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*The Health
of Luton*

1953



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BOROUGH



OF LUTON

ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH OF LUTON
FOR
1953

R. M. DYKES,
M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

BOROUGH



OF LUTON

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BOROUGH OF LUTON
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
(as at end of year 1953)

Mayor
ALDERMAN H. C. JANES, J.P.

Chairman
COUNCILLOR MRS. R. O. ANDREWS

ALDERMAN MRS. K. M. MILNER, M.B.E., J.P.	COUNCILLOR MISS M. E. REDMAN, M.B.E.
ALDERMAN W. G. ROBERTS, J.P., C.C.	COUNCILLOR S. A. RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR F. GOODYEAR	COUNCILLOR L. W. WHITING
COUNCILLOR L. G. KENRICK	COUNCILLOR D. WYNNE
ONE VACANCY	

BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
LUTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman
COUNCILLOR MRS. R. O. ANDREWS

Deputy Chairman
COUNCILLOR L. G. KENRICK

Representing Luton Borough Council :

ALDERMAN MRS. K. M. MILNER, M.B.E., J.P.	COUNCILLOR L. W. WHITING
COUNCILLOR MISS M. E. REDMAN, M.B.E.	COUNCILLOR D. WYNNE

Representing Bedfordshire County Council :

COUNTY ALDERMAN MRS. A. URWIN	COUNTY COUNCILLOR F. A. JARVIS
COUNTY ALDERMAN H. R. WALLER, M.B.E., J.P.	COUNTY COUNCILLOR F. C. LINES
COUNTY COUNCILLOR T. E. S. LLOYD	

Representing Local Medical Committee :
DR. N. M. MUNRO

Representing Hospital Management Committee :
MR. S. V. SHADBOLT

BOROUGH OF LUTON

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health
Divisional Medical Officer

R. M. DYKES, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

A. P. CURRAN, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers

MARGARET I. HENDRIE, M.D., G. MORTON REYNOLDS, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch.,
D.P.H., D.C.H., D.Obst.R.C.O.G. D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector

G. F. MACEFIELD, F.S.I.A., M.R.S.I., A.M.I.San.E.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector

R. LORD, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I., A.M.I.San.E.

Specialist Inspectors

Food Hygiene

Housing

P. A. FREESTONE, M.S.I.A. M. G. WINTRINGHAM, D.P.A., M.S.I.A.

District Sanitary Inspectors (7)

All Sanitary Inspectors hold the Certificate of the R.S.I., and S.I.J.E.B., and all except two, the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Meat and Other Foods Inspector. Additional qualifications include R.S.I. Certificate for Smoke Inspector, R.S.I. Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works, and the Certificate of Associateship of the Institution of Sanitary Engineers.

LUTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

STAFF

Superintendent Health Visitor

MRS. A. E. LANGFORD, S.R.N., S.C.M., Cert.H.V.

Health Visitors (6)

State Registered Nurses (9)

Day Nursery Matrons

MRS. J. M. GREEN, S.R.N. MISS D. HAFFIELD, S.R.N. MISS D. HOBBS, S.R.N.

Midwifery and Nursing Services Supervised by

Deputy County Nursing Officer

Domiciliary Midwives (9)

District Nurses (10)

Home Help Officer

MISS E. A. PARSONS

Senior Administrative Officer

H. TOWLE

Chief Clerk

J. W. A. LINDLEY

Public Health Department,
63-69, Guildford Street,
LUTON
February, 1954.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Annual Report presented by your Medical Officer usually illustrates by graphs and tables the improvements in community health that are taking place and it rarely happens that a sudden outbreak of epidemic disease interrupts the steady downward trends in sickness and mortality. Epidemic diseases have largely been brought under control by the public health measures instituted in the past and when an infection which has for many years remained quiescent suddenly reappears in mildly epidemic form the unusualness of its occurrence gives it prominence.

The number of cases of dysentery in Luton in 1953 was unusually high, the notification rate of 3 per 1,000 of the population being the highest since 1937. The bulk of the cases occurred during an outbreak in the early summer months. The illness took a mild form and caused no death and could, for these reasons, be regarded as relatively unimportant. Nevertheless, the occurrence should also be taken as a salutary reminder of the narrow margin of protection that can be afforded by public health measures alone. Bacillary dysentery is essentially a "hand to mouth" infection whose control depends not only on the pasteurisation of milk supplies and provision of water carriage systems of sewage disposal, but also on individual standards of personal hygiene.

The last recorded case of diphtheria in Luton was in 1948 and there has been no death from this cause since 1946. The fall in incidence and mortality of this disease during the past decade can only be attributed to the immunisation campaign which began in 1936. The margin of protection from diphtheria is measured by the immunisation state of the child population. Ideally, the immunisation state should be 100% and how far short of this the child population in Luton falls is shown on p. 39. An immunisation state less than 100% renders the occurrence of cases of diphtheria possible and if lower than 75% makes the reappearance of diphtheria in epidemic form probable. It is desirable, therefore, that the immunisation state of the child population in Luton should be increased; it is imperative that it should not be allowed to fall below its present level. An outbreak of diphtheria would have consequences much more disastrous than in the case of dysentery.

Public health measures have lessened the probability of occurrence in epidemic form of many infectious diseases, but it is essential today that there should be a greater understanding of the part the individual has to play. In the absence of overt illness this can only be achieved by broadening the scope of health education.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, details of the circumstances necessitating action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act have been included in this report. The power given under this section of the Act, to exercise compulsion in the removal of certain persons to hospital or other suitable premises, is one that is not lightly undertaken and every effort is first made to alleviate the home circumstances by providing nursing care and help in the home. But it is disquieting to

find that there are still a number of old people who are unknown to any of the social workers, either statutory or voluntary, and whose condition deteriorates to such an extent as to make procedure under the Act inevitable.

The birth rate, which has been falling steadily since the peak of 1947, reached in 1953 a new low level of 14.5 per 1,000 of the population. The Registrar-General's provisional estimate for the whole country is 15.5. The number of registered live births was 1,609—forty-four fewer than in 1952. The effect has been a slight reduction in the number of home confinements, the number of hospital confinements remaining almost constant. The home confinement grant introduced in October, 1953, does not appear, so far, to have had the effect of encouraging women to have their confinements at home. Of those patients attended by midwives in their own homes it will be noted that 81% received gas and air analgesia.

The infant mortality rate of 29 per 1,000 live births was slightly higher than in 1952 and compares unfavourably with the Registrar-General's estimate of 26.8, the lowest annual rate recorded for England and Wales. Of the forty-seven infant deaths recorded in Luton in 1953, thirty occurred within the first four weeks of life. Attention has been drawn in previous reports to the intractable problem of neonatal deaths, which can be coupled, to some extent, with that of stillbirths. The stillbirth rate of 26.6 in 1953 was also higher than that of the previous year and higher also than the Registrar-General's provisional estimate of 22.7 for the country as a whole.

The notifiable infectious diseases accounted for four deaths in the child population, two from measles and two from tuberculosis. The marked improvement in the tuberculosis death rate at all ages, first noted in 1950, has been maintained and the graph on page 21 showing the notification and death rates over the twenty year period, 1934-53, is interesting. The steep fall in the death rate in 1949-50 coincides with the introduction of streptomycin therapy. The notification rate, on the other hand, remains consistently high, but it must be remembered that an increasing number of people are taking advantage of the greater opportunities for periodic clinical examination and chest X-ray. The peak notification rates in 1950 and 1952 coincided with the visits of the mass radiography unit to Luton.

The investigation into illness in childhood which began in 1945 under the direction of Dr. Grundy and on which interim reports were prepared in 1948 and 1950 was completed and the final report published early in the year.

During the year there were few staff changes and the services were well maintained. The health visiting service continued to be handicapped by an acute shortage of fully trained staff, but towards the close of the year the prospect of recruitment of more trained health visitors appeared to be much brighter.

All members of the staff of the health department have worked as a team and I wish to express my thanks for their loyal service. I am also indebted to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committees for making easier my administrative duties.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

R. M. DYKES,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND
SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF
THE AREA

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (from 1st April, 1939)	8,736 acres
Population (Census, 1951)	110,370
Registrar-General's Estimate for mid-1953 (Provisional)...	110,500
Number of inhabited houses, 1st April, 1953	31,221
Rateable value (1st April, 1953) unreduced	£962,947
Rateable value (1st April, 1953) reduced	£825,285
Sum represented by Penny Rate (est. 1953-54)	£3,325

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1953

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Notified live births	Legitimate	...	...	992	973	1,965
	Illegitimate	...	...	47	43	90
Notified stillbirths	All	...	...	1,039	1,016	2,055
	Legitimate	...	...	32	29	61
	Illegitimate	...	...	—	1	1
Total Live and Stillbirths (Notified)	All	...	...	32	30	62
		...	...	1,071	1,046	2,117
Registered live births*	Legitimate	...	...	767	772	1,539
	Illegitimate	...	...	43	27	70
	All	...	...	810	799	1,609
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population (provisional)						14.56
Registered stillbirths*	...	...	...	21	23	44
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births*						26.6
				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Registered Deaths*	...	...	...	543	504	1,047
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population (provisional) ...						9.4
Deaths from Puerperal Causes :—					<i>Rate per 1,000 registered total births</i>	
				<i>Deaths</i>		
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	
Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	1	0.6	
Total	...	...	...	1	0.6	

Death Rates of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 registered live births (provisional) ...	29.2
Neo-natal all infants (provisional)	18.6
Legitimate per 1,000 legitimate live births (provisional) ...	26.6
Illegitimate per 1,000 illegitimate live births (provisional)...	85.7

* 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 1953**

(England and Wales, London, 126 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns)
(Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

(Gummed slip to follow)

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS FOR 1943-1953

Year	LIVE BIRTHS				STILLBIRTHS		DEATHS			INFANT DEATHS				MATERNAL DEATHS			
	Esti- mated Popula- tion	Number	Rate per 1,000 esti- mated Popula- tion	Compara- bility factor	Number	Rate per 1,000 total births	Number	Rate per 1,000 esti- mated Popula- tion	Compara- bility factor	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks —12 months	TOTAL	Rate per 1,000 live births	Number			Rate per 1,000 total births
1943	98,950	1,902	19.2	—	60	30.6	994	10.0	—	41	39	80	42	2	5	7	3.56
1944	100,640	2,282	22.7	—	58	24.8	1,040	10.3	—	40	43	83	36	—	3	3	1.3
1945	100,600	1,905	18.9	—	52	26.6	960	9.5	—	34	28	62	33	1	2	3	1.5
1946	105,220	2,096	19.9	—	71	32.8	1,019	9.6	—	51	20	71	34	2	1	3	1.4
1947	108,250	2,303	21.3	—	50	21.2	1,036	9.5	—	47	38	85	37	1	—	1	0.42
1948	108,400	1,902	17.5	—	40	20.6	989	9.1	1.13	27	27	54	28	—	2	2	1.03
1949	109,240	1,821	16.7	0.95	49	26.2	1,064	9.7	1.13	32	16	48	26	—	1	1	0.5
1950	110,210	1,706	15.5	0.95	50	28.5	1,056	9.6	1.13	21	17	38	22	—	1	1	0.6
1951	109,600	1,727	15.8	0.95	45	25.3	1,075	9.8	1.12	41	16	57	33	—	—	—	—
1952	110,500	1,653	14.9	0.95	37	21.8	1,044	9.4	1.12	29	14	43	26	—	2	2	1.2
1953	110,500	1,609	14.5	—	44	26.6	1,047	9.4	—	30	17	47	29	—	1	1	0.6

DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED LIVE BIRTHS AS BETWEEN INSTITUTIONAL AND DOMICILIARY CONFINEMENT

(Corrected for Inward and Outward Transfers)

Year	Institutional			Domiciliary				Grand Total
	Maternity Hospital Units	Private Nursing Homes	Total	District Mid-wives	Private Mid-wives	Doctors and Parents	Total	
1948	1,154	285	1,439	402	—	61	463	1,902
1949	1,151	191	1,342	423	—	56	479	1,821
1950	923	155	1,078	612	—	16	628	1,706
1951	927	129	1,056	652	—	19	671	1,727
1952	844	170	1,014	634	1	—	635	1,649
1953	852	166	1,018	585	—	6	591	1,609

DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED STILLBIRTHS AS BETWEEN INSTITUTIONAL AND DOMICILIARY CONFINEMENT

(Corrected for Inward and Outward Transfers)

Cause				Maternity Hospital Units	Private Nursing Home	Domiciliary	Grand Total
Maternal Toxaemia	...	...	...	3	1	—	4
Foetal malformation	...	...	...	3	3	—	6
Prematurity	...	...	...	1	1	—	2
Complications of labour	...	...	...	3	2	1	6
Accidental haemorrhage	...	...	...	9	—	—	9
Other	...	...	...	3	1	—	4
Unknown causes	...	...	...	6	2	5	13
Total	...	...	...	28	10	6	44

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year	...	...	4
(ii) Number of cases in which :—			
(a) Vision lost	...	...	Nil
(b) Vision impaired	...	...	Nil
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year	...	...	Nil

DEATHS OF LUTON RESIDENTS DURING THE YEAR 1953

CAUSE OF DEATH	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	1 month to 1 year	Total under 1 year	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	3	4	5	—
2. Tuberculosis—Other forms	4	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
3. Syphilis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Scarlet Fever and Strep. Sore-throat	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
8. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14. Measles	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15. Typhus and Rickettsial Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16. Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carried forward	29	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	5	4	6	4	6	—

DEATHS OF LUTON RESIDENTS DURING THE YEAR 1953 (continued)

CAUSE OF DEATH	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	1 month to 1 year	Total under 1 year	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
Brought forward	29	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	5	4	6	4	6	—
17. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18. Malignant Neoplasms Lymph and Haematopoietic tissues	176	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	5	17	24	33	48	44
19. Benign and Unspec. Neoplasms...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1
20. Diabetes Mellitus	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	3
21. Anaemias	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22. Vascular Lesions	160	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	28	45	76
23. Non-Meningococcal Meningitis...	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
24. Rheumatic Fever	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25. Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
26. Arteriosclerotic and Degen. Heart	257	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	14	30	77	129
27. Other Diseases of Heart	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	11	14	16
28. Hypertension with Heart Disease	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	20	12
29. Hypertension without Heart Disease	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	4
30. Influenza	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	6	6
31. Pneumonia	77	3	10	13	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	10	18	32
32. Bronchitis	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	8	10
33. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	1
Carried forward	861	3	12	15	4	3	1	2	15	32	70	131	254	334

DEATHS OF LUTON RESIDENTS DURING THE YEAR 1953 (continued)

