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SCIENTE LABORIDETUR

The Health of Luton





ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH OF LUTON 1957



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

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BOROUGH OF LUTON

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE (as at end of year 1957)

Mayor

ALDERMAN S. C. HAYNE, J.P.

Chairman

ALDERMAN MRS. R. O. ANDREWS

ALDERMAN SIR HERBERT JANES

COUNCILLOR S. PUGH

COUNCILLOR R. J. CLARK

COUNCILLOR MISS M. E. REDMAN, M.B.E.

COUNCILLOR J. L. DICKINSON

COUNCILLOR W. T. RICHMAN COUNCILLOR L. W. WHITING

COUNCILLOR F. GOODYEAR COUNCILLOR D. F. HARROWELL

COUNCILLOR D. WYNNE

BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

LUTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman

COUNCILLOR MISS M. E. REDMAN, M.B.E.

Deputy Chairman

COUNCILLOR S. PUGH

Representing Luton Borough Council

ALDERMAN MRS. R. O. ANDREWS

COUNCILLOR F. GOODYEAR

COUNCILLOR R. G. CLARK

COUNCILLOR L. W. WHITING

Representing Bedfordshire County Council

COUNTY ALDERMAN MRS. A. URWIN

COUNTY COUNCILLOR F. A. JARVIS

COUNTY ALDERMAN H. R. WALLER, COUNTY COUNCILLOR F. C. LINES

M.B.E., J.P.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR T. E. S. LLOYD

Representing Local Medical Committee

DR. S. SEED

Representing Hospital Management Committee

Mr. K. L. Jones, o.B.E.

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 R. Cooper, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers

WINIFRED M. HISCOCK, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.
G. A. ROBERTS, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
BRENDA JONES, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector
G. F. MACEFIELD, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector R. LORD, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.S., A.M.I.P.H.E.

Specialist Inspectors

Food Hygiene
P. A. FREESTONE, M.A.P.H.I.

Housing
S. G. Cocks, M.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E.

District Public Health Inspectors (6)

All Public Health Inspectors hold the Statutory qualifications and the Certificate of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health for Meat and Other Foods Inspector. Additional qualifications include R.S.H. Certificate for Smoke Inspector, R.S.H. Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works, and the Certificate of Associateship of the Institute of Public Health Engineers.

LUTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

STAFF

Senior Administrative Officer H. Towle

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

Health Visitors (9)

State Registered Nurses (6)

Day Nursery Matrons

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

Divisional Nursing Officer
MISS E. M. LEE, S.R.N., S.C.M., Cert.H.V., Q.Ns.

Domiciliary Midwives (9)

District Nurses (12)

Home Help Officer MISS E. A. PARSONS

Chief Clerk
J. W. A. LINDLEY

Public Health Department, 63–69, Guildford Street, LUTON.

February 1958.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In 1957 Asian influenza was the illness of greatest epidemiological interest. The epidemic started in N. China early in the year and spread in a few months to both hemispheres. The virus responsible for the epidemic was quite distinct from any of the viruses that have caused epidemics in the last 25 years; and since most population groups had never been in contact with the virus and consequently had acquired no immunity to it, the epidemic met with very little resistance in its advance. It reached this country in the autumn of the year, first in Yorkshire and from there spread north and south.

The illness first made itself evident in Luton in September when an unusually high number of children were reported absent from Osborne Road School. The epidemic period in Luton was quite short—about six or seven weeks, and the illness was of a comparatively mild form. It was particularly prevalent amongst children, and at one junior school more than 50% of the children were absent during one week. There were 23 deaths from influenzal pneumonia, but all were in the older age groups.

In the early part of the year Sonne Dysentery was again prevalent in Luton, the peak period being in March. There has been a considerable increase in Sonne Dysentery in this country in the last ten years and local outbreaks are difficult to control. The exclusion of infective children from day nurseries, nursery schools and infant schools may keep the infection under control to a certain extent, but contact-tracing older children and adults serves little purpose, except possibility in the case of adults employed in food trades.

The incidence of measles was not unusually high in 1957 and most of the cases occurred in the second and third quarters of the year. There were 143 cases of whooping cough but no death was attributed to this cause.

Only one case of poliomyelitis was notified and the patient (a woman of 40 years of age) made a good recovery. Poliomyelitis has not assumed epidemic form in Luton since 1947; indeed, it could almost be said to have resumed its normal endemicity in the town. But that does not mean that poliomyelitis could not once again take epidemic form, and it is important that the more susceptible age groups should be protected as soon as practicable. The poliomyelitis vaccination scheme, limited in 1956 to children between two and nine years of age, was extended in 1957 to include all children between the ages of six months and fourteen years. The proportion of children registered for immunisation in different age groups at the end of the year, varied from 23% of the children born in 1946 to 58% of those born

in 1955. The proportions of children protected are shown on the graph on page 42. At 31st December, vaccination of children in the 1957 extended age groups had not been begun.

Both the number of new cases notified and deaths registered from respiratory tuberculosis showed an increase over the corresponding figures for 1956; but even so, the trend over the years in both cases is downwards, and the evidence we have suggests that the notification rate is probably fairly exact. For example, of 2,428 five year old school entrants tuberculin tested during 1955 and 1956 only 34 (1.4%) were positive reactors and of this number 11 were already known to the Chest Clinic. Examination of the 62 family contacts related to the 23 cases not already known to the Chest Clinic failed to lead to the discovery of a single case of active tuberculosis. Tuberculin testing of school entrants, having fulfilled its purpose, was discontinued and replaced by B.C.G. vaccination. The Local Health Authority's B.C.G. vaccination scheme was approved by the Ministry of Health in 1956 and vaccination under the scheme was offered to 13 year old school children in September, 1957. The results are set out on page 105 in the section of the report that deals with the work of the School Health Service. The incidence of positive reaction to the tuberculin test at age 13 years was only 11% and means, in effect, that almost 90% of children at this age had not yet been in contact with an infective case of tuberculosis. It is estimated that an additional 56% were given protection with B.C.G., and consequently at the end of the year, 67% of children at 13 years of age had a certain amount of immunity towards tuberculosis. This response to the offer of protection by means of B.C.G. vaccine could be described as encouraging. The interest shown in the scheme by head teachers of secondary schools was also encouraging, and the co-operation they gave in launching it played a great part in ensuring its success.

Turning now to vital statistics we see that the birth rate which reached its lowest post-war figure of 13.9 per 1,000 in 1954, rose to 15.5 in 1956 and 16.5 in 1957. Of the total 1,914 births in 1957, 756 took place at home—the highest number of home confinements ever recorded in Luton. To meet the increasing demands being made on domiciliary midwives, the Local Health Authority increased the establishment from 9 to 10, but by the end of the year the additional appointment had not been filled. Year by year the recruitment of domiciliary midwives becomes more and more difficult, and we are fortunate in Luton in having a Part II training school from which we can occasionally recruit young midwives who have just completed their training.

A mortality rate of modern usage is the combined rate for still-births and infant deaths during the first week of life. This "peri-natal" rate is included for the first time in the table of statistical data on page 12. In contrast to infant mortality which steadily diminishes the perinatal mortality rate can be seen to have shown no improvement in the last ten years.

The part played by cancer of the lung and bronchus as a cause of death in both sexes at age 45–64 years is shown on the diagram on page 20. The evidence that there is a direct association between lung cancer and cigarette smoking is now so overwhelming that only those who do not wish to believe, continue to dispute it. Yet despite the fact that there must be very few who do not know that the association exists, there is no evidence, so far, of a decrease

in smoking. Statistics alone will not change the smoking habits of the people. The fear of death will not deter youth from smoking; after all, in the minds of the young, death is an accompaniment of old age (forty and over!). But youth will respond to a positive search for health; a desire for physical fitness; an ambition to do well in games and sport. As a first step the Borough Education Officer has provided head teachers of secondary schools with facts about the adverse effects of smoking on health and asked that instruction on the subject be included in their syllabuses. The effect of their teaching will not be evident for many years, and in the meantime ways must be sought to discourage people who already smoke; or, better still, to give encouragement to those who do not. Bearing in mind that the lower decks of omnibuses and the non-smoking compartments of railway trains are the most sought after by the travelling public, surely it would be wise to foster this desire of people to breathe an air free from tobacco smoke. And in time to come the smoker (not the non-smoker) would be the odd man out and the now too familiar ashtray would be as outmoded as the cuspidor.

Before he took up his appointment as Deputy Medical Officer of Health at Bradford, Dr. Edgar prepared a report in greater detail than usual, on handicapped pupils and their special educational treatment (page 97). Dr. Edgar showed great interest in this specialised aspect of the work of the school health service and more particularly in the special educational treatment of the educationally subnormal pupil. I wish to take this opportunity of acknowledging the excellent work he did during his stay in Luton.

All the staff have worked hard during the year and I wish to thank them for their loyalty and service. I am also indebted to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their encouragement and understanding.

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, 193	9)			8,773	acres
Population (Census, 1951)			110,381	
Registrar-General's Estin	nate for mid-1	957		115,900	
Number of inhabited hou	ses, 1st April,	1957		34,919	
Rateable value (1st April,	1957) unredu	iced		£2,222,539	
Rateable value (1st April,	1957) reduce	d		£1,678,937	
Sum represented by Penr	ny Rate			£6,870	
EXTRACTS FROM V	TTAL STAT	гтет	CS FOR	THE VEAD	1057
EATRACIS FROM	TIAL SIA	11311			
Notified live births	Legitimate		Males 1,292	Females	Total
Notified live offtis	Illegitimate		62	1,148 58	2,440
	All	•••	1,354	1,206	2,560
Notified stillbirths	Legitimate		21	29	50
	Illegitimate		5	4	9
	All		26	33	59
Total Live and Stillbirths	(Notified)		1,380	1,239	2,619
Registered live births*	Legitimate		976	855	1,833
	Illegitimate		42	41	81
	All		1,018	896	1,914
Live Birth Rate per 1,000	of estimated re	eiden	t populatio	n (provisional)	16.5
D 1 . 1			17	21	38
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000					19.4
ounoith Rate per 1,000	total (live and	Jeni)	Males	Females	Total
Registered Deaths*			598	556	1,154
Death rate per 1,000 estin	nated resident	t popu			9.9
Deaths from Puerperal C		r-r	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Rate per 1,000	
Deaths from Lastporta			Deaths	registered total births	
Puerperal Sepsis			Nil	Nil	
Other Puerperal			1	0.5	
Total		• • •	1	0.5	
Death Rates of Infants un	nder 1 year of	age:-	_		
Legitimate per	1,000 legitimat	te live	births (pr	rovisional)	26.2
Illegitimate per	1,000 illegitin	nate li	ve births (provisional)	37.0
All Infants per	1,000 registere	ed live	births (p	rovisional)	26.6
Neo-natal (prov	isional)				18.8
10	ted for inward	and a	strond tron	fano	

^{*} 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 1957

(England and Wales, London, 160 Great Towns and 160 Smaller Towns)
(Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

(Gummed slip to follow)

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS FOR 1948-1957

MATERNAL DEATHS	Number	Total births	1.03	6.0	9.0	1	1.2	9-0	1	1.2	0.5	10
MATERNAL DE	umber			1	1		-	0		1	0	0-5
MATERN	umber		2	-	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1
×	ž l	Other	2	1	-	1	2	1	1	2	-	1
		Sepsis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
10	Rate	TOTAL per 1,000	28	26	22	33	26	28	31	14-9	24.7	26-6
DEATHS		TOTAL	54	48	38	57	43	47	49	25	44	51
INFANT DEATHS	4	weeks —12 months	27	16	17	16	14	17	14	7	10	15
	TI-da	4 weeks	27	32	21	41	29	30	35	18	34	36
	Compara-	bility	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.12	1-12	1.12	1.13	1-13	1.21	1
DEATHS	Rate per 1,000	mated Popula- tion	9-1	2-6	9-6	8-6	9-4	9.5	9-1	6-6	6-6	6-6
		Number	686	1,064	1,056	1,075	1,044	1,032	1,033	1,080	1,141	1,154
STILLBIRTHS	Rate	Number Per 1,000 total births	20-6	26.2	28-5	25.3	21.8	27.1	24-8	20-8	22-0	19-4
STILL			40	49	90	45	37	46	40	34	40	38
HS		factor	1	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	96-0	66-0	66-0	1.00	1
LIVE BIRTHS	Rate per 1,000	mated Popula- tion	17-5	16.7	15-5	15.8	14-9	14.8	13.9	14.0	15.4	16.5
LI	;	Number	1,902	1,821	1,706	1,727	1,653	1,651	1,569	1,597	1,758	1,914
	Esti- mated	tion	108,400	109,240	110,210	109,600	110,500	111,200	112,500	113,800	114,500	115,900
	Vegr		1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957

	1957	22.4	19-4	23.0	18.8	1	36-3
-	9561	23.0	22.0	8-91	19.1	36-8	40-0
	1955			17.3			
-		<u> </u>		17-71	_		
-	1953			17.7	-		
				18-3			
	1921			18-8			
-	1950			18-5			
	1949	22.7		19-3			38-5
	1948			19-7			31.9
	-	:	::	-	-		:
	TAL DEATHS	England and Wales	LUTON	England and Wales	Luton	England and Wales	LUTON
	STILLBIRTHS AND NEO-NATAL DEATHS	Rate per 1,000	come come	Rate per 1,000	and out	Rate per 1,000	stillbirths
	STILLBIRTH			NEO-NATAI DRATHS		PEST-NATAI DEATHS	

DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED LIVE BIRTHS AS BETWEEN INSTITUTIONAL AND DOMICILIARY CONFINEMENT

(Corrected for Inward and Outward Transfers)

	Ins	Institutional Domiciliary						
Year	Maternity Hospital Units	Private Nursing Homes	Total	District Mid- wives	Private Mid- wives	Doctors and Parents	Total	Grand Total
1952 1953 1954 1955 1956 1957	844 852 832 843 915 994	170 166 156 177 173 164	1,014 1,018 988 1,020 1,088 1,158	634 585 567 584 665 747	1 - - -	6 5 5 5 9	635 591 572 589 670 756	1,649 1,609 1,560 1,609 1,758 1,914

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 Foetal malformation Prematurity Accidental haemorrhage Unknown causes	. 4	- - 1 1	1 2 - 3	4 6 5 6 17
Total	30	2	6	38

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year	Nil
(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 1957

DEATHS OF LUTON RESIDENTS DURING THE YEAR 1957 (continued)

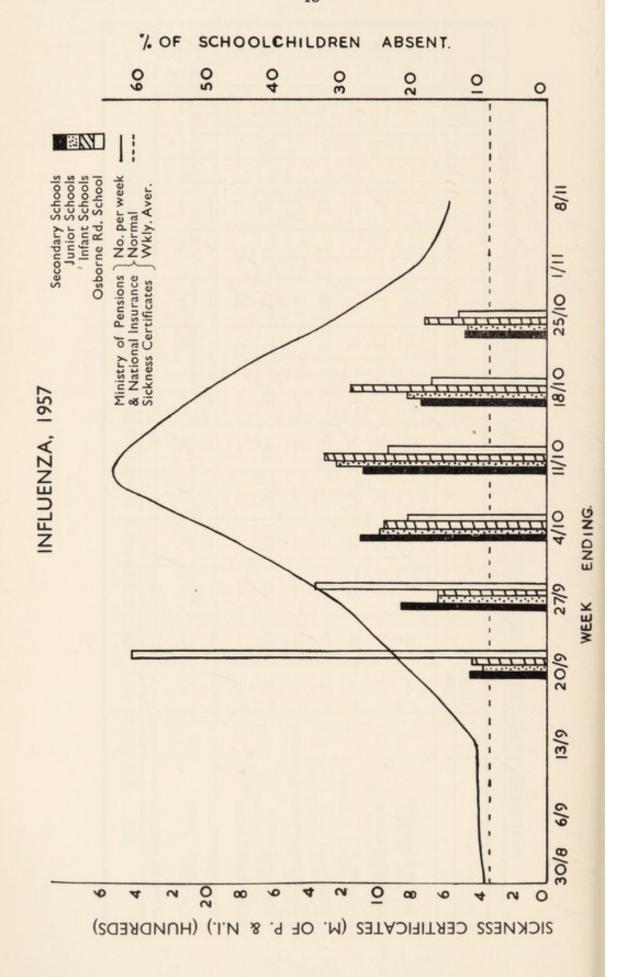
75+	180 151 931 333 334 141 141 172 173 173 174 175 175 175 175 175 175 175 175 175 175	432
65–74	27 24 25 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27	289
55-64	126 10 10 12 12 12 10 10 10 10	194
45-54	67 10 10 11 10 11 10 11 10	112
35-44	18 8 7 1 1 1 3 1 1 1 1 1 1	36
25–34	2	18
15–24	0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0	12
10-14	1 1111111 11-111 1	1
6-9	7	4
1-4	2	5
Total under 1 year	3	51
nonth to 1 year	-	15
Under 4 weeks	1	36
All	580 160 160 44 44 44 5 7 7 112 122 122 123	1,154
CAUSE OF DEATH	Brought forward 19. Hypertension with Heart Disease 20. Other Heart Diseases 21. Other Circulatory Diseases 22. Influenza 23. Pneumonia 24. Bronchitis 25. Other Respiratory Diseases 26. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum 27. Gastritis Ent. and Diarrhoea 28. Nephritis and Nephrosis 29. Hyperplasia of Prostrate 30. Pregnancy — Birth and Abortion 31. Congential Malformations 32. All other Diseases 33. Motor Vehicle Accidents 34. All other Accidents 35. Suicide 36. Homicide and Operation of War	Total

DEATHS OF LUTON INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE DURING 1957

II.	113 3 2 5 1 15 6 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	51
11 12 12 13 14 15	1111 1 11"	1
10 m'ths	1111 - 1 111	-
9 m'ths	11-1 1 111	1
7 8 m'ths	1111 1 1111	1
7 m'ths	1111 1 1 111	1
6 m'ths	1111 1 1 111	1
3 4 5 6 m'ths m'ths m'ths m'ths	11	2
4 m'ths	1111 1 1111	1
3 m'ths	2=	3
m'ths		5
28 days to 2 m'ths		2
21 to 28 days	1111 1 1 11	1
14 days	1111 1 1 111	1
7 days	- -	2
6 days	1111 1 1 111	1
5 days		1
4 days	1111 1 1 111	1
		5
2 days	2 4 1	7
1 day	0	7
under 1 2 3 days days	1 1 2 1	13
Cause of Death	Other Infective and Parasitic diseases Vascular Lesions Pneumonia Bronchitis Congenital Malformations Lions Birth Injury, Asphyxia Atelectasis Immaturity — other Diseases All other diseases All other accidents	Total

NOTIFIED INFECTIONS DISEASES 1957

	TOTAL	19	143	736	103	-	478	57	10	32	26	1,600
osis)	Over 65	1	1	-	25	1	2	1	1	1	2	33
diagn	45-65	1	1	1	37	1	23	1	3	1	2	65
evised	35-44	-	-	1	13	1	39	2	1	1	7	64
s of r	25-34	-	-	3	12	1	53	17	-	2	4	94
Civilian (Corrected in cases of revised diagnosis)	20-24	1	1	-	3	1	12	26	1	4	1	47
ected	15–19	1	1	3	9	1	17	12	1	5	2	46
(Corr	10–14	2	2	11	3	1	53	1	1	00	2	81
vilian	6-9	11	74	345	1	1	156	1	1	10	1	597
1957, Ci	4	2	21	110	1	1	28	1	1	-	1	162
ES, 19	3	1	12	86	1	1	20	1	1	-	1	132
SEASES,	2	1	11	87	1	1	25	1	1	-	2	127
	1	1	7	69	2	1	30	1	1	1	1	109
NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DI	Under 1 year	1	12	6	7	1	17	1	1	1	3	43
INFE		:	:	:	:	alytic)	:	:	:	:	:	:
IED		:		:	:	tis (Par	:	:	:	:	:	:
		ver	Cough	:	:	omyeli	:	Pyrexia	:	:	oning	ALL
4		Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Pneumonia	Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Jaundice	Food Poisoning	



INFLUENZA

The 1957 influenza epidemic swept from the Far East, through Asia and Europe and reached this country in the late summer. Cases of the disease appeared in Luton during the third week of September.

The first cases brought to notice occurred at Osborne Road School when, during the week ending 20th September, upwards of 60% of the 88 children on the school register were reported absent with symptoms of influenza. The following week only 30% of the children were absent and thereafter attendance at the school was back to normal.

No other school reported abnormal absences during the week ending 20th September, but during the week ending 27th September, approximately 33% of the 768 boys attending the Grammar School were reported to be absent. Ten of the remaining sixteen Senior Schools reported absences of more than 30% during the first two weeks of October although the average attendance in all those schools did not drop below 75% during that period.

Absences from Junior Schools were reported a few days after the Senior Schools. During the week ending 11th October, the average attendances in the Junior Schools dropped to 69·1% and at Hitchin Road Junior Mixed more than 50% of the children were absent. The disease also reached its peak in the Primary Infants' Schools during the same week when the average attendances dropped to 67·1%.

