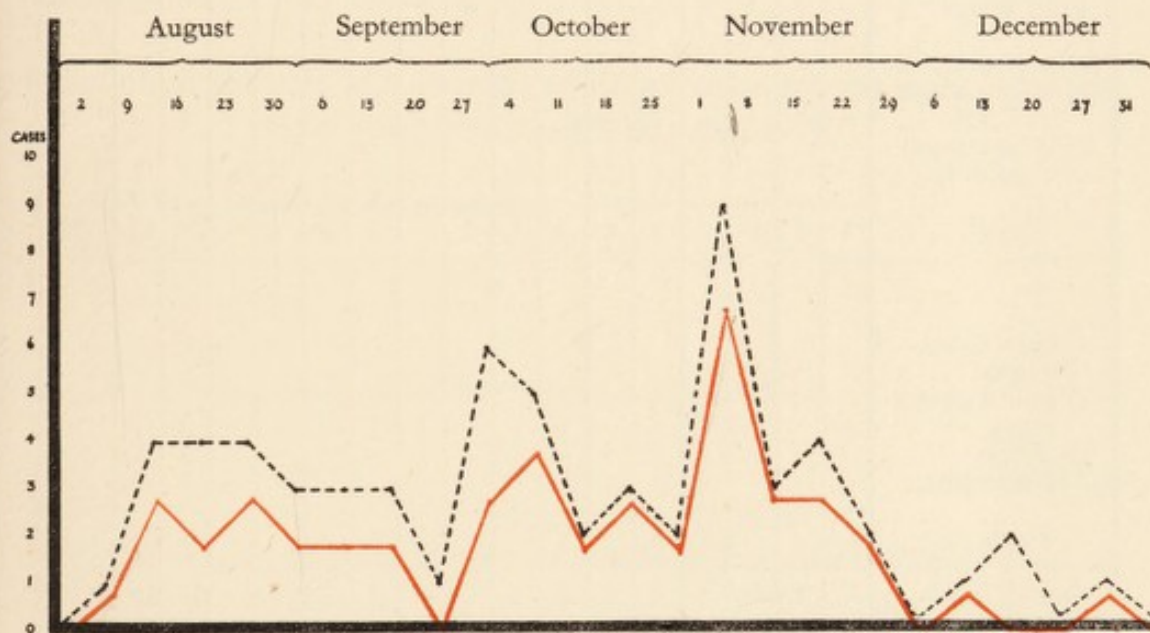
Sample No.	Formal	Article	Adulteration or other irregularity	Action taken
7572	1	Milk	8.5% added water ...	Case not proceeded with on advice of Legal Dept. Milk in frozen state when sampled.
7647	1	"	5.6% added water ... Fat abstracted 1.3%	Vendor died before matter could be investigated.
7704	1	"	Fat abstracted 13.3%	} Consignment above standard. Farmer advised about handling.
7705	1		Fat abstracted 2.6%	
7706	1		Fat abstracted 9.3%	
7620	1	"	Fat abstracted 16% ...	Consignment above standard. Farmer advised about handling.
7714	1	"	Fat abstracted 6%	} Milk as given by the cow. Advice tendered on milking procedure.
7715	1		Fat abstracted 11%	
7716	1	"	8.9% added water ...	} Vendor prosecuted. Case heard 30th July, 1947, defendant fined £2 and 15s. 6d. costs on each of two counts.
7717	1		4.7% added water ... Fat abstracted 21.3%	
7635	1	"	44.5% added water ... Fat abstracted 4%	} Producer prosecuted. Case heard 3rd September, 1947, defendant fined £5 and 18s. costs on each of four counts.
7636	1		41.4% added water	
7637	1		22.8% added water	
7638	1		44.8% added water	
7734	1	"	Fat abstracted 4% ...	Advice tendered on method of milking and handling.
7740	1	"	3.8% added water ...	This sample from same source as samples 7635 to 7638. Vendor warned.
7772	1	"	4.4% added water ...	} Result due to an accident. Vendor warned.
7773	1		3.1% added water	
7774	1		4.1% added water	
7779	1	"	1.6% added water ...	Average of consignment above standard. No action taken.
7907	1	"	Deficient in fat and non-fatty solids. Abnormal milk.	Letter to producer requesting him to investigate, and take the necessary action.
7815	1	"	Deficient in non-fatty solids	} Producer interviewed. Results due to methods of handling.
7816	1		2.8% added water. Fat abstracted 9.7%	
7820	1		2.2% added water	
7910	1	"	2.0% added water ...	Letter to producer.
7915	1	Sausage	Meat 11%. Water filler, etc., 89%	} Deficient in meat content. Vendor prosecuted. Case heard 31st January, 1948. Defendant fined £10 and £1.1.0 costs on each of three counts.
7916	1	"	Meat 7% Water, filler, etc., 93%	
7917	1	"	Meat 21%. water, filler, etc., 79%	

APPENDIX I

NOTE ON THE OCCURRENCE OF
ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS AND POLIOENCEPHALITIS
IN LUTON RESIDENTS, 1947

The first case of Anterior Poliomyelitis notified within the Borough was on 28th May, 1947. Subsequent notifications are shown on the accompanying graph.