CAUSE OF DEATH	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	1 month to 1 year	Total under 1 year	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
Brought forward ...	861	3	12	15	4	3	1	2	15	32	70	131	254	334
34. Appendicitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
35. Intest. Obstruc. and Hernia ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
36. Gastritis Ent. and Diarrhoea ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
37. Cirrhosis of Liver ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
38. Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
39. Hyperphasia of Prostate ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
40. Pregnancy—Birth and Abortion...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
41. Congenital Malformations ...	8	5	3	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
42. Birth Injury Asphyxia. Atelectasis	7	7	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
43. Infections of Newborn ...	5	4	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
44. Immaturity—Other Diseases ...	11	11	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45. Senility ...	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
46. All Other Diseases ...	61	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	22
47. Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	27
48. All Other Accidents ...	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
49. Suicide ...	11	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4
50. Homicide and Oper. of War ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Total ...	1,047	30	17	47	4	4	1	9	23	39	88	150	287	395

DEATHS OF LUTON INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE DURING 1953

Cause of Death	under 1 day	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days	6 days	7 days	14 days	21 to 28 days	28 days to 2 m'ths	2 m'ths	3 m'ths	4 m'ths	5 m'ths	6 m'ths	7 m'ths	8 m'ths	9 m'ths	10 m'ths	11 to 12 m'ths	All
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Non-Meningococcal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	2	6	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	13
Congenital Malformations ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	8
Birth Injury Asphyxia. Atel....	2	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Infections of Newborn ...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Immaturity—Other Diseases...	4	—	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
All Other Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total	6	2	9	3	2	—	1	5	2	—	5	7	1	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	47

NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1953, 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	—	—	7	12	12	114	8	—	—	2	—	—	—	155
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	6	4	13	13	10	27	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	74
Measles	32	122	156	184	196	488	19	8	1	6	2	—	—	1,214
Pneumonia	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	9	7	22
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	6
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Infective Encephalitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	8	18	17	32	40	89	26	9	2	49	27	12	1	330
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	15	24	4	1	—	52
Meningococcal Infection	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	8	4	4
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Jaundice	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Food Poisoning	—	1	2	3	1	4	1	—	—	1	4	1	—	18
ALL	55	145	196	246	261	724	56	27	21	85	41	31	12	1,900

SONNÉ DYSENTERY.

About twenty sporadic cases of sonné dysentery occurred during the first four months of the year, but early in May the Public Health Laboratory reported that of a batch of faeces specimens submitted for bacteriological examination, nine revealed sonné dysentery infection.

General Practitioners and Head Teachers were accordingly requested to report all suspected cases to the Health Department. Of the 195 cases subsequently reported 156 were found to be positive. Faeces specimens were also obtained from all contacts of positive cases and of the 538 contacts examined a further 174 were found to be positive.

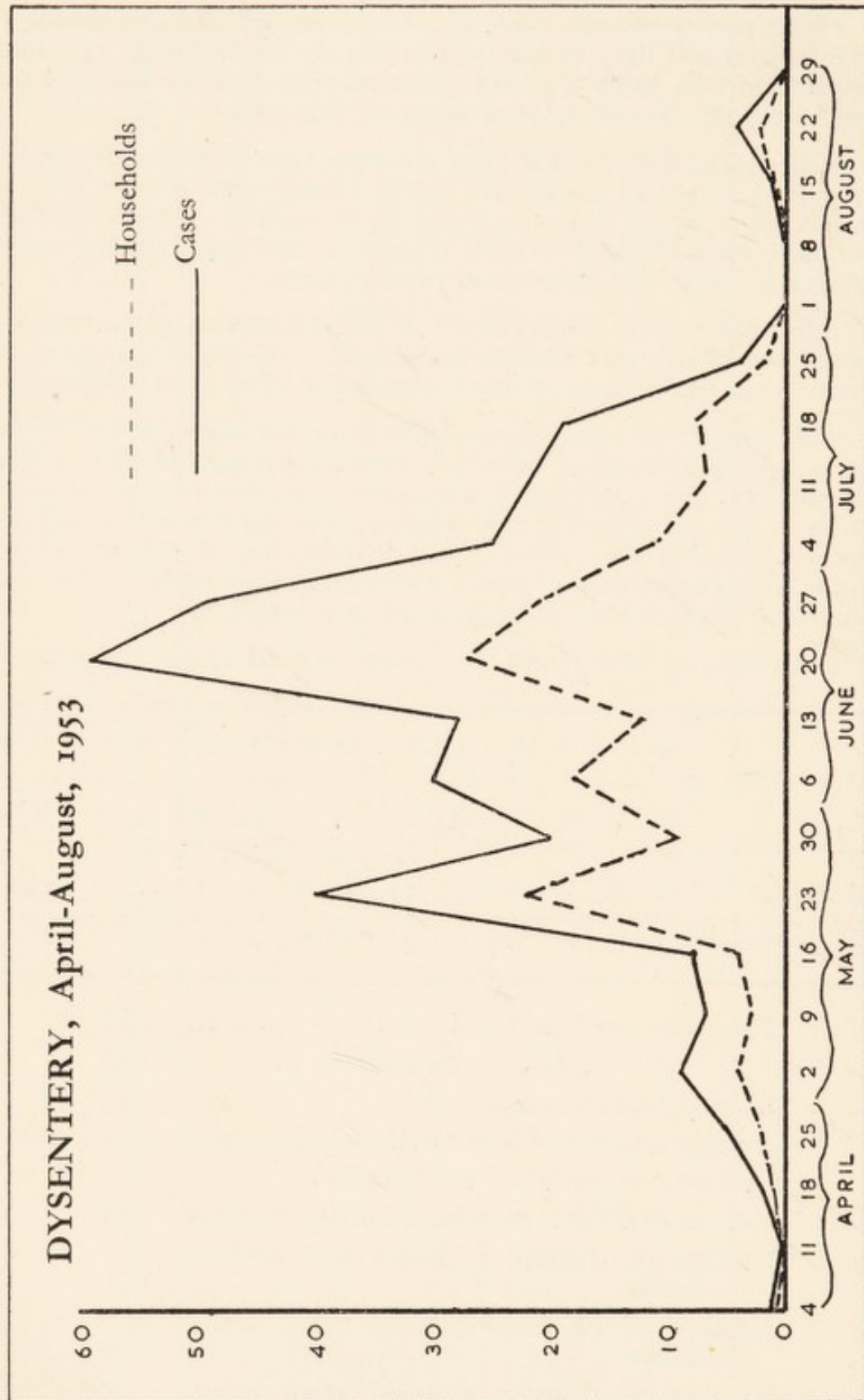
Information about the incidence of the disease was given weekly to hospital consultants and medical practitioners. Careful supervision was exercised over day nurseries, nursery schools and infant school departments.

Only one of the health department's three day nurseries was affected. In this nursery 25 positive infections were discovered and these children were excluded. It was not found necessary to close down any of the nursery schools or day nurseries, but new admissions to the affected nursery were cancelled. During the course of the investigation it was necessary to exclude from employment 17 adults employed in food trades. Two of the adults were employed in the kitchens of local hospitals.

The following table shows the number of cases by age and sex.

Age in Years	0-4		5-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Positive cases ...	45	35	38	21	2	2	1	7	3	1	—	1	89	67
Positive contacts	20	14	31	25	6	3	24	40	6	4	—	1	87	87

Total number of cases and contacts ...	330
„ „ „ households affected ...	153
Average Number per household ...	2.15
Average duration of outbreak in each household	5.24 weeks
Greatest number in any one household ...	15
Number of children excluded from day nurseries	25
Number of children excluded from nursery schools ...	21
Number of children excluded from infant schools ...	79
Number of children excluded from junior schools ...	63
Number of adults excluded from food trades...	17



TUBERCULOSIS

During the year, 144 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified for the first time, giving a notification rate of 1.3 per thousand of the population. Although the number of new notifications is 20 less than last year, it should be remembered that 60 of the cases in 1952 were notified following the visit of the Mass Radiography Unit.

There were 21 deaths attributed to pulmonary tuberculosis which represents a mortality rate of .19 per thousand of the population, an increase of .07 over the previous year.

PARTICULARS OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS AND ALL DEATHS FROM THE DISEASE DURING 1953

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 year ...	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—
5 years ...	5	1	1	5	—	—	—	2
10 „ ...	5	3	—	2	—	—	—	—
15 „ ...	6	10	—	1	—	—	—	—
20 „ ...	6	8	—	1	—	—	—	—
25 „ ...	17	11	1	1	4	1	—	—
35 „ ...	10	15	1	—	3	1	—	—
45 „ ...	16	6	—	2	2	1	1	—
55 „ ...	8	2	—	—	2	2	—	—
65+ „ ...	10	2	—	—	3	2	1	—
Totals ...	84	60	6	12	14	7	2	2

The following table shows the number of cases of tuberculosis notified in Luton during each of the last five years together with the number of deaths :—

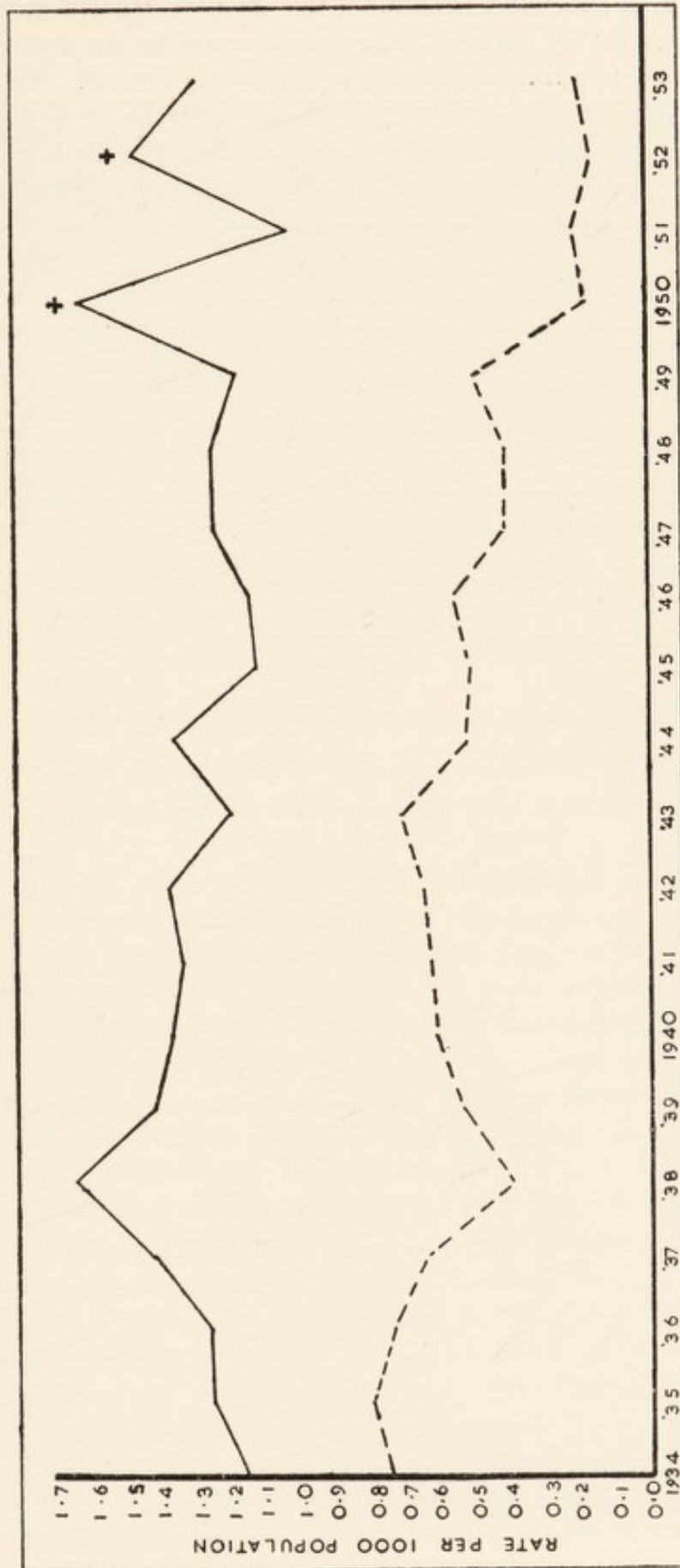
Year	Notified		Deaths	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1949 ...	146	22	49	3
1950 ...	182	10	20	5
1951 ...	114	26	23	5
1952 ...	164	17	14	3
1953 ...	144	18	21	4

The following table shows the number of cases on the register at the 31st December, 1953, together with the numbers added to the register and those removed during the year

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
No. of cases on the Register of Notifications on 1st January	534	400	34	85
No. of cases notified for the first time during the year	84	60	6	12
No. of cases transferred from other districts	20	11	3	—
No. of cases reinstated to the Register ...	3	2	—	—
	<u>641</u>	<u>473</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>97</u>
No. of cases removed from the Register during the year on account of having :				
(a) recovered	10	17	13	24
(b) removed from the district	26	14	2	1
(c) died	16	5	—	1
(d) diagnosis not established	4	4	—	—
(e) lost sight of	25	9	1	2
No. of cases remaining on the Register on 31st December	560	424	27	69

FOOD POISONING

No. of notifications	18
Outbreaks due to identified agents :	
(i) Outbreaks ... Nil Cases	Nil
Single cases :	
(i) Agent identified (Salmonella organisms)	18
(ii) Unknown cause	Nil
Deaths	Nil



PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS — Rates per 1,000 population.

NOTIFICATION RATE ——— DEATH RATE - - - - -
 + VISIT OF MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT.

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION, Public Health Act, 1936.

The registration of nursing homes is governed by the Public Health Act, 1936, and the responsible authority is the County Council. The County Council have, however, delegated their powers to the Borough Council.

Nursing Homes are inspected monthly and during 1953 no contraventions were found.

Name of Nursing Home	Date of Registration with Luton Borough Council	DIVISION OF BEDS			
		Maternity	Surgical	Medical	Total
The Chase ...	3.4.46	7	—	—	7
Inglewood ...	8.2.50	6	—	—	6
Totals ...		13	—	—	13

The registration of the Westdale Nursing Home was relinquished during the year.

During the year 100 women were delivered in the Chase Nursing Home, and 66 in the Inglewood Nursing Home.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 & NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of care and attention

Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, gives the Local Authority power to compulsorily remove to hospital or other such premises persons suffering from grave chronic disease, or who being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to devote to themselves and are not receiving from other persons proper care and attention.

Under this enactment the Public Health Committee can, on receipt of a report from the Medical Officer of Health, authorise application to a Magistrates' Court for the person's removal to hospital or other suitable place, and for his detention for a period not exceeding three months.