Thereafter attendances continued to rise and were back to normal when schools resumed after the November half-term holiday.

Information received at the same time from industrial firms and the local office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance showed that the incidence of the disease amongst adults was following the pattern of the school population, with the heaviest incidence occurring in the second week of October. The number of new claims made at the Ministry's office normally averages 345 per week, but it rose steeply from the third week of September, until the second week in October. The information obtained at the time from the larger industrial firms showed, however, that not more than 10% of their employees were absent at any one time.

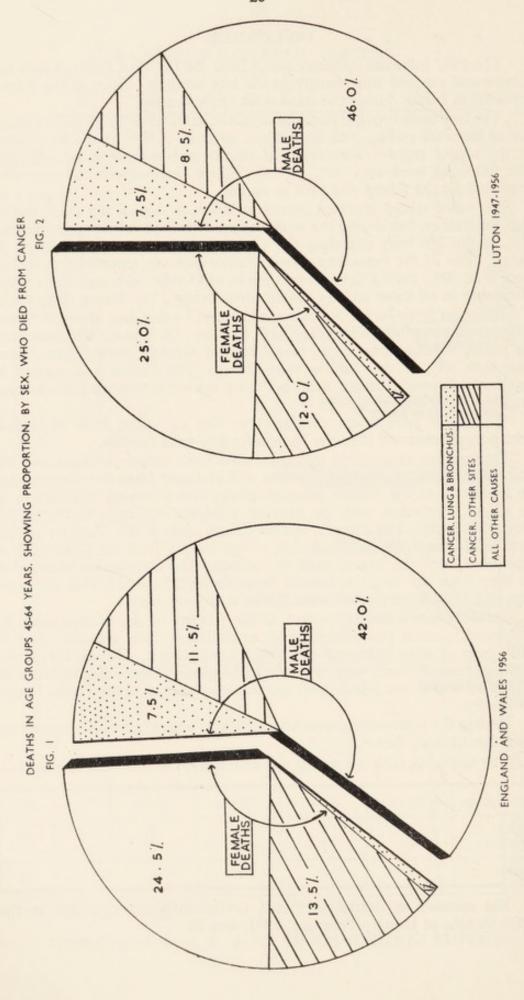
In order that some assessment of the severity of the disease could be established, general practitioners were reminded of their statutory duty to notify cases of acute influenzal and primary pneumonia. During the period of the epidemic 71 cases were notified. Serological evidence of infection with Influenza Virus A was found in 60 specimens submitted to the Public Health Laboratory.

During the period there were also 23 deaths where influenzal pneumonia was a contributory factor.

The following table shows the age distribution of the cases that died:-

Age Groups	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	ALL
Males Females	2	5 2	3 3	5 1	1 1	16 7
Totals	2	7	6	6	2	23

The number of deaths attributed to the influenza epidemic in the winter months of January/February, 1951, was 19.



CANCER OF LUNG AND BRONCHUS

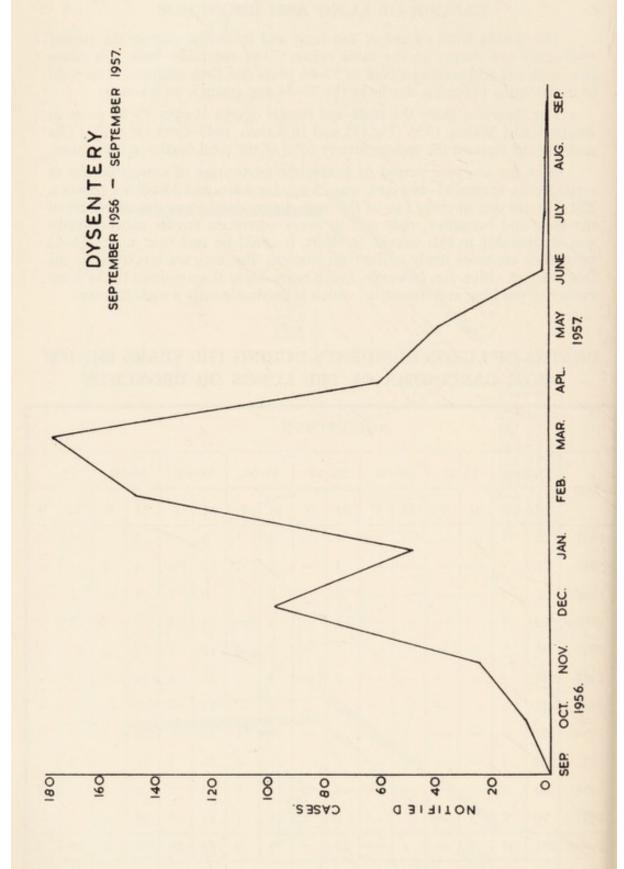
The deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus during the period 1947–1957 are shown on the table below. The mortality from this cause rises with age and reaches a peak at 55–64 years and then declines. The ratio of male deaths to female deaths in the 55–64 age group is as 9 is to 1.

The diagrams show the male and female deaths at ages 45-64 years in England and Wales, 1956 (Fig. 1) and in Luton 1947-1956 (Fig. 2). The male deaths account for approximately 60% of the total deaths in both cases.

Over the ten year period in Luton the percentage of cancer deaths to total deaths, at ages 45–64 years, was 25·4% for males and 34·6% for females. But whereas one in every two of the male cancer deaths was due to cancer of the lung and bronchus, only one in every seventeen female cancer deaths was attributable to this cause. In short, it could be said that at age 45–64 years men are more likely to die than women. But men are less likely to die from cancer. Men are, however, much more likely than women to die from cancer of the lung and bronchus, which is predominantly a male disease.

DEATHS OF LUTON RESIDENTS DURING THE YEARS 1947-1957 FROM CARCINOMA OF THE LUNGS OR BRONCHUS

	AGE GROUPS															
Year	All A	All Ages		15-24 2		-34	35-	44	44 45–54		55-64		65-74		75 +	
Teat	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	М	F	M	F
1947	12	3	_	_	_	_	1	_	2	1	6	1	2	_	1	1
1948	26	3	_	_	_	_	4	_	5	2	11	_	6	1	_	_
1949	22	3	-	_	-	_	2	1	5	_	9	1	5	-	1	1
1950	24	5	_	_	_	-	1	-	5	-	14	3	2	2	2	_
1951	31	5	_	_	_	_	2	_	7	2	11	1	11	2	_	_
1952	38	3	_	_	_	_	2	_	5	1	17	1	11	1	3	-
1953	24	2	_	_	_	_	2	2	4	_	13	_	5	_	_	_
1954	42	8	_	_	1	_	2	-	10	1	14	5	12	1	3	1
1955	42	3	_	_	_	_	1	_	6	-	21	1	11	1	3	1
1956	40	8	_	_	-	-	4	2	10	1	13	2	8	2	5	1
1957	50	2	1	_	_	_	2	1	16	1	15	_	15	_	1	_
TOTAL	351	45	1	_	1	_	23	6	75	9	144	15	88	10	19	5
	39	96	1	ı	1	ı	2	9	8	4	15	59	9	8	2	4



SONNE DYSENTERY

In the Annual Report for 1956 attention was drawn to an outbreak of Sonne Dysentery which began in October of that year.

The outbreak continued into 1957 and, in fact, did not reach its peak until March. During the period (October 1956–May 1957) 318 confirmed cases were reported to the Health Department. Faeces specimens were obtained from all contacts of positive cases and of the 1,076 contacts examined 291 were found to be positive.

During 1957, 261 positive cases were reported and of their 863 contacts, 217 were found to be positive. It was necessary to exclude from employment 10 adults employed in food trades.

The pattern of incidence of new cases and positive contacts during the whole outbreak is shown on the graph on page 22. The following table shows the average weekly incidence during the period.

	19	956	1957						
Month	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May		
Average number of new cases each week	6	24	8	22	51	13	8		

TUBERCULOSIS

There was an increase in the number of both new cases notified and deaths registered from tuberculosis.

One hundred and three cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified for the first time during the year, giving a notification rate of ·88 per 1,000 of the population. This compares with the figure of ·54 for 1956.

There were seven deaths attributed to pulmonary tuberculosis which represents a mortality rate of .06 per thousand of the population. The figure for 1956 was 0.03.

PARTICULARS OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS AND ALL DEATHS FROM THE DISEASE DURING 1957

				New	Cases		Deaths				
Age Periods		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary			
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Under 1 y 1 year 5 " 10 " 15 " 20 " 25 " 35 " 45 " 55 " 65+	/ear		1 4 1 1 4 6 10 7 17 6 5								
Totals			62	41	4	3	4	3	1	-	

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:—

		Noti	ified	Deaths			
	Year		Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary	
1953			144	18	21	4	
1954			110	16	10	1	
1955			116	17	10	_	
1956			62	22	4	1	
1957			103	7	7	1	

The following table shows the number of cases on the register at the 31st December, 1957, together with the numbers added to the register and those removed during the year.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pu	lmonary
	Male	Female	Male	Female
No. of cases on the Register of Notifications on 1st January No. of cases notified for the first time	620	476	29	81
during the year No. of cases transferred from other	62	41	4	3
No. of cases transferred from other districts	20 4	17 2	1 2	1
	706	536	36	85
No. of cases removed from the Register during the year on account of having:— (a) recovered (b) removed from the district (c) died from Tuberculosis (d) died from other causes (e) diagnosis not established (f) lost sight of	52 24 4 9 1 2	38 11 3 - 1 4	4 1 1 - -	8 - - - 1
No. of cases remaining on the Register on 31st December	614	479	30	76

FOOD POISONING

No. of 1	Notifications			 	26
Outbrea	ks due to identi	ified agent	ts:—		
(i)	No. of outbrea	ıks		 4	
	No. of cases			 5	
	>> >>			 3	
	>> >>	•••		 2	
	>> >>			 2	
(ii)	Single cases			 14	
		TOTAL		 	26

(Agent identified—Salmonella organisms in all cases.)

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 1957 no contraventions were found.

Name of Nursing	Date of Registra-	DIVISION OF BEDS						
Home	Borough Council	Maternity	Surgical	Medical	Total			
The Chase	3.4.46	7	-	_	7			

During the year 166 women were delivered in the Chase Nursing Home.

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

(Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of care and attention).

It was not found necessary during the year to take action under the provisions of the National Assistance Acts for the removal to hospital of any persons requiring care and attention. Several cases were, however, brought to notice, but by introducing a District Nurse, or Home Help into the home or by referring the case to the Welfare Officer, it was possible to improve the circumstances and so enable the patient to remain at home.

HEALTH EDUCATION

There was a falling off during 1957 in the number of requests from local organisations for speakers on health subjects. The number of lectures given in 1957 was just under half of that of 1956. During the year 39 lectures were given to audiences totalling 969 on the following subjects:—

Child Welfare	 	10
Food Hygiene	 	8
Health Services	 	12
Home Safety	 	9

Poster displays were continued and such subjects as Home Safety, Immunisation for Diphtheria and Whooping Cough, Infectious Diseases and Dental Hygiene were featured at various times. Late in the year a striking poster on smoking and lung cancer was issued, and local industries were asked to display it. The response to this request was most encouraging. Over 70 posters were displayed throughout the town, in places where they would be seen by the maximum number of people.

Once again we have received the fullest co-operation possible from the local press who are always ready to make known to their readers factual information issued by the Health Department.

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

(LUTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE)

SECTION 22—CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

(a) Provision of Clinics

No additional child welfare centres were provided during the year. Fourteen sessions were held weekly at the eleven centres situated in various parts of the town. Diphtheria immunisation is carried out at seven of the centres. Of the 1914 Luton children born in 1957, 1,506 or 78.8% attended a Welfare Centre during the year. One hundred and sixty-eight of the remaining children were not born until the month of December, and since only a small proportion of these children could reasonably be expected to attend before the end of the year, it is estimated that the percentage of children attending clinics in their first year of birth is approximately 85%.

NUMBER OF CONSULTATIONS, WEIGHINGS, ETC., AT CHILD WELFARE CENTRES, DURING THE YEAR 1957

	Number		Attend	Medical Officer's Consultations			
	of	0-1	years	1-5	years	Consu	tations
	Sessions -	1st	Sub.	1st	Sub.	Under 1 year	1-5 years
Dallow Road	48	202	2,244	18	593	691	277
Stopsley	100	268	3,649	31	827	444	188
Leagrave High St.	49	79	1,177	3	252	164	55
" Marsh Rd	51	184	2,497	4	523	527	124
Round Green	50	115	1,667	6	348	412	98
Castle Street	50	117	1,364	6	437	181	71
Beechwood	100	183	3,353	18	880	464	187
Limbury	100	138	2,734	6	628	479	145
St. Anne's	47	101	1,522	8 7	472	295	110
Farley Hill	49	128	1,439	7	521	484	218
Park Street	49	62	904	4	373	249	92
	693	1,577	22,550	111	5,854	4,390	1,565

(b) Welfare Foods

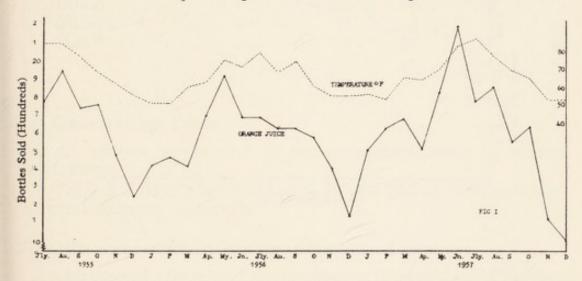
The welfare-foods scheme was originally a war-time nutritional measure to protect the health of mothers and young children. Until July, 1954, the scheme was administered by the Ministry of Food through local distribution centres and provided (a) cheap liquid milk or National dried milk and (b) vitamin supplements in the form of orange juice, National cod-liver oil and vitamin A and D tablets, either free or at subsidised prices, to expectant mothers and children under five years of age. In July, 1954, the central responsibility was transferred to the Ministry of Health and local distribution devolved on local health authorities. The distribution centre in Luton, used by the Ministry of Food prior to July, 1954, was kept in use by the Local Health Authority, but welfare foods were, in addition, made available at all child welfare centres and at ante-natal clinics. In keeping with the national

trend there has been a slow but steady decline in uptake of welfare foods in Luton, and the extended distribution facilities introduced in 1954 did not appear to effect any improvement. Uptake in Luton in 1956, expressed as a percentage of entitlement, was 32% for orange juice, 16% for cod-liver oil and 41% for vitamin tablets.

On 1st November, 1957, the Government discontinued the issue of welfare orange juice to children between two and five years of age. In Luton, the steadily declining uptake of welfare foods, the extension of distribution arrangements to welfare centres and ante-natal clinics, and finally the restriction of welfare orange juice to children under two years of age, made a full-time distribution centre unnecessary. During the epidemic of influenza in September and October the centre had to be closed for five half days each week because of shortage of staff. It was decided as from 1st November, because of insufficient volume of sales, not to re-open the centre on these half-days.

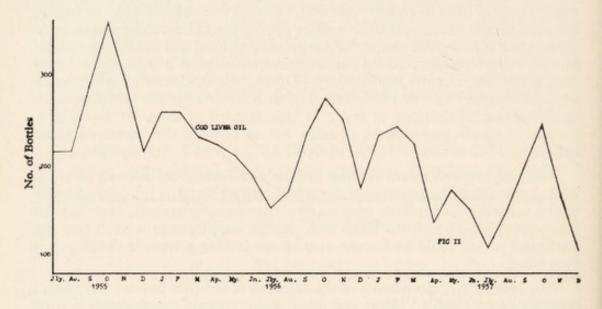
An inquiry into infant feeding in Luton in June 1956 (Lancet, 1957, ii, 230) showed that the percentage uptake of welfare foods is not a good index of the proportion of infants who receive vitamin supplements, and that the cover provided by fortified foods and vitamin supplements is such that the likelihood of any child under one year of age having a vitamin deficiency is very small.

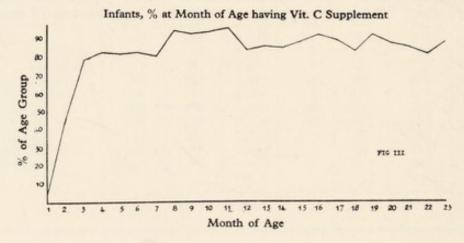
In June, 1957, the parents of the children of the first inquiry were again interviewed by Health Visitors and asked about vitamin supplements in their children's diet. The percentage at each month of age from 0-23 months

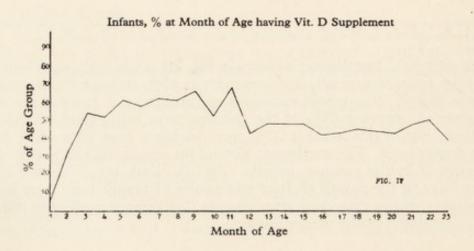


receiving vitamin C Supplement is shown in Fig. III. Only in the early months of life is the proportion small; it rises quickly to 80% at 3 months of age and remains at 80–95% throughout successive age groups up to two years of age. At the time of interview 85% of the children were being given vitamin C supplement, but of this number 32% were having a fruit juice other than Welfare orange juice. The maximum demand for orange juice from distribution centres is in the summer months (Fig. I). Both the 1956 and 1957 inquiries were in the month of June when sales of orange juice were high. It is possible that less protection from vitamin C deficiency is afforded infants and young children in the winter months.

The proportion of infants under three months receiving vitamin D supplement in the form of cod-liver oil or concentrate is also small, but in the remaining age groups in the first year of life it is fairly constant at about 60%. In the older age groups in the second year there would appear to be a falling off in the number of children receiving vitamin D supplement (Fig. IV). At the time of interview 48% were receiving vitamin D supplement, but of this







number 26% were being given an oil or concentrate other than welfare codliver oil. The seasonal fluctuation in demand for Welfare cod-liver oil is less marked than is the case with orange juice, but there is an increase in demand each year with the onset of the winter months (Fig. II).

(c) Toddlers' Clinics

The practice of inviting children to attend at Welfare Centres when they attain their third birthday for consultation with the medical officer was continued, and 1,441 invitations were sent out resulting in 516 children (36%) attending.

The result of the medical examination of these children is summarised below; the figures for 1956 are included for comparative purposes:—

				1957		1956	
No. of inv	ritatio	ons	 	1,441		1,451	
" " attendances		 	516 (36%)	500 (34.5%)		
7	Гуре	of Defect		No.	%	No.	%
Orthopaed	dic		 	103	20	113	23
Ear, Nose		Throat	 	11	2	25	5
Dental			 	9	2	23	5
Skin			 	8	2	11	2
Vision			 	13	2	4	1
Others			 	42	8	47	9
Multiple			 	23	4	56	11
N.A.D.			 	307	60	221	44
							-
				516		500	
						- Commence	

(d) Contraceptive Clinic

All patients are referred to the contraceptive clinic by medical practitioners.

Fifty-six sessions were held and there were 204 new patients. Subsequent attendances totalled 810.

(e) 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) Orthopaedic Clinic

	Under 1 year	1-5 years	Total
No. of first attendances No. of subsequent attendances	 5	16 51	21 52
Total attendances	 6	67	73

Classification				No. of Cases	5	Attenda	nces
Bow Legs				4		5	
Knock Knees				18		31	
Metatarsus Varu	ıs			1		4	
Gait				1		5	
Congenital Defo	rmities			2		2	
Intoeing				3		5	
Torticollis				1		1	
Flat Feet				1		1	
Other				14		19	
				_		_	
				45		73	
				_		-	
Disposal							
No. of cases refe	erred fo	r exer	cises				1
No. of cases refe	erred fo	r X-ra	y exan	nination			4
No. of cases refe	erred fo	r adm	ission	to hospital			4
No. of cases refe	erred fo	r appl	iances				3
No. of cases disc							12

(ii) Ophthalmic Clinic

	Under 1 year	1-5 years	Total
No. of first attendances No. of subsequent attendances	 6 8	40 142	46 150
Total attendances	 14	182	196

	Errors of	Other	Prescription	
	Refraction	diseases	for	
	and Squint	or defects	Spectacles	
No. of first attendances	43	3	7	
No. of subsequent attendances	138	12	31	

Seven children were referred to Hospital for advice or treatment.

(f) Dental Clinic

Children under 5 years requiring dental treatment are referred to the ordinary School Clinic sessions and during the year 40 children made 44 attendances.

No expectant or nursing mothers received treatment.

(g) Premature Infants

A premature infant is defined as one weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less 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 registered during the year are analysed in the table overleaf according to place of birth, and birth weight.

Place of Birth

Registered Births

Born in Maternity Institutions:-

(a) Under	control	of No	rth-Wes	t Regio	onal Ho	spital E	Board	107
(b) Other								6
Born at home								47
			Total					160

(h) Day Nurseries

Owing to the industrial nature of the town it is necessary for the three day nurseries in Luton to remain open from 7.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. (Monday to Friday). Accommodation is provided for 140 children (0-5 years) and during the year the average attendance was 105 per day, i.e. 75% of the child places.