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS AND POLIOENCEPHALITIS
Graph of admission to Spittlesea Hospital from
2nd August to 31st December, 1947



An analysis of confirmed Luton cases admitted to Spittlesea Hospital, showing age and sex distribution, is set out in the following table.

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis and Encephalitis

Total number of CONFIRMED Luton cases admitted to Spittlesea Hospital from 2nd August to 31st December, 1947 = 46

Ages	0-1		1-5		5-15		15-25		25-35		35-45		45+		Totals		Total cases
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
A.																	
I. Paralytic :																	
a { (i) Slight ...	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	9	5	14	
(ii) Moderate ...	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	4	
(iii) Severe ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	
b { (i) Slight ...	-	-	4	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	7	1	8	
(ii) Moderate ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
(iii) Severe ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
II. Non-paralytic																	
(a) With changes in C.S.F. ...	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
(b) With clinical signs only ...	-	-	5	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	7	2	9	
Totals ...	1	1	15	2	5	4	1	3	2	-	2	2	-	26	12	38	
B.																	
Fatal Cases																	
I. Paralytic :																	
(a) Limbs and/or trunk ...	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	1	3	
(b) Others ...	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	4	
II. Non-paralytic																	
Totals ...	-	-	-	1	3	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	5	3	8	
Grand Totals	1	1	15	3	8	4	2	3	2	2	3	2	-	31	15	46	

Note.—Six cases were treated in mechanical respirators. Of these only one, a male aged 9 years, recovered. Distribution of fatal cases is as follows :—

Two females, aged 4 years and 31 years.

Three males, aged 10 years, 21 years and 35 years.

The table shows that the disease affects all ages up to 45 years, but the maximum incidence is in males in the 1-5 age group. The last notified case was on 26th December, 1947.

Confirmed Cases

Maximum number in hospital on any one day ...	...	...	13
Maximum number treated in Iron Lung at any one time ...	...	...	3
The number of confirmed cases admitted during the week ending 1st November 1947 (peak period) ...	...	...	7

APPENDIX II.

THE SITUATION OF ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS.

As some time elapses between the birth of an illegitimate infant and the making of reasonably stable arrangements for its care, the following note relates to infants born between 1st July, 1946, and the 30th June, 1947.

The situation of surviving infants on attaining the age of 6 months is examined for the purpose of affording a guide to the size and nature of the problem.

The outstanding fact disclosed is the high proportion of illegitimate infants who, at the age of 6 months, are still either in the care of the natural mother or who have been adopted.

Situation at the age of 6 months of illegitimate infants born between 1st July, 1946, and 30th June, 1947.

Still in care of natural mother	...	...	...	...	87
Adopted	...	...	...	...	15
In Institutions	...	...	...	...	2
Lost Trace of	...	...	...	...	18
Under supervision of Bedfordshire County Council	...				23
					145

(5 of those known to be in the care of the natural mother had moved out of Luton before reaching the age of six months. 5 illegitimate infants died before reaching the age of 6 months).

APPENDIX III.

PREMATURE INFANTS.

A premature infant is defined as one weighing less than $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. at birth. The term includes, therefore, somewhat small, but healthy babies who require little more than ordinary care and management, and, on the other hand, infants who are so small that they have little chance of surviving however much care they are given.

Between these extremes are infants who, with expert attention, have a good chance of becoming healthy, vigorous babies, but who would probably not survive the ordinary rigours of early life which the normal baby meets without harm.

Special arrangements for the care of premature infants in their homes are made within the Council's municipal midwifery service, and infants who cannot be cared for at home are admitted to hospital.

Premature births which occurred during the year are analysed below according to place of birth, and birthweight.

PREMATURE INFANTS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO BIRTH WEIGHT.

	Under 2 lbs.	2-3 lbs.	3-4 lbs.	4-5 lbs.	5- $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Weight not Re-corded	All
Number	1	7	21	37	53	1	120
No. surviving after 24 hours ...	1	6	17	37	52	1	114
No. surviving at 4 weeks* ...	—	1	15	34	48	—	98

* Compiled 28th January, 1948

Premature Infants according to Place of Birth.

Born in Maternity Institutions :—

(a) Under control of Borough Council	71
(b) Other	32
	— 103

Born at home 17

Total 120