Under the provisions of the National Assistance (Amendment) Act of 1951, the Local Authority can, where urgent removal is considered necessary, authorise the Medical Officer of Health to take immediate action seeking a Magistrates' Order to detain the person in suitable premises for a period not exceeding three weeks.

A few cases are brought to the department's notice each year, but every effort is first made to alleviate or remedy the circumstances by the provision of a domestic help or district nurse. It is only where these efforts fail or are not practicable that action is taken under one of the aforementioned Acts.



HOME HELP SERVICE — CARE OF AGED PERSONS.



NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1947, SECTION 47 — INSANITARY CONDITIONS.

Male, aged 87 years, living alone, was first brought to the notice of a council rent collector by the grocer with whom the man was registered, because the rations had not been collected for several weeks. He was found to be living in insanitary conditions and not receiving proper nourishment; there was also a grave risk of fire. His body and clothing were very dirty, and it was obvious that he had not had his clothes off for some considerable time and had slept in a chair downstairs. The case was first dealt with under the provisions of the Amendment Act and two extension orders were later obtained under the principal Act. The magistrate declined to grant a third application for an extension order and the patient was allowed to return to his own home.

Female, aged 80 years, living with a crippled son, was referred to the Health Department by the medical practitioner who had been refused admission to the house. She was found to be suffering from grave chronic disease, incontinent of urine and faeces, extremely emaciated and covered with bed sores. Action was taken under the Amendment Act, but the patient died a few weeks after admission to hospital.

Female, aged about 63 years, living with her elder sister, was brought to the notice of the Health Department by the police who escorted the sister home after she had collapsed in the street and had refused to be taken by ambulance to hospital. The home was found to be filthy and foul smelling. The patient had been bedridden for many years and although she was now gravely ill, her elder sister had not sought medical advice. On admission to hospital the patient was found to be only about four stone in weight. The case was first dealt with under the Amendment Act and two extension orders were granted under the principal Act. At the end of the year the patient was still alive, but it is not expected that she will ever recover sufficiently to be discharged from hospital.

Female, aged 78 years, the elder sister of the patient mentioned above, was given every assistance by the Health Department in an effort to improve the conditions of her home, but this proved to be of no avail. She refused medical treatment and was unwilling to leave her home. Action was taken under the principal Act and she was removed to hospital where she died from a malignant growth three weeks later.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

In recent years an attempt has been made to broaden the scope of health education in Luton. Hitherto education in health has tended to be concentrated on parents of children attending welfare centres and school medical inspections. Indeed, the primary purpose of the infant welfare service is education of the mother in infant care, infant feeding and the promotion of infant health. This service has largely fulfilled its objective. The knowledge and understanding of the young mother of today in the care and upbringing of her baby is in marked contrast to that of the young mother of some thirty or forty years ago. It has even been said that much of the advisory work now undertaken at welfare centres is no longer necessary because the principles are so well established. Be that as it may, the advisory service provided by the health visitor at infant welfare centres and in the home of parents has given results beyond any that could have been achieved by clinics concentrating on the treatment of infants already ill. A tacit recognition of the effectiveness of this method of teaching the principles of health was given by the National Health Service Act when the scope of the health visitor's duties was widened to include the family as a whole. Under Section 24 of the Act the health visitor is required to advise all members of the household on all matters affecting health and illness including mental illness. The personal approach by doctors, health visitors, midwives and nurses is in the long run probably the most fruitful, but the work is tedious and the immediate rewards are not great; and it is doubtful if their teaching can be entirely divorced from the clinical field—people being more receptive to good advice when they are ill. Indeed, there is much justification for the point of view that the work of the health visitor should be linked more closely with that of the medical practitioner.

The personal approach is but one of several that can be adopted. The inclusion of health subjects in the school curriculum would, for example, be most advantageous, and it is worthy of note that as long ago as 1944 the Borough Council appointed a biologist for this purpose. The biologist was a whole-time officer in the Public Health Department and during the period 1944–46 syllabuses of biology teaching and health instruction were developed for use in schools with the collaboration of the Education Department and teachers. The biologist relinquished his appointment in December, 1946 and no one was in charge of Health Education until 1949 when a Health Education Officer was appointed to the Health Department. The health education programme was again interrupted when this officer resigned his appointment in February, 1951 and in order to maintain continuity, the Council decided to designate the Senior Administrative Officer "Health Education Officer" and provide him with an Assistant who should also have duties in the statistical section of the Health Department. The Senior Administrative Officer is also a member of the National Home Safety Committee and Honorary Secretary to the Luton Home Safety Committee.

On the environmental hygiene side, the Council in 1951 designated a district inspector "Food Hygiene Inspector," who in addition to his ordinary duties of visiting all catering establishments in the town and recommending improvements in equipment, etc., gives lectures to persons employed in food trading establishments. The Food Hygiene Inspector has twice visited the United States where he has had the opportunity of studying the methods employed by large health departments like that of the State of New York, and has incorporated some of their teaching methods in the health education programme.

It is essential, however, that all members of the health department should, in their respective rôles, take part in health education activities. The responsibility of co-ordinating this part of their work is undertaken by the Health Education Officer.

The following note, prepared by the Health Education Officer and the Food Hygiene Inspector has been submitted for inclusion in the report.

"From the requests received from various organisations for talks, there is undoubtedly a keen public interest in health subjects. The Health Education Officer also maintains active co-operation with the local press who are ever ready to assist the department by publishing information regarding epidemic sickness in the town. In addition, posters and exhibits on topical health subjects are displayed both at the Health Department and the Infant Welfare Centres.

Health Services.

"It is important that the public should be aware of the health services available to them, and talks to voluntary associations on food inspection, sanitary inspection, housing, school health, home help service, district nursing, day nurseries, rodent control, vital statistics, etc., generally evoke considerable interest and discussion.

Child Care.

"The Superintendent Health Visitor and the Nursing Officer have each given a series of lectures on child care to girl youth organisations, *i.e.*, British Red Cross Cadets, Girls Life Brigade, etc. These lectures are usually followed by an examination, the successful members qualifying for their association badge.

"Visual Aids, dealing with eyes, ears, teeth and sleep, have also been used to illustrate talks to parents at the Infant Welfare Centres.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

"The importance of diphtheria immunisation is constantly being urged by medical officers and health visitors both at the infant welfare centres and at home visits. It is also stressed during any talk on health services given to parent audiences.

Home Safety.

"The National figure of over 6,000 fatal accidents occurring in the home each year makes home safety an increasingly important subject and one in which health departments should be actively interested. In June, the Manager of the Home Safety Department of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents visited Luton and gave a talk to health visitors, midwives, district nurses and home helps. Talks on home safety illustrated by film strips have also been given to parent/teacher associations, women's organisations and religious fellowships.

Tuberculosis.

"Health visitors, district nurses, midwives and school nurses, attended a lecture given by Dr. Brian Shaw, Physician in Charge of the Luton Chest Clinic on 'Domiciliary Care of the Tuberculous Patient.' A talk on the precautionary steps to be taken when attending the tuberculous patient was also given to selected home helps.

Food Hygiene.

"With regard to food hygiene, it is felt that a great deal of assistance can be obtained from Women's Associations. Discussions following talks supplemented by film strips have proved that Women's Associations have a very live interest in this subject. An International Society was particularly interested in the food hygiene methods practised in the United States. Youth Groups also provided very alert audiences.

"With regard to food catering in industry, talks have been given to staffs of canteens and factories on the hygienic handling of food, and an effort has been made during the year to arouse interest in the necessity for greater personal hygiene.

"A course of lectures on hygiene at a recognised centre for all food handlers would seem to be desirable and it is regretted that the catering trade do not appear to realise that such a scheme would greatly enhance their status. In various cities in the United States food handlers are requested to attend such a course of instruction before they are allowed to work in food trades."

Lectures, Talks, Films and Film-strips, etc.

Talks were given during the year on the following subjects :—

Food Hygiene	...	...	...	30 lectures
Health Services	...	...	...	12 „
Child Care	...	...	...	9 „
Home Safety	...	...	...	10 „

The total number of persons attending these lectures was 2,177.

DIVISIONAL HEALTH SERVICES



NATIONAL HEALTH
SERVICE ACT,
1946

SECTION 22—CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

(a) Provision of Clinics

No additional infant welfare centres were provided during the year. Thirteen sessions continued to be held weekly at the eleven centres situated in the various parts of the town. Diphtheria immunisation is also carried out at four of the centres.

There was again a slight increase in the total number of attendances when compared with the previous year :—

NUMBER OF CONSULTATIONS, WEIGHINGS, ETC., AT INFANT WELFARE CENTRES, DURING THE YEAR 1953

	Number of Sessions	Attendances				Medical Officer's Consultations	
		0-1 years		1-5 years		Under 1 year	1-5 years
		1st	Sub.	1st	Sub.		
Dallow Road ...	49	189	2,594	14	663	1,163	331
Stopsley ...	51	99	1,568	2	352	623	116
Leagrave High St.	49	85	1,409	1	304	447	115
Leagrave Marsh Road ...	51	97	1,805	2	577	701	190
Round Green ...	51	128	2,249	—	461	790	185
Castle Street ...	52	133	2,440	4	485	749	142
Beechwood ...	100	257	3,116	10	920	913	267
Limbury ...	98	186	2,835	3	737	762	191
St. Anne's ...	49	86	1,366	1	403	572	132
Farley Hill ...	51	156	2,379	9	690	935	191
Park Street ...	49	91	1,851	10	264	336	52
	650	1,507	23,612	56	5,856	7,991	1,912

The following table shows the total number of children attending the clinics during the year, those attending for the first time expressed as a percentage of the number of births registered during each of the last five years.

Year	No. of children attending clinics who at end of year were		Total attendances		Children under 1 year who attended clinics for first time	
	Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	Number	Percentage of number of births
1949 ...	1,417	2,201	28,799	5,123	1,637	89.0%
1950 ...	1,287	2,177	24,579	5,732	1,423	82.5%
1951 ...	1,293	2,285	23,672	5,345	1,457	83.0%
1952 ...	1,360	2,222	24,287	5,607	1,399	84.4%
1953 ...	1,241	2,229	25,119	5,912	1,507	93.6%

(b) Premature Infants

A premature infant is defined as one weighing less than 5½ 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 midwifery service, and infants who cannot be cared for at home are admitted to hospital.

Premature births which were notified during the year are analysed below according to place of birth, and birth weight.

**NOTIFIED PREMATURE INFANTS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING
TO BIRTH WEIGHT**

	2 lb. 3 oz. or less	over 2 lb. 3 oz. to 3 lb. 4 oz.	over 3 lb. 4 oz. to 4 lb. 6 oz.	over 4 lb. 6 oz. to 4 lb. 15 oz.	over 4 lb. 15 oz. to 5 lb. 8 oz.	Weight not Re- corded	All
Number ...	2	12	28	21	60	3	126
No. surviving after 24 hours	1	12	24	21	59	3	120
No. surviving after 8 days...	—	8	21	21	54	2	106
No. surviving at 4 weeks*...	—	8	20	20	54	2	104

* Compiled January 28th, 1954

Place of Birth

Notified Births.

Born in Maternity Institutions :

(a) Under control of North-West Regional Hospital Board	96
(b) Other	6
Born at home	24

Total 126

REGISTERED PREMATURE INFANTS*
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO BIRTH WEIGHT

	2 lb. 3 oz. or less			Over 2 lb. 3 oz. to 3 lb. 4 oz.			Over 3 lb. 4 oz. to 4 lb. 6 oz.			Over 4 lb. 6 oz. to 4 lb. 15 oz.			Over 4 lb. 15 oz. to 5 lb. 8 oz.			Weight not Recorded			All			Total
	D	NH	I	D	NH	I	D	NH	I	D	NH	I	D	NH	I	D	NH	I	D	NH	I	
Number	—	—	—	1	—	10	3	—	13	3	1	13	4	30	2	—	1	24	5	67	96	
Number surviving 24 hours	—	—	—	1	—	10	3	—	11	3	1	13	4	30	2	—	1	24	5	65	94	
Number surviving 8 days	—	—	—	—	—	8	2	—	8	3	1	13	3	29	1	—	1	18	4	59	81	
Number surviving at 4 weeks	—	—	—	—	—	8	2	—	8	3	1	13	3	29	1	—	1	18	4	59	81	

* Corrected for inward and outward transfers.

D—Domiciliary. NH—Nursing Home. I—Institutional.

Place of Birth

Registered Births.

Born in Maternity Institutions :

(a) Under control of North-West Regional Hospital Board	67
(b) Other	5
Born at home	24
Total	96

(c) **Contraceptive Clinic**

All patients are referred to the contraceptive clinic by a medical practitioner.

Forty-eight sessions were held and there were 149 new patients. Subsequent attendances totalled 577.

(d) **Orthopaedic and Ophthalmic Clinics**

Children under the age of five years requiring Orthopaedic or Ophthalmic treatment are referred to the ordinary school clinic sessions.

(i) <i>Orthopaedic Clinic</i>	<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>1-5 years</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of NEW cases	8	29	37
No. of OLD cases	4	46	50
Total attendances	15	137	152
No. of cases referred for exercises			12
No. of cases referred for appliances			4
No. of cases referred for X-ray examination			7
No. of cases referred for admission to hospital			3
No. of cases referred to Hospital Out-Patients' Department			4
No. of cases discharged			25
No. of cases left district			1
No. of cases still on register			31

<i>Classification</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>	<i>Attendances</i>
Bowing of Legs	7	13
Congenital Defects	7	15
Foot Defects	14	21
Knock Knees	36	59
Postural Defects	1	3
Wry Neck	2	2
Other Defects	20	39
	87	152

(ii) <i>Ophthalmic Clinic</i>	<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>Over 1 year</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of first attendances	14	42	56
No. of sub. attendances	19	136	155
Total attendances	33	178	211

13 Prescriptions for spectacles were issued and two children referred to hospital for further treatment.

(e) Dental Clinic

Children under 5 years requiring dental treatment are referred to the ordinary School Clinic sessions and during the year 45 children made 53 attendances.

No expectant or nursing mothers received treatment.

(f) Day Nurseries

The new scale of charges for children admitted to day nurseries which was introduced on 1st December, 1952 had a deterrent effect on applications for admission. The number of children on the register at the beginning of 1953 fell to 145. Previously the three day nurseries in the area had provided accommodation for 165 children and there had always been a list of children awaiting admission. But it was difficult in the early part of the year to obtain a true picture of the full effect of the increased charges. The average number of children attending on any one day during the first three months fell to ninety-two, but this poor attendance was undoubtedly partly due to the high incidence of minor infectious diseases at that time. Nevertheless it was decided to reduce the number of available places at one of the nurseries from 75 to 50, the total number of available places becoming 140 against 165.