Both staff and children at the nurseries were affected by the influenza epidemic which occurred during the autumn and the average attendance of the children dropped below 70% for 4 weeks. It was impossible with depleted staffs to open the nurseries at their usual time, but the members of the staff who were able to remain on duty maintained a service from 8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Admission to the nurseries is still limited to priority cases, and all except in the most urgent cases are considered by the Special Sub-Committee before their admission to the nursery is approved. During the year the Committee approved the admission of 226 children. Admission was refused in 39 cases.

CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO BIRTH WEIGHT REGISTERED PREMATURE INFANTS*

CONTROL OF STREET, STR	١		-		Distance of the last	-	of the same party	-	-	١	-	ŀ			-			l	
	21	2 lb. 3 oz. or less	2	2 II 3 IR	Over 2 lb. 3 oz. to to 3 lb. 4 oz.	, i	3 11 4 11	Over 3 lb. 4 oz. to 4 lb. 6 oz.	.2	4 lb	Over 4 lb. 6 oz. to 4 lb. 15 oz.	.; 2	4 lb	Over 4 lb. 15 oz. to 5 lb. 8 oz.	29 23		All		Total
	Q	D NH	I	Q	HN	П	D	NH	I	D	NH	I	D	NH	I	D	HN	I	
Number	1	1	7	-	1	7	20	1	10	5	3	25	36	3	58	47	9	107	160
Number surviving after 24 hours	1	1	2	-	1	9	5	1	00	5	3	23	35	3	57	46	9	66	151
Number surviving after 8 days	1	1	-	-	1	3	5	1	5	5	3	22	34	3	99	45	9	87	138
Number surviving at 4 weeks	1	1	1	1	1	3	5	I	5	5	3	22	34	3	99	45	9	87	138
Course of the Co			-	-	-	-	-		Contract Contract		-								

* Corrected for inward and outward transfers.

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

One student was successful in obtaining the Certificate of the National Nursery Examination Board. At the end of the year, seven second year students and three first year students were undertaking their training.

Attendances	Alder Crescent	Manor Road	Stopsley
No. of Children on Register 1.1.5 No. added to Register No. removed from Register No. remaining on Register 31.12.5 No. of Sessions Attendances—0-2 years 2-5 years	 35 87 70 52 253 3,477 5,005	49 82 83 48 254 1,911 7,519	45 57 56 46 254 2,222 6,326
Total attendances	 8,482	9,430	8,548
Average daily attendances (Monday–Friday)	 34	37	34

The following table shows the reasons for admissions to the nurseries during 1957:—

Categories	No. on Register 1.1.57	No. admitted during 1957	No. on Register 31.12.57
Illness of Parents	20	36	27
Debilitated Children	2		1
Confinement	5	2 19	5
Illegitimacy	14	23	17 5
Children of Widows/Widowers	6	4	5
Parents separated	24	41	24
Father in H.M. Forces	6	13	6
Adverse housing conditions, poor			
financial circumstances, etc	52	88	61
Total	129	226	146

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	56	4,356	78
Debilitated Children	4	246	61
Confinement	24	1,365	57
Illegitimacy	37	3,082	83
Children of Widows/Widowers	10	1,090	109
Parents separated	65	4,641	71
Father in H.M. Forces	19	1,136	60
Adverse housing conditions	21	1,738	83
Poor financial circumstances	105	8,071	77
Other	. 14	735	52
Total	335	26,460	75

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 1957.

Assessable	Charge		Attending	during 1956	
Income	Charge per day	Alder Crescent	Manor Road	Stopsley	Total
Up to £2	1/6d.	43	48	18 32	109
£2—£5	1/9d3/0d.	27	31	32	90
£5—£8 5s. 0d.	3/3d5/9d.	38	42	39	119
£8 5s. 0d.—£10	6/3d9/3d.	14	10	13	37
Total		122	131	102	355

(g) Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948

There were no new registrations or cancellations during the year. Therefore at the end of the year there remained two registered Child Minders to receive eleven children and one registered day nursery to receive twenty-five children.

SECTION 23-MIDWIFERY

Although for most of 1957 there was a full complement of midwives, the position could not be regarded as satisfactory throughout the year.

Thus, at the beginning of the year, the staff was 33% below establishment. The deficit was met by the appointment of one midwife in January and two pupil midwives who completed their training in March. Nevertheless midwifery bookings increased to such an extent that it was necessary to appoint two temporary midwives during the holiday months—June to September. The establishment was also increased from 9 to 10, but by the end of the year, the additional appointment had not been filled.

The number of domiciliary confinements was 747—the highest ever attended by the midwives in one year, and, in fact, shows an increase of 140 over the average for the past five years.

Hitherto, midwives have attended patients up to 28 days following their confinement, but because of the increase in number of confinements, it was necessary to reduce this period to 14 days. This change in policy had the effect of reducing the nursing visits paid from 25,445 in 1956 to 23,338 in 1957 despite the increased number of confinements.

Six hundred and sixty (87.6%) of the patients received some form of relief from pain (gas and air or pethidine). It was not possible to administer any analgesia in the remaining 92 cases for the following reasons:—

Precipitate labour 89 Analgesia refused by patients ... 3

Part II pupil midwives from the Luton Maternity Hospital continued to receive their three months district training with the domiciliary midwives and during the year 22 pupil midwives undertook their domiciliary training in Luton.

Summary of Work of Domiciliary Midwives during 1957

	of delivery	Doctor and Midwife present at time of delivery of child	All
Number of deliveries attended	474	278	752
Administration of Analgesia: Gas and Air only Pethidine only Pethidine and Trilene Gas and Air and Pethidine General anaesthetic No analgesia	103 45 247 79	45 14 26 170 10 13	148 59 26 417 10 92
Total	474	278	752

Visits

				Dis	TRICT					
Visits	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	All
Pre-natal Labour Lying-in Period	227 101 1,300	362 232 1,748		387 133 1,685	185	219		304	199	4,803 1,760 16,775
Totals	1,628	2,342	1,453	2,205	2,807	2,773	3,813	3,091	3,226	23,338

Number of maternal deaths		,		 	Nil
Number of infantile deaths				 	2
Consultant Clinics:					
Number held				 	51
Attendances made by Patier	nts: (a)	Ante-	natal	 349	
	(b)	Post-	natal	 26	
				_	375
Midwives Clinics:					
Number held				 	229
Attendances made by Patier	nts			 	3,411
Cases in which Medical Aid was	sough	t		 	15

NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM MIDWIVES DURING THE YEAR 1957

	Nursing Homes	Domi- ciliary Midwives	Maternity Hospital and Extension	Inde- pendent Practice	Total
(a) Intention to practice (b) Intention to cease	6	12	29	2	49
practice	1	_	_	_	1
(c) Change of address	_		_	-	-
(d) Change of name (e) Sending for medical	-	_	-	-	N =
help (f) Stillbirths occurring	-	15	-	-	15
in practice (g) Deaths occurring in	3	4	-	-	7
practice— (i) Mothers	_	_	-	_	_
(ii) Infants	_	2 2	_		2 2
(h) Laying out the dead (i) Liability to be a	-	2	-	-	2
source of infection (j) Substitution of arti-	_	_	-	-	-
ficial feeding	17	76	123	-	216

Distribution of Midwives, 31st December, 1957

(a)	In Private Nursing Homes	 	 4
(b)	Domiciliary Midwives	 	 9
(c)	Maternity Hospital and Ext.	 	 21
(d)	Private Practice (Independent)	 	 1

SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITING

The recruitment of additional health visitors continued to be difficult. Three health visitors left at the beginning of the year after completing the two years service required of them under the Student Health Visitors Training Scheme. A further two students satisfactorily completed their training and joined the staff, but it was not possible to recruit any additional students during the year. The actual number of health visitors on the staff at the end of the year was nine full-time and one part-time visitor compared with an establishment of sixteen.

HOME VISITS BY HEALTH VISITORS

	Chile			dren years	Exped		Special Visits Infec-	Infant Life	Total
	First Visits	Re- Visits	First Visits	Re- Visits	First Visits	Re- Visits	tious Disease, etc.	Pro- tection	Visits
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
1954	1,536	7,010	30	16,363	22	16	345	10	23,812
1955	1,690	6,796	101	15,261	55	_	1,151	15	25,069
1956	1,869	7,471	122	14,216	-	-	1,089	7	24,774
1957	2,038	5,832	225	10,190	17	18	1,608	2	*19,930

^{*} In addition, 1,959 non-effective calls, not included above, were made.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN

During the year Inspectors of the N.S.P.C.C. dealt with 15 cases at the request of the Department. These consisted of 12 cases of neglect and 3 of ill-treatment. Forty-two children were involved and 67 visits of supervision were made.

SECTION 25-HOME NURSING SERVICE

The number of individual patients visited by the District Nurses has totalled more than 1,400 each year since 1954 when the nursing establishment was increased from 10 to 12. The establishment also provides for two male nurses.

As in previous years, the majority of patients nursed at home were over the age of 65 years and accounted for 52% of the total.

Forty-eight patients were referred by the Physician-in-Charge of the Chest Clinic and 1,270 visits were made by the District Nurses. A further 161 patients received post-operative nursing and 6,956 visits were made. Visits paid for the purpose of administering enemas to patients attending hospitals for x-ray totalled 244.

Nursing requisites and sick room equipment are available through the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society and during the year 556 articles were issued by the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society.

NUMBER OF CASES ATTENDED

Type of Case						Dis	trict						All
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Acute Medical Chronic Medical Surgical Tuberculosis Infectious disease Abortion Other	47 38 19 3 —	50 53 17 6 —	49 54 21 5 —	49 40 21 3 —	52 71 50 3 —	45 44 14 2 —	31 32 15 2 —	63 47 22 4 — 2 4	30 51 22 6 —	58 71 17 5 —	27 50 19 4 —	59 44 20 5 2	560 595 257 48 2 3 5
Totals	107	126	130	113	176	106	80	142	109	151	100	130	1,470

NUMBER OF VISITS

Type of Case						Dist	trict						All
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Acute Medical Chronic Medical Surgical Tuberculosis Infectious disease Abortion Other	330 1,902 490 43 —	423 1,684 421 134 —	377 1,260 1,038 188 — 1	705 2,474 598 70	443 2,914 1,349 154 —	866 1,990 567 201 — 6	284 1,137 749 24	896 1,140 761 81 — 11 75	795 2,423 1,001 99	665 3,262 537 87 —	596 3,030 511 146 —	1,225 3,068 1,499 43 45	7,605 26,284 9,521 1,270 45 12 81
Totals	2,765	2,662	2,864	3,847	4,860	3,630	2,194	2,964	4,318	4,551	4,283	5,880	44,818

CASES ATTENDED BY TYPE, AGE AND SEX

Cardio-vascular Lesions Genito-urinary Condition				M	ale					Fer	nale			
Cardio-vascular Lesions — — — 1 26 73 — 1 — Genito-urinary Condition — — — 1 — — 9 1 2 3 Neoplasm — — — 1 2 15 13 —	Type	Ages in Years Ages in Years							All					
Genito-urinary Condition — — — — 9 1 2 3 Neoplasm — — — 1 2 15 13 —		0-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	0-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	
tion		-	-	_	1	26	73	-	1	-	6	21	81	209
fections 3 — — 21 23 — — 1 Other Infections 1 1 — 6 2 6 2 — — Gastro-intestinal Disorders 3 2 5 5 20 21 2 6 6 Preparation for X-ray — — 4 5 28 22 — 1 1 Post Operative Treatment 4 — 2 11 23 46 — 2 8 Rheumatism and Arthritis — — — 1 2 4 — — — Blood Diseases 2 — — — 5 5 2 — 1 Diabetes 1 — — — 1 9 — — — Accident and injuries 1 1 3 2 3 1 1 1 — Senility — — — 2 2 6 5 — 1 1 Gynaecology — — — 2 2 6 5 — 1 1 Gynaecology — — — — 7 20 — — 3 Hemiplegia — — — 7 20 — — 3 Hemiplegia — — — 7 20 — — — Disorders of Nervous	tion Neoplasm Respiratory T.B Surgical T.B	=	=	1	2 4	15 11	13	=	1	-1	11 3 10 5	5 15 5 4	8 31 1	46 86 35 13
orders 3 2 5 5 20 21 2 6 6 Preparation for X-ray — — 4 5 28 22 — 1 1 Post Operative Treatment 4 — 2 11 23 46 — 2 8 Rheumatism and Arthritis — — — 1 2 4 — — — — Blood Diseases 2 — — — 5 5 2 — 1 Dispace — <	fections Other Infections										6 2	8	36 4	98 32
ment 4 — 2 11 23 46 — 2 8 Rheumatism and Arthritis — — — 1 2 4 — — — Blood Diseases 2 — — 5 5 2 — 1 Diabetes 1 — — — 1 9 — — — Accident and injuries 1 1 3 2 3 1 1 1 — Senility — — — 27 — — — Skin Diseases — — 2 2 6 5 — 1 1 Gynaecology — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	orders Preparation for X-ray				5		21 22	-			20 19	24 49	35 20	149 149
Blood Diseases 2 — — 5 5 2 — 1 Diabetes 1 — — 1 9 — — — Accident and injuries 1 1 3 2 3 1 1 1 — Senility — — — 27 — — — Skin Diseases — — 2 2 6 5 — 1 1 Gynaecology — — — — 7 20 — — 3 Hemiplegia — — — 7 20 — — 3 Hemiplegia — — — 7 20 — — — Ear, Nose and Throat 1 2 1 1 1 1 4 3 2 Varicose Ulcers — — 5 — — 5	ment	4	-	2	11	23	46	-	2	8	13	22	30	16
	Blood Diseases Diabetes Accident and injuries Senility Skin Diseases Gynaecology Hemiplegia Ear, Nose and Throat Varicose Ulcers Disorders of Nervous System	2 1 1 - - 1 -		- 3 - 2 - 1	- 2 - 1 - 1	5 1 3 6 7 1	5 9 1 27 5 - 20 1 5	2 1 - - 4 -	- 1 - 1 - 3 -	1 3 2	1 10 3 4 - 3 6 1 4 2	9 12 3 7 9 2 2	24 15 39 11 65 1 25 29 9	4 49 65 31 92 24 41 66 22 18
Other Conditions 2 4 3 1 1 2 Total 16 8 20 43 176 298 13 19 30 1											139	231	477	1,470

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 Chronic Medical Surgical	 320 103 51	89 108 57	57 84 53	16 36 18	20 73 13	502 404 192
Tuberculosis Infectious Disease Abortion	 $\frac{7}{3}$	11 1 - 3	14 1 —	- -	_ 	41 2 3
Other Total	 484	269	209	77	108	1,147

SECTION 26—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination

(a) Smallpox

Vaccination against smallpox in normal circumstances is carried out entirely by the family doctor. During the year, there was a most striking increase in the number of primary vaccinations, the figure of 1,231 being more than 70% above the average for the previous five years. There was also an increase of 273 re-vaccinations over the previous year.

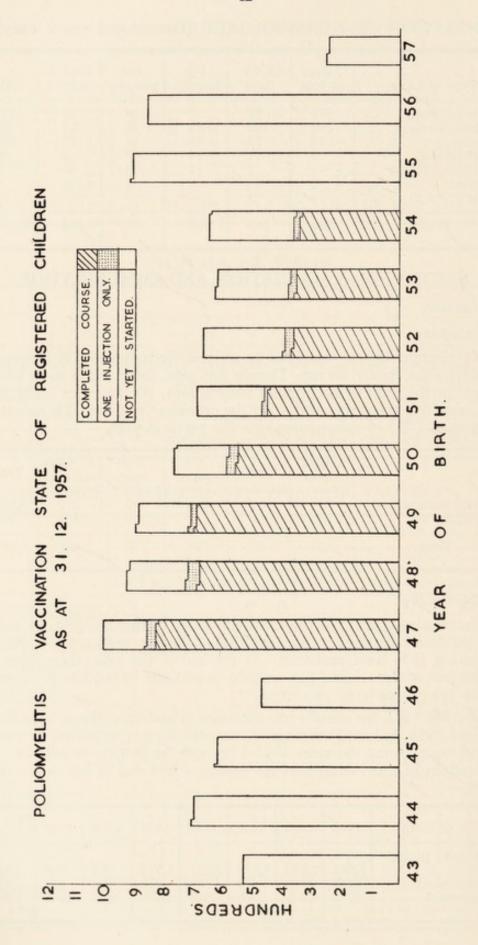
	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 years and over	Total
Primary vaccination Re-vaccination	637	65	108 15	169 50	252 435	1,231 500
Totals	637	65	123	219	687	1,731

(b) Poliomyelitis

Vaccination against poliomyelitis continued during the year. A further 3,725 children born during the years 1947–1954 who registered for vaccination during 1956 were protected. At the end of the year, there were still 883 children of the original registrations in addition to 866 late registrations in these age groups to be vaccinated.

In May, 1957, the scheme was extended to include children born during 1955 and 1956 and in November it was still further extended to include children born during the years 1943–1946 and the first six months of 1957. Registrations of these additional age groups at the end of the year were as follows:—

Year of Birth	1943	1944	1945	1946	1955	1956	1957	All
Estimated population No. registered % registered	1,862	2,240	1,874	2,061	1,575	1,754	916	12,282
	530	702	621	470	911	860	244	4,338
	27·4	29·2	33·1	22·8	57-8	49·0	26·6	35·3



Four thousand, two hundred and fifty-nine Luton children have now been vaccinated against poliomyelitis since the scheme commenced in 1956, as follows:—

Age at 31.12.57	3 years	4 years	5 years	6 years	7 years	8 years	9 years	10 years	All
No. vaccinated Estimated %	338	353	363	449	554	692	682	829	4,259
vaccinated	21.8	22.2	22.2	26.4	32-9	38-6	36-2	36.5	30-2

Immunisation

Immunisation sessions for both Diphtheria and Whooping Cough are held monthly at seven of the Child Welfare Centres in addition to the session held each month at the central clinic at Dallow Road.

Immunisation against Diphtheria or Whooping Cough may be carried out separately or it may be combined. In the case of Whooping Cough or Whooping Cough/Diphtheria combined, immunisation usually takes place when the child is 5–6 months old, whereas for Diphtheria alone it is not carried out until the child is at least 8 months old. Re-inforcing courses for Diphtheria take place when the child commences school.

The number of children who received immunisation for Whooping Cough, i.e. Whooping Cough alone or Whooping Cough/Diphtheria, was 1,398, and for Diphtheria, i.e. Diphtheria alone or Whooping Cough/Diphtheria, was 1,535. It should be remembered that whereas Whooping Cough immunisation is limited to children under 2 years (preferably 5–6 months old) Diphtheria immunisation is carried out at any age after 8 months.

No. of immunisation sessions held at clinics				86
No. of children immunised at clinics				
Diphtheria only			120	
Diphtheria and Whooping Cough			763	
Whooping Cough only			9	
			_	892
No. of children immunised by general practi	tioners	S		
Diphtheria only			36	
Diphtheria and Whooping Cough			616	
Whooping Cough only			10	
			_	662
Total number of children immunised against	Diph	theria		1,535
Total number of children immunised against	Whoo	ping C	ough	1,398
No. of re-inforcing sessions held at schools				32
No. of re-inforcing courses at clinics				25
No. of re-inforcing courses at schools				856
No. of re-inforcing courses by general practit	ioners			251
Total number of re-inforcing courses				1,132

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1957.

(According to Health Department Records)

Age at 31.12.57	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 to 9 years	10 to 14 years	Total under 15
Number Immunised	170	1,258	1,294	1,350	1,372	7,023	7,460	19,927
Estimated mid-year Population, 1957			9,316			17	,493	26,809

Immunisation state of the child population at 31st December, 1957.

	Under	1-4	5-14	Total
	1 year	years	years	under 15
Estimated percentage immunised	17-3%	63·2%	82.8%	74-3%

SECTION 29—DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

More households than ever before received home help assistance during the year, and the total of 776 shows an increase of 42 over last year.

Once again the majority of cases were aged persons who accounted for 44% of the total. Indeed, it is estimated that 27 old persons would have been admitted to Hospital or Old People's Homes but for the provision of home help assistance.

One hundred and sixty-nine maternity cases received an average of 2.5 weeks assistance each.

The Sitters-up Service was provided in 24 cases who received a total of 263 nights assistance.

