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Borough of Slough



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1950

including the

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Chief Sanitary Inspector



BOROUGH OF SLOUGH

HEALTH AND SANITATION COMMITTEE

January to May, 1950.

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR W. C. R. SHEARS.

Vice Chairman :

COUNCILLOR MRS. J. M. B. GIBSON

ALDERMAN E. W. LOBJOIT, J.P.	COUNCILLOR F. C. BOWYER.
ALDERMAN J. E. TAYLOR, J.P., C.C. (Mayor), (ex-officio).	COUNCILLOR W. H. JENNINGS.
ALDERMAN A. E. WARD, C.A. (Deputy Mayor), (ex-officio).	COUNCILLOR J. E. LEWIS.
ALDERMAN F. R. WHITEMAN.	COUNCILLOR P. LIGHTFOOT, J.P.
	COUNCILLOR MRS. M. J. MORGAN.
	COUNCILLOR H. OLDING.

Owing to the illness and resignation of Councillor W. C. R. Shears, Councillor Mrs. J. M. B. Gibson became Acting Chairman from 14th February, 1950.

May to December, 1950.

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR MRS. J. M. B. GIBSON.

Vice-Chairman :

ALDERMAN D. R. GOODCHILD.

ALDERMAN P. LIGHTFOOT, J.P. (Mayor), (ex-officio).	COUNCILLOR A. BRAND.
ALDERMAN E. W. LOBJOIT, J.P.	COUNCILLOR H. OLDING.
ALDERMAN F. R. WHITEMAN.	COUNCILLOR F. S. G. ROOM, J.P., C.C.
COUNCILLOR MISS W. M. ALBERT.	COUNCILLOR H. G. SHORT, J.P. (Deputy Mayor).
COUNCILLOR F. C. BOWYER.	COUNCILLOR W. S. STOVES.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health :

MACDONALD A. CHARRETT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

(from 11th April, 1950)

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

LESLIE A. STROUD, D.P.A., F.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A. (1, 3, 4, 5)

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector :

J. SAGAR, D.P.A., M.S.I.A. (2, 3, 4, 5)

District Sanitary Inspectors :

F. COLBERT, A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A. (2, 3, 4). (Resigned 9.2.50).

L. HAGUE, M.S.I.A. (2, 3). (Appointed 28.11.50).

J. A. QUIGG, M.S.I.A. (2, 3, 6, 7).

R. B. C. SMITH, A.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A. (2, 3). (Appointed 1.5.50).

R. J. SPITTLE, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A. (2, 3, 4). (Resigned 9.10.50).

B. C. UPTON, A.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A. (2, 3).

District Sanitary Inspector (Junior) :

I. D. PRESTON, A.R.SAN.I. (2).

Public Analyst :

ERIC VOELCKER, A.R.C.S., F.I.C.,

Stuart House, 1, Tudor Street, London, E.C.4.

KEY TO QUALIFICATIONS.

1. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector.
2. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.
3. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
4. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Smoke Inspector.
5. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute in Sanitary Science as applied to Building and Public Works.
6. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute in Food Hygiene.
7. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Association of Scotland as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,
SLOUGH.

*To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Slough.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my second annual report—for the year 1950. My appointment as your Medical Officer of Health commenced on 11th April, 1950, and the work of the Health Department was supervised between the time of Dr. Hobbin's departure at the end of 1949 and my arrival in April, 1950, by Dr. W. L. Bell, Medical Officer of Health to the Urban and Rural Districts of Eton. I should like to thank Dr. Bell for undertaking these duties in addition to his own work, and also to express my great appreciation to the members of the Health Department Staff who maintained the services at such a high level during this difficult period.

It is with great regret that I report the prolonged illness of Councillor W. C. R. Shears which eventually necessitated his relinquishing the Chairmanship of the Health and Sanitation Committee on 14th February, 1950. Although I had not the honour of serving the Council during Councillor Shears's term of office, the continued improvement of the health services during this period gives proof of his interest and ability as Chairman of the Committee, and I am pleased to be able to report that his health has improved considerably.

Councillor Mrs. J. M. B. Gibson was appointed as Acting Chairman upon Councillor Shears's resignation and she was elected as Chairman of the Committee in May, 1950.