The outbreak of dysentery in the town during the early summer months also made difficult a real assessment of the position. In June it was decided that all new applications for admission, urgent cases excepted, should be approved by a special sub-committee and the criteria adopted for determining admission were as follows:—

- (a) The mother is obliged to work—arising most frequently where the mother is single or widowed or separated from her husband or on account of prolonged illness of the husband.
- (b) The child is suffering because of bad home environment.
- (c) Straitened financial circumstances of the family—arising from low family income or unavoidably high expenditure.

By the end of the year there were 154 children on the registers and eight were on the waiting list for admission.

	<i>Manor Road</i>	<i>Alder Crescent</i>	<i>Stopsley</i>
No. of Children on Register 1.1.53 ...	49	57	39
No. of Children added to Register ...	87	88	75
No. of Children removed from Register	89	83	69
No. of Children remaining on Register 31.12.53	47	62	45
No. of Children on waiting list 31.12.53	5	1	2
No. of Sessions	247	247	247
Attendances—0–2 years	1,146	2,540	2,251
2–5 years	7,669	7,229	5,790
Total attendances	8,815	9,769	8,041
Average daily attendances (Monday–Friday)	36	40	33

The following table shows the reasons for admissions to the nurseries during 1953 :—

Categories	No. on Register 1.1.53	No. admitted during 1953	No. on Register 31.12.53
Illness of Parents	26	38	22
Debilitated Children	2	4	—
Confinement	3	13	—
Illegitimacy	20	7	19
Children of Widows/Widowers	6	5	8
Parents separated	35	22	33
Father in H.M. Forces	10	6	9
Adverse housing conditions, poor financial circum- stances, etc.	43	103	63
Total	145	198	154

The following table shows, by categories, the average number of days (Monday to Friday) each child was in the nursery.

Categories	No. of Children	No. of Days	Average number of days
Illness of Parents	64	3,826	60
Debilitated Children	6	161	27
Confinement	16	286	18
Illegitimacy	27	3,142	116
Children of Widows/Widowers	11	960	87
Parents separated	57	6,585	116
Father in H.M. Forces	16	1,386	87
Adverse housing conditions...	26	2,096	81
Poor financial circumstances	104	7,168	69
Other	16	1,015	63
Total	343	26,625	78

The charge for admission to a nursery is calculated on remaining income after deducting normal household expenses from total income. The following table shows the fees charged during 1953.

Assessable Income	Charge per day	Attending during 1953			
		Alder Crescent	Manor Road	Stopsley	Total
Up to £2	1/6d.	25	25	15	65
£2—£5	1/9d.—3/0d.	46	57	48	151
£5—£8 5s. 0d.	3/3d.—5/9d.	37	36	25	98
£8 5s. 0d.—£10	6/3d.—9/3d.	17	6	6	29
Total	...	125	124	94	343

(g) Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948

At the 31st December, 1953, four persons were on the register of child minders. The total number of children involved was twenty-four and the maximum number permitted in any one instance was ten.

SECTION 23—MIDWIFERY

Domiciliary Midwifery Service

Luton is divided into nine districts for domiciliary midwifery purposes and all midwives are fully trained in the use of gas and air analgesia and the administration of pethidine.

The slight fall in the number of domiciliary confinements during 1953 (585) as compared with 1952 (634) is a reflection of the falling birth rate. The ratio of domiciliary confinements to hospital confinements remained almost constant, 36% of all births occurring at home in 1953 as compared with 37% in 1952.

Of the 585 cases attended by domiciliary midwives 476 (81%) received gas and air analgesia, an increase of 22% over the previous year. The increase is probably more apparent than real because a more accurate method of recording this information was instituted early in the year.

For comparative purposes the figures for 1952 are shown in parenthesis.

Number of Confinements

				<i>Acting as Midwife</i>	<i>Acting as Maternity Nurse</i>	<i>Total</i>
1949	...	...	...	143	273	416
1950	...	...	...	211	401	612
1951	...	...	...	236	416	652
1952	...	...	...	263	371	634
1953	...	...	...	254	331	585

Administration of Gas and Air Analgesia by :

(a) Midwives	...	204 (161)				
(b) Maternity nurses...	272 (212)	Total	...	...	476 (373)	

Administration of Pethidine by :

(a) Midwives	...	164 (126)				
(b) Maternity Nurse	...	267 (196)	Total	...	...	431 (322)

Number of maternal deaths — (—)

Number of infantile deaths 2 (2)

Number of visits paid by midwives 17,240 (19,701)

Total attendances of patients at midwives' clinics 2,535 (2,681)

Attendances of patients at consultant clinics :

(a) Ante-natal	...	424 (420)				
(b) Post-natal	...	65 (67)	Total	...	...	489 (487)

SUPERVISORY VISITS

Routine inspection visits	...	...	...	...	...	21
Special enquiry visits in respect of notifications :						
(a) Medical Help	...	...	...	...	...	7
(b) Stillbirths...	...	...	...	...	...	3
(c) Deaths occurring in practice	...	...	...	...	...	1
(d) To supervise disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	5

Other visits :

Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	10
Nursing mothers	...	...	...	...	...	44
Labour visits	...	...	...	...	...	6
Nursing Homes	...	...	...	...	...	27
Ante-Natal and Post-Natal	...	...	...	...	...	35
Administration	...	...	...	...	...	590
Total	...	...	...	...	...	749
Ante-Natal Clinics attended	...	...	...	...	...	43

NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM MIDWIVES DURING THE YEAR 1953

	Nursing Homes	Domiciliary Midwives	Maternity Hospital and Extension	Independent Practice	Total
(a) Intention to practice ...	5	12	24	1	42
(b) Intention to cease practice ...	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Change of address ...	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Change of name ...	—	—	—	—	—
(e) Sending for medical help	—	45	—	—	45
(f) Stillbirths occurring in practice ...	7	6	1	—	14
(g) Deaths occurring in practice—					
(i) Mothers ...	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) Infants ...	3	2	—	—	5
(h) Laying out the dead ...	—	7	—	—	7
(i) Liability to be a source of infection ...	—	16	—	—	16
(j) Substitution of artificial feeding ...	6	36	110	—	152

Distribution of Midwives, December 31st, 1953

(a) In Private Nursing Homes	...	...	3
(b) Domiciliary Midwives	...	...	10
(c) Maternity Hospital and Ext.	...	...	19
(d) Private Practice (Independent)	...	...	1

Luton is recognised as a training school for Part II midwives, and during the year 26 pupil midwives undertook their domiciliary training as required by the Central Midwives Board.

Medical Aid

During the year medical aid was sought in 45 of the midwives' cases.

SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITING

The policy of employing State Registered Nurses to supplement the work of Health Visitors was continued. Notwithstanding the difficulties in recruiting Health Visitors it was decided to increase the Staff establishment from eleven to sixteen and it is hoped that it will be possible to fill these vacancies from student Health Visitors recruited under the training scheme.

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			
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
1948 ...	2,167	3,780	224	7,037	41	—	4,386	122	17,757
1949 ...	2,013	3,794	316	8,008	39	—	3,122	117	17,409
1950 ...	1,748	3,274	175	7,987	2	—	4,473	169	17,828
1951 ...	1,782	5,226	80	13,709	1	—	984	152	21,934
1952 ...	1,756	6,881	25	13,163	63	—	1,346	61	23,295
1953 ...	1,683	6,801	30	13,157	62	—	963	75	22,771

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN

During the year 1953 the Inspectors were responsible for dealing with 14 cases at the request of the Department. All were in the nature of neglect and involved a total of 36 children. Four of these cases are still under supervision.

SECTION 25—HOME NURSING SERVICES

The Division is divided into eight districts for home nursing purposes. One nurse is responsible for each district and 2 relief nurses are also employed.

Normally the nurse is summoned by the Hospital Almoner or family doctor and works under the direction of the latter. The service is often supplemented by a domestic help. Nursing requisites and sick room equipment are available through the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross. During the year 646 articles were issued by the St. John Ambulance Brigade and 62 by the British Red Cross.

The home nursing service has proved to be of great assistance to medical practitioners, and in addition, has eased considerably the demand on hospital beds. There was an increase of 196 (20%) in the number of patients attended by the nursing staff over the previous year. As in previous years patients aged 65 years and over accounted for about 50% of all who were given nursing care in their own homes.

NUMBER OF CASES ATTENDED

Type of Case	District								All
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Acute Medical ...	61	47	35	49	23	50	52	80	397
Chronic Medical ...	36	44	53	32	94	36	48	33	376
Surgical ...	14	13	10	19	28	18	16	8	126
Tuberculosis ...	11	11	6	8	15	8	5	4	68
Infectious disease...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Abortion ...	1	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	6
Other ...	17	22	26	22	37	38	30	19	211
Totals ...	140	137	131	132	198	151	152	144	1,185

NUMBER OF VISITS

Type of Case	District								All
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Acute Medical ...	811	668	855	756	428	1,008	631	1,064	6,221
Chronic Medical ...	2,193	1,966	1,432	1,104	2,404	999	2,493	1,989	14,580
Surgical ...	208	515	511	669	1,089	657	691	257	4,597
Tuberculosis ...	270	272	99	165	387	213	253	54	1,713
Infectious Disease	—	—	—	34	—	—	—	—	34
Abortion ...	5	—	3	6	14	16	5	—	49
Other ...	69	261	103	197	100	176	65	75	1,046
Total ...	3,556	3,682	3,003	2,931	4,422	3,069	4,138	3,439	28,240

CASES ATTENDED BY TYPE, AGE AND SEX

Type	Male						Female						All
	Ages in Years						Ages in Years						
	0-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	0-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	
Cardio-vascular Lesions ...	—	—	—	—	13	32	—	—	—	—	12	56	113
Genito-urinary Condition ...	—	—	—	1	6	28	—	3	1	5	5	8	57
Neoplasm ...	—	—	—	3	6	10	—	—	—	6	8	13	46
Respiratory T.B. ...	—	—	3	16	10	3	—	—	7	14	5	1	59
Surgical T.B. ...	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	2	4	—	—	9
Other Respiratory Infections	—	1	1	7	14	25	1	—	2	6	10	43	110
Other Infections ...	2	5	1	7	5	2	—	4	2	5	9	5	47
Gastro-intestinal Disorders	5	9	—	15	15	18	5	3	6	13	22	27	138
Preparation for X-ray ...	—	1	1	14	34	6	—	—	2	13	28	10	109
Post Operative Treatment ...	2	1	1	3	7	10	—	—	1	3	14	3	45
Rheumatism and Arthritis ...	—	—	—	2	1	2	—	—	—	1	5	11	22
Blood Diseases ...	—	2	—	1	3	3	1	—	—	1	5	6	22
Diabetes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	30	34
Accident and Injuries ...	—	—	—	—	4	2	1	1	—	3	1	7	19
Senility ...	—	—	—	—	—	22	—	—	—	—	1	70	93
Skin Diseases ...	2	—	—	1	2	3	1	—	—	2	3	5	19
Gynaecology ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	6	36	54
Hemiplegia ...	—	—	—	—	6	23	—	—	—	—	15	45	89
Ear, Nose and Throat ...	6	4	2	2	1	1	2	6	6	11	—	—	41
Varicose Ulcers ...	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	12	18
Disorders of Nervous System	—	—	—	5	2	3	—	—	—	3	6	3	22
Other Conditions ...	2	1	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	7	2	3	19
Total ...	19	24	9	79	132	197	11	19	29	109	163	394	1,185

DURATION OF NURSING CARE (Completed cases only)

Type of Cases	7 days or less	8-28 days	1-3 months	3-6 months	Over 6 months	All
Acute Medical ...	180	132	36	20	9	377
Chronic Medical ...	75	104	51	25	26	281
Surgical ...	24	42	24	10	10	110
Tuberculosis ...	7	17	27	5	2	58
Infectious Disease ...	—	1	—	—	—	1
Abortion ...	—	6	—	—	—	6
Other ...	147	25	6	2	9	189
Total ...	433	327	144	62	56	1,022

SECTION 26—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION**Vaccination**

Vaccination in the normal way is carried out entirely by the family doctor. The figures for 1953 show an increase of 84 in respect of primary vaccinations and 28 for re-vaccination.

	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 years and over	Total
Primary vaccination	388	58	23	71	141	681
Re-vaccination ...	—	—	—	20	169	189
Totals ...	388	58	23	91	310	870

Immunisation

Immunisation sessions are held monthly at four Infant Welfare Centres and one session is also held each month at the central clinic at Dallow Road.

The importance of this service is continually being brought to the notice of all parents. On several occasions during the year, slides stressing the danger of diphtheria and the importance of immunisation were shown at local cinemas, and poster displays were set up both in the Health Department and all infant welfare centres. Cards are also sent to the parents when a child attains the age of 8 months, pointing out that immunisation may be carried out by their family doctor or at one of the various clinics, and inviting them to avail themselves of the facilities offered. In addition, head teachers hand a letter to the parent of every child when it first commences school and re-inforcing injections are then carried out during the term at school.

Compared with 1952, there was an increase of 97 primary and 184 re-inforcing courses.

Number of clinics held	69
Number of children who have completed course	760
Number of children immunised by general practitioners	769
Number of children immunised at nurseries	34
Total number immunised	1,563
Number of re-inforcing sessions at schools	32
Re-inforcing courses at clinics	69
Re-inforcing courses at schools	698
Re-inforcing courses by general practitioners	472
Total re-inforcing courses	1,239

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1953.

(According to Health Department Records)

Age at 31.12.53	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 to 9 years	10 to 14 years	Total under 15
Number Immunised	86	1,294	1,343	1,320	1,500	8,575	4,452	18,570
Estimated mid-year Population, 1953	9,114					16,781		25,895

Immunisation state of the child population at 31st December, 1953.

	Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-14 years	Total under 15
Estimated percentage immunised	5.34%	65.51%	77.60%	73.39%

SECTION 29—DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The number of hours assistance provided (72,825) was the lowest for any year since 1948. Nevertheless, the number of actual households assisted, was the highest. This is attributed to the increasing number of old people who require only a small amount of help, perhaps two half days each week. The number of aged persons now receiving home help assistance represent 35% of the total cases, and in actual numbers has risen from 162 in 1950 to 243 in 1953. One hundred and five had received assistance for periods longer than 12 months.

The number of cases in which the full fee was not charged represents nearly 40% of the whole as compared with 33% over previous years.

It is worthy of note that of the 67 home helps employed at the end of the year, 12 had been in the service over 5 years, 17 over 4 years and a further 18 over 2 years.