Cases being served at beginning of	1957	 320
Cases commenced during year		 456
Cases discontinued during year		 420
Cases being served at end of 1957		 356

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	11	13	65	16	64	169	21.8
Tuberculosis	5	-		_		5	0.6
Chronic Illness	39	10	_	1	_	50	6.4
Hospital, or Ex-Hospital	62	12	10	1	_	85	10.9
Emergency, or other Illness	71	23	27	2		123	15.9
Aged Persons	306	32	6	_	_	344	44.3
Total	494	90	108	20	64	776	-
Percentage of whole	63-6	11-6	13-9	2.6	8.3	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	161	6	2	_	_	169
Tuberculosis	1	-	_		4	5
Chronic Illness		3	8	6	33	50
Hospital, or Ex-Hospital	25	36	14	5	5	50 85
Emergency, or Other Illness	52	47	6	5	13	123
Aged Persons	22	37	20	30	235	344
Total	261	129	50	46	290	776
Percentage of whole	33.6	16-6	6.4	6.0	37-4	100

AVERAGE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE PER CASE

Type of Case	No. of Cases	Total No. of Weeks Assistance	Average Duration of Assistance	Total No. of Hours Assistance	Average Weekly Assistance
Pregnancy and Confinement	169	434	2·5 weeks	7,456	17-2 hours
Tuberculous	5	151	30·2 weeks	452	3-0 hours
Chronic Illness	50	1,770	35·4 weeks	7,692	4·3 hours
Hospital or Ex- Hospital	85	896	10·5 weeks	5,281	5-9 hours
Emergency or other illness	123	1,062	8·6 weeks	7,720	7·2 hours
Aged Persons	344	10,972	31-9 weeks	59,205	5.4 hours
Total	776	15,285	_	87,806	_

INCOME GROUPS

Gross	U	Up to 8 hrs.			8-12 hrs.			12-20 hrs.			20-30 hrs.			Over 30 hrs.		
Income	Free	Assd.	Full rate	Free	Assd.	Full rate	Free	Assd.	Full rate	Free	Assd.	Full rate	Free	Assd.	Full	
Pensions, etc. Others under £5 £5 £6 £6 £7 £7-£8 £8-£9 £8-£9 £9-£10 £10 and over Income not disclosed Total	185 2 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	100 29 5 6 -1 1 1 -	175	15 3 - - - - - - - 18	8 6 4 1 — — —	- - - - - - - 48	4	2 1 - 2 - 4 -	- - - - - 2 84		- - 1 - - 3 -	- - - - 1 16	- 111111111	1 - 1 5 15 -	- - - - - 42	

Number of cases in which full fee was not charged:

(a)	Maternity cases	 	29	
(b)	Tuberculous cases	 	3	
(c)	Other cases	 	385	

— Total ... 417

Cost to local authority of assessed cases ... £8,455 14s. 0d.

Number of Home Helps employed at end of year:

moet of Home	c ricip.	s chip	loyeu a	t chu o	year.		
Full-time					22		
Part-time					58	Total	 80

PROBLEM FAMILIES

The Co-ordinating Committee, set up to prevent the deterioration of problem families as urged by the Ministry of Health Circular 27/54, met on two occasions during 1957, when three families were dealt with.

In one of the cases, the Luton Borough Council re-housed the family on representations made by the Committee.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

REPORT

of the

Chief Public Health Inspector

Public Health Department, 63–69 Guildford Street, LUTON.

February, 1958.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The year 1957 marked a national approach to the task of securing clean air. On 31st December, 1956, those parts of the Clean Air Act came into operation that require new furnaces (except some domestic boilers) to be, as far as practicable, smokeless. Notice of intention to instal such furnaces must be given to the Local Authority, and the height of new chimneys (other than those of houses, shops and offices), has also to be approved. Under the Act local authorities can make building byelaws requiring heating and cooking arrangements in new buildings to be smokeless, and your Council immediately availed themselves of this power. The new byelaw will come into operation in Luton on the 1st April, 1958. Local authorities were also empowered to submit proposals to the Ministry for smoke control areas. During 1957 a survey was carried out which should enable the Council to consider the practicability of smoke control areas in the town.

Included in the new legislation for 1957 was the Rent Act which became operative from the 6th July. The rent increase procedure is complicated, and not unnaturally both landlord and tenant sought information from the Public Health Department. There were 298 applications for certificates of disrepair, and subsequent inspection showed that almost all were justified. Most applicants received an undertaking from the landlord to repair the house, and by the end of the year only 120 certificates of disrepair had been issued. Since demand for form 'G' (tenant's notice of defects to landlord) exceeded by far applications for certificates of disrepair, most of the tenants' notices must also have been met by undertakings from landlords. A large amount of repair work is being done under the Rent Act but it is likely that the repair sections of the Housing Act will have to be invoked for many of the older houses in the town.

Preoccupation with the Rent Act diverted attention from the slum clearance programme, which would have fallen behind schedule but for the good progress of previous years. Only one clearance area of 10 houses and 12 individually unfit houses were represented to the Council in 1957. The Ministry held two public enquiries into proposed clearance areas and both were confirmed without modification. The demolition of the houses in the New Town Street area was completed during the year and a start made on redevelopment of the site for residential purposes. Demolition of the houses in High Town district was well advanced at the end of the year.

The demands made on the municipal slaughterhouse continued to increase during 1957 and from July until the end of the year the number of animals slaughtered exceeded the maximum of 100 units per week that the slaughterhouse can reasonably deal with. Since a permanent municipal abattoir of the kind envisaged by the Interdepartmental Committee on Slaughterhouses is unlikely to be built in Luton in the foreseeable future, your Council decided to enlarge the existing premises and tenders were invited.

All animals slaughtered in Luton are inspected. In the report for 1956 attention was drawn to the increase in the number of cattle found to be suffering from cysticercosis. The life cycle of the worm is broken by keeping infested carcases in cold store for the requisite period. The incidence of 2% in 1957 gave cause for anxiety, but attempts to trace sources of infestation were unsuccessful. The increase in incidence must indicate an increase in human infestation; and whilst there is no evidence of human infestation in Luton it was decided, by agreement with the the Sewage Works Manager, that sewage sludge should no longer be distributed on grazing land.

Towards the end of 1957 it once again proved difficult to fill vacant posts for Public Health Inspectors. During the last quarter of the year the Department was one inspector under establishment and the new legislation in 1957 meant increased commitments for the remaining staff. I wish to acknowledge their valuable services and thank them for their continued loyalty and support.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,
G. F. MACEFIELD,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

GENERAL

The area of the borough is 8,773 acres and the present estimated population is 115,900. The surface is undulating, the town having been built substantially in a valley in the Chiltern Hills, usually described as the "Lee Gap". The surface level varies from some 330 feet above sea level to a little more than 600 feet above sea level.

The principal industries are the manufacture of private and commercial motor vehicles and associated trades, chemicals, electric cookers, gas and electric refrigerators, and hats.

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.—1,376.6 hours of sunshine were recorded, the sunniest days being 13th and 14th June, 1957 when 14.9 hours were recorded each day.

Rainfall.—The total rainfall recorded was 22.23 inches, the wettest day being 19th July, 1957, when 1.49 inches of rain were recorded.

Temperatures.—The maximum temperature was 91°F., recorded on 29th June, 1957, and the minimum temperature was 21°F., recorded on 16th December, 1957.

Wind.—The prevailing wind was South-West.

WATER SUPPLY

The following information has been kindly supplied by the Engineer and Manager to the Luton Water Company.

	mager to the Buton water company.		1956 million gallons	1957 million gallons
(1)	Estimated total consumption for Borough		2,147	2,155
(2)	Paraurh	for 	1,243	1,255
(3)	Estimated metered consumption for Boroug	gh	904	900
(4)	Average Chlorination		0·25 p.p.m.	0.25 p.p.m.

"Based upon the Registrar-General's estimated population for the Borough of 115,900 for mid-1957, the above figures represent an average daily consumption per head for domestic and unmetered trade purposes of 29.7 gallons, and for metered industrial purposes of 21.3 gallons, a total of 51 gallons.

Resources

"Application has been made to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for the confirmation of an Order under the Water Acts, 1945 and 1948, to develop a new source of supply at Bow Bridge (previously referred to as 'Shafford Farm'). This is intended to meet the needs of proposed development of Luton and district and it is anticipated that it should be capable of yielding some 5 million gallons per day—subject to any limitation the Minister may deem it expedient to impose.

Development

"During 1957 a service reservoir, capacity one million gallons, has been constructed near Whitehill Farm, north of Butterfield Green. With its auxiliary 12 in. main from Ashcroft Road, this is intended to improve supplies to the development areas in the Stopsley, Vauxhall Park, and Ramridge districts, the development of which has outgrown the Hart Lane Water Tower, which was built 50 years ago.

Distribution

"During 1957 some $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles of distribution mains were laid at the following sites:—

Mixes Hill	Putteridge Estate	Broxley Mead Estate
Wellgate Road	Turners Road Estate	Hayhurst Road
Bank Close, Leagrave	Dallow Road	Vauxhall Park Estate
Macauley Road	Hewlett Road	Austin Road Estate
Eaton Green Road	Stanton Road	Marsh Road Estate
Lewsey Road	Wingate Road	School Lane, Leagrave
Riverside Road	Devon Road Site	

Sampling of Water

"Each source of supply is 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

"Although chalk waters of the type supplied by the Luton Water Company are not usually plumbo-solvent, tests indicate that Luton water may be very slightly plumbo-solvent. For this reason no lead service pipes are installed and the Water Company advises the use of materials other than lead for service pipes."

The following is a copy of the Public Analyst's latest report on the mains supply submitted by the Luton Water Company on 17th December, 1957:—

No. 1/158 Crescent Road No. 5 Well, U	nchlorinated.
---------------------------------------	---------------

No. 2/158 Crescent Road No. 5 Well, Chlorinated.

No. 3/158 Runley Wood (Chalk), Chlorinated.

No. 4/158 Runley Wood, Greensand, Filtrate.

No. 5/158 Friars Wash (Chalk), Chlorinated.

No. 6/158 Friars Wash (Chalk), Unchlorinated.

Chemical Analysis	Parts per 100,000						
				No. 1/158	No. 3/158	No. 4/158	No. 6/158
Free Ammonia				0.0064	0.0004	0.0004	
Albuminoid Ammonia				0.0032	0.0008	0.0008	0.0008
Oxygen absorbed in	4 hours	at	80°F.	0.012	0.004	0.012	0.004
Nitrites				Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrogen as Nitrates				1.028	0.566	0.329	0.515
Chlorine				2.5	1.6	1.7	1.3
Hardness, Total				33.0	41.0	21.0	29.5
Hardness, Permanent				8.0	12.5	2.5	2.5
Total Solids				46.2	52.7	30.2	30.9
Sulphate as SO ₄				4.7	12.6	4.3	1.2
pH value				6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9
Iron as Fe (p.p.m.)				0.02	0.03	0.08	0.04

All samples were clear. Sample No. 3/158 had a faint smell of chlorine, the others were free from smell.

The microscopic examination revealed the presence of some mineral and vegetable debris in each sample.

Bacteriological Examination

		No. 1/158	No. 2/158	No. 3/158	No. 4/158	No. 5/158	No. 6/158
Number of org ml. growing						n' av	
3 days		 36	1	1	2	Nil	Nil
Liquefying orga	nisms	 12	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Number of org ml. growing							
48 hours		 1	Nil	2	2	10	Nil
Bacillus Coli		 from 100 ml.	from 100 ml.	from	from	from 100 ml.	from 100 ml.

Opinion

These samples are in satisfactory condition.

No. of dwellings supplied from pipe	ed water m	nains direc	ct to	at one was a second
the houses				35,857
No. of dwellings sharing piped water	supplies			84
No. of dwellings supplied from wells				2
No. of samples of water submitted examination by the Public Hea				
for free chlorine and Bacillus Coli				273
Number of samples of water obtained from	m:—			
Crescent Road Pumping Station			90	
Runley Wood Pumping Station			89	
Friars Wash Supply			46	
Private Wells			44	
Other Sources			4	
			_	273
Classified results of the above sample	es:—			

			Mains Water	Well Water
Class 1—Highly satisfacto	ory	 	229	35
Class 2—Satisfactory		 	-	3
Class 3—Suspicious		 	_	1
Class 4—Unsatisfactory		 	_	5

The system of bi-weekly sampling of the various sources at the Luton Water Company's stations was maintained throughout the year. All were highly satisfactory.

Following the Public Analyst's comments during the previous year on the need for the two private wells to be kept under observation, a system of regular sampling was instituted. The results were generally satisfactory, but with the development of the Borough in this area, it is hoped that mains supplies may be soon extended to the two dwellings.

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 followed by bio-aeration and bacterial filtration. Before its final discharge to the river, it receives additional treatment through sand filters and micro-strainers. The final stage of treatment is necessary because of the lack of dilution in the river and also because the river is later used as a source of water supply. Some sludge is treated with lime and sulphate of iron, dried and sold for manurial purposes.

CESSPOOLS

Two cesspools were abolished and six constructed during the year. At the 31st December, 1957, there were 109 in use in the Borough.

Cesspools are emptied by means of mechanical plant as and when required. Four hundred and seventy-one emptyings were carried out during the twelve months.

PUBLIC CLEANSING—REFUSE DISPOSAL

The following information is supplied by the Director of Public Cleansing:—

"Labour shortages continued and the refuse collection service was maintained with difficulty.

"The method of refuse disposal is controlled tipping, and during the year 1957 the weight of refuse dealt with was 55,254 tons."

The Public Cleansing Department is also responsible for emptying the pail and chemical closets used by caravan dwellers in the town. The closets are emptied either two or three times weekly and the number of fittings so serviced is 254.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE

NOMBER AND NATO	KL O.	1140	JI LC	101	10 111	ILL	
Complaints reported to Public Health	Depart	ment	***		***		969*
							No. of
Primary Inspections:—							visits
PUBLIC HEALTH ACT							
Dwelling houses on complaint		• • •			***		1,167
Dwelling houses, no nuisance i	ound						93
Own observation						***	36
Other premises							89
Infectious disease enquiries							342
Vermin, insects and other pest	s						121
Drainage							32
Moveable dwellings							71
Workplaces	***				***		3
Housing Acts							
Individual unfit houses							18
Clearance areas							39
Certificates of disrepair							313
Overcrowding							5
Housing application visits							45
Houses let-in-lodgings							28
							20
FOOD PREMISES							
Bakehouses							68
Canteens and mobile canteens		***					209
Cafes and restaurants							600
Public houses							33
Clubs and occasional catering	premise	s					68
Butchers							171
Fried fish							50
Other food shops							797
Market							59
Merchandise Marks Act							91
Food storage premises							107
Food inspection (excluding sla	ughterh	iouses)					273
Slaughterhouses (primarily for	meat i	nspecti	on)				1,741
Dairies							191
Milk shops							80
Ice cream premises							91
Visits to obtain water samples							302
Visits to obtain utensil swabs							43
ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION							
							20
Complaints							38
Smoke observations							53
Boiler-house inspections							69
Atmospheric pollution recordi							375
Smoke control surveys—Com							518
" " —Dom					•••		393
" " "—Indu							217
* This figure does not include 5	60 com	plainte	of Rats	and	Mica	which	are deal

^{*} This figure does not include 560 complaints of Rats and Mice, which are dealt with elsewhere in the Report.

					No. of
FACTORIES					
Mechanical power					115
Non-mechanical power				***	6
Miscellaneous					
Shops					18
Pet animals premises					4
Rag flock premises					. 16
Schools	S				95
Prevention of damage by pests					51
Offensive trades					7
Cowsheds, piggeries and stables					6
Licensing of pig swill plants					6
Farms					5
Premises licensed for public entertainment					5
Pleasure fairs and circuses					9
Public conveniences					23
Lectures					15
Interviews and appointments					984
Miscellaneous visits					1,402
Visits with no access					892
Revisits to premises which are the subject of F	Public 1	Health	Act No	tices	2,551
,, ,, under Housing Acts					99
regions food promises					786
promises under Clean Air Act					32
Factories Act					7
missellansous nuomisse	•••				72
" " miscellaneous premises	•••				
TOTAL					16,245

ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

111111	TITLITI	11 01	110	TOTTL			
DRAINAGE							
Reconstructed					 		28
Tested					 		50
Exposed					 		14
Repaired					 		53
Inspection chambers inserte	ed				 		8
" " repair					 		12
New inspection chamber co	vers pr	ovided			 		8
Gullies renewed					 		7
Soil and vent pipes repaired	d or ren	ewed			 		11
W.Cs. repaired					 		43
" reconstructed					 		2
New W.C. pans provided					 		38
Private drains unstopped					 		50
Combined drains unstopped	i				 		306
Cisterns repaired or renewe					 		26
Guttering repaired or renew					 		41
Rain water pipes repaired o					 		77
Rain water pipes and sink v					 		5
Sinks renewed					 		2
Sink waste pipes repaired, r					 		21
Cesspools replaced by main					 		2
						2000	_
PUBLIC HEALTH ACT							
Accumulation of refuse					 		20
Brickwork or pointings					 		30
Dampness remedied					 		49
Fireplaces and stoves repair	ed or re	enewed			 		16
Flooring					 		69
Skirting boards repaired					 		2
Windows and frames repair	ed or re	enewed			 		44
Sash cords renewed					 		38
Doors and frames repaired	or renev	wed			 		9
Chimney stacks repaired					 		1
Flashing and filleting					 		1
Doofs made westertight					 		130
Ceilings repaired					 		23
Wall plaster renewed					 		86
Sub-floor ventilation provid					 		2
Water supply reinstated or i					 		4
Passages paved					 		1
Filthy premises cleansed					 		3
Disinfestations carried out					 		62
Miscellaneous					 		50
Housing Act							
Rent book made to comply	with Ho	ousing A	Acts		 		1
Overcrowding abated					 		2
							100
CLEAN AIR ACT							
Smoke alarms fitted					 		1
TOTAL					 		1,448

STATUTORY NOTICES

NUMBER OF LEGAL NOTICES ISSUED FOR ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

		Served	Complied with
Number of Outstanding Notices, 31st Dec., 1956	·	32	32
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 24		41	39
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 39		34	30
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 45		8	7
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 47		1	1
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 93		39	32
		155	141
No. of Outstanding Notices at 31st December, 19	957	14	

Following the failure of a property owner to comply with Notices served under Section 93, summonses were served to enable application for abatement orders to be made. By the date of the hearing, however, the work had been satisfactorily carried out and the summonses were withdrawn on payment of costs.

In two instances where the Corporation had served Notices under Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936, in respect of defective drainage systems and the owners had failed to comply, the Corporation carried out the repairs in default and recovered the costs incurred.

A sewer extension had brought a house with a pail closet within 100 ft. of the sewer. This enabled the Corporation to serve a notice under Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and the connection of the premises to the sewer and the conversion of the closet to the water carriage system was carried out by the Corporation; half the cost of conversion being recovered from the owner.

The maintenance of sewers vested in the Corporation (formerly combined drains) demanded considerable work during the year. Repairs to drainage systems of this type serving 39 houses were carried out by the Corporation under Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936, the costs of these works being recovered from the various owners.

The land at Runley Wood which had been the scene of widespread dumping by itinerant caravan dwellers and which had been cleared during 1956 at the Corporation's expense, remained in satisfactory condition throughout the year.

DISINFECTION

Cases of notifiable infectious diseas	es visi	ted			 524
Cases removed to Isolation Hospita	ıl				 11
Rooms disinfected after infectious,	contag	gious or	other	diseases	 69
Rooms disinfected by occupiers					 9
Articles disinfected by steam					 231
Articles disinfected by fumigants					 315
Articles destroyed at request of own	ners				 38
Premises visited tracing infectious	disease				 342

Eight hundred and seventy-seven library books were withdrawn from circulation and were disinfected before they were returned.

The number of notifiable infectious diseases cases visited during the year was more than double the number in 1956. This was due solely to the high incidence of dysentery, 478 cases being the subject of investigation by the Department.

DISINFESTATION

Rooms disinfested for vermin or other insects pests	 	431
Articles disinfested by steam	 	4
Articles destroyed at request of owners	 	108
Wasps nests destroyed	 	13

For some years the steam disinfector had been the subject of adverse comments by the Boiler Inspector which indicated that the plant had reached the end of its useful life. During the year the Council built a new station attached to the Public Swimming Bath, Waller Street, and installed a new steam disinfector. The premises incorporate a small cleansing station with bath and shower. Although the number of verminous persons treated each year is small, the absence of suitable facilities has embarrassed the Department since the Bury Park station was closed. The new facilities were in use by the end of the year.

On two occasions advantage was taken of the facilities afforded by the Natural History Department of the British Museum to submit uncommon insects for identification. This service is particularly valuable because the enormous number of species of insects render identification of all but the most common types a matter for the entomologist.

Where serious infestation by the larvae of the common furniture beetle (woodworm) was reported, spraying with an insecticide containing DDT was carried out. In this connection ten premises involving thirty-six rooms were treated. Effective treatment for this complaint is a long and tedious process however, and can only be properly carried out by the occupier.