There were no changes in the administration of the Health Department during the year but the offices of the School Health Service and the Home Helps Service, which I supervise as Area Medical Officer, were removed from the Town Hall into "Darenth." This step almost completed the separation of health services staff leaving only the laboratory, my secretary and myself in the main building of the Town Hall. Although some of the Health Services are the responsibility of the Borough Council and the remainder that of the Bucks County Council I maintain a local responsibility for all of them and it is extremely difficult to effect a close liaison with widely scattered sections. It is very pleasing, however, to have the prospect of a partial unity in, I hope, the relatively near future.

Legislative changes affecting the Health Department during the year were again in evidence but were not so sweeping in their implication as the National Health Service Act, 1946. New regulations affecting the notification of Poliomyelitis and Meningitis came into effect on 1st January, the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 came into operation on 31st March and the Shops Act, 1950, an act consolidating previous legislation, was effective from 1st October.

In addition to these pieces of general legislation two sets of Byelaws were introduced. The first was related to the registration of Domestic Servants Agencies and was operative from 1st July, while the second series of Byelaws was concerned with the improvement of hygienic standards of food handling and became effective from 15th August.

Further details concerning this legislation are embodied in the main report.

Vital statistics are set out in considerable detail in the report with comments upon their significance. The birth rate showed a further considerable fall in 1950, and although a decrease had been expected in view of the national trend downwards it was surprising to discover that the local birth-rate had decreased by 2.33 per 1,000 population and had thus fallen below the National Rate for the first time in 23 years.

The crude death rate rose slightly compared with 1949, and the infant mortality and stillbirth rates also showed a slight increase compared with the previous year.

Apart from an increase in the incidence of poliomyelitis and tuberculosis, the number of cases of infectious disease was low. In view of the fact that England and Wales recorded the second highest figure ever known for poliomyelitis it is not surprising that this town had its share of cases. Although the eight non-paralytic cases was equivalent to a rate of 0.12 per thousand of the population, or roughly double that for the country as a whole (0.05) the incidence of paralytic poliomyelitis, 0.10 per thousand, was slightly below the National average (0.13).

Primary notifications of Pulmonary and Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis were again higher than in the previous year but against this it is possible to report that the death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis was the lowest ever recorded.

I have made a more detailed analysis than usual of the deaths recorded following inquests. There is nothing outstanding about the figures themselves but in view of the increased attention which is so rightly being paid to the prevention of accidents on the roads and in the homes I have taken this opportunity of bringing to the notice of the Council some information collected over the period of a year. Details of individual inquests may have already been reported in the local press but it is not common for a more detailed annual review to be available.

The principal causes of death in descending order of frequency were heart disease, malignant disease, vascular lesions of the nervous system, bronchitis, pneumonia, tuberculosis and accidents.

A constant watch upon the quality of foods and drugs offered for sale has been maintained by the Sanitary Inspectors and many samples have been tested. A further analysis of these results is found in the body of the report and there, too, will be found details of ice-cream, milk and water samples which have been examined in the Town Hall Laboratory. Only by constant supervision can improvement in the hygienic handling of food and drugs be effected and it is to be hoped that progress can be reported in the future following the Council's resolution to make extra staff available for this important work.

I wish to thank the Members of the Council and especially the Health and Sanitation Committee for the encouragement and support I have received since my term of office commenced and I wish, in particular, to express my appreciation to the Chairman of the Committee, Councillor Mrs. J. M. B. Gibson.

I also wish to record my appreciation of the work of all members of the Health Department Staff who have given me loyal support during my first year of office.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

MACDONALD A. CHARRETT.

Medical Officer of Health.

AUGUST, 1951.

ANNUAL REPORT for 1950

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	6,276	acres
Population: Registrar-General's Estimate for mid-1950	66,340	
Number of dwelling-houses, including flats, at 31st March, 1951 (according to Rate books)	17,193	
Rateable value at 31st March, 1951	£592,517	
Estimated product of Penny Rate 1951/52	£2,405	

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1950.

Live Births:	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	531	442	973
Illegitimate	24	25	49
Totals	555	467	1,022

Birth rate per 1,000 population — 15.41.