Number of full-time home helps on books at December 31st, 1953 21
 Number of part-time home helps on books at December 31st, 1953 45

Number of householders helped during the year:

(a) Maternity cases ... 136
 (b) Tuberculous cases ... 20
 (c) Other cases ... 532 Total ... 688

Number of hours of assistance provided during the year :

(a) Maternity cases ... 6,571
 (b) Tuberculous cases ... 4,540
 (c) Other cases ... 61,714 Total ... 72,825

Number of cases in which full fee was not charged :

(a) Maternity cases ... 31
 (b) Tuberculous cases ... 9
 (c) Other cases ... 234 Total ... 274

Cost to local authority of assessed cases ... £3,445

AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE PROVIDED WEEKLY

Type of Case	Up to 8 hours	8-12 hours	12-20 hours	20-30 hours	Over 30 hours	Total	% of Whole
Pregnancy and Confinement	17	18	32	32	34	136	20
Tuberculosis ...	9	5	6	—	—	20	3
Chronic Illness ...	70	14	9	1	—	94	14
Hospital, or Ex-Hospital	59	28	9	—	—	96	14
Emergency, or other Illness	53	17	17	10	2	99	14
Aged Persons ...	174	49	15	4	1	243	35
Total ...	382	131	91	47	37	688	—
Percentage of whole ...	56%	19%	13%	7%	5%	100%	100%

LENGTH OF TIME ASSISTANCE PROVIDED

Type of Case	Up to 4 weeks	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-12 months	Over 12 months	Total
Pregnancy and Confinement	119	15	2	—	—	136
Tuberculosis ...	1	4	4	4	7	20
Chronic Illness ...	6	16	16	18	38	94
Hospital, or Ex-Hospital ...	42	31	16	7	—	96
Emergency, or Other Illness	69	23	5	2	—	99
Aged Persons ...	24	37	25	52	105	243
Total ...	261	126	68	83	150	688
Percentage of whole ...	38%	18%	10%	12%	22%	100%

**ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH SERVICES**

Chief Sanitary Inspector

G. F. MACEFIELD

F.S.A.I., M.R.S.I., A.M.I.S.E.

REPORT

OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

Public Health Department,
63-69 Guildford Street,
LUTON

February, 1954.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Fourteen years have elapsed since a Clearance Area was represented to the Council, but in the meantime 108 houses have been dealt with either by Demolition or Closing Orders, and many old houses, though unfit in many respects, have been patched over and over again. The recently published Housing Repairs and Rents Bill indicates that orderly clearance of unfit houses may again become possible, and in anticipation of the new enactment, preparatory work is being done in the Department. The recently completed housing survey which provided up-to-date information about bad houses, has shown that some 5% of the houses in the town could, over a period be considered suitable for inclusion in Clearance Areas. The appointment of a Specialist Housing Inspector in October has enabled the preparatory work to be done.

During 1953, a number of visits were made by Members and Officers of the Council to abattoirs in various parts of the country including several of the modern ones recently constructed by the Ministry of Food. In spite of every effort to obtain permission to build an abattoir, a decision that Luton will be a slaughtering centre within the Government plan is still awaited. The news that ministerial control is to cease in 1954 has set a new problem, and considerable inconvenience will result if the report of the Interdepartmental Committee on the siting of abattoirs is not soon published. Meanwhile, an excellent site has been chosen and planning permission for the new abattoir has been granted by the County Council.

In addition, the problem of providing adequate and suitable slaughtering facilities when control ends has yet to be solved. Before the war there were 22 private slaughterhouses in use in the town and most of these are now used for other purposes or are derelict. It would be a retrograde step in food hygiene and meat inspection if these premises which the Council have in the past refused to license, were to be used again.

Luton is not yet a specified area under the Milk and Dairies (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950, but the milk retailed in Luton is mostly Pasteurised or Sterilised. However there is still a very small quantity of raw ungraded milk supplied by two farmer retailers. The pasteurised milk which is supplied to the public in over-capped bottles is mainly distributed by four licensed pasteurising plants in the town, and during the year there have been proposals for plant modernisation by three of the large firms concerned. Indeed, in one case, a completely new dairy, planned in accordance with the best prevailing practice, has been built. The number of small dairymen is few and diminishes year by year.

Atmospheric Pollution investigations in the Borough were continued throughout the year. The most troublesome pollution was caused by the emission of sulphur trioxide from a bisulphide plant. There has been almost constant contact maintained with the firm concerned and a number of experiments have been carried out in an attempt to reduce the pollution. Having regard to the complexity of the problem it is pleasing to be able to record that by the end of the year the nuisance had been overcome. In contemplating this satisfactory outcome, the assistance rendered by Dr. L. E. Hockin, District Inspector, Alkali, etc., Works, should not be forgotten.

The statistical data, of which the report is mainly comprised, indicates the diversity of the duties carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors, but does not readily convey the true extent of their work during the year. The reports kindly submitted by the Public Analyst, Mr. C. Harcourt Wordsworth, and the Engineer of the Luton Water Company, Mr. A Watkins, should be given attention.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

G. F. MACEFIELD.

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. During the year the following observations were taken :—

Sunshine.—1,356 hours of sunshine were recorded, the sunniest day being 25th May, 1953, when 13.7 hours were recorded.

Rainfall.—The total rainfall recorded was 19.87 inches, the wettest day being 19th August, 1953, when .82 of an inch of rain was recorded.

Temperatures.—The maximum temperature was 80°F., recorded on 12th August, 1953, and the minimum temperature was 15°F., recorded on 15th February, 1953. The mean temperature for the year was 49.57°F.

Wind.—The prevailing wind was South-West.

WATER SUPPLY

	1952 <i>million gallons</i>	1953 <i>million gallons</i>
(1) Estimated total consumption for the Borough —whole year	1,877	1,855
(2) Estimated domestic consumption for the Borough—whole year	1,034	1,025
(3) Estimated industrial consumption for the Borough—whole year	843	830
(4) Average chlorination	0.25p.p.m.	0.25p.p.m.

With a population of 110,500, the total number of gallons used per head per day was approximately 46, an average of 25 gallons per head per day for domestic use, and 21 gallons per head per day for industrial purposes.

The following additional information has been supplied by the Luton Water Company.

Resources

" During the past two years two greensand boreholes at Runley Wood have been repaired and brought back into service. The total daily consumption in 1953 was approximately 5 million gallons. The safe yield of Crescent Road (chalk) and Runley Wood (chalk and greensand) Pumping Stations combined is estimated at 4.5 million gallons per day and present demands have been met by overpumping.

" In accordance with the policy of curtailment of capital expenditure the Ministry of Housing and Local Government were only able to authorise the construction of the first half of the Friars Wash Scheme. During 1953 this first portion of the scheme was practically completed, comprising underground works at Friars Wash, the laying of a 24" main from Friars Wash to Luton, and the installation of temporary pumping plant housed in temporary shedding. It is anticipated that this portion of the scheme will be available for service by March 1954, and should provide a supply of some 2 million gallons per day for the joint use of Luton and Dunstable.

" Strong representations have been made to the Ministry as to the need for authority to proceed with the second half of the scheme, and in January, 1954, the Ministry indicated their willingness to award a starting date as soon as the various contracts can be arranged. The completion of the scheme will take about two years.

Distribution

" Distribution mains have been extended as required during the year : the principal extensions being :—Ramridge Estate, Westmorland Avenue, Cannon Lane, Hayhurst Road, Lane Farm, Bradgers Hill and Runfold Avenue.

Sampling of Water

" All sources of supply are analysed by the local Public Health Laboratory Service at weekly intervals, the Public Analyst making a more detailed analysis of each source at monthly intervals.

Plumbo-Solvency of Water

" 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."

The following is a copy of the Public Analyst's latest report on the mains supply submitted by the Luton Water Company on 15th December, 1953:—

- No. 1/109 Crescent Road No. 5 Well, Unchlorinated.
 No. 2/109 Crescent Road No. 5 Well, Chlorinated.
 No. 3/109 Runley Wood (Chalk), Chlorinated.
 No. 4/109 Runley Wood (Chalk), Unchlorinated.
 No. 5/109 Runley Wood, Greensand, Filtrate, Unchlorinated.

Chemical Analysis

				<i>Parts per 100,000</i>				
				No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
				1/109	2/109	3/109	4/109	5/109
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	0.0148	0.0136	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	...	...	...	0.039	0.060	0.059	0.049	0.058
Nitrites	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	...	0.893	0.919	0.370	0.412	0.046
Chlorine	...	...	...	2.7	2.7	1.8	1.8	1.9
Hardness, Total	...	...	...	36.0	36.0	34.0	39.0	23.0
Hardness, Permanent	...	...	...	11.5	11.0	9.5	11.0	5.0
Total Solids	...	...	...	49.0	47.0	45.0	45.5	32.5
Sulphate as SO ₄	...	...	...	4.3	4.3	7.2	8.1	4.8
Free Chlorine (ppm)	...	...	...	Nil	0.2	0.3	Nil	Nil
pH value	...	...	...	7.1	7.1	6.9	6.9	6.9

All samples were clear. Samples Nos. 1/109, 4/109 and 5/109 were free from smell; samples Nos. 2/109 and 3/109 had a smell of chlorine.

The microscopic examination revealed the presence of some mineral fragments and vegetable debris.

Bacteriological Examination

Number of organisms per ml. growing at 20°C. in 3 days	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Liquefying organisms ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Number of organisms per ml. growing at 37°C. in 48 hours	1	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
Bacillus Coli	absent from 100 ml.	absent from 100 ml.	absent from 100 ml.	absent from 100 ml.	absent from 100 ml.

Opinion

Samples Nos. 1/109 and 2/109—Both these samples are satisfactory and the supply may be used for all dietetic purposes. A high figure for free Ammonia is again apparent in each sample and this might indicate some change in the supply.

Samples Nos. 3/109, 4/109 and 5/109—These samples indicate that the supplies are suitable for use. Attention should be drawn to the differences in the figures for the total hardness and sulphate in samples 3/109 and 4/109, as it is assumed that the two samples are the same except for the presence of free chlorine in one.

No. of dwellings supplied from piped water mains direct to the houses	32,672
No. of dwellings supplied from piped water mains to standpipes	120
No. of dwellings supplied from wells	2
No. of samples of water submitted by Local Authority for examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service for free chlorine and Bacillus Coli	169

Number of samples of water obtained from :—

Crescent Road Pumping Station	84
Runley Wood Pumping Station	85
	— 169

Classified results of the above samples :—

Class 1—Highly Satisfactory	163
Class 2—Satisfactory	3
Class 3—Suspicious	0
Class 4—Unsatisfactory	3
	— 169

The three unsatisfactory samples were taken on separate occasions during the year. In each instance subsequent samples proved to be satisfactory. Too much importance should not be attached to occasional failures of this nature. It is essential, however, that when such incidents occur the water should be kept under strict observation. This was done by a system of bi-weekly sampling throughout the year.

Water samples were taken from three private wells supplying dwelling-houses. These were submitted to the Public Analyst; two proved satisfactory, but the third was the subject of an adverse bacteriological report. Immediate action was taken by the Department and a temporary supply from the town's mains arranged by means of the installation of a storage cistern. This was maintained until a piped supply was taken into the house.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The drainage of the Borough is on the separate system, except in the Stopsley area and the old part of the Borough where it is combined.

The soil water sewage is dealt with at the New Mill End Sewage Purification Works by sedimentation and bio-aeration. The sludge is treated with lime, dried and sold for manurial purposes. The effluent is discharged into the River Lea at New Mill End.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

The following table shows the number of pail closets, chemical closets and cesspools in the Borough at the end of December, 1953 :

Pail and chemical closets	...	...	112
Cesspools	...	...	144

Five cesspools, receiving the drainage of 7 houses, were abolished, and two constructed during the year.

All pail closets are emptied either once or twice weekly between the hours of 6 a.m. and 7 a.m.

Cesspools are emptied by means of mechanical plant as and when required. Five hundred and fifty-five emptyings were arranged during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1953.

Following the trend in recent years, a further increase in the number of chemical closets has been recorded. This is due entirely to the siting of more caravans within the Borough.

PUBLIC CLEANSING—REFUSE DISPOSAL

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

"Labour shortages continue and difficulty was experienced during the year in maintaining a regular refuse collection service.

"The method of refuse disposal is controlled tipping and during the year 1953 the weight of refuse dealt with was 41,920 tons."

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE

Complaints reported to Public Health Department	...	...	1,395*
Primary Inspections :			
Where nuisances were found	...	...	1,781*
Where complaint was received and no nuisance found	...	...	99
Under Housing Acts	...	...	144
Where Infectious Disease has occurred...	...	...	621
Bakehouses	...	...	85
Canteens	...	...	255
Caravans, Tents, etc.	...	...	36
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	8
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	274
Factories	...	...	435
Fish Curing Premises	...	...	2
Fish Frying Premises	...	...	42
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	310
Food Preparing Premises (Ice Cream)	...	...	355
Food Storage Premises	...	...	248
Houses Let in Lodgings	...	...	2
Markets and Shops	...	...	103
Offensive Trades	...	...	5
Offices	...	...	2
Outworkers' Premises	...	...	110
Overcrowding	...	...	16
Public Houses	...	...	62
Restaurant Kitchens	...	...	726
Slaughterhouses (for meat inspection)	...	...	1,501
Schools	...	...	136
Shops Act, 1950, Section 38	...	...	318
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	2
Theatres and Amusement Halls	...	...	5
Urinals—Public and Private	...	...	66

* These figures do not include 560 complaints and 1,157 primary visits in connection with Rats and Mice, which are dealt with elsewhere in the Report.