Forty-six infestations by bed bugs were found during the year, and in all instances disinfestation was carried out. The use of liquid vermicide was relied upon for treating the infestations and proved satisfactory. In one instance further treatment was necessary. The following table shows the number of premises and rooms dealt with during 1957:—

	Number of	f Premises	Number of	f Rooms
	Found to be infested	Disin- fested	Found to be infested	Disin- fested
Number of Council Houses Number of other Houses Number of cases where disin- festation has been carried out prior to removal from Clear-	5 65	5 65	20 266	20 266
ance Areas, etc., into new Council Houses Number of cases where disin- festation has been carried out	24	24	109	109
by Corporation Disinfesting Officer Number of cases where disin- festation has been carried out	70	70	286	286
by Occupants or Contractors	-	_	-	-
Number of complaints of infesta- tion received	23	23	72	72
Number of cases found by Public Health Inspectors	47	47	214	214

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

A baiting and poisoning treatment of the sewers for rat infestation was carried out between April and July. The treatment involved 2,131 manholes from which there were 387 complete and 482 partial takes.

The majority of rodent infestations dealt with were again treated by an anti-blood coagulent rodenticide. This method is economical of labour and does not induce bait shyness.

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 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
Private Dwellings	{ Rats Mice	340 66	571 78	567 73	17 8
Business Premises	{ Rats Mice	83 71	81 77	86 73	4 6
Totals	{Rats Mice	423 137	652 155	653 146	21 14

In dealing with the above-mentioned infestations, the rodent operatives paid a total of 3,725 visits. Sixty-two visits were also made to infestations by the Public Health Inspectors.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

The Baths Superintendent has kindly supplied the following information:

"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 and 46 Slipper Baths. The Vapour Baths which were available have unfortunately had to be closed to the public because it became impossible to keep them at the high sanitary standard necessary for this type of bath. The Open Air Pool, situated off New Bedford Road, Luton, caters for swimming and bathing only.

"During the season of 1957, the following numbers attended:-

				Waller Street Baths	Open Air Swimming Pool
Swimmers			 	 47,113	73,016
Spectators			 	 2,237	7,713
Clubs			 	 11,846	_
Slipper and	Vapour	Baths	 	 57,816	_
Schools			 	 16,404	12,588
	Tot	als	 	 135,416	93,317

"Chloroscope examinations of the water are carried out by the attendants twice a day."

In addition fifty-two samples of baths water were taken from the Public Baths by Public Health Inspectors and sent to the Borough Chemist for examination. All were satisfactory.

PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

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. An annual inspection was carried out for the purpose of satisfying the Licensing Authority that the sanitary accommodation was adequate and had been satisfactorily maintained during the year.

During the visits of the pleasure fair to the Borough, supervision of the sanitary arrangements and the food stalls was maintained.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Amongst the new powers provided under the Clean Air Act, 1956, was one requiring notification of the installation of new furnaces. Six such notifications were reported to the Public Health Committee during the year and one application for the prior approval of plant was submitted and approved.

A survey to determine the practicability of introducing smoke control areas within the Borough was commenced early in the year and by the end of December had been largely completed despite delays occasioned by pressure of other work. One thousand, one hundred and twenty-eight visits were paid to dwellinghouses, commercial buildings and industrial premises. It is hoped that a report will be submitted to the Committee early in 1958.

The four recording stations maintained by the Department continued to operate throughout the year. Three of these consist of a standard deposit gauge and lead peroxide candle and one of lead peroxide candle only. In April the analyses of the contents of the various instruments were taken over by the Borough Chemist. The results have been forwarded as usual 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 have also been forwarded to East Greenwich for inclusion in the National Bulletin.

The results generally were comparable with the previous year. Where variations do occur, they should be regarded with reserve as the instruments are affected by atmospheric conditions, and in assessing results attention must be paid to these factors. The true value of the instruments is in recording trends over a period of years.

Results for the relevant period and for the previous year are shown on pages 63 to 66.

3.1

13.3

Winter Average Oct. 1955-Mar. 1956

Year's Average

1.2

3.5

Summer Average April-Sept. 1955 ...

Sulphur

Suspended

1955-1956

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION—SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS

DEPOSITED MATTER EXPRESSED AS TONS PER SQUARE MILE PER MONTH

1955–1956

	Town	Beech	Luton High School
Summer Average April-Sept., 1955	11-96	14-92	62-6
Winter Average Oct. 1955-Mar. 1956	16-50	24-31	16-46
Year's Average	14-23	19-62	13-13

1956-1957

	Town	Beech	Luton High School
Summer Average April-Sept. 1956	15.19	19-40	12-51
Winter Average Oct. 1956-Mar. 1957	17-67	21.89	17-67
Year's Average	16-43	20-65	15-09

EAD	SSED	CM2	
SULPHUR COMPOUNDS BY LEAD	PEROXIDE METHOD EXPRESSED	AS MILLIGRAMS SO ₃ /DAY/100 CM ²	DE
POUND	CHOD	S SO ₃ /I	LEAD PEROXIDE
COMI	3 MET	GRAM	EAD P
LPHUR	OXIDE	MILLI	I
SUI	PEF	AS	

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

1955-1956

	Town	Town Beech High Hall Hill School	Luton High School	Con- naught Road
Summer Average April-Sept. '55	1.03	0-94	0-94 0-77	1-67
Winter Average Oct.'55-Mar.'56	2.63	1-64	1.82	2.64
Year's Average	1.83	1.29	1.30	2.16

1956-57

Con- naught Road	1.88	3.28	2.58
Beech High Hill School	0.73	1.70	1.22
Beech	08.0	1.38	1.09
Town	1.05	2.38	1.72
	Summer Average April-Sept. '56	Winter Average Oct.'56-Mar.'57	Year's Average

1956-1957

	Suspended Matter	Sulphur Dioxide
Summer Average April-Sept. 1956	3-9	0-7
Winter Average Oct. 1956-Mar. 1957	10-1	2.6
Year's Average	0-2	1.7

Deposited Matter (tons per sq. mile per month) Jan.—Dec., 1957

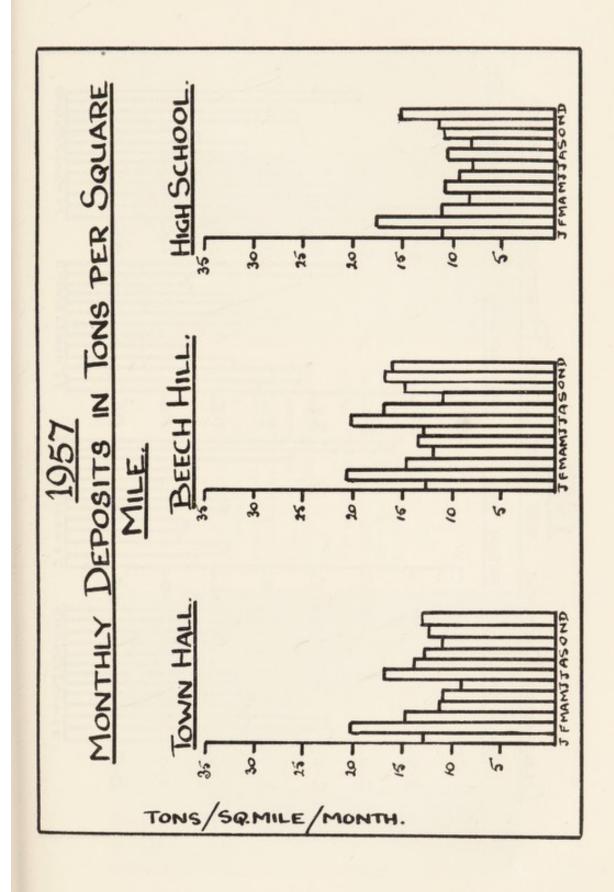
		Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School
January	 	 12.84	12:74	10.84
February	 	 20.18	20.90	17.59
March	 	 14.67	14.78	10.96
April	 	 11.85	12.07	8.05
May	 	 11.80	13.16	10.40
June	 	 9.10	12.89	9.47
July	 	 16-90	20.37	7.93
August	 	 13-95	17-03	10.48
September	 	 12-52	11.20	8.03
October	 	 11.10	14.90	11.04
November	 	 12-30	16.90	11.20
December	 	 12.80	15.90	14.90

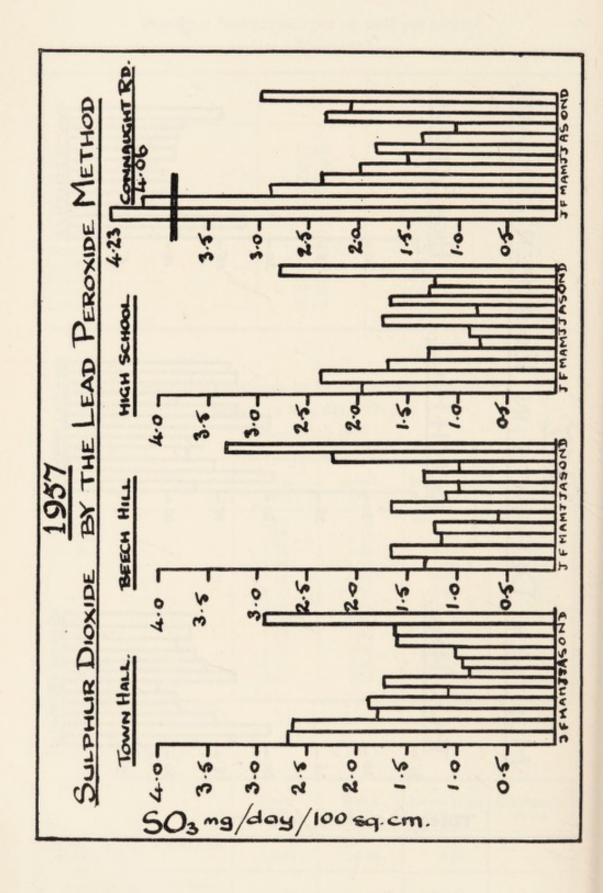
Sulphur Compounds by Lead Peroxide Method (milligrams SO₃/day/100 cm²) Jan.—Dec., 1957

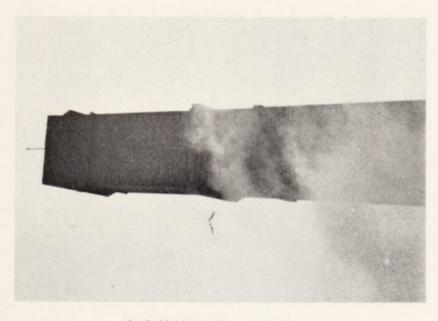
		Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School	Connaught Road
January	 	 2.66	1.31	1.95	4.23
February	 	 2.60	1.70	2.36	4.06
March	 	 1.79	1.22	1.69	2.89
April	 	 1.83	1.29	1.28	2.35
May	 	 1.11	0.58	0.78	1.98
Iune	 	 1.70	1.70	0.87	1 51
July	 	 0.88	1.15	1.74	1.87
August	 	 0.92	1.00	0.78	1.38
September		 1.05	1.34	1.67	1.03
October	 	 1.64	0.98	1.28	2.34
XT	 	 1.65	2.25	1.25	2.10
December	 	 2.90	3.35	2.80	3.00

Summer Averages 1957.

	Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School	Connaught Road
Deposited Matter (tons/sq. mile/month)	12-69	14-45	9.06	
Sulphur Compounds (Milli- grams SO ₃ /day/100 cm ² .)	1.25	1.18	1.19	1.69

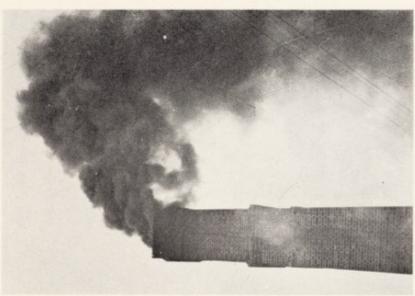






This chimney which serves a 'Lancashire' Boiler was a frequent source of complaint when stoked by hand with coal (Left). After the furnace was converted to burn oil complaints ceased.

Six notifications of intention to instal new furnaces and one application for 'Prior Approval' were received during 1957.





Tuberculous Meningitis found during Meat Inspection

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Section 38 of this Act is administered by the Public Health Department.

Eighteen visits were paid to shop premises during 1957, investigating the sanitation and environmental conditions provided. One notice was served in respect of contraventions found.

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. The conditions demanded in the Borough are those recommended by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

During the period under review, 12 visits were paid to the 7 premises so licensed to ensure that the requirements of the Act were complied with. One notice was served and complied with in respect of contraventions found. Towards the end of the year one premises ceased business as a pet store.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS

Five samples of various filling materials were obtained. The Prescribed Analyst reported that all conformed to the standards of cleanliness laid down.

LICENSING OF WASTE FOOD PLANTS

The Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Regulations, 1957, placed upon Local Authorities the responsibility of inspecting and licensing waste food boiling plants. The Regulations were made under the Diseases of Animals legislation, under which Acts the powers of Local Authorities are generally operated by the police. It was decided by the Council, however, that in this instance the requirements were more nearly allied to the duties and experience of the Public Health Inspectors than those of the police officers, and the administration of the Regulations was made a Public Health Department function.

With regard to one premises recently licensed by the Ministry, the licence was continued, and three new licences were issued in respect of other plants.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The two offensive trades were conducted satisfactorily during the year and a total of eleven inspections of the premises were made.

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

INSPECTIONS

Premises insp	ected								434
Premises inspe	ected ar	nd found	l satisfa	actory					427
Premises inspe	ected ar	nd found	l unsat	isfactor	y				7
Factories when	re defec	ts were	found a	and refe	erred by	H.M.	Inspec	tor	7
Reports on ac	tion tak	en sent	to H.N	Inspe	ector				7
Number of o	defects	remedie	d as	a resul	t of I	I.M. I	nspecto	or's	
notificatio	ons								12
		LIST (OF DE	FECT	s Fou	JND			
Cleanliness, w	ant of								1
No intervenin	g ventil	ated lob	by						1
Ventilation, w	ant of								1
Washing facili	ties abs	ent							1
Water Closet,	unsuita	able or d	efectiv	e					3
**	not ligh	hted							4
,,	dirty o	ondition							5
,,	withou	t indicat	ion						4
Rat or mouse	infestat	ion							94
Miscellaneous									3
									117
									7 7 7 7 7

The one remaining underground bakehouse was allowed to continue during the year in consideration of the particular personal hardship involved.

At 31st December, 1957, there were 726 factories (mechanical power) and 37 factories (non-mechanical power) on the register. These figures include 187 hat manufacturers and 62 allied trades.

OUTWORKERS RETURNS

	810	Contracto	-11	1111	1	-11 1111	1
P	u	Workme	111	1110	2	-11 1119	3
other orities	sts	No. of Li		7	2	, w	3
Lists received from other Authorities	No. of Local Authorities	from whom Lists have been Received		7	2	m	3
	SIC	Contracto	111	1111	1	TH HII	1
ded	u	Workine	212	482	248	27 27 27 -	547
Lists forwarded to other Authorities	stsi	No. of Li		15	15	100	100
	No. of Local Authorities to whom Lists of Ourworkers have been Forwarded			11	111	100	100
nises I.A.	9£61 ''V	Sec. 153, P.H.	90	t''t eld	1	s eld	1
Outwork in Infected Premises Sec. 153, P.H.A. 1936	9261 "V	Sec. 153, P.H.	Where cases have arisen work has	been withheld by verbal arrangement. No separate records kept.	1	Where cases have arisen work has been withheld by verbal arrangement. No separate records kept.	1
Ou Infect Sec. 1	s	Instance	Who	been by v arran No s	1	Whe have work been by v arran No 3	1
	suo	Prosecuti	111	1111	1	111-1111	1
e Prem Factor	pənı	Notices Se	111	1111	1	111 1111	1
Outworkers in Unwholesome Premises Section 111, Factories Act, 1937	No. of Instances of Work	in Unwhole- some Premises	111	1111	1	111 1111	1
S 1937	No. of Prosecutions	for Failure to Supply Lists	111	1111	1	111 1111	1
OUTWORKERS LISTS Sections 110, Factories Act, 1937	No. of Cases of Default	in sending Lists to the Council	ıń	1111	1	111 1111	-
TWOF s 110,	from and rities	Contractors	-11	1111	1	-11 1111	1
Section	Lists received from Employers and Other Authorities	Workmen	1,221	181 26 39 2	1,493	1,488 6 6 168 26 53 53	1,756
	Lists Emj Other	sisi.I	100	6111	108	001 2777	107
	NATURE OF WORK		Making, etc., of Wearing Apparel Box Making	Leather and Fancy Goods Feather Mounting Plastic Goods Button Carding	Totals	Making, etc., of Wearing Apparel Box Making Lampshade Making Leather and Fancy Goods Feather Mounting Plastic Goods Button Carding	Totals
			NS NS	FEBRUR RETUR		VOGUST RETURNS	

... 1,638 Total number of firms employing outworkers who live in the Borough 1,6

Total number of outworkers employed who live in the Borough 1,6

The homes of outworkers are visited by the Public Health Inspectors who deal with any nuisance or other irregularity.

HOUSING

One clearance area comprising 10 houses was represented to the Public Health Committee. Twelve houses were also represented as individually unfit. Undertakings by the owners not to use for human habitation were accepted in respect of 5 houses, closing orders were made in respect of 6 others and a further order was made in respect of part only of a house.

Seventy-three houses were demolished during the year, 55 in clearance areas, 2 in respect of outstanding demolition orders and 16 which were purchased for demolition by the Corporation. A total of 73 families comprising 264 persons were rehoused by the Corporation during the year, and a further 14 families comprising 39 persons found their own accommodation.

One thousand, eight hundred and forty-two houses were inspected for defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts during the year, for which purpose 4,346 inspections were made.

Eight hundred and twenty-five houses were found to have defects which necessitated action under the Public Health Act; subsequent informal action resulted in 728 houses being rendered fit. It was found necessary to serve Statutory Notices in respect of 104 houses. Eighty-seven were repaired by the respective owners and a further 37 were repaired by the local authority on behalf of, or in default of, the owners.

One new case of overcrowding was found in 1957, 2 cases were relieved and at 31st December, there were 11 houses overcrowded, involving 21 families.

The facility afforded whereby intending purchasers of houses in the Borough are given an indication of the expected life of properties, was made good use of by the public. Two hundred and seventy enquiries were made.

RENT ACT, 1957

The introduction of the Rent Act, 1957, caused a large amount of work during the year. The complicated procedures detailed in the Act meant that much time was devoted to advising owners and tenants on the various provisions. Much correspondence was also involved.

Details of Certificates of Disrepair issued and cancelled from the 6th July to the 31st December are shown below:—

PART I

	APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF DISRE	EPAIR	
(1)	Number of applications for certificates		298
(2)	Number of decisions not to issue certificates		Ni
(3)	Number of decisions to issue certificates:—		
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects		14
	(b) in respect of all defects		11
(4)	Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragr	aph 5	
	of the First Schedule		12
(5)	Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority	under	
	proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule		Ni
(6)	Number of Certificates issued		12
	PART II		
	APPLICATIONS FOR CANCELLATION OF CERT	IFICAT	ΓES
		1954 Act	1957 Act
(7) Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancella	1-	1000000
	tion of certificates	6	9
(8	Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	5	3
(9	Decisions of Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants objections	s' —	_
(10	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	1	1

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

MILK

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 to 1954	
No. of persons registered as Distributors	. 240
No. of premises registered as Dairies	. 13
Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk Regulations, 1949 to 1953)
No. of Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licences	. 3
No. of Dealer's Licences to use the special designation Pasteurised	n . 68
No. of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation Pasteurised	2
No. of Dealer's Licences to use the special designation Sterilised	224
No. of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation Sterilised	a . 3
Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949	to 1954
No. of Dealer's Licences to use the special designation Tuberculin Tested	20
No. of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation Tuberculin Tested	2

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

Luton is a specified area under Section 41 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and all milk sold in the Borough must be either Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised. Three hundred and forty-two samples of these categories of milk were obtained and submitted for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory (see table on page 73).

Only three samples, each farm-bottled tuberculin tested milk from dfferent sources, failed to pass the statutory test. The high proportion of satisfactory results reflects favourably upon the high standard of processing and retailing maintained in the Borough.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

Per- centage Satis-	Per- centage Satis- factory		100-00		
Turbidity Test	Failed		0		
Turi	Passed		7		
Per- centage Satis-	factory	100.00		100-00	
hatase	Failed	0		0	
Phosphatase Test	Passed Failed	277		33	
Per- centage Satis-		100-00		100-00	00-06
Samples Cancelled Statutory Minimum	Temperature not reached	1		ı	1
ylene Test	Failed	0		0	3
Methylene Blue Test	Passed	277		33	27
Total Samples Sub-	mirted	277	2	33	30
		:	:	:	:
esignation	of Milk	ised	po	Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	Tuberculin Tested
		Pasteurised	Sterilised	Tuberc (Past	Tuberc

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WASHED CHURNS AND MILK BOTTLES

Ten batches consisting of 120 washed milk bottles were taken for examination during the year. On four occasions the results were below satisfactory, two dairies being involved. Attention to adequate dosing of the machines achieved satisfactory results.

One batch of six churns was tested and proved satisfactory.