Still Births:	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	17	7	24
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Totals	17	7	24

Still-birth rate (per 1,000 total births) 22.94
 Still-births per 1,000 population—Slough 0.362
 Still-births per 1,000 population—England and Wales 0.37

Deaths:	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
	331	247	578
Crude Death rate (per 1,000 population)	8.71		
Corrected Death rate (allowing for sex and age)	10.54		
(Comparability figure 1.21)			
National Death rate 11.6 per 1,000 Home population.			
Ratio of Local Adjusted Death rate to National rate — 0.91			

Number of women dying in, or as a consequence of, childbirth:

- (a) From sepsis Nil.
 (b) From other causes 2
 Death rate from puerperal causes per 1,000 total births (i.e. Live and Still births) 1.91

Infant Mortality (Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age).

Deaths:	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	18	10	28
Illegitimate	1	—	1
Totals	19	10	29

Rate for all infants per 1,000 live births 28.4

Neo-natal Mortality (Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age):

Deaths :	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	11	8	19
Illegitimate	1	—	1
Totals	12	8	20

Rate for all infants under 28 days per 1,000 live births 19.6

Death rates per 1,000 population.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.19
All forms of Tuberculosis	0.24
Cancer	1.45

Other Deaths :	Male	Female	Total
Cancer	52	44	96
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—pulmonary	10	3	13
non-pulmonary	1	2	3

I. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The social conditions of the district have again shown little change. Owing to overloading of the sewage system it was only possible to build 114 houses, and towards the end of the year the Council adopted the policy of allowing sewage from new buildings to be accepted from the Cippenham area only. This meant that not only has new building been restricted but plans for the conversion of large dwelling houses into flats have had to be rejected and the sewerage of houses served by cesspools has had to be postponed. In spite of very wet weather during the autumn and winter, work has been progressing on the extension of the Sewage Works and it is hoped that, following the provision of larger sewers, full-scale building by the Slough Borough Council and by the London County Council may proceed from the early part of 1953 onwards.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

After allowing for inward and outward transfers, the Registrar-General credited the Borough with 1,022 live births in 1950: 555 were males and 467 were females.

Of these, 49 were illegitimate (24 males and 25 females). This number is 4.79 per cent. of the total live births and represents a fall of 0.82 per cent. on the figures for 1949.

The birth rate for 1950 was 15.41 per 1,000 of the population, which is 2.33 per 1,000 less than that for 1949 (17.74).

The graph on page 8 shows the comparison between the birth rate in Slough and that for England and Wales as a whole since 1927.

It is becoming more clear that the increase in the birth-rate between 1943 and 1947 was only a passing post-war phase, and that the National tendency towards a rapid fall in the birth rate is being followed in Slough.