OTHER VISITS OR INSPECTIONS

Drainage	Number of drains tested or exposed	...	...	...	...	...	119
Food Inspection (excluding Slaughterhouses)		...	...	...	...	...	420
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,178
Insect pests Investigations (excluding bugs)		...	...	...	...	...	73
Bug Infestations	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	...	698
Visits to Boiler Houses, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Merchandise Marks Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	154
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Visits to obtain Water Samples for Analysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	346
Visits under the Food and Drugs Act, for samples, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,256
Visits to property under notice or work in progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,413
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	617
Visits—No access	...	...	...	...	...	...	902
							18,026

ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

Drainage reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
„ repaired, trapped, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
„ unstopped	...	...	...	...	...	...	366
Chambers constructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Repairs to chambers or new covers	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Cesspools emptied because of overflow	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Cesspools replaced by water carriage system	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Soil or vent pipes—new fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Water closets—repaired or supplied with water	...	...	...	...	...	...	111
„ „ new pans or pedestals fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
„ „ additional constructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

Waste Pipes—repaired or trapped	...	...	...	...	...	34
„ „ or R.W.P.'s disconnected from drains	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ „ R.W.P.'s and eaves gutters repaired	...	...	...	...	...	159
Sinks provided or replaced	...	...	...	...	...	5
Accumulations of refuse removed	...	...	...	...	...	27
Animals, fowls, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	8
Brickwork or pointing repaired	...	...	...	...	...	103
Coppers repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	115
Damp proof courses inserted	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dustbins supplied	...	...	...	...	...	118
Fireplaces, stoves and flues repaired	...	...	...	...	...	76
Flooring and other woodwork repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	149
Floors—concrete or quarried repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	14
Gas fittings or services repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Gullies in street unstopped	...	...	...	...	...	2
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	16
Plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	...	167
Rats and mice infestations abated	...	...	...	...	...	929
Rent Books made to comply with the requirements of Housing Act	...	...	...	...	...	8
Roofs made watertight	...	...	...	...	...	180
Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	3
Walls and ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	18
Water supplies reinstated or made sufficient	...	...	...	...	...	5
Water, Houses connected to Town's supply	...	...	...	...	...	1
Windows—Cords, fasteners and glass repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	151
Premises treated against insect pests	...	...	...	...	...	38
Verminous rooms fumigated	...	...	...	...	...	271
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ventilation—sub-floor provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Yards and passages paved	...	...	...	...	...	9
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	48
Total	...	...	...	...	...	3,445

STATUTORY NOTICES

NUMBER OF LEGAL NOTICES ISSUED FOR ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

	<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied with</i>
Number of Outstanding Notices, 31st Dec., 1952	7	7
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 24	10	10
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 39	26	21
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 45	10	8
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 75	12	12
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 93	34	29
	—	—
	99	87
	—	—
No. of Outstanding Notices at 31st December, 1953	12	

Legal proceedings were instituted in one case in respect of non-compliance with notices issued under Sections 39 and 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The work was ultimately carried out in default by the Corporation.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Premises inspected where notifiable diseases have occurred	...	479
Cases removed to Isolation Hospital	... ..	50
Rooms disinfected after infectious, contagious or other disease, etc.		448
Premises where repairs or redecorations have been carried out after infectious diseases	... ..	2
Rooms where walls and ceilings were rubbed down after infectious diseases	... ..	104
Visits paid to ascertain if notices to repair or redecorate have been complied with	... ..	5
Rooms disinfected by occupiers	... ..	134
Premises visited tracing infectious diseases	... ..	165
Articles disinfected by steam at request of owners	... ..	946
Articles disinfected by fumigants at request of owners	... ..	1,058
Articles destroyed by burning at request of owners	... ..	241
Total visits paid to infected premises	... ..	649
Wasps nests destroyed	... ..	4

Six hundred and forty-four library books were withdrawn from circulation and were disinfected before they were returned.

During the year 5 gallons of disinfecting fluid were supplied to the public, free of charge, for use in premises where cases of infectious disease, etc., had occurred.

Following a complaint of infestation by uncommon insects, a set of specimens was sent to the British Museum. They were identified as members of a species of tick normally found on a variety of animals. The house was sprayed with a liquid DDT solution and the occupier advised to dress his dog's coat thoroughly with some suitable dusting powder as this animal was suspected of being the host.

Forty-three complaints of infestations by bed bugs were received during the year, and in all instances disinfestation was carried out. The use of liquid vermicide containing DDT was relied upon for treating the infestations, and proved satisfactory. In only two instances did reinfestation occur.

The following table shows the number of premises and rooms dealt with during 1953 :

	Number of Premises		Number of Rooms	
	Found to be infested	Disinfested	Found to be infested	Disinfested
Number of Council Houses	10	10	30	30
Number of other Houses	39	39	136	136
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	49	49	166	166
Number of cases where disinfestation has been carried out by Occupants or Contractors	—	—	—	—
Number of complaints of infestation received (43)	43	43	134	134
Number of cases found by Sanitary Inspectors	6	6	32	32

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

During the year the sewers received two maintenance treatments for rat infestation. The first was carried out in March, when 280 manholes were dealt with and 70 takes observed. Two hundred and eighty-four manholes were baited during the second treatment, with 80 takes.

Following the success of a new method of rodent treatment in 1952, more than half the infestations occurring in 1953 were treated by this method. It is based on the use of a new rodenticide incorporating an anti-blood coagulant (dicoumarin, warfarin and derivatives). This substance does not induce bait shyness and no pre-baiting is needed. Amongst other advantages is the fact that the substance is painless in operation.

Assiduous attention has been paid to the few sites in the Borough which are frequently infested by rats. At no time did the infestations get out of hand and, indeed, during the year the numbers were considerably

reduced. For instance, the Corporation's Refuse Tip has been maintained in a condition virtually free from rats.

An analysis of the work is detailed below :

			Com- plaints received	No. of premises involved	Treatment com- pleted	Treatment in progress	Bodies found
Private Dwellings	{ Rats ...	...	326	682	666	33	679
	{ Mice ...	...	69	81	78	4	465
Business Premises	{ Rats ...	...	72	82	78	5	141
	{ Mice ...	...	93	110	107	5	1,064
Totals	Rats ...	...	398	764	744	38	820
	Mice ...	...	162	191	185	9	1,529

In dealing with the above-mentioned infestations, the rodent operatives paid a total of 4,202 visits.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

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

The Public Baths are situated in Waller Street, Luton, and consist of a covered Swimming Pool, 46 Slipper Baths and one Vapour Bath. The Open Air Pool situated off New Bedford Road, Luton, caters for swimming and bathing only.

During the season of 1953, the following numbers attended :—

				<i>Waller Street Baths</i>	<i>Open Air Swimming Pool</i>
Swimmers and Spectators	...	...	...	51,248	55,642
Clubs	...	...	...	10,005	—
Slipper and Vapour Baths	...	...	...	56,373	—
Schools...	...	...	...	15,911	9,960
Total	...	...	...	133,537	65,602

Chloroscope examinations of the water are carried out by the attendants twice a day, and in addition, samples of the water are sent to the Public Analyst for examination each month. During the past year, reports have been very satisfactory.

THEATRES

Inspection of sanitary accommodation in the cinemas and theatres has been made during the year. Where minor sanitary defects were found, they were attended to.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The four recording stations maintained by the Department continued to operate throughout the year. Three of these consisted of a standard deposit gauge and lead peroxide candle, and one of lead peroxide candle only.

The contents of the various instruments are forwarded monthly to the Public Analyst for examination. Results are sent to the Director, Fuel Research Station, East Greenwich, for inclusion in the National Bulletin which is published monthly.

A volumetric apparatus for recording sulphur dioxide and suspended matter is operated at the Town Hall. From this, daily readings are taken. These results are forwarded to East Greenwich for inclusion in the National Bulletin.

The report of the Public Analyst contains his observations on the results obtained from the various instruments.

The experimental apparatus for determining the total sulphur oxides in the atmosphere was operated throughout the year in the Beech Hill area. Additional equipment was loaned by the Fuel Research Station in March, 1953, which enabled the concentration of total acid and ammonia in the atmosphere of the area to be determined in addition to the amount of free acid previously measured.

It is pleasing to record that the indication given in the Annual Report for 1952 that a method of obtaining smokeless fuel combustion at one of the factories in the Beech Hill area had been found, was fully justified by events. The firm concerned has adapted all the furnaces in operation to this method, and has also given an undertaking that any additional furnaces brought into operation in the future will be similarly equipped.

A second major contribution to the improvement of the atmosphere in this area was obtained during the year. The bisulphite process which has been the cause of serious complaint during the past four years has been modified so as to eliminate the emission of sulphur trioxide.

During the year, 12 smoke observations were made on other industrial premises in the Borough and 3 warnings issued about the excessive emission of smoke.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Section 38 of this Act is administered by the Public Health Department. Three hundred and forty-two visits were paid to shop premises during 1953 investigating the sanitary accommodation provided. Four notices were served respecting contraventions found. At the end of the year three of these premises had been rendered satisfactory.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act regulates the conditions in which pet animals are kept pending sale. It provides for the licensing of premises from which pet animals are sold and empowers a local authority to make conditions regarding the housing and care of the pets.

At the beginning of the year there were 6 premises licensed. One of these closed, leaving a total of 5 at the end of the year. During the period under review 20 visits were paid to ensure that the requirements of the Act were complied with.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS

Three premises are registered for the manufacture of new articles containing filling materials and five samples of assorted materials were taken for examination. Four were reported upon as satisfactory and one unsatisfactory. The latter was a sample of cotton felt which failed to satisfy the requirements of the test in that the trash content of 7.6% exceeded the permitted maximum of 7.5%. A warning letter was sent to the manufacturer concerned.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The two offensive trades were generally conducted satisfactorily during the year. Complaints arose regarding smells from one premises and investigations confirmed their existence. They were caused by irregular removal of putrescible waste during hot weather, but the provision of metal containers and the systematic disposal of the waste effected a remedy. Five visits were paid during the year.

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937 INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

FACTORIES, FACTORIES (NO MECHANICAL POWER) AND WORKPLACES

Premises inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	706
Premises inspected and found satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	620
Premises inspected and found unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
Factories where defects were found and referred by H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Reports on action taken sent to H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Number of defects remedied as a result of H.M. Inspector's notifications	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49

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

Dilapidations, General...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cleanliness, Want of	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Washing facilities absent or inadequate	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water Supply insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Lighting insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
No intervening ventilated lobby	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

Water Closet, unsuitable or defective	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
„ not ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ not lighted	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
„ dirty condition	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
„ needing repair	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
„ without indication	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
„ not separate for sexes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ not screened	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
„ insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rat or mouse infestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
Abstract not posted	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
							286

One of the two basement bakehouses in use at the beginning of the year was closed in May in compliance with a notice served by the Council. In consideration of particular personal hardship involved, occupation of the remaining underground bakehouse was allowed to continue.

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 31st December, 1953.

FACTORIES							
Aircraft Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Ball Bearing Manufacturer	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Beer Bottling, Coffee Roasting and Grinding	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Biscuit Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Bleachers, Dyers and Felt Body Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Boot Repairers	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Brass and Aluminium Founders	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Builders	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Cardboard Box Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Cellulose Spraying	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Chemical Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Chocolate, Cocoa and Sweet Manufacturer	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cigarette Manufacturer	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Coach and Motor Body Builders	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Corn Merchant	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

Dry Cleaning and Dyeing	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Electric Appliances	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Electrical Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Electro-Platers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Engraver	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Feather Dyeing and Mounting	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Feather Sorting and Grading	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Felt Products	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Flour Mill	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
French Polisher (Cabinets)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fur Dressers and Dyers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Furriers	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Garment Makers and Menders and Corset Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Gas and Coke Production	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
General Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Glass Workers	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Grass Mat Maker	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hat Blockers and Blockmakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Hat Lining Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Hat Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	203
Hat Materials Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Iron Founders	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Joiners, Woodworkers and Carpenters	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Knitted Hood Makers and Proofers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Leather Goods	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Light Engineering	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Machine Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Meters, Motor Car Parts Manufacturer	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Millinery	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Mineral Water Manufacturers and Brewers	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Motor Vehicle Engineers, Repairs and Cycle Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Optician	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Paint Manufacturers, Wall Papers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pattern Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Photographic Printers and Developers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Plastics	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Potato Crisp Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Powder Puffs, Braces, etc., Manufacturer	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Printers and Letterpress Printers	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Radio and Television Repairs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sausage Makers, Pie Makers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	11

OUTWORKERS RETURNS

NATURE OF WORK	OUTWORKERS LISTS Sections 110, Factories Act, 1937						Outworkers in Unwholesome Premises Section 111, Factories Act, 1937			Outwork in Infected Premises Sec. 153, P.H.A., 1936			Lists forwarded to other Authorities				Lists received from other Authorities				
	Lists received from Employers and Other Authorities			No. of Cases of Default in sending Lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for Failure to Supply Lists	No. of Instances of Work in Unwhole- some Premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions	Instances	Orders made Sec. 153, P.H.A., 1936	Prosecutions Sec. 153, P.H.A., 1936	No. of Local Authorities to whom Lists of Outworkers have been Forwarded	No. of Lists	Workmen	Contractors	No. of Local Authorities from whom Lists have been Received	No. of Lists	Workmen	Contractors		
	Lists	Workmen	Contractors																		
FEBRUARY RETURNS	Making, etc., of Wearing Apparel ...	117	1,679	2	—	—	—	—	Where cases have arisen work has been withheld by verbal arrangement. No separate records kept.	—	—	120	125	636	—	7	7	2	1	—	
	Box Making ...	2	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	
	Lampshade Making ...	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Leather and Fancy Goods ...	3	240	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Feather Mounting ...	2	56	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	
	Button Covering ...	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	
	Artificial Flowers ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Electrical Fittings Assembly ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Totals ...	128	1,996	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	120	125	676	—	7	7	9	1	—
	AUGUST RETURNS	Making, etc., of Wearing Apparel ...	113	1,288	2	—	—	—	—	Where cases have arisen work has been withheld by verbal arrangement. No separate records kept.	—	—	12	12	209	—	6	6	5	1	—
Box Making ...		1	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Lampshade Making ...		1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Leather and Fancy Goods ...		3	251	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	12	33	—	6	6	—	—	—	—
Feather Mounting ...		3	63	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Button Covering ...		1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Artificial Flowers ...		1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Electrical Fittings Assembly ...		1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	124	1,621	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	12	256	—	6	6	10	1	—	—

Total number of firms employing outworkers who live in the Borough ... 148
 Total number of outworkers employed who live in the Borough ... 1,664
 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)	2,249
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	5,757
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Acts	8
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. Visits to properties already recorded in (2) (a)	315
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	8
(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	1,211

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	1,166
--	-------

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 ...	66
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	45
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	18

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	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953)	2
(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	4
(4) Number of Undertakings not to re-let given by owners...	0
(5) Dwelling-houses acquired and demolished by Corporation	3

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	2
(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	81
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	139
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	612
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	9
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year (33 families in 16 houses)	16
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	144
(d) Cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0
(e) (i) Number of Council houses found to be overcrowded at end of year	5
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	12
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	47
(f) Number of cases of overcrowding in Council houses relieved during the year	1

Work by Agreement under Section 275 of the Public Health Act, 1936

In a number of instances owners request that the Corporation carry out work in respect of which Statutory Notices have been served. In such cases the Public Health Committee normally agree for this work to be carried out at the owner's expense subject to a satisfactory arrangement for repayment being arrived at by the Borough Treasurer.