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

(FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955, SECTION 16)

	Premises on Register 31st Dec., 1956	Condi- tional Appro- vals outstand- ing 31st Dec., 1956	No. of Applica- tions received during 1957	No. of Certifi- cates issued	No. of Condi- tional Appro- vals can- celled	No. of Condi- tional Appro- vals outstand- ing 31st Dec., 1957	No. of Applica- tions refused	No. of Premises re- moved during 1957	Total on Register at 31st Dec., 1957
Sale and storage of Ice Cream	328	6	45	36	_	15	_	4	360
Manufacture of Ice Cream	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8
Manufacture of Pre- served Food Fish Frying and	70	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	71
Curing	31	-	-	-	-	_	-	_	31

Visits were made to all registered premises during the year for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations. A total of 5,392 visits was paid to food premises for all purposes and this figure includes special inspections of registered premises as follows:—

Sale, storage and manufacture of Ice Cre	am	 	91
Manufacture of Preserved Food		 	183
Fish Frying and Curing		 	60

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

Following the special attention paid to familiarising the food traders with the Regulations during 1956 and the service of notices requiring alterations and adaptations to enable premises to conform to the new standards, attention has been devoted during this year to following up the demands previously made. The response of the food traders was uniformly good and in no case was it found necessary to resort to legal action to secure compliance. One hundred and forty-seven notices were served and 321 complied with.

The following table shows the type and number of food shops in the Borough:—

Grocers				 	 292
Greengroce	rs			 	 75
General Sto	res			 	 73
Confectione	rs			 	 112
Provision N	ierchan	ts		 	 3
Cooked Me	ats Sho	ps		 	 8
Off Licence	Premis	es		 	 3
Bakers			·	 	 31
Fishmonger	s			 	 33
Butchers				 	 82
Margarine I	Dealers			 	 2
-					_
		To	otal	 	 714

Attention has also been given to the food stalls accompanying the pleasure fair which visits the town periodically during the year and all these premises are now equipped with facilities for personal washing and provided with hot water as required by the Regulations.

FOOD HYGIENE IN CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS

During the year 36 new premises were established and 18 closed, and at 31st December the number of establishments serving meals and snacks was 396, comprised as follows:—

Restaurants					 76
Snack Bars					 33
School Canteer	ıs				 31
School Kitcher	is only				 16
Factory Cantee	ns				 50
Canteens servin	ng Snacks	only			 33
Commercial He	otels and E	Boardin	g Hous	ses	 4
Social Clubs					 13
Mobile Canteer	ns				 2
Occasional Cat	ering				 28
Public Houses		those s	erving	Snacks	 110

During the year the undermentioned work was carrie	d out:—
Number of visits and re-visits made	1,591
Number of interviews held	143
Number of letters sent or arrangements made	88
Number of letters or arrangements complied wi	th 165
Number of Lectures given	8
Number of Persons attending Lectures	193
Work carried out:—	
Premises completely redecorated	24
Premises partly redecorated	54
Water heaters installed	17
Walls and ceilings cleansed	17
Wash-basins provided	52
Sinks provided	19
Refrigerators supplied	3
Miscellaneous work	39
	225

All plans concerning food premises submitted to the Borough Engineer were examined and amendments obtained where necessary before being submitted to the Planning Committee; the premises were visited and the proprietors advised of the equipment required to maintain a good hygienic standard.

Eight lectures with the aid of films and film strips were given during the year.

Utensil swabbing was carried out in 39 different food establishments. The following items of equipment were tested:—

 	182
 	166
 	62
 	2
 	10
 	8
 	430

Out of the 430 swabs taken, 332 returned a total bacteriological count of less than 100 colonies per utensil. Of the remaining 98, 33 returned a count of between 100–200 colonies, 12 between 200–300, 9 between 300–500, 16 between 500–1,000 and 28 over 1,000. In 3 cases faecal coli was found, but following investigation and advisory action, subsequent tests were satisfactory.

ICE CREAM

With one exception the brands of ice-cream retailed in the town remained unchanged during the year. One local manufacturer ceased production and his premises were taken over as a depot by a large firm operating on a national scale. Because so few varieties of ice-cream are retailed in the Borough, only a small number of samples was taken, all of these falling into Grades 1 or 2 which are regarded as satisfactory.

The number of premises retailing ice-cream, however, rose during the year by 32.

The Public Health Laboratory Service grading is set out below.

ALTH LABORA	TORY SERVICE	GRADING
Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
2	_	_
		Grade 2 Grade 3 2 —

MEAT INSPECTION IN SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The two private slaughterhouses and the Council's temporary slaughterhouse at Windmill Road continued to operate throughout the year.

One hundred per cent meat inspection was maintained in the three establishments and 1,741 visits were made to slaughterhouses primarily for this purpose. To achieve this it was again necessary for the inspectors to put in a considerable amount of week-end and overtime working. The total number of animals slaughtered rose to 29,469 as compared with 24,511 in 1956, the principal increases being in the number of cattle and sheep slaughtered.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed	6,407	544	706	13,778	8,034	29,469
Number inspected	6,407	544	706	13,778	8,034	29,469
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci: Whole carcases condemned	4	1	4	2	7	18
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,894	159	4	324	699	3,080
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci	29.62%	29.41%	1.13%	2.37%	8.79%	10-51%
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcases condemned	11	3	3	_	_	17
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	462	58	_	_	165	685
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	7.38%	11.21%	0.42%	_	2.05%	2.38%
Cysticercosis: Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	46	1	_	_	_	47
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	126	13	_		-	139
Generalised and totally con- demned	_	-	_		_	-

The incidence of disease found in the slaughterhouses during meat inspection was comparable with the previous year, slight decreases being recorded under most heads. There was, however, one notable exception. For the second year in succession the incidence of Cysticercosis made a spectacular increase, 139 cases being recorded as against 67 in 1956 and 22 in 1955, an incidence of 2.00%.

Fourteen complete beef carcases were condemned for Tuberculosis and 5 for other causes. For the first time since 1951, there was no fall in the percentage of cattle (excluding cows) found to be infected with tuberculosis. Indeed, there was a slight increase, but it was not significant. The percentage of cows affected shows a satisfactory reduction, a small incidence occurred in calves, whilst pigs continued to show a reduction. The quality of meat generally was of a good standard and at no time gave cause for undue concern.

The following table effectively illustrates the decreased incidence of Tuberculosis found in the slaughterhouses in recent 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
1954	9.03	23.39	0.10	2.40
1955	7.49	13.77	0.13	2.27
1956	7-19	18-15	_	2.14
1957	7.38	11.21	0.42	2.05

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933-1954

Number of Slaughtermen on Register at 31st December, 1	956 .	:	20
Applications for Licences considered during 1957		1	21
Number of Slaughtermen on Register at 31st December, 1	957 .	:	21

MERCHANDISE MARKS ORDERS

The supervision of food shop premises to enforce the labelling provisions of the various Orders is carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during the course of their multifarious duties. Ninety-one special visits were made in connection with the Orders and no serious contraventions were observed. The standard of marking maintained by the food traders generally in the town is satisfactory and where an occasional omission is found it is quickly remedied when brought to the notice of the proprietor.

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:—

No. of ondemnation	Article		Weight in lb
Notes			
	Beef		61,780
	Pork		5,870
	Mutton		735
	Meat other than from Slaughterhouses		894
	Meat—Canned		3,89
	Fish and Meat Pastes		4
	Bacon and Ham		121
	Sausages		159
	Chicken—Fresh and Canned		18
	Fish—Fresh and Canned		1,659
1,887	Fruit-Canned and Fresh, and Fruit Juic	3,009	
	Preserves—Canned		242
	Vegetables-Fresh and Canned, and Soup	os	1,710
	Milk—Canned, Evaporated and Dried	370	
	Cream—Fresh and Synthetic		11
	Cheese—Fresh and Processed		1,273
	Flour, Puddings, Cake and Cake Mixture	170	
	Cereals		2
	Sauces and Pickles		19
	Suet and Cooking Fats		10
	Miscellaneous		13
1,887	36 tons 11 cwts 3 qrs 10 lb.		81,966

The above statement includes the weight of the entire carcases and organs of 15 cattle excluding cows, 4 cows, 7 calves, 2 sheep and lambs and 7 pigs.

Offal condemned at the slaughterhouses in the town and at butchers' shops in the Borough is collected by an approved contractor who subjects this material to a steam digestion process. Carcases of beef are sent to Whipsnade Zoo where they are used for feeding the animals. 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, one sample of food was delivered to the Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST FOR THE YEAR 1957

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

In the year under review a total of 348 samples were examined of which 15 were reported against as being in some way not of the Standard required.

The usual wide variety of foods and drugs were obtained by your Officers and tables are set out below indicating the type of sample obtained and, where found, the nature of adulteration or irregularity.

It is seen that the average quality of the milk of the Borough has shown an improvement in both fat and solids content although samples are still received which contain less solids-not-fat than the presumptive legal Standard. The higher priced milks such as Jersey and Channel Islands must now contain at least 4 per cent of fat when sold, this being a legal requirement and not a presumptive standard. It may be found that similar definite Standards can be laid down for all milk and such Standards have much to commend them provided that their application does not bring undue hardship.

During the year a few general samples were examined which appeared to bear complicated or ambiguous labels. Both these and those samples of food containing foreign bodies were the subject of reports.

Some of these miscellaneous samples set problems which call for the greatest skill and experience in their elucidation.

C. HARCOURT WORDSWORTH,

Public Analyst

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SAMPLING OF FOODS AND DRUGS

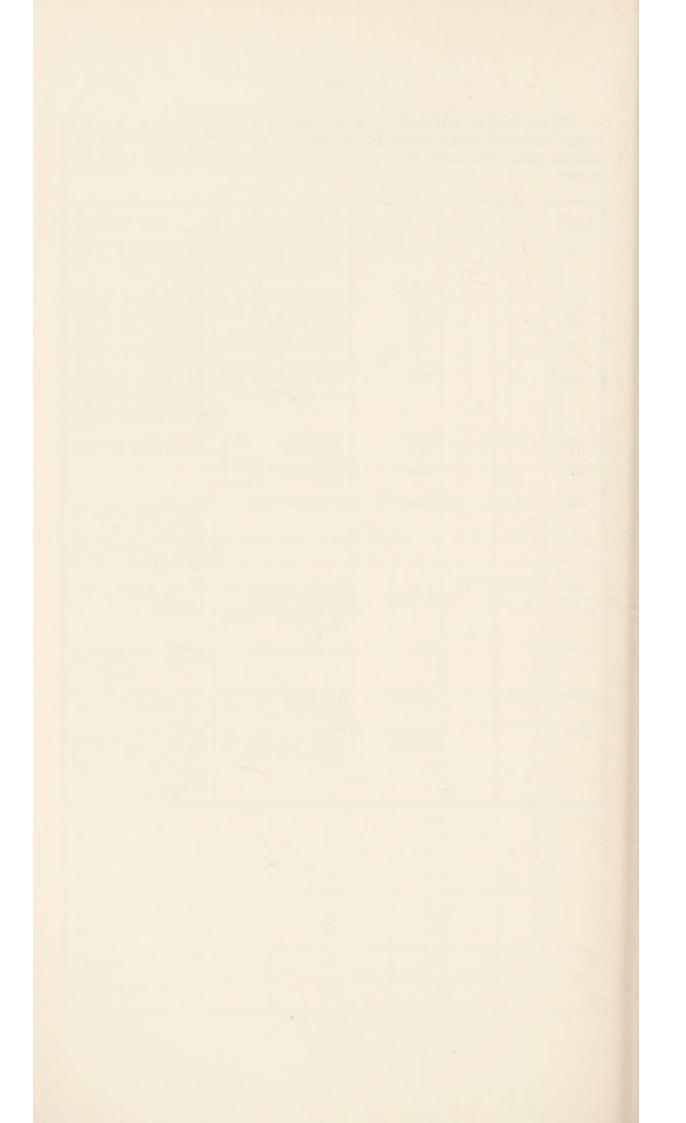
Nature of	Formal	Informal				
	2011-70					The state of the s
Butter					_	6 9
Meat and meat products					_	
Confectionery, sweets, etc.					_	26
Fish-canned, and fish and					_	12
Fruit-fresh, preserved and	d cann	ed			-	22
Groceries—miscellaneous					1	40
Jam, marmalade, honey, et	c.				-	7
Lard, cooking fat and suet					_	10
Margarine					_	3
Milk and milk foods (cann	ed) and	d cream			_	15
Milk					29	119
Milk Patent medicines and chem	nical su	bstance	s		1	10
Sausages and sausage meat					1	4
Temperance drinks and no	n-alco	holic win	nes		_	11
Wines, spirits and beers					12	1
Ice-Cream					-	6
Totals					44	301
					34	15

SUMMARY OF CHEMICAL ANALYSES OF MILK SAMPLES

Period	No. of Samples	AV	/ERAGES	
Period	Examined	Fat %	Solids not Fat	
January February March	9 10 17	3·78 3·82 4·60	8·42 8·54 9·13	
Quarter ended 31.3.57	36	4.17	8.78	
April June	14 12 11	3-63 3-03 3-35	8·43 8·84 8·77	
Quarter ended 30.6.57	37	3.36	8.66	
July August September	13 11 11	3·65 4·38 4·59	8·51 8·79 8·79	
Quarter ended 30.9.57	35	4.18	8.69	
October November December	11 14 15	4-24 4-21 4-13	8·87 9·05 8·87	
Quarter ended 31.12.57	40	4-19	8-94	
Year ended 31.12.57	148	3.96	8.77	

Of the samples analysed, 15 were reported to be not genuine, details of which, and the action taken in regard thereto, are appended. All milk samples mentioned form parts of consignments taken in transit from dairy farms.

Sample No.	Formal	In- formal	Article	Adulteration or other Irregularity	Action taken
1257		1	Mincemeat	Deficient in Soluble Solids 1%	Formal sample subsequently obtained and found to be genuine.
1277 1278 1286 1491		1 1 1 1	Milk Milk Milk Milk	Fat deficient 16% Fat deficient 3% Fat deficient 10%	Average fat contents of total consignments did not fall below statutory minimum in any instance.
1283		1	Milk	Fat deficient 12%	Formal samples obtained —see Sample No. 1309.
1309	1		Milk	Fat deficient 26%	The average fat content of the total consigment did not fall below the statutory minimum. No further action was taken.
1330 1337		1	Milk Milk	Fat deficient 8% Extraneous water 3.7%	Formal samples obtained —see Sample No. 1523.
1339		1	Milk	Extraneous water 7.4%	
1523	1		Milk	Fat deficient 11%	No evidence of extraneous water. The average fat content of the total consignment did not fall below the statutory minimum, and no further action was taken.
1342		1	Beef Sausages	Sample contained sulphite preservative to the extent of 430 p.p.m. as sulphur dioxide (SO ₂)	Formal sample subsequently obtained and found to be genuine.
1438		1	Milk	Fat deficient 6·5%	Formal samples subsequently obtained and found to be genuine.
1538		1	Influenza Mixture	Deficient inAmmonium Bicarbonate to the extent of 47%	Formal sample obtained —see Sample No. 1549.
1549	1		Influenza Mixture	Deficient in total ammonia (calculated as NH ₃) to the extent of 57%	Having regard to observations made by the Public Analyst, the local pharmacist was interviewed and a warning letter sent.



SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

LUTON COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION

MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES SUB-COMMITTEE (as at end of 1957)

Mayor

ALDERMAN S. C. HAYNE, J.P.

Chairman

COUNCILLOR G. C. SOUSTER

ALDERMAN G. L. MATTHEWS

ALDERMAN MRS. K. M. MILNER,
M.B.E., J.P.

ALDERMAN C. A. SINFIELD, J.P.

COUNCILLOR F. W. BATES, J.P.

COUNCILLOR L. G. BOWLES

COUNCILLOR J. COULDWELL

Councillor S. Gonshor Councillor J. Hillier

COUNCILLOR H. G. LAWRENCE COUNCILLOR J. I. MACDONALD COUNCILLOR J. McGrath

Co-opted

SIR JOHN BURGOYNE, O.B.E. MR. J. D. RUDDLESDEN MR. E. J. WALLER

County Council

COUNTY COUNCILLOR T. J. JONES COUNTY COUNCILLOR F. C. LINES

J. A. CORBETT, B.A., Ph.D., Borough Education Officer

STAFF

Principal School Medical Officer R. M. DYKES, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

Deputy Principal School Medical Officer
R. S. COOPER, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers

Winifred M. Hiscock, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. G. A. Roberts, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. Brenda Jones, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Ophthalmic Surgeon

E. A. Butterworth, f.r.c.s., d.o.m.s.

Orthopaedic Surgeon
D. Levi, M.S., F.R.C.S.

J. C. Prosser-French, L.D.S., R.C.S.Eng.
Two Posts Vacant

Part Time
M. H. ROBINSON, L.D.S.

Orthoptist
MISS E. C. WILD, D.B.O. (Part Time)

Remedial Gymnast Masseur
H. J. GODFREY C.S.M.M.G. (Part Time)

Speech Therapist
MISS C. M. COALES, L.C.S.T.

Psychiatrist

JUDITH WATERLOW, M.B., B.S.

Social Worker

MRS. P. H. LONG (Part Time)

Superintendent School Nurse
MRS. A. E. LANGFORD, S.R.N., S.C.M., CERT. H.V.

Senior Clerk
MISS G. A. SHANE

BOROUGH OF LUTON

Committee for Education

63–69, Guildford Street, LUTON. February, 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee for Education.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the School Health Service for the year 1957.

The general level of physical fitness is most encouraging—only 0.37 per cent of children were assessed as unsatisfactory when seen at routine medical inspections.

The work of the School Health Service continues to grow. In addition to the demands made by an increasing school population there have been new commitments. Thus, vaccination against poliomyelitis which was restricted to children under nine years of age in 1956, was made available to children up to fourteen years of age in November, 1957. Vaccination against tuberculosis was also introduced in September, 1957. As indicated in last year's report the routine tuberculin testing of school entrants gave no worthwhile results and was discontinued. But by introducing B.C.G. vaccination something more positive took its place. When children leave school and go out into the world they are particularly susceptible to tuberculosis and vaccination with B.C.G. at thirteen years of age gives real protection from this hazard.

Efforts to ensure a school population immune to diphtheria were continued.

The appointment of Mr. J. C. Prosser-French, L.D.S., is noteworthy, and a warm welcome is extended to him. Mr. Prosser-French is the first full-time dental surgeon on the staff since 1949.

Dr. William Edgar left in August to become Deputy Medical Officer of Health of Bradford. He was succeeded in September by Dr. R. S. Cooper. Dr. Gwendolyn Tapp left for Singapore in September, and the vacancy was filled by Dr. Brenda Jones. The regrettable death of Mr. W. Hadden Gordon in June left the department without an ophthalmologist for three months. On 3rd September, 1957, Mr. E. A. Butterworth was appointed to succeed him, but in the interval before taking up his permanent duties in November, he and Dr. J. Wood shared the work. Since November, Mr. Butterworth has held four sessions weekly.

I wish to thank Dr. R. S. Cooper for preparing the material of this report.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,
R. M. DYKES,
Principal School Medical Officer.

POPULATION AND DEPARTMENTS

The school population increased from 18,658 on the 31st December, 1956, to 19,463 on the 31st December, 1957. The number of pupils on the registers at 31st December, 1957, was as follows:—

Primary Schools			 11,139
Secondary Schools			 5,905
Grammar and Techn	ical So	chools	 2,329
Special School			 90

MEDICAL AND OTHER INSPECTIONS

(a) Medical

The medical inspection of school children was carried out in accordance with the provisions of the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations, 1953, in which a minimum of three inspections is prescribed during the period of school life. Infant School Entrants were examined at five years of age within their first year at school, junior pupils at 10 years of age in their last year at primary school, and senior pupils at 14 years of age during their last year at secondary modern school. At the Grammar and High Schools, 14-year-old pupils and all school leavers between the ages of 16–19 years were examined.

Pupils who miss their Periodic Inspection are examined the following year, and all children who are found to have some defect or who require observation are re-examined the following year. Pupils in Residential Schools outside Luton are seen before they return to school.

The number of inspection sessions averaged 9.5 per week during the school terms; 5,639 children were examined at Periodic Medical Inspections, 1,197 at Special Inspections and 1,540 at Re-inspections at the schools.

Of the 5,639 children examined at Periodic Medical Inspections 1,047 (18.55 per cent) were found to have defects requiring treatment compared with 17.32 per cent in 1953, 19.04 per cent in 1954, 20.40 per cent in 1955, and 19.86 per cent in 1956.

(b) Dental

Until the appointment of Mr. Prosser-French in November, dental treatment was confined to emergency extraction sessions only. From January to October 78 sessions were held, and 695 children were treated. Since 25th November, 1957 a determined effort has been made to deal with general dental treatment, and 21 sessions have been held fortnightly.

Mr. Robinson has continued the treatment of orthodontic cases which had previously been referred to him. During 1957, 23 sessions were held, and 64 patients were treated.