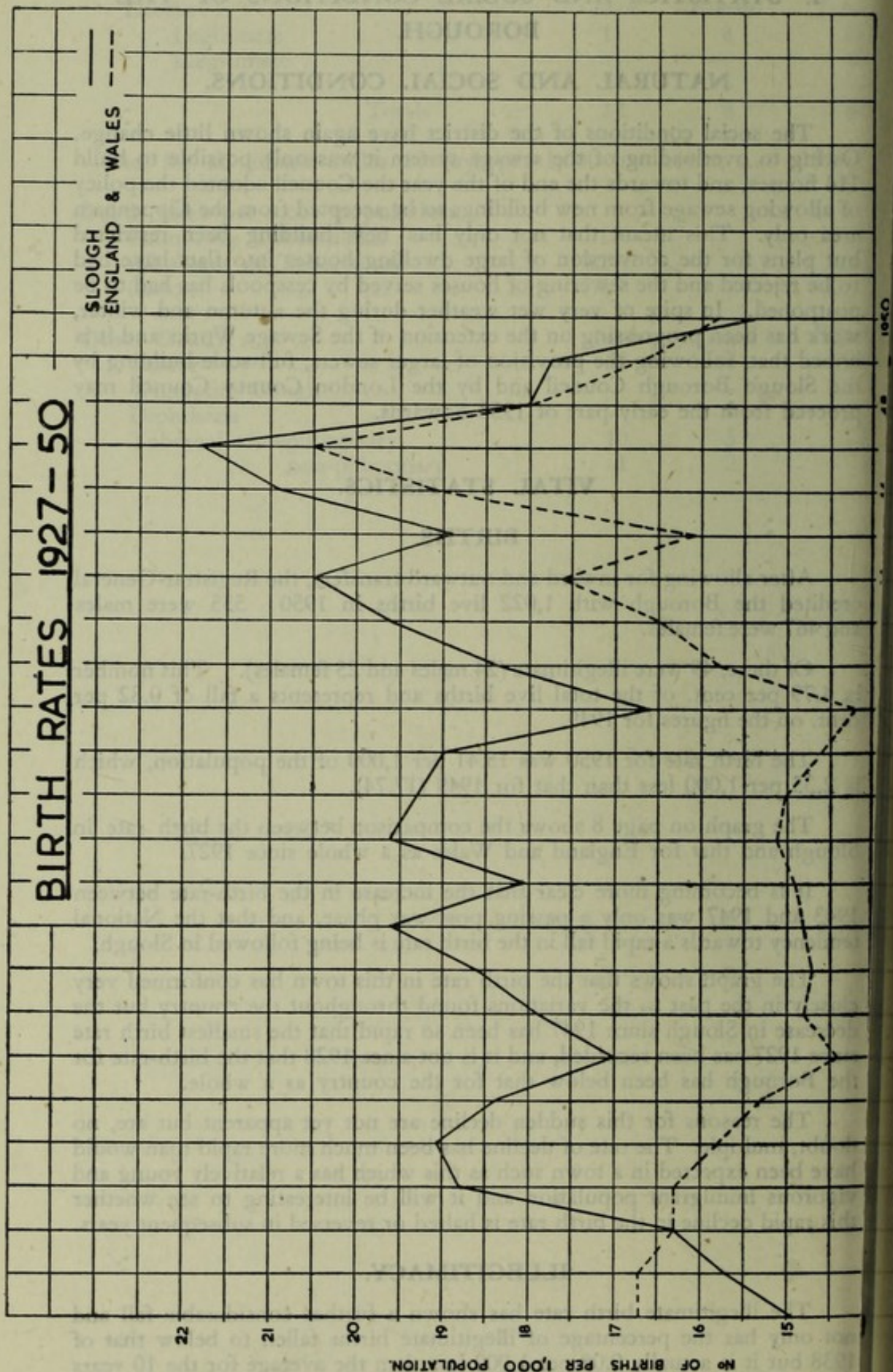
The graph shows that the birth rate in this town has conformed very closely in the past to the variations found throughout the country but the decrease in Slough since 1947 has been so rapid that the smallest birth rate since 1927 has been recorded, and it is not since 1928 that the birth-rate for the Borough has been below that for the country as a whole.

The reasons for this sudden decline are not yet apparent but are, no doubt, multiple. The rate of decline has been much more rapid than would have been expected in a town such as this which has a relatively young and vigorous immigrant population and it will be interesting to see whether this rapid decline in the birth rate is halted or reversed in subsequent years.

ILLEGITIMACY.

The illegitimate birth rate has shown a further considerable fall and not only has the percentage of illegitimate births fallen to below that of 1938 but it is actually 0.08 per 1,000 less than the average for the 10 years 1929-1938.

BIRTH RATES 1927-50



STILL BIRTHS.

The registered number of stillbirths was 24 (17 males and 7 females); none was illegitimate. This figure gives a stillbirth rate of 23.94 per 1,000 total births or 0.36 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 18.36 and 0.33 for 1949.

It will be noted that both the number of stillbirths and the stillbirth rate were increased in 1950. It must be remembered, however, that 1949 produced a rate far below that ever experienced before and that the rate for Slough still remains just below that for England and Wales as a whole (0.37 per 1,000 home population).

DEATHS.

After correction for transferable deaths, the net total assigned to the Borough was 578 (331 males and 247 females), an increase of 45 on the total for 1949.

The tables on pages 10 and 11 show the sex and age distribution and causes of death for 1950. Of the total deaths 297 (50.8%) occurred in persons aged 70 or over and 356 deaths (60.8%) in persons over the age of 65, an age which is now regarded officially as the beginning of old age.

The crude death rate was 8.71 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population as compared with 8.04 for the previous year. The corrected death rate, that is, one which takes the age and sex of the population into account, was 10.54. This is obtained, in the absence of local figures, by multiplying the Crude Death Rate by the Comparability Figure of 1.21. This figure is supplied by the Registrar-General and allows comparison to be made not only between the rate for this town and the National Rate (11.6) but also with the death rate of any other area in the country to which the appropriate comparability figure has been applied.