During 1953 repairs or improvements were effected on this basis at 9 houses.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938-1950

MILK

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 and 1953

No. of persons registered as Distributors	...	...	...	189
No. of premises registered as Dairies	...	...	...	14

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, 1950 and 1953

No. of Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licences	...	...	...	4
No. of Dealer's Licences to use the special designation Pasteurised	...	...	...	48
No. of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation Pasteurised	...	...	...	2
No. of Dealer's Licences to use the special designation Sterilised	...	...	...	166
No. of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation Sterilised	...	...	...	2

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 and 1950

No. of Dealer's Licences to use the special designation Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	15
No. of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	1

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

During the year 235 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, the results of which are shown in the table on page 64.

The percentage of pasteurised milk samples satisfying the phosphatase test was 92.63. This compares with a percentage for 1952 of 96.71 and is indicative of a decrease in the standard of pasteurisation. This is largely due to existing plants becoming obsolete and worn. Fortunately, the dairies concerned are alive to this circumstance and during the year one dairy transferred to a new and modern premises, newly equipped with the latest type of pasteurising plant. One of the other large pasteurisers in the town ordered new High Temperature Short Time plant during the year and at the time of going to press this was in course of erection. The third large firm was, at the end of the year, also planning a re-organisation of the dairy and the installation of new High Temperature Short Time plant.

Although 6 samples of ungraded milk were submitted to the Methylene Blue test and only 2 passed, no official action could be taken as milk so produced is not subject to this statutory test.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

Designation of Milk	Total Samples Sub- mitted	Methylene Blue Test		Samples Cancelled Statutory Minimum Temperature not reached	Per- centage Satis- factory	Phosphatase Test		Per- centage Satis- factory	Turbidity Test		Per- centage Satis- factory
		Passed	Failed			Passed	Failed		Passed	Failed	
Pasteurised ...	190	184	4	2	97.87	176	14	92.63	—	—	—
Sterilised ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	0	100.00
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ...	26	22	0	4	100.00	26	0	100.00	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested ...	7	7	0	0	100.00	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ungraded ...	6	2	4	0	33.33	—	—	—	—	—	—

EXAMINATION OF MILK

SECTION 8, FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK, DAIRIES AND
ARTIFICIAL CREAM) ACT, 1950

Two samples of milk were taken and tested by guinea-pig inoculation and both samples were found to be free from tubercle bacilli and brucella abortus.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK BOTTLES

Ninety-nine washed milk bottles were taken for examination during the year.

Seventy-three were found to be "satisfactory" (not more than 600 bacteria per pint bottle); 8 were "fairly satisfactory" (more than 600 bacteria but less than 2,000 bacteria per pint bottle); and 18, with a count of more than 2,000 bacteria, were unsatisfactory.

Of the 18 unsatisfactory results, all but 3 were taken from two small dairies. Investigations followed and advice on handling resulted in all further samples being satisfactory. During these investigations 3 samples of detergent and washing water were taken for examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

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

	Premises on Register Dec. 31st, 1952	Condi- tional Appro- vals outstan- ding Dec. 31st, 1952	No. of Applica- tions received during 1953	Trans- ferred from Manu- facture	No. of Certifi- cates issued	No. of Condi- tional Appro- vals can- celled	No. of Condi- tional Appro- vals outstan- ding 31st, Dec., 1953	No. of Applica- tions refused	No. of Premises re- moved during 1953	Total on Register at Dec. 31st, 1953
Sale and storage of Ice Cream ...	255	8	54	1	46	3	12	1	7	295
Manufacture of Ice Cream ...	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	9
Manufacture of Preserved Food ...	71	1	2	—	2	—	1	—	5	68
Fish Frying and Curing ...	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31
Butter and Mar- garine Dealers ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2

FOOD HYGIENE

The number of establishments serving meals and snacks on the register at 31st December, 1953, was 355. During the year 10 new premises were established and 16 closed.

The following list shows the various types of premises on the register :—

Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	83
Snack Bars	...	...	...	...	...	38
School Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	27
School Kitchens only	...	...	...	...	...	20
Factory Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	47
Canteens serving Snacks only	...	...	...	...	...	42
Commercial Hotels and Boarding Houses	...	...	...	...	...	11
Social Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	4
Mobile Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	2
Public Houses and Public Houses serving Snacks	...	...	...	...	...	81

During the year the under-mentioned work was carried out :—

Number of visits and re-visits made	...	...	...	1,120
Number of interviews held	...	...	...	125
Number of letters sent or arrangements made	...	...	...	106
Number of letters or arrangements complied with	...	...	...	125
Number of Lectures given	...	...	...	37
Number of Persons attending Lectures	...	...	...	1,226

Work carried out :—

New canteen kitchens constructed	...	...	...	...	2
Premises completely redecorated	...	...	...	...	16
Premises partly redecorated	...	...	...	...	49
Water heaters installed...	...	...	...	...	5
Walls and ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	...	28
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	24
Floor tiled	...	...	...	...	1
Foodstore ventilated	...	...	...	...	1
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	1
Water closets rebuilt	...	...	...	...	1
Kitchen rebuilt	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous work	...	...	...	...	45



VISUAL AIDS — LECTURE TO FOOD HANDLERS.



UNDERGROUND BAKEHOUSE — RECENTLY CLOSED.

Effective liaison is still maintained with the District Food Office Licensing Department at Bedford. An arrangement exists whereby all new premises are inspected and approved by the Sanitary Inspector before a licence is issued. In addition, plans submitted to the Borough Engineer's Department for alterations to food premises are examined and amended as necessary prior to submission to the appropriate Committee.

During the year the majority of proprietors and managers of cafes, restaurants, canteens, etc., co-operated willingly with the Health Department to achieve a good standard of food hygiene, and some of the larger firms are pleased to have the Inspector lecture and instruct their staffs. Food handling and use of equipment in a few of the smaller establishments, however, still leaves room for improvement. Difficulty has been encountered in encouraging the use of sterilisers in washing-up routines as, despite its harshness on the hands, soda is still popular. A number of sterilising sinks and washing machines have, however, been installed.

Talks illustrated by film strips have been given to staffs of various canteens, food stores, and a number of voluntary organisations. In addition, a number of American film strips with recorded commentaries have been used. An innovation was a series of "pep-talks" on general hygiene given to over 200 members of the staff of a large food factory. Difficulty in holding the attention of the audience during its lunch-break was anticipated, but these fears proved groundless and the talks were quite popular. This experiment followed a special drive carried out by the manager of the factory who had provided adequate hand-washing and drying facilities for the workers and who felt the need to impress upon them the absolute necessity for the greatest care to be taken in the preparation of their product.

ICE-CREAM

Ninety-five samples of ice-cream were examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

Judging the samples of ice-cream on the time taken to decolorise 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
48	25	14	8

It is unfortunate that the trend of improvement in grading results which has occurred annually since the introduction of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947/1952, has not been maintained this year. This has been due entirely to the poor results obtained from one firm's samples. Despite regular visits and sampling, and a considerable amount of time spent on tendering advice to the management and operatives, no permanent improvement has been obtained. More attention will be devoted to this firm during the coming season.

The examination of ice lollies presents a rather difficult technical problem. A considerable amount of the modern product is largely composed of ice cream. The tests for ice cream are not, however, applicable to it. It is therefore customary to subject them to a test for *Bacillus Coli*, though on occasion the acidity of the product is too high for this to be carried out.

No. of Samples taken	Presumptive <i>Coli</i> present in	Faecal <i>Coli</i> present in	<i>Coli</i> negative	High Acidity. No Test
29	13	2	6	9

The two unsatisfactory samples were the subject of investigation. Both were manufactured by the firm mentioned above; on each occasion subsequent samples were found to be satisfactory.

CREAM AND SYNTHETIC CREAM

The submission of samples of cream for bacteriological examination was extended during the year. Twenty-seven samples were taken, 18 of which were synthetic cream.

There is no statutory test for the latter commodity, but 8 of the samples examined were considered by the Director of the Public Health Laboratory to be not in all respects satisfactory. The investigation indicated that this type of commodity might with advantage be refrigerated pending retail sale. In some cases it was found that the synthetic cream was displayed for sale at atmospheric temperature. In no case, however, were pathogens discovered.

Samples of fresh cream examined were more satisfactory; only 3 revealed a high plate count.

MEAT INSPECTION IN SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The two licensed slaughterhouses requisitioned by the Ministry of Food continued to operate throughout the year and all animals slaughtered for human consumption in the Borough were dealt with there.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed	5,225	533	2,656	10,285	3,422	22,121
Number Inspected	5,225	533	2,656	10,285	3,422	22,121
Percentage of number killed which were inspected ...	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
All diseases except Tuberculosis : Whole carcasses condemned	5	4	17	30	16	72
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,814	215	18	1,196	672	3,915
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis	34.81%	41.09%	1.32%	11.92%	20.11%	18.02%
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcasses condemned	20	4	2	—	15	41
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	472	137	2	—	155	766
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	9.42%	26.45%	0.15%	—	4.97%	3.65%

In the course of meat inspection one pathological specimen was submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory Service.

The total number of animals slaughtered and examined during the year showed an increase of 776 over 1952. The number of cattle slaughtered did, however, fall slightly and the increase recorded is almost entirely due to the greater number of pigs slaughtered, 3,422 as against 2,418 in 1952. Thirty-three complete beef carcasses and offals were condemned from all causes as against 49 the previous year.

The percentages of the number of animals inspected affected with tuberculosis maintained the improvement shown in the 1952 figures over 1951. The following table shows comparative figures for the three years.

PERCENTAGE OF NUMBER INSPECTED AFFECTED WITH TUBERCULOSIS

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs
1951	12.43	35.21	0.20	5.27
1952	10.42	26.89	0.17	4.96
1953	9.42	26.45	0.15	4.97

TUBERCULOSIS IN CALVES

During the year the Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was notified of one calf examined in a slaughterhouse and found to be affected with Congenital Tuberculosis.

The calf was passed through the collecting centre by a dealer and it was not possible to trace back to the farm of origin.

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

The system of inspection to locate *Cysticercus Bovis* infestation in cattle was continued in all bovine carcasses during the year. Eighteen cases were diagnosed and the carcasses were dealt with in accordance with approved policy.

In addition, where possible, the inspectors in the districts of origin were notified in an attempt to assist in the location of infected pastures.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

Number of Slaughtermen on Register at 31st December, 1952	...	26
Applications for Licences considered during 1953	...	1
Number of Slaughtermen on Register at 31st December, 1953	...	27

MERCHANDISE MARKS ORDERS

One hundred and ninety-nine visits were paid by the Sanitary Inspectors to the food shops and market to ensure compliance with the labelling provisions of the various Orders. Twenty-six contraventions were recorded and all were quickly remedied when the offences were pointed out to the vendors. It is not easy in the normal order of conducting a retail business to have every article displayed for sale correctly labelled. Largely it is a matter of habit, and constant supervision is necessary to ensure that this is acquired.

Explanatory pamphlets setting out the shopkeepers' obligations under the Merchandise Marks Orders are available upon request.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

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

<i>No. of Condemnation Notes</i>	<i>Article</i>	<i>Weight in lb.</i>
1,465	Beef	96,646
	Pork	10,448
	Mutton	4,382
	Meat other than from Slaughterhouses ...	5,935
	Meat—Canned	4,586
	Meat—Cooked	8
	Sausages	1,162
	Rabbit—Fresh and Canned	47
	Chicken—Fresh and Canned	62
	Pastes—Meat and Fish	808
	Fish—Fresh and Canned	1,304
	Fruit—Canned and Fresh, and Fruit Juices ...	18,624
	Fruit—Dried	327
	Preserves—Canned	524
	Vegetables—Fresh and Canned, and Soups ...	9,176
	Milk—Canned, Evaporated and Dried ...	1,171
	Cream—Fresh and Synthetic	40
	Cheese—Processed	13
	Egg—Frozen and Liquid	364
	Cake and Pudding Mixture and Flour ...	298
	Biscuits and Cereals	47
	Sweets and Confectionery	1,500
	Jellies	52
	Custard Powder... ..	20
	Pickles	175
	Nuts	40
	Miscellaneous	8
1,465	70 tons 8 cwts. 2 qrs. 15 lb.	157,767

The above statement includes the weight of the entire carcasses and organs of 25 cattle excluding cows, 8 cows, 19 calves, 30 sheep and lambs and 31 pigs.

The total amount of food condemned shows a decrease of some 50 tons from the 1952 total. This is accounted for by the fact that a firm in the Borough dealing in salvaged goods went out of business towards the close of 1952.

Meat and offals condemned at the Ministry of Food controlled slaughterhouses in the town and at butchers' shops in the Borough are collected by an approved contractor who subjects this material to a steam digestion process. The remainder of the condemned food is disposed of by supervised burial on the Corporation's Airport Tip.

In connection with the tracing of food poisoning incidents, 7 samples of food were delivered to the Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST

During the year 1953, 326 samples were submitted to me for examination under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Of these samples, 27 were found to be "not genuine" and these included 26 samples of milk and one of shredded suet.

The sample of shredded suet was deficient in fat to the extent of at least twelve per cent., but a further sample was found to conform with the appropriate Food Order.

The majority of the 26 adulterated samples of milk were deficient in butter-fat and contained less than the three per cent. minimum stipulated by the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939. It can be seen from the accompanying tables that the year's average fat figure for all milk samples examined was 3.52 per cent. and it would therefore appear that with 24 samples containing less than three per cent. of fat, the insistence on quantity has resulted in some cows giving a poor quality low-fat milk. The difference in quality is not, however, reflected in a difference in price.

A slightly different procedure for sampling milk has been adopted by the Officers of the Public Health Department and should help to maintain the regular and efficient inspection of milk sold to the public in Luton. Most milk comes into the town in churns from outlying farms and informal samples can be taken by the Inspectors at some point en route. The samples can then be analysed quickly and the preliminary results sent first by telephone to the Inspector who can visit immediately the particular farm from which any suspected sample was sent. Further samples can then be taken and may be followed within twenty-four hours by samples from individual cows which have been milked in the presence of the Inspector. In the event of any proceedings being taken a complete chain of evidence is then available. As all milk that is shown to come from the cow is legally genuine milk, the final sample, or "appeal to cow," will give some standard with which previous samples may be compared.

The measurements of rainfall and associated deposits from the air have been continued throughout the year and the tables set out on the following pages give a summary of the information obtained.

Far more public attention is now directed to the problem of atmospheric pollution throughout the country and much interest has been shown in the effects of the heavy fog of December, 1952. The figures for Luton during 1953 show some improvement in general conditions, particularly in the Beech Hill area. The averages for the winter and summer periods show only too well the marked effect of the household fire on the amount of smoke in the air.