(c) Cleanliness

All children attending primary and secondary schools were inspected by the school nurse at least once each term. The purpose of these inspections is to discover which children are harbouring head-lice and eggs (nits), and to take action on any case of general dirtiness or other condition needing attention, e.g. running ears, plantar warts, etc.

Most cases of head infestation occur in the children of a few families and they are constantly being re-infested from cases at home.

During the year 46,927 inspections were made, 260 children were verminous (1.69% of the school population). Verminous children are excluded from school and treated at the Minor Ailment Clinic, and visits are paid to the home to persuade parents to co-operate.

GENERAL CONDITION OF THE CHILDREN INSPECTED

At each routine medical inspection the Medical Officer assesses general fitness. In 1957 0.37% were considered unsatisfactory—this compares with 1.12% in 1956.

Attendance of Parents

The attendance and co-operation of parents at periodic medical inspection is most gratifying as shown in the following table, although the attendance in the third age group is less satisfactory. It is a common experience that many of the older children prefer not to be accompanied by the parent.

Entrants	 	 	89 %
Second Age Group	 	 	81 %
Third Age Group	 	 	42.5%

SCHOOL NURSES

The work of the school nurse includes:—(1) preparation of pupils for medical inspection, i.e. weighing, measuring height and vision testing; (2) assisting the School Medical Officer at medical inspection, e.g. obtaining history from parents, details of home conditions, etc.; (3) routine inspections of pupils for cleanliness; (4) assisting at special clinics, e.g. ophthalmic, orthopaedic, and (5) home visitation.

Owing to the shortage of health visitors these routine duties have, for a number of years, been carried out mainly by State Registered Nurses.

The school nurses carried out the following work during the year:-

1.	Number of attendances at clinics:		
	Minor Ailment		473
	Special		451
2.	Number of attendances at School Med	lical	
	Inspection		324
3.	Number of visits to schools for:		
	(a) Head Inspections:		
	First Visits		224
	Re-inspections		51
	(b) Other purposes		301
4.	Number of visits to Nursery Schools		57
5.	Number of Home Visits		40

ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT

All the special clinics are held at the School Clinic, Dallow Road, excepting the Child Guidance Clinic, which is held at Gordon Street.

Minor Ailments Clinic—Medical Officers' Sessions—Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday a.m.

Treatment Sessions-daily.

Dental-daily by appointment.

Ophthalmic-Monday, Tuesday, Friday-4 sessions weekly.

Orthoptic-Monday and Friday a.m. and p.m.

Orthopaedic—1 Ascertainment Session per month. Treatment sessions Monday and Thursday p.m.

Child Guidance-Wednesday a.m. and p.m.

Speech Therapy—2 sessions daily.

Medical Officers' Special Sessions for the examination of Physically Handicapped and Educationally Subnormal Children are held as required.

Minor Ailments

The treatment of minor ailments is carried out at the School Clinic, Dallow Road. Six Minor Ailment dressing sessions and four Medical Officers' sessions are held each week.

Seven cases of scabies were diagnosed and treated compared with 18 cases in 1955 and 2 cases in 1956. Facilities for bathing and treatment are available at the Clinic.

Fourteen cases of impetigo were diagnosed and treated, compared with 43 cases in 1954, 78 cases in 1955, and 53 cases in 1956.

In addition to the treatment of minor ailments, special examinations were also undertaken by medical officers at the School Clinic of children referred from School Medical Inspections, and children referred by school nurses, teachers, welfare officers and parents. The total number of attendances during the year, excluding those attending for dental care, was 19,511, of which 3,220 were primary visits.

The cleansing of children referred by the school nurses on account of head infestation was also undertaken at the School Clinic, where advice and help in the management of these children are given to parents.

Visual Defects

(1) Ophthalmic Clinic

Mr. W. Hadden Gordon, Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, conducted 15 sessions each month at the School Clinic, until the end of May, when he became ill and died three weeks later.

In August, Mr. E. A. Butterworth, F.R.C.S., D.O.M.S., was appointed Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon.

During September and October Mr. Butterworth and Dr. J. Wood each conducted 2 sessions weekly, and since the 1st November, Mr. Butterworth has held 4 sessions weekly.

				Examined by Ophthalmic Surgeon	
				Ŝchool Children	Pre-School Children
Total number of attendances				2,238	196
Number of new cases seen				388	46
Number of return cases seen				1,168	65
Number of prescriptions issued				816	38
Number referred for operative	trea	tment/or	in-		
vestigation				7	-

Vision testing is an essential part of the medical examination of school children. Any departure from normal vision, tested by the "E" card for non-readers, or the Snellen's test with letters for readers, is noted, and the child is either referred to the eye clinic or examined later. A few children have glasses prescribed by their own opticians. In all cases vision is tested with and without glasses at the medical inspections.

(2) Orthoptic Clinic

Miss E. C. Wild, Orthoptist to the Bedfordshire County Council, held four sessions weekly.

During the year 67 school, and 18 pre-school children referred by the Ophthalmic Surgeon were seen. Of the new cases seen there were:—

Convergent Strab	oismus	 	57 Amblyopia 19
Divergent Strabis	smus	 	3 Amoryopia 19
Heterophoria		 	23
No abnormality		 	8

School children made 820 attendances, and 151 attendances were made by pre-school children; 525 tests were performed on school children and 130 on pre-school children.

Fifty-four children were discharged during the year as shown in the following table:—

Cured	 	 15
Improved	 	 8
No improvement	 	 2
No abnormality	 	 10
Unsuitable for tre	 13	
Left district	 	 2
No co-operation	 	 4

Twenty-seven children were on the waiting list for treatment on 31.12.57.

3. Colour Vision

The Ishihara test continued to be applied to all children at their 10-yearold school medical inspection, and to those at school leaving age who had missed it. The importance of this test lies in the fact that children with defective colour vision know at an early age that they will be unsuitable for certain occupations.

Eighty-seven boys and 7 girls were found to have defective colour vision—an incidence of 5.6% and 0.47% respectively.

Orthopaedic Defects

Children found at Periodic Medical Inspection or at the Minor Ailment Clinic to have some orthopaedic, postural or developmental defect were referred to the Orthopaedic Clinic, and some of these were referred to Mr D. Levi, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, who held ascertainment clinics on the first Wednesday of each month.

Mr. H. J. Godfrey, Remedial Gymnast Masseur, held three treatment sessions weekly throughout the year, giving groups of children special exercises for defects, principally postural defects of spine or feet.

Number of attendances at Ascertainment	Clinics	 	385
Number of new cases during the year		 	131
Number of cases on register on 31.12.57	 	196	
Number of attendances at treatment session	 	1,367	

Particulars of the cases seen and the work undertaken are given below:-

DEFECTS	No. of Cases	No. of Attendances	No. for Exercises	No. for Appliances	No. for X-Ray	No. for Hospital	No. Discharged
Accident Anterior Poliomyelitis Congenital Defects Everted Feet Inverted Feet Flat Feet Hallux Valgus Hammer Toes Knock Knees Metatarsus Varus Postural Defects Tight Hamstring Tendons Other Defects— Orthopaedic Non-orthopaedic Totals	1 6 5 16 1 11 2 4 43 2 55 9 49 38	1 16 7 24 2 11 4 9 59 9 89 20 89 44		-5 2 1 -7 7 7 3 26	1 1 - - 1 - 5 - 7 1	- - - 1 2 - - - 28	1 3 1 1 2 - 14 3 17 4

In addition 73 attendances were made by 45 pre-school children referred by Medical Officers at the Child Welfare Centres and Day Nurseries.

Ear, Nose and Throat Defects

Children suffering from these defects are treated in the first instance at the Minor Ailment Clinic.

Children found at routine school medical inspection to require observation on account of their tonsils and adenoids are reviewed every three months at a special E.N.T. clinic; 5 sessions were held during the year for this purpose and 51 children were examined. Of these, 17 were referred by the School Medical Officer for operative treatment of tonsils and/or adenoids, compared with 11 children in 1954, 5 in 1955 and 9 in 1956.

Physical Defects and Delicate Children

Forty-five sessions were held during the year for the examination of physically defective and delicate children at which 34 new and 47 return cases were seen. Recommendations for special treatment were as follows:—

Home tuition 7
Provision of Transport 21
Convalescent Home or Open Air School 23

In addition 7 home visits were made by medical officers in the course of ascertaining handicapped pupils and in assessing the progress of those receiving home tuition.

Backward and Difficult Children

During the year, 145 sessions were held for the assessment of children referred on account of backwardness or behaviour problems. Seventy new and 98 return cases were seen and appropriate recommendations regarding extra tuition at school, special educational treatment, further supervision or referral to the Child Guidance Clinic, were made in each case. Seven home visits were also paid.

The number of children ascertained during the year under Section 34 of the Education Act, 1944, as educationally sub-normal and requiring special educational treatment was 20, of whom 13 were admitted to Osborne Road Day School.

The number of children reported during the year under Section 57 (3) of the Education Act, 1944, as incapable of benefiting from education at school, was 3, and 1 child was reported under Section 57 (5) as requiring supervision after leaving school.

Child Guidance

I am indebted to Dr. Judith Waterlow, psychiatrist to the Child Guidance Clinic for the report on the work of the clinic. Dr. Waterlow was appointed in January, 1957, in succession to Dr. Nina Meyer who resigned owing to ill health.

The psychiatrist to the Child Guidance Clinic is appointed by the North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board for two sessions weekly. In April, 1957, Miss J. Perkins was appointed social worker in preparation for

starting a course in Mental Health at Liverpool University in October. Her place was taken in October by Mrs. P. H. Long who was able to give the clinic seven sessions per week.

The appointment of a social worker has been of the greatest value in increasing the scope of work possible at the clinic, although at best this is severely limited by the psychiatrist's attendance for one day only. Without an educational psychologist it is impossible for the clinic to provide the full service of a child guidance team. For all of these reasons the work of the clinic can for the time being only be regarded as something akin to psychiatric first-aid.

During the year 23 new cases (12 referred by the Juvenile Court) were seen by the psychiatrist at the clinic.

The main problem in these new cases was as follows:-

Anxiety states	 	 		3
Behaviour problems	 	 	1	4
Educational difficulties	 	 		1
Psychotic	 	 		1
Disturbed parent	 	 		4

It will be appreciated that in nearly every case the problem is a mixed one in which the above difficulties (with the exception of psychosis) combine in varying degrees.

During the year 12 cases were c	losed:-	_			
Diagnosis and advice only Completed education at			hools	with	5
improvement					4
Improved after supervision					2
Unco-operative parent					1
There were 7 transfers:—					
To Heathwood Hostel					1
Moved from Luton					3
To other Clinics—					
Child Guidance Train	ing Cer	tre, Lo	ndon		1
Portman Clinic					1
Paediatric outpatients					1

At 31st December, 7 cases remained under treatment and a further 13 under supervision. No absolute distinction can be made between the group under treatment and those under regular supervision but the latter tend to be seen much less frequently, according to individual need.

During 1957, 16 children received their education in Residential Schools for Maladjusted Children. Supervision of these cases is maintained during the holidays, and parents are encouraged to keep in touch with the staff. By definition, the families of such children are nearly always disturbed, and opportunity to provide more psychiatric help for them would in many cases be of long-term benefit to the children concerned.

There were 3 children admitted to Residential Schools during the year, 1 of whom was subsequently expelled. One child is awaiting admission.

Speech Defects

During the year 132 children were seen who were treated for the following conditions:—

Condition	Boys	Girls	Total
Stammering	 45	5	50
Articulatory Defects	 42	24	66
Others	 11	3	14
No abnormality detected	 1	1	2

None is awaiting treatment, and 46 children were discharged during the year.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS

Handicapped pupils are children who have a disability of mind or body which necessitates their being given education by special methods appropriate to the disability. Thus, the partially sighted pupil may need books with particularly large print and require instruction not necessary to the child with normal sight. Again, the partially deaf pupil may derive benefit from a hearing aid and require instruction in lip reading. Where the handicap is severe, as in the blind, deaf or severely educationally retarded child, education appropriate to the disability can only be provided in a special school. Where the handicap is slight, however, the child may, in some instances, receive special educational treatment at the ordinary school.

It is the responsibility of the Local Education Authority to discover the children in their area who, having attained the age of two years, require special educational treatment. Although the Education Authority are not empowered to require a child under the age of two to be medically examined, he is in most cases examined by the School Medical Officer in his capacity as Medical Officer to the Local Health Authority.

The discovery of a child's disability at an early age and making certain that he receives education most appropriate to his disability, has become one of the most important functions of the school medical officer. Ten categories of pupils are defined by the "School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations" 1953, as in need of special educational treatment. The definitions are given below, but it should be noted that the figures and tables relating to each handicap are only in respect of children who are admitted to special schools. There are many more who are receiving special educational treatment in ordinary schools. Indeed, the intention is that as many children as possible shall be kept within the environment of the ordinary school. This, of course, requires the co-operation of head teachers, welfare officers, school nurses, etc., and a periodic review by the school medical officer to ensure that the arrangements are suitable and the child's progress satisfactory.

Before a child is placed in a special school the Local Education Authority may require from the school medical officer a certificate in prescribed form showing the nature and extent of the child's disability. The number of children in special schools for handicapped children at 31st December during each of the past five years is shown in the following table.

	Blind	Partially Sighted	Deaf	Partially Deaf	Eduationally Subnormal	Epileptic	Maladjusted	Physically Handicapped	Speech	Delicate	Total	% of Total School Population
1953	_	5	9	2	90	2	12	8	_	5	133	0.77
1954	-	4	9	1	98	4	19	7	1	10	153	0.87
1955	-	4	6	-	98	3	22	11	1	18	163	0.90
1956	-	3	6	-	99	3	17	8	1	20	157	0.84
1957	-	2	6	-	100	2	19	7	1	14	151	0.77

From the table it will be seen that more than half the handicapped pupils admitted to Special Schools are educationally subnormal pupils attending Osborne Road Day School. Only 61 (0.31% of the total school population), are in residential special schools or convalescent homes outside Luton.

The ten categories of Handicapped Pupils defined in the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations are as follows:—

(a) Blind Pupils

"Pupils who have no sight or whose sight is, or is likely to become, so defective that they require education by methods not involving the use of sight."

The need for early ascertainment and admission to a School for the Blind may not always be appreciated by parents, who may resist the child being placed in a special school at an early age. But the care of a blind child at home imposes a severe strain on the mother, and may delay the teaching of those skills which it will be necessary for him to acquire with greater difficulty at a later age. The mastery of the elementary steps of reading, writing and arithmetic is obviously not an easy task for the blind child.

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N	ring	hools	ıl Sc.	o Specia	tted t	upils	r of blu	
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N							nd as at	

(b) Partially Sighted Pupils

"Pupils who by reason of defective vision cannot follow the normal regime of ordinary schools without detriment to their sight or to their educational development, but can be educated by special methods involving the use of sight."

The great majority of children with defective vision are able to maintain their place in the ordinary school. There are a few however, with comparatively severe degrees of visual impairment who fail to make progress in ordinary schools. These children are therefore accommodated in special schools for Partially Sighted Pupils.

Number of partially sighted pupils newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes 1

Number of partially sighted pupils admitted to Special Schools during the year Nil

Total number of partially sighted pupils in Special Schools for partially sighted children as at 31.12.57 2

(c) Deaf Pupils

"Pupils who have no hearing or whose hearing is so defective that they require education by methods used for deaf pupils without naturally acquired speech or language."

The handicap of deafness is great because it also interferes with the development of speech. It is important that the condition be diagnosed early during the child's first year of life, that the mother be given instruction, and that the child receives early training.

When deafness has been missed and auditory training deferred until after the child has started school, the only method of teaching the child to communicate is by the laborious special methods employed in schools for the deaf. Early diagnosis and training might enable a child to attend the ordinary school, whereas a deaf child discovered for the first time when starting school will certainly require to attend a special school for the deaf.

	Number of deaf pupils newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding
Nil	Homes
1	Number of deaf pupils admitted to Special School during the year
6	Total number of pupils in Special Schools for the deaf as at

(d) Partially Deaf

"Pupils who have some naturally acquired speech and language but whose hearing is so defective that they require for their education special arrangements or facilities though not necessarily all the educational methods used for deaf pupils."

Where deafness is suspected the child's hearing is tested with a Pure Tone Audiometer. All children found to have moderate or severe degrees of hearing loss are referred to audiology units in London for full assessment and the fitting of a hearing aid if suitable. Arrangements are also made for children to attend the lip-reading class held in Gordon Street.

Number of partially deaf pupils newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in	
Boarding Homes	Nil
Number of partially deaf pupils admitted to Special Schools during the year	Nil
	1411
Total number of pupils in Special Schools for Partially Deaf Children as at 31.12.57	Nil

There are, however, 10 pupils attending ordinary schools with the assistance of hearing aids, of whom 4 attend the lip reading class.

(e) Educationally Sub-normal Pupils

"Pupils who, by reason of limited ability or other conditions resulting in educational retardation, require some specialised form of education, wholly or partly in substitution for the education normally given in ordinary schools."

Dull and backward children constitute by far the largest group of children referred to the school medical officer, and by reason of their numbers present the biggest problem. They represent about 5–10% of the school population and require special help if they are to succeed at school. Most can be taught in ordinary schools, whilst the remainder (the educationally subnormal), need special education which the ordinary school cannot give. It is important to differentiate between the educationally subnormal pupil (who is backward because of limited intelligence), and the pupil whose backwardness is due to other causes, e.g. frequent and prolonged absence, defective vision or hearing.

The number of children examined during the past five years on account of backwardness at school was as follows:—

	New Cases		Subsequent Attendances	Total	Transferred to Special School		
1953		143	64	107	25		
1954	1,011	91	97	188	18		
1955		116	74	190	12		
1956		92	73	165	14		
1957		45	75	120	13		

Educationally Sub-normal Pupils can only be assessed as such by a school medical officer approved by the Ministry of Education.

Children are referred initially by the head teacher for assessment because of their backwardness at school. A form is completed by the head teacher giving details of the child's absences from school, his reading, writing and arithmetic attainments, and how he compares with other children of his age and class. The parent is interviewed by the school medical officer who enquires into the child's early development and medical history. The child is medically examined, particular attention being paid to defects of vision and hearing, and the presence of organic disease, e.g. mild cerebral palsy. He is

then tested on one of the standardised intelligence scales by the medical officer, preferably in the absence of the parent, since over-anxious parents, desirous of assisting the child, tend to interfere. This test may take thirty to forty minutes to complete, depending upon the child's ability and the degree of co-operation. In the presence of the parent the medical officer may then check briefly his educational attainments and demonstrate the degree of backwardness. A further simple test for the presence of crossed laterality is given, as this is a not uncommon factor in early difficulties in reading and arithmetic. As a result of the reports and his own findings, the medical officer is able to assess the child as being:—

- dull (I.Q. less than 100) or backward by reason of absence from school, etc.
- of limited intelligence (I.Q. 55-80), i.e. educationally subnormal and suitable for special education, or
- (3) of such limited intelligence (I.Q. less than 55) as to be incapable of benefiting from special education, i.e. mentally defective.

The dividing lines in the groups are not always clear cut, and a final decision must await the result of a trial period in the ordinary school or special school to determine whether the pupil can benefit from the type of education provided. If the medical officer's assessment is that the pupil is educationally sub-normal, he must make his recommendation to the Local Education Authority who then arrange the correct educational placement.

The majority of educationally subnormal pupils are accommodated at Osborne Road School, which is visited each week by the school medical officer. Pupils are examined and re-assessed approximately every two years to determine their progress and suitability for special education. Occasionally it is necessary to re-assess a child who is failing to benefit from the special education provided and recommend his exclusion from school. Each child is reviewed during the term in which he attains fifteen years of age.

A child whose ability is at the upper level of educational subnormality (I.Q. 75–80), and who benefits to the full from special education, is allowed to return to secondary modern school. The majority of pupils in Osborne Road School have I.Q. levels considerably below this, as shown in the following table:—

I.Q.	 50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80 +	Total
Boys	 4	2	3	11	14	10	7	51
Girls	 2	1	4	6	11	9	6	39

Although the intelligence quotient of some of the pupils is not high, their work improves when they are transferred to a special school. The knowledge that they are able to accomplish tasks within their restricted ability leads to greater confidence and more rapid progress.

In order that the child may be placed in a suitable occupation on leaving school, the parent is invited to come during the last term at school, and discuss his future with the head teacher, the school medical officer and the youth employment officer.

Pupils about to leave the special school at 16 years and considered to be in need of care and supervision after leaving school, are notified to the Local Health Authority.

	Number of Educationally Sub-normal Children newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes	20
	Number of Educationally Subnormal Children admitted to Osborne Road Special School during the year	13
	Total number of children on register at Osborne Road Special School at 31.12.57	90
	Total number of Educationally Sub-normal Children attending Special Residential Schools at 31.12.57	10
1000		-

The number of school leavers notified to the Local Health Authority on leaving school during the past five years, 1953-1957, was ... 13

(f) Epileptic Pupils

"Pupils who by reason of epilepsy cannot be educated under the normal regime of ordinary schools without detriment to themselves or other pupils."