The national classification of deaths has now been altered to conform with the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations, 1948. These regulations are not, of course, binding on Medical Officers of Health in preparing their own statistics, but the Registrar-General has based his short list of thirty-six groups on the international list and it is, therefore, useful to conform with the information supplied which enables comparison to be made with other areas.

Changes have occurred in the tabulation of death returns from time to time in the light of extending knowledge but now that a full international classification has been introduced it is probable that changes in future will be restricted. Although some changes from previous years will be noted in this table there should be relatively little difficulty in comparing this year's figures with those given previously.

Causes of Death					1950	
					Males	Females
All causes					331	247
Total : 578						
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory				10	3
2.	Tuberculosis, other				1	2
3.	Syphilitic disease				2	2
4.	Diphtheria				—	—
5.	Whooping Cough				—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections				—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis				1	—
8.	Measles				—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic disease				1	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach				2	8
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus				15	3
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast				1	13
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus				—	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms				31	16
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia				3	3
16.	Diabetes				1	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system				40	41
18.	Coronary disease, angina				50	21
19.	Hypertension with heart disease				12	8
20.	Other heart disease				45	50
21.	Other circulatory disease				9	11
22.	Influenza				4	3
23.	Pneumonia				13	5
24.	Bronchitis				13	8
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system				8	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum				9	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea				3	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis				5	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate				4	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion				—	2
31.	Congenital malformations				3	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases				38	30
33.	Motor vehicle accidents				5	1
34.	All other accidents				1	8
35.	Suicide				1	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war				—	1

SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS, 1950.

Below is given the age and sex distribution of all deaths recorded by the Local Registrar of Births and Deaths as occurring during the year 1950.

The total figure varies slightly from that given by the Registrar-General as some notifications reach his office somewhat later than normal and have to be included with those for the following year. The variation is not sufficient to make a significant difference in the sex and age distribution of deaths.

Ages at Death in Years.					Males	Females	Total
Under 1					19	10	29
1—					7	6	13
10—					3	3	6
25—					20	11	31
45—					101	49	150
65—					37	22	59
					— 187	— 101	— 288
70—					49	42	91
75—					40	37	77
80—					37	41	78
85—					16	18	34
90—					3	9	12
95 and over					1	4	5
					— 146	— 151	— 297
					333	252	585

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Two deaths were attributed directly to pregnancy or child-bearing during the year under review. This is equivalent to a maternal mortality rate of 1.91 per 1,000 live and still-births.

INFANT MORTALITY.

After correction for inward and outward transfers, there were 29 deaths (19 males and 10 females) of infants under the age of one year.

This figure of 29 is one less than the number recorded in 1949, but as the number of births, 1,022, was 154 less than in 1949, the rate of death for all infants per 1,000 live births showed an increase from 25.5 to 28.38. It will be seen that, for the first time in many years, the infant mortality rate has shown an increase on the previous year. When dealing with comparatively small figures a variation of one or two in the number of deaths can make a considerable difference to the death rate, but an increase in the infant mortality rate does show that the campaign being waged by the Health and Hospital Services against illness in infants must not be relaxed.

A table showing the Slough Infant Mortality Rate compared with England and Wales as a whole is given below, and it will be seen that Slough is still better than the country as a whole.

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Slough	53	50	55	59	49	49	46	46	43	41	34	32	29.8
England and Wales	44.3	47.3	46.8	47.9	40.4	40.2	37.3	32.5	31.1	39.9	31.1	25.5	28.4

The table below divides the deaths of infants under one year of age into causes and into periods of less than one year. It shows deaths in varying periods up to 28 days (neo-natal period) and also in further varying periods up to one year. Of the 29 infants who died in their first year of life, 20 (or 68.9%) died in the neo-natal period which gives a neo-natal mortality rate of 19.6 per thousand live births. In 1949 the rate was 20.4, and 80% of deaths in the first year of life occurred before babies had reached the age of 28 days.

Causes of Death of all Infants under one year of age.