The figures showing the deposited matter are obtained by analysing the rain water collected during a month in a standard sized funnel. From the area of the mouth of the funnel and the weight of the impurities in the rain water can be calculated the weight of soot, tar and ashes falling on a square mile of the district.

The sulphur compounds measured are those which cause corrosion of materials and affect the lungs in a fog. A measured piece of a special absorbent material is exposed to the air for a month and the sulphur compounds absorbed are then determined by analysis.

The measurement of sulphur dioxide and suspended matter in the air is carried out by the Council's own staff who take daily readings on special instruments.

Corrosion and damage are continuous in any sizeable town as there is always smoke in the air. A fog or mist will concentrate and hold the fumes down near the ground and it is then that the full effect will be felt.

SAMPLING OF FOOD AND DRUGS

During the year 326 samples were taken, 126 being formal and 200 informal samples.

<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Nature of Sample</i>
—	1	Butter
—	10	Meat and meat products
—	18	Confectionery, sweets, etc.
—	11	Fish—canned, and fish and meat paste
—	21	Fruit—fresh and preserved
—	48	Groceries—miscellaneous
—	11	Jam, honey, marmalade, etc.
—	11	Lard, cooking fat and suet
—	2	Margarine
—	8	Milk and milk foods (canned) and cream
120	21	Milk
—	13	Patent medicines and chemical substances
—	4	Sausages and sausage meat
—	9	Temperance drinks and non-alcoholic wines
6	4	Wines, spirits and beers
—	8	Ice-cream
126	200	
	326	

Of the samples analysed 27 were reported to be not genuine, details of which, and the action taken in regard thereto, are as follows :

Sample No.	Formal	In-formal	Article	Adulteration or other Irregularity	Action taken
9631	1		Milk	Fat deficient 7%	Average fat content of total consignment did not fall below statutory minimum. Appropriate action taken where necessary.
9634	1		Milk	Fat deficient 7%	
9700	1		Milk	Fat deficient 3%	
3	1		Milk	Fat deficient 6%	
6	1		Milk	Fat deficient 6%	
18	1		Milk	Fat deficient 14%	
20	1		Milk	Fat deficient 1%	
21	1		Milk	Fat deficient 7%	
23	1		Milk	Fat deficient 19%	
33	1		Milk	Fat deficient 2%	
35	1		Milk	Fat deficient 6%	
39	1		Milk	Fat deficient 6%	
71	1		Milk	Fat deficient 5.3%	
119		1	Shredded Beef Suet	Deficient in Beef Fat at least 12%	Informal sample only. Formal sample submitted for analysis and found to be satisfactory.
201	1		Milk	Fat deficient 23%	Average fat content of total consignment of eight churns was 2.86%, approximately 5% deficient in fat on the total consignment. Investigation made at farm and warning letter sent. Farmer advised to consult Milk Production Officer.
202	1		Milk	Fat deficient 10%	
203	1		Milk	Fat deficient 6%	
204	1		Milk	Fat deficient 22%	
206	1		Milk	Fat deficient 10%	
209	1		Milk	Fat deficient 9%	Consignment consisted of one churn only of morning's milk. Investigation at farm and advice given to farmer.
210	1		Milk	Fat deficient 6%	Average fat content of total consignment did not fall below statutory minimum. The three churns deficient in fat were all of morning's milking. Farmer interviewed and advice given. Letter sent to farmer.
211	1		Milk	Fat deficient 5%	
214	1		Milk	Fat deficient 6%	
216	1		Milk	Fat deficient 19%	Average fat content of total consignment of two churns was 2.76%. Investigation at farm indicated that the milk was as received from the cows. Warning letter sent and farmer advised to consult County Agricultural Officer with a view to improving the quality of milk produced.
264	1		Milk	Extraneous water 6.7%	Total consignment consisted of five churns. Subsequent "Appeal to Cow" samples proved satisfactory. Proceedings instituted under Section 3 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, in respect of the two churns containing extraneous water. Defendant was fined £5 on each of two counts and ordered to pay £6 6s. 0d. costs.
265	1		Milk	Extraneous water 7.1%	
267	1		Milk	Fat deficient 10.6%	

SUMMARY OF CHEMICAL ANALYSES OF MILK SAMPLES

Period	No. of Samples Examined	AVERAGES	
		Fat %	Solids not Fat %
January	14	3.82	9.03
February	12	3.77	8.80
March	12	3.46	8.66
Quarter ended 31.3.53 ...	38	3.67	8.83
April	11	3.28	8.68
May	15	2.95	8.67
June	16	3.16	8.79
Quarter ended 30.6.53 ...	42	3.12	8.72
July	9	3.48	8.77
August	6	3.51	8.61
September	14	3.72	8.55
Quarter ended 30.9.53 ...	29	3.64	8.59
October	17	4.02	8.75
November	9	3.70	8.76
December	6	3.88	8.78
Quarter ended 31.12.53 ...	32	3.87	8.76
Year ended 31.12.53 ...	141	3.52	8.74

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION—SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS

DEPOSITED MATTER
EXPRESSED AS
TONS PER SQUARE MILE
PER MONTH

1951-1952

	Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School
Summer Average April-Sept., 1951	15.98	21.27	—
Winter Average Oct., 1951-Mar., 1952	18.95	20.84	—
Year's Average	17.47	21.06	—

SULPHUR COMPOUNDS BY LEAD
PEROXIDE METHOD EXPRESSED AS
MILLIGRAMS $\text{SO}_3/\text{DAY}/1,000 \text{ CM}^2$
LEAD PEROXIDE

1951-1952

	Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School	Con- naught Road
Summer Average April-Sept., '51	9.4	13.8	5.4	26.1
Winter Average Oct. '51-Mar., '52	18.9	20.3	12.8	36.8
Year's Average	14.2	17.1	9.1	31.5

SUSPENDED MATTER AND SULPHUR
DIOXIDE BY VOLUMETRIC METHOD
Suspended Matter expressed as milligrams
per 100 cubic metres
Sulphur Dioxide expressed as parts
per 100 million

1951-1952

	Suspended Matter	Sulphur Dioxide
Summer Average April-Sept., 1951	6.0	1.1
Winter Average Oct., 1951-Mar., 1952	12.9	6.4
Year's Average	9.5	3.8

1952-1953

	Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School
Summer Average April-Sept., 1952	12.44	16.68	10.02
Winter Average Oct., 1952-Mar., 1953	19.55	15.71	11.00
Year's Average	16.00	16.20	10.51

1952-1953

	Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School	Con- naught Road
Summer Average April-Sept., '52	9.5	8.2	7.0	19.7
Winter Average Oct. '52-Mar., '53	26.7	15.3	16.1	27.6
Year's Average	18.1	11.8	11.6	23.7

1952-1953

	Suspended Matter	Sulphur Dioxide
Summer Average April-Sept., 1952	3.2	1.1
Winter Average Oct., 1952-Mar., 1953	13.0	1.7
Year's Average	8.1	1.4

Deposited Matter (tons per sq. mile per month)

Jan.-Dec., 1953

	Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School
January	15.95	15.08	10.43
February	14.20	12.84	7.58
March	17.45	13.57	10.20
April	15.59	14.63	10.47
May	11.32	11.16	5.66
June	11.77	10.92	6.98
July	12.08	16.66	13.56
August	10.32	16.76	11.22
September	11.22	13.57	9.12
October	24.49	21.91	17.02
November	10.91	14.03	7.48
December	22.57	16.29	10.97

Sulphur Compounds by Lead Peroxide Method
(milligrams SO_3 /day/1,000 cm^2 .)

Jan.-Dec., 1953

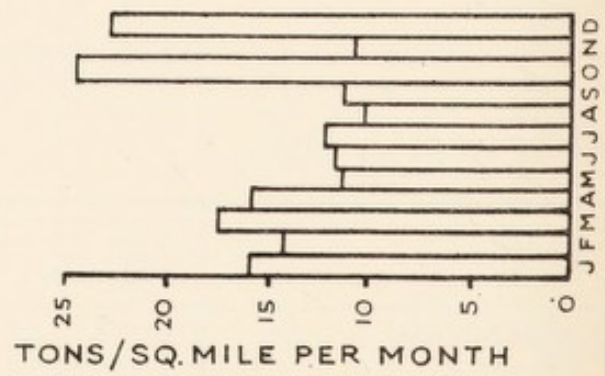
	Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School	Connaught Road
January	27.2	17.9	19.5	26.0
February	26.0	13.9	15.7	32.6
March	24.7	12.2	13.1	23.2
April	15.8	12.5	11.5	29.6
May	11.2	8.7	6.2	23.9
June	10.5	6.8	5.1	24.3
July	6.1	13.3	8.0	32.2
August	6.4	9.2	6.6	12.0
September	8.0	8.6	5.1	28.2
October	17.4	10.2	13.0	29.6
November	18.4	16.0	19.3	58.2
December	27.0	—	18.3	37.3

Summer Averages 1953

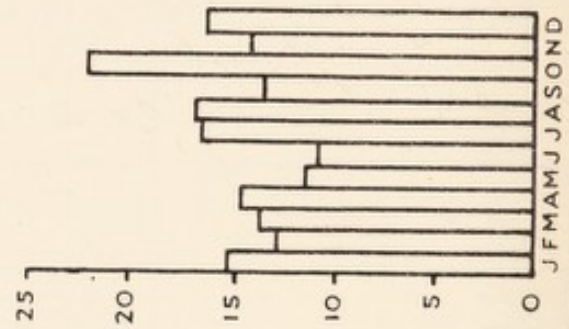
	Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School	Connaught Road
Deposited Matter (tons/sq. mile/month)	12.05	13.95	9.50	—
Milligrams SO_3 /day/1,000 cm^2	9.7	9.9	7.1	25.0

MONTHLY DEPOSIT IN TONS PER SQUARE MILE, 1953.

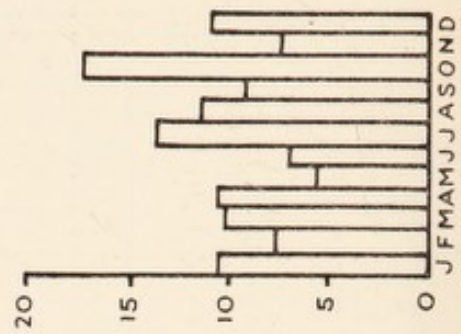
TOWN HALL



BEECH HILL

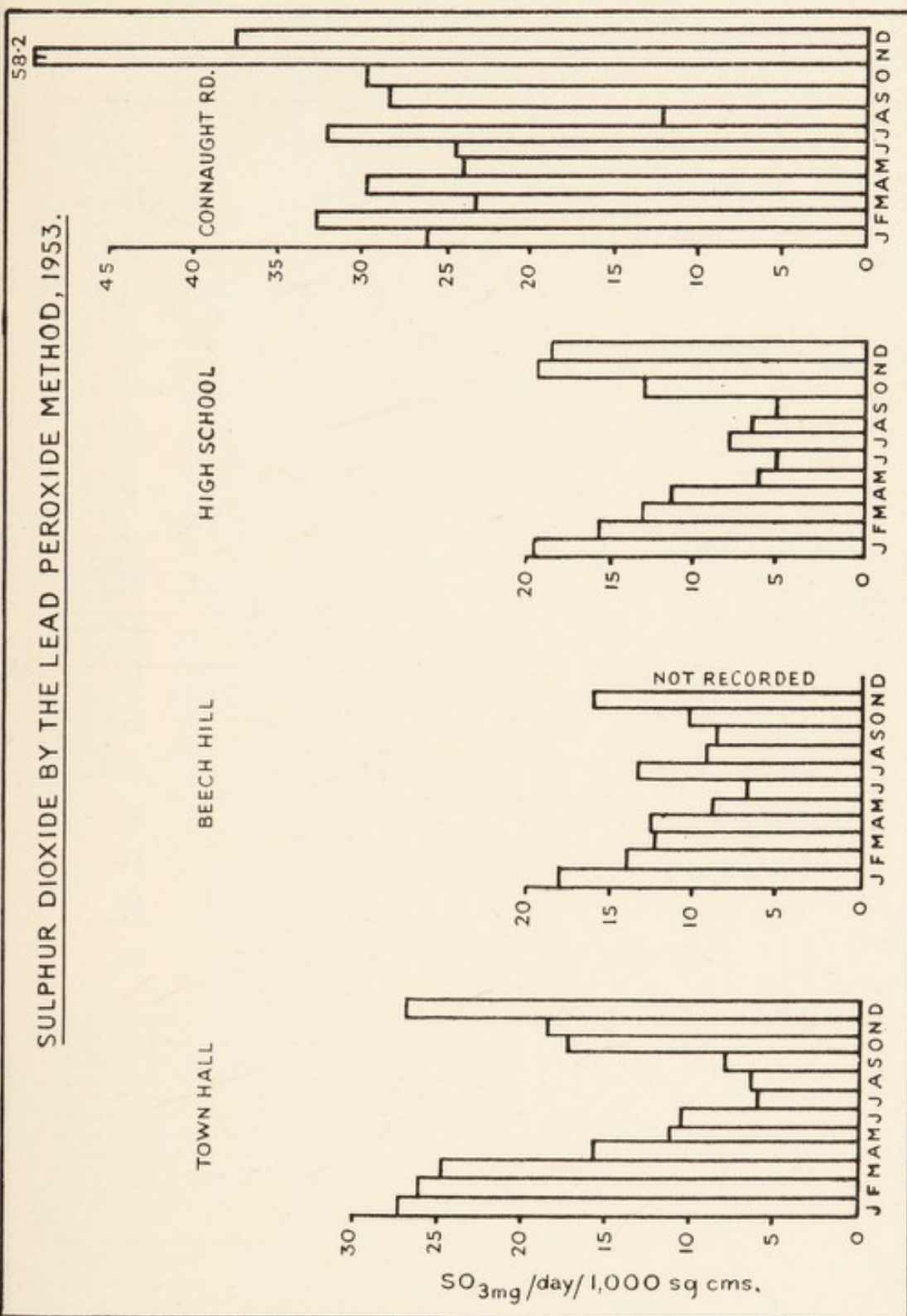


HIGH SCHOOL



TONS/SQ. MILE PER MONTH

SULPHUR DIOXIDE BY THE LEAD PEROXIDE METHOD, 1953.



APPENDIX

Medical Examination of Staff for entry into Superannuation or Sick Pay Schemes.

Departments concerned :

Airport	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Baths	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Borough Engineer's...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Borough Treasurer's	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Civil Defence	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Education	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Fuel	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Housing	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Justices Clerks	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Markets	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Museum	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Parks	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Public Cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Public Health	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Public Library	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
School Teachers	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Sewage	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Town Clerk's	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Transport	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Weights & Measures	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							275