As with other categories of Handicapped Pupil there has grown up in recent years a more enlightened appreciation of the needs of epileptic children. They should, wherever possible, be allowed and encouraged to lead a normal life both at home and at school. Fits are not necessarily associated with mental deterioration; indeed epileptic children, apart from their fits, are not different from other children. Only if fits are frequent and severe, or associated with some behaviour problem or mental backwardness, is the child assessed as unsuitable for the regime of an ordinary school.

Number of epileptic pupils new educational treatment at Sp				
Homes		Nil		
Number of epileptic pupils admitted to Special School				
during the year		Nil		
Total number of epileptic pu epileptic pupils at 31.12.57		2		

(g) Maladjusted Children

"Pupils who show evidence of emotional instability or psychological disturbance and require special educational treatment, in order to effect their personal, social or educational readjustment."

More attention is being paid nowadays to the emotionally disturbed preschool child. At this age the work may be considered preventive. The importance of a child's early environment and his relation to the people and circumstances which make up his environment, is being increasingly recognised. Children with behaviour abnormalities may be referred by their parent, teacher, family doctor or school nurse. In the first instance the parent is interviewed and the child examined by the school medical officer. The child's intelligence is assessed and if satisfactory he is referred to the Child Guidance Clinic. A home visit is paid by the psychiatric social worker who may also visit the school to enquire into contributing or precipitating factors of the child's maladjustment.

When this information has been studied, parent and child are seen by the psychiatrist. Only in exceptional circumstances is the child taken away from his home. The family is the fundamental unit on which the child's future emotional development is based, and every endeavour is made to effect readjustment within the home. Only when this fails or where the antagonism or lack of understanding between parent and child cannot be overcome is the child assessed as maladjusted and in need of the special educational treatment provided by a residential special school.

Number of maladjusted pupils newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes	5
Number of maladjusted pupils admitted to special schools etc., for Maladjusted Children during the year	4
Total number of maladjusted pupils in Special Schools, Hostels, etc. as at 31.12.57	19

(h) Physically Handicapped Pupils

"Pupils not suffering solely from a defect of sight or hearing who by reason of disease or crippling defect cannot, without detriment to their health or educational development, be satisfactorily educated under the normal regime of ordinary schools."

Every crippled child, irrespective of the type or severity of his handicap is considered in the first instance as a potential entrant to the ordinary school. Most children with physical disabilities attend the ordinary school, although sometimes the physical limitations imposed by the handicap may require special understanding on the part of both school doctor and teacher. In some cases continuation of medical treatment may interfere with school attendance, but the slight degree of educational retardation which may result from absence from school is of little consequence compared with benefit that is derived from a normal environment.

The crippled child who is ambulant presents few problems in the ordinary school compared with the severely crippled child. The infant school lends itself better to the accommodation of the more severely handicapped, and quite a number of children attend, or have attended infant schools in Luton in wheel chairs. Arrangements of this kind are not so easy in the junior and senior schools and occasionally a crippled child who has been able to attend the ordinary infant school may, at the age of seven years, have to be assessed as a Physically Handicapped Pupil and transferred to a special school or hospital school. The important factor in these cases is that the normal home environment has been maintained during the child's early formative years. Some children, however, have physical disabilities of such severity that they are never able to attend the ordinary school.

Number of physically handicapped pupils newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes	Nil
Number of physically handicapped pupils admitted to Residential Special Schools during the year 1	Nil
Total number of physically handicapped pupils in Residential Special Schools as at 31.12.57	7
(i) Pupils suffering from Speech Defect	
"Pupils who on account of defect or lack of speech not due to deafne require special educational treatment."	ss,
Speech is a spontaneous form of self-expression. Speech disorder handicap a child in his everyday social contacts and interfere with leducational progress or social adjustment. Most speech disorders arise early childhood, and should receive attention as soon as possible. Practical all children who have defective speech are educated in ordinary schools at receive speech training from a speech therapist. Children with speech defect are sometimes admitted to Nursery Schools at an early age under the supervision of the speech therapist. Children whose late speech development associated with delayed mental development respond but slowly to speet therapy.	in lly nd cts er- is
Number of pupils with speech defect newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes	Vil
Number of pupils with speech defect admitted to Special Schools during the year	Vil
Total number of children with speech defect in Special Schools as at 31.12.57	1
(j) Delicate Pupils	
"Pupils not falling under any other category who by reason of impair physical condition need a change of environment, or cannot, without risk to the health or educational development, be educated under the normal regime ordinary schools."	eir
The majority in this category are children found at routine or specimedical inspection to be of poor physique, or in indifferent health, or recent recovered from some severe illness, and likely to benefit from a period an open air school or convalescent home.	tly
Number of delicate pupils newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding	
	23
Number of delicate pupils admitted to Special Open Air Schools during the year	24
Total number of delicate pupils in Residential Open Air	
Schools as at 31.12.57	14

The provision of special educational treatment does not necessarily imply the provision of special schools, but rather the provision of specially designed arrangements within the ordinary educational system to ensure that a child receives the individual attention he particularly needs. This requires the co-operation of head teachers, welfare officers, school nurses, etc., and a periodic review by school medical officers to determine whether the arrangements are suitable and the child's progress is satisfactory.

Audiometry

Since acquiring a Pure-tone Audiometer in 1953, regular sessions have been held at the School Clinic for testing the hearing of pupils found at school medical inspection to have some degree of hearing loss. During 1957, 10 sessions were held and 47 children examined, as a result of which 1 pupil was referred to the Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist for further investigation.

There are 10 partially deaf pupils attending ordinary schools in Luton with the assistance of hearing aids.

Special Class for the Partially Deaf

During the past three years we have had the services of a part-time teacher of the deaf who conducts two lip-reading sessions per week. The children who attend this class are seen in the first instance by the consultant at the Audiology Unit who provides a suitable hearing aid and recommends that the children be taught lip reading. Of the 4 children attending, three have attended since 2–3 years of age and all are now attending ordinary school.

Only partially deaf children of good or above average intelligence can be expected to compete with hearing children and make satisfactory progress in an ordinary class, and even these children require instruction in the use of a hearing aid and in lip-reading. A great deal depends upon parents' attitude towards instruction in the special class. The approach to and management of the child is an essential part of training if success is to be achieved.

B.C.G. VACCINATION OF SCHOOLCHILDREN

In 1955 and 1956 a scheme for tuberculin testing school entrants was introduced in Luton, in order to trace active disease amongst the contacts of children with positive reactions. As the percentage of positives was very small (1·59% in 1955, and 1·18% in 1956), and contact tracing failed to bring to light any cases of tuberculosis, the scheme was discontinued. The low percentage of positive reactions demonstrates how few children are being infected with tuberculosis during their early years. Tuberculosis is most likely to be acquired in adolescence and for this reason the Ministry of Health approves Local Health Authority Schemes for free B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis for all thirteen year old schoolchildren.

The B.C.G. vaccination scheme for Luton schoolchildren at 13 years of age was introduced in September, 1957. Tuberculin testing was performed by the Heaf Multiple Puncture method, and the negative reactors were vaccinated by the intradermal technique. Positive reactors were referred to the Chest Clinic for x-ray and investigation. Of an estimated 2,000 children born between the 1st September, 1943, and the 31st August, 1944, who attend Local Education Authority schools, 1,259 were skin tested. This is an acceptance rate of 63%. Of the 1,119 (88.9%), negative reactors, 1,118 received B.C.G. vaccine. One girl who was persistently tuberculin negative was not vaccinated as her chest x-ray showed old tuberculosis. Of the 140 (11.1%) positive reactors who attended the Chest Clinic, 103 were discharged, 35 were placed under surveillance, and 2 were thought to have active tuberculosis.

Estimated No. of children in age gr	oup		2,000
No. skin tested			1,259 (approx. 63%)
No. negative reactors			1,118 (88-88%)
No. positive reactors			140 (11.12%)
Complications of B.C.G.	Vaccina	ation	Nil

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The number of confirmed cases of Infectious Disease in school children during the last five years is shown in the following table:—

		1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Scarlet Fever		153	66	40	19	13
Whooping Cough		73	149	41	83	76
Measles		1,197	8	597	516	356
Poliomyelitis:						
Paralytic		_	2	2	1	_
Non-Paralytic		2	_	_	7	_
Dysentery		115	40	3	62	209
Infective Hepatitis		_	_	32	67	18
Other Infectious	Dis-					
eases		9	2	3	5	6

Infective Hepatitis

The epidemic of jaundice, which was the subject of a note in last year's report, became self terminating. During 1957 only 18 children of school age were notified.

Dysentery

The outbreak which had started in October, 1956, continued into 1957 reaching a peak during March. Of the children at maintained schools there were 128 positive cases and 61 positive contacts notified during 1957. Of these, 113 cases and 55 positive contacts were children attending primary schools, while only 15 cases and 6 positive contacts occurred among children attending secondary schools.

NURSERY SCHOOLS AND NURSERY CLASSES

The two Nursery Schools, Dallow Road and Hart Hill, provided 165 places for children aged 2–5 years. The Nursery Classes at Beechwood Infants' School provided a further 60 places for children aged 3–5 years. The Nursery Schools and Classes are visited regularly by school nurses and at least twice each term by a medical officer who examines all new entrants and those under observation.

PROVISION OF MEALS AND MILK IN SCHOOLS

There are now 22 school kitchens and 12 dining centres. The general arrangements for the provision of meals for dining centres are as follows:—

From Challney C.S. School Kitchen to— Challney Secondary and Denbigh Road Secondary and Primary Schools.

From Hart Hill C.P. School Kitchen to— Hart Hill Primary and St. Matthew's Primary Schools.

From Icknield C.S. School Kitchen to—
Icknield C.S., Chapel-Langley C.S., Hitchin Road Secondary and
Primary, Limbury C.P., Norton Road C.P., Old Bedford Road C.S.,
and Osborne Road Schools.

From Maidenhall C.P. School Kitchen to— Maidenhall Primary and Dunstable Road Primary Schools.

From Stopsley C.S. School Kitchen to— Stopsley Secondary and Primary Schools.

Self-contained kitchen/dining rooms are now established at the following schools:—

Beech Hill C.S. High Surrey Street Leagrave Infants Beechwood C.P. Technical Dallow Nursery Leagrave Junior Tennyson Road* Farley C.P. Ramridge C.P. Whipperley C.P. Rotheram C.S. William Austin C.P. Grammar Hart Hill Nursery St. Joseph's R.C.

* (Tennyson Road Kitchen/Dining Room serves not only pupils from Tennyson Road School, but also pupils from Christ Church Junior and Infants' and Queen Square Junior Boys' Schools. Arrangements are made for the conveyance of pupils

from these schools to and from this school dining room.)

During the financial year 1956–57, 1,573,758 meals were served to scholars including 37,509 free meals and 149,968 meals supplied to teaching and canteen staffs. The following statistics have been submitted to the Ministry of Education in connection with the provision of meals and milk.

	Oct. 1956	Oct. 1957
Number of children in attendance at school	17,709	17,012
Number of children receiving meals for payment	7,217	6,923
Number of children receiving free meals	175	177
Number of children receiving free milk	12,970	12,329
Percentage of children receiving meals	41.74	41.74
Percentage of children receiving milk	73.24	72.47

The permitted daily quantity of milk allowed for school children has remained at one-third of a pint throughout the year. Milk is delivered to 62 school departments, including 2 nursery schools and 7 independent schools.

CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS AND SCHOOL WELFARE OFFICERS

The efficient conduct of the School Health Service depends in large measure on the close co-operation of doctors and nurses with the teachers and children in the schools. In this way teachers are encouraged to bring to the notice of the school medical officer children whose general condition, behaviour, lack of progress in school, etc., indicates the need for medical advice.

The co-operation of teachers and others connected with the welfare of children has been greatly appreciated.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN

Before or within 14 days from the date when a child begins employment he must be medically examined to ensure that the employment will not be prejudicial to his health or physical development, and that it will not render him unfit to obtain proper benefit from his education. Re-examination every six months is required during the course of employment.

Number of children examined by	y Scho	ol Med	dical O	fficer	
and passed					426
Number of children re-examir					
Officer and passed					145
Number of children examined by	-			fficer	
and refused certificates					_
Total	1				571
10ta	1				3/1
Number of children licensed dur employment was as follows:—	ing 195	7 was	406, an	d the n	ature of the
Newspaper deliveries					259
Errand Boys, Shop Assistants, et	c.				147
The number of children examine Persons' Act, 1933, in connection with ment was as follows:—					

Admission to Luton Girls' Choir ...

Employment in stage plays

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

(A) PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Table I

Entrants				1,378
Second Age Group				1,813
Third Age Group				1,356
Total				4,547
Additional Periodic	Inspe	ections		1,092
Grand To	otal			5,639
(B) OT	HER I	NSPECTI	ONS	
Special Inspections				2,754
Re-inspections				4,050
Total				6,804

(C) Pupils Found to Require Treatment

Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspections to require treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

Group (1)	For defective vision (excluding squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table III (3)	Total individual pupils (4)
Entrants	79	117	169
Second Age Group	220	124	316
Third Age Group	235	85	309
Total	534	326	794
Additional Periodic In- spections	198	73	253
Grand Total	732	399	1,047

Table I (D)

CLASSIFICATION OF THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE AGE GROUPS

Age Groups	No. of Pupils	Satisf	actory	Unsati	sfactory
Age Groups	Inspected	No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Entrants	1,378	1,367	99-21	11	0.79
Second Age Group	1,813	1,809	99.76	4	0.22
Third Age Group	1,356	1,354	99.85	2	0.15
Additional Periodic Inspections	1,092	1,088	99.64	4	0.36
TOTAL	5,639	5,618	99.63	21	0.37

Table II

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(i)	Total number of examinations in the schools by the school	
	nurses or other authorised persons	46,927
(ii)	Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	260
(iii)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	119
(iv)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	_

Table III

RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1957

	TEAR ENDED SIST L	DOLLATE	EN, 1991		
			PERIODIC SPECTIONS	INS	PECTIONS
		No	of Defects	No.	of Defects
Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease (1)	©Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept Sunder observation but not requiring treatment	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept Junder observation but not requiring treatment
4	Skin	35	32	267	_
5	Eyes—(a) Vision	732	502	48	38
	(b) Squint	94	8	4	1
	(c) Other	20	4	52	_
6	Ears—(a) Hearing	2	41	3	_
	(b) Otitis Media	10	65	31	-
	(c) Other	1	6	19	_
7	Nose or Throat	87	257	75	_
8	Speech	24	38	7	_
9	Lymphatic Glands	_	88	1	-
10	Heart	_	27	1	_
11	Lungs	6	102	17	2
12	Developmental— (a) Hernia	18	33	_	_
	(b) Other	20	98	_	1
13	Orthopaedic— (a) Posture	33	115	1	_
	(b) Feet	15	35	3	1
	(c) Other	22	88	19	1
14	Nervous system— (a) Epilepsy	. 2	8	-	-
	(b) Other	2	10	5	
15	Psychological— (a) Development	_	21	1	_
	(b) Stability	12	76	16	1
16	Abdomen	3	27	-	-
17	Other	3	43	560	_

Table IV

GROUP 1.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	Number of cases dealt with			
	By the Authority	Otherwise		
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	122			
Errors of refraction (including squint)	1,556	-		
Total	1,678	-		
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed	816	_		

GROUP 2.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

	Number of cases treated			
	By the Authority	Otherwise		
Received operative treatment— (a) for diseases of the ear		37		
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	_	501		
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	_	2		
Received other forms of treatment	56	-		
TOTAL	56	540		

GROUP 3.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

	Number of cases treated				
	By the Authority	Otherwise			
Number of pupils known to have been treated at clinics or out-patient departments	242	12			

GROUP 4.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table II)

				Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year
		 		By the Authority
Ringworm— (i) So	alp	 	 	_
(ii) Bo	dy	 	 	_
Scabies		 	 	7
Impetigo		 	 	14
Other skin diseases		 	 	103
Т	OTAL	 	 	124

GROUP 5.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

	Number of cases	treated
	In the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics	Elsewhere
Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	23	3

GROUP 6.—SPEECH THERAPY

	Number of cases treated			
	By the Authority	Otherwise		
Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapist	132	-		

GROUP 7.—OTHER TREATMENT

	Number of cases treated
	By the Authority
(a) Miscellaneous Minor Ailments	1,494
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements	41
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination	1,118
(d) Other— (1) Orthoptics	37
TOTAL	2,690

		ole V DENTAL							
1	(1)	Number of pupils in		by t	he Au	thority	's Den	ital Of	ficers-
		(a) Periodic		•••					-
		(b) Specials	•••				•••		904
			То	tal (1)					904
((2)	Number found to requ	ire trea	tment					890
	3)								860
	4)								851
((5)	Attendances made by	pupils fo	or trea	tment				1,261
(6)	Half-days devoted to-	_						
,	-/	Inspection							2
		Treatment							120
			To	tol (6)					100
			10	tal (6)	•••	•••	•••		122
(7)	Fillings—							
,	,	Permanent Teeth							135
		Temporary Teeth							32
			-	1 (=)					
			Tot	tal (7)					167
(8)	Number of teeth filled	_						
1	0)	Permanent Teeth							125
		Temporary Teeth							30
			Tot	tal (8)					155
(9)	Extractions—							
		Permanent Teeth							348
		Temporary Teeth					•••		749
			Tot	al (9)					1,097
(10	0)	Administration of gene	ral anae	sthetic	s for e	xtractio	n		625
(1		Orthodontics							023
		(a) Cases commen							13
		(b) Cases carried for				s year			58
		(c) Cases complete		-					13
		(d) Cases discontin					•••	•••	2
		(e) Pupils treated							68
		(f) Removable app(g) Fixed appliance							22
		(g) Fixed appliance (h) Total attendance							359
		(1)			114				
(12	2)	Number of pupils fitted	d with a	rtificia	dentu	ires			27
(1:	3)	Other operations—							
(4-	1	Permanent Teeth							379
		Temporary Teeth							102
			Tota	al (13)					481

HANDICAPPED PUPILS REQUIRING EDUCATION AT SPECIAL SCHOOLS OR BOARDING IN BOARDING SCHOOLS

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Blind	Partially Sighted	Deaf	Partially Deaf	Delicate	Physically Handicapped	Educationally Subnormal	Maladjusted	Epileptic	Total
In the calendar year, 1957— A Handicapped Pupils netwly placed in Special Schools or Boarding Homes	_	_	1	_	24	_	13	4	_	42
B Handicapped Pupils newly assessed as requiring education at Special Schools or boarding in Homes	1	1	_	_	23	_	20	5	_	50
On or about 31.1.58— C Number of Handicapped Pupils from the area—										
(i) attending Special Schools as— (a) Day Pupils	_	_	_	_	_	_	95	_	_	95
(b) Boarding Pupils	_	3	6	_	14	7	8	8	2	48
(ii) attending Independent Schools under arrangements made by the Authority	_	_	_	_	_	1	2	8	_	11
(iii) boarded in Homes and not already included under (i) or (ii)	_	-	-	-	_	_	-	4	-	4
TOTAL C	-	3	6	-	14	8	105	20	2	158
D Number of Handicapped Pupils being educated under arrangements made under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944— (i) in hospital (ii) in other groups (e.g. units for spastics)					Nil Nil					
(iii) at home	_	_	_	_	1	4	1	_	1	7
E Number of Handicapped Pupils from the area requiring places in Special Schools (including any such children who are tempor- arily receiving home tuition or whose parents have not yet con- sented to their attending a Special School)—						100				
(i) Day	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(ii) Boarding	1	-	-	-	<u> _ </u>	-	3	-	-	4
requiring supervision after	Number of children reported during the year as ineducable or requiring supervision after leaving school—									
(b) Under Section 57			mg a	iny re						_
(c) Under Section 57(5) 1										

APPENDIX

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS AND ENTRANTS TO TRAINING COLLEGES

The Ministry of Education Circular 249, 1952, requires that all candidates applying for admission to training colleges and university departments of education, and all entrants to the teaching profession, be medically examined. An x-ray examination of the chest is also compulsory for those entering the teaching profession. During the year 101 examinations were made in accordance with the provisions of the above Circular and x-ray examinations were arranged where necessary.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF STAFF OF OTHER CORPORATION DEPARTMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO SUPERANNUATION OR SICK PAY SCHEMES

Departments concerned:	_			
Baths		 	 	5
Borough Architect's		 	 	6
Borough Engineer's		 	 	12
Borough Treasurer'	s	 	 	11
Civil Defence		 	 	2
Education		 	 	84
Housing		 	 	17
Justices' Clerks		 	 	1
Market		 	 	1
Museum		 	 	1
Parks		 	 	7
Public Cleansing		 	 	38
Public Health		 	 	37
Public Library		 	 	9
Sewage		 	 	1
Town Clerk's		 	 	11
Transport		 	 	124
				367