Cause of Death	Under 1 day	1-2 days	2-5 days	5-7 days	Total under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total under 1 year
Cerebral haemorrhage	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	3	—	1	—	6
Congenital malformations	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
Atelectasis	5	3	—	—	8	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	8
Maternal causes	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Prematurity	4	—	3	—	7	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	7
Gastro-enteritis (post-infective)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	3
Intestinal obstruction	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	10	4	4	—	18	1	1	20	4	2	2	1	29

INQUESTS.

27 Inquests were held upon residents of the Borough during 1950, and the causes of death as recorded by the Registrar of Births and Deaths are set out in the following table.

Causes of Death.	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Natural causes	7	1	8
Accidents :—			
Falls	1	6	7
By motor vehicles	6	1	7
By railway locomotives	—	1	1
Carbon monoxide poisoning	—	1	1
Suicide :—			
Coal gas poisoning	—	1	1
Hanging	1	—	1
Homicide	—	1	1
	15	12	27

It is worthwhile looking at these figures more closely. Out of the 27 deaths which were the subject of inquests, only eight were due to natural causes ; the remaining 19 were due to accidents, suicide or homicide and were, to sum up in one word—preventable. There is, perhaps, not much point in commenting upon the suicides or homicide apart from saying that they were evidence of social maladjustment and, as such, were preventable at some stage, even though they were deliberate acts.

This then, leaves 16 deaths, or just over 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. of all deaths in the Borough which could have been avoided.

It may be argued that the seven “ falls ” did not matter very much as the youngest person to die from this cause was 77 years of age and three were 90 or over, but it must be remembered that death may not finally intervene after such accidents until many months of misery and suffering have passed. The frailty of the aged is well-known and every precaution should be taken, both by the elderly themselves and also by their friends and relatives to ensure that these accidents do not occur.

One other death entered the category of home accidents. An old lady of 83 years of age was suffocated by smoke and fumes from smouldering wood and bed clothes ignited by a night light.

Accidents are by no means confined to the elderly ; they can happen to anyone, from the youngest to the oldest. No other comment is, I feel, necessary, but each individual should ask himself “ Has everything been done in this house to prevent an accident ? ”

Having dealt with the subject of accidents in the home I come to that other sad and sorry story—accidents on the road.

It is, I think, of value to list these and to remember that all could have been prevented.

Male, aged 24 years. Motor cyclist in collision with private car.

Female, aged 24 years. Cyclist knocked down by goods train whilst cycling over a level crossing.

Male, aged 63 years. Struck by motor car.

Male, aged 40 years. Motor cyclist in collision with motor car.

Female, aged one year and eight months. Run over by motor lorry.

Male, aged 35 years. Cyclist falling under motor coach.

Male, aged 25 years. Run over by a motor vehicle.

Male, aged 83 years. Knocked down by motor cycle combination.

What a waste of life ! No less than eight fatal road accidents to residents of this Borough in one year. None of these need have happened.

POPULATION.

The Registrar-General's mid-year estimate for 1950 credited the Borough with a population of 66,340, a decrease of 270 on the previous year. From the table below, which gives the population annually since 1929 it will be seen that an increase in population occurred in each year from 1929 to 1941. Decreases occurred between that date and 1945 owing to the war but there were further increases from 1945 onwards. It is interesting to note that there has been little change in population during the past three years and presumably this state of affairs will continue until the building of new houses can again proceed at full speed.

1929	18,500	1940	60,670
1930	26,010	1941	65,350
1931	33,430	1942	64,420
1932	35,210	1943	62,960
1933	36,900	1944	61,250
1934	38,810	1945	60,220
1935	41,100	1946	63,040
1936	44,040	1947	64,240
1937	48,300	1948	66,060
1938	50,620	1949	66,610
1939	53,890	1950	66,340

During this period the natural increase (births less deaths) was 11,733 and the net number of immigrants was, therefore, 38,593.

II. GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Cleansing and Disinfestation.

The situation remains as in 1949. Personal cleansing had to be carried out in the patient's own home and disinfestation of bedding and personal effects took place at the disinfestor which is supplied with steam from the destructor at the Chalvey Pumping Station.

The absence of a cleansing station has caused no difficulty during the year but the number of cases needing treatment has remained very small.

Disposal of Refuse.

Controlled tipping on low-lying land near the Datchet Road has continued as it has not yet been possible to extend the refuse destructor at Chalvey.

Increases in the value of salvage, and the urgent national need for saving waste materials of many kinds has meant that further steps have had to be taken to ensure that as much material as possible has been separated from the refuse. In particular, great efforts have been made to increase the amount of waste paper collected.

Kitchen Waste.

It was possible, in 1950, to get rid of all the street "pig-bins" which were such a constant source of irritation and nuisance to householders.

Many more individual containers for kitchen waste were supplied to householders and this scheme is constantly being extended by provision of bins to all householders who ask for them.

The waste food was collected by a contractor at suitable intervals and removed to a digester approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Water.

The three water undertakings—the Slough Corporation, the Burnham, Dorney and Hitcham Waterworks Co. Ltd., and the Slough Trading Estates Ltd.—continued to supply water to their respective parts of the Borough.

Slough Corporation Water Supply.

The water supplied by the Corporation continued to be satisfactory both in quantity and quality. 14,802 houses, with an estimated population of 63,449 were served by a direct supply and only six properties, with an estimated population of 25, remained supplied by standpipes.

Bacteriological analyses were made regularly during the year from the pumps at Pococks Lane Pumping Station. During the early part of the year the tests were carried out monthly, but during the latter part of the year weekly examinations were performed and this practice has been continued. The analyses are normally carried out in the Town Hall Laboratory but samples were sent to an independent analyst each quarter. In all cases the results showed a high degree of purity and no trace of bacterial contamination.

The result of a chemical analysis is given below :—
(Chemical Values are given in parts per million)

Appearance	Bright with a very few mineral particles.	
Reaction	pH	7.3
Free Carbon Di-oxide		16
Electric conductivity		670
Total solids		450
Chlorine as Chloride		42
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate		225
Hardness : Total		310
Temporary		225
Permanent		85
Nitrogen as Nitrates		4.8
Nitrogen as Nitrites		Absent
Free Ammonia		0.006
Albuminoid Ammonia		0.02
Oxygen absorbed		0.30
Fluorine		0.8
Metals	Iron, less than 0.03. Other metals absent.	

Burnham, Dorney and Hitcham Waterworks Co. Ltd.

This Company supplied water directly to 2,760 dwelling houses with a population in excess of 10,000. Eight raw samples and sixteen treated water samples were sent for bacteriological analysis during the year and all were found to be of a high standard of bacterial purity consistent with a wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

Slough Estates Ltd., Water Supply.

Slough Estates Ltd. provided the necessary water for factories and canteens on the Slough Trading Estate and, in addition, gave a piped water supply to 70 dwelling houses.

Once again it is possible to report a consistently high standard of quantity and quality.

Swimming Bath Water.

The two swimming baths in the Borough, one at the Slough Community Centre and the other at Baylis House, continued in use during 1950. The former, being covered, was in use throughout the year and the latter, an open-air pool was, of course, only open during the summer months.

34 samples of water were taken from these two pools during the year and examined at the Town Hall Laboratory. All samples were satisfactory.

Sewage Disposal.

Work on extensions to the main sewage treatment works continued during 1950 and when this has been completed in, it is hoped, about two years time, the district works at Langley will be closed and the sewage transferred to Cippenham for treatment.

The major extension works, combined with the steadily increasing volume of sewage to be accepted created a number of difficult problems which had a tendency to reduce the high degree of effluent purification previously attained, but the various remedial measures adopted had the effect of diminishing the deterioration.

194 yards of new sewers were laid during the year.

Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

This section, under which persons who are in need of care and attention through age or disease can be removed to a suitable place, was used only once during the year.

An aged couple were living under very primitive and filthy conditions in an old caravan, which was in effect nothing more than a hut on wheels. This van was situated in a field about a hundred yards from the nearest houses and there were no facilities for obtaining water, drainage or sanitation. The couple were not prepared to go into hospital willingly and the Council obtained an Order for their removal to Upton Hospital. The old man died some seven weeks later but the old woman remains in hospital.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS AMENDMENT ACT, 1907

Female Domestic Servants Registries Byelaws.

New byelaws with respect to Registries for Female Domestic Servants were made during the year and four registries were duly entered on the records. Under the byelaws a record book must be kept giving details of

the working of the registry and the registry must also conform to conditions laid down in the Byelaws concerning sleeping accommodation to be provided for servants.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Food Byelaws.

During 1950, the Council adopted the Ministry of Food's Model Byelaws which had been published in 1949.

These byelaws were made with the object of improving the standard of hygiene in connection with the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food. After the byelaws had been approved by the Ministry of Food copies were circulated to all premises in the Borough which were concerned with food intended for human consumption.

It is obvious that the standard of hygiene in food premises leaves much to be desired and it is to be hoped that all those engaged in the handling of food will do their utmost to co-operate with the Health Department's drive for Clean Food.

It was felt to be impossible to carry out the increased work which would be involved in attempting to raise the standard of food hygiene with the existing staff and, at the end of November, the Council agreed to appoint an Additional Sanitary Inspector who would be concerned mainly with this work.

SLOUGH ADVISORY PLAN.

The Slough Advisory Plan was published during the year by the Council's Consultants, Messrs. Minoprio and Spencely and P. W. MacFarlane. This document was produced, of course, with a view to making recommendations for the long-term planning of the town but in formulating their proposals the consultants very wisely undertook a Social Survey of the present conditions. This survey is of great value and includes a report on population distribution and densities with special reference to overcrowding.

Variations in the distribution of population were found to be considerable and the under twenty-one age group was found to be of unusual size in certain areas, especially the Council's housing estates. Overcrowding existed in all areas, being particularly high on pre-war council estates.

As will be seen in the population tables on page 14 the number of immigrants has been very great since 1930 and this has led to Slough's having a large mixed population which has not yet settled down. The survey reports that considerable social tensions are still present. The main areas from which immigrants have come are South Wales, the London Area, the North-East and the North-West.

LABORATORY.

During the year the following specimens were examined :—

	<i>Positive</i>	<i>Negative</i>
Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli.....	—	117
Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci.....	—	13
Swabs for Vincents Angina.....	1	5
Sputa for Tubercle Bacilli.....	1	29
Urine for Tubercle Bacilli.....	—	—
Urine for routine examinations.....	71	
Faeces for Tubercle Bacilli.....	—	—
Urine for organisms of Typhoid and Dysentery group.....	—	—
Faeces for organisms of Coli-Typhoid group.....	—	8
Faeces for Occult Blood.....	—	—
Blood Counts.....	16	
Blood samples for Widal reaction.....	—	14
Specimen of cerebo-spinal fluid.....	—	—
Pus for Gonococci.....	—	2
Miscellaneous specimens.....	27	

	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Un-satisfactory</i>
Milk samples :—		
(a) Phosphatase test.....	190	—
(b) Methylene blue test.....	204	11
(c) Coliform test.....	70	14
(d) Turbidity test.....	3	1
Water samples :—		
(a) Drinking water.....	18	4
(b) Swimming pool water.....	34	—
Ice-Cream samples.....	106	23
Grade I.....	55	
Grade II.....	50	
Grade III.....	14	
Grade IV.....	7	
Other tests.....	3	

No legal standard for the bacteriological purity or chemical constitution of ice-cream existed in 1950 but chemical standards are to be introduced from 31st March 1951. The samples examined in the laboratory were classified under four grades according to the length of time required to decolourise a solution of methylene blue under certain specific conditions. In general it may be said that Grades I and II reach a satisfactory standard while Grades III and IV do not. It should be pointed out, however, that Grade I is the ideal and no manufacturer or distributor should be satisfied even with Grade II.

The Grades into which samples of ice-cream fell during 1950 are given on page 19.

	Number of samples		Percentage of samples	
	1949	1950	1949	1950
Grade I.	78	55	54.2	43.7
Grade II.	41	50	28.5	39.7
Grade III.	14	14	9.7	11.1
Grade IV.	11	7	7.6	5.5

It will be noted that the proportion of satisfactory samples in the two years remained roughly the same, about 83%.

It is, of course, the aim of this department to obtain 100% satisfactory samples. In cases where samples are proven unsatisfactory, extra visits are made to discuss the cause of the trouble and samples are continued at frequent intervals until a high standard has, once again, been achieved.

BOROUGH MORTUARY.

85 post-mortem examinations were carried out at the Borough Mortuary during 1950. The number during the previous year was 72.

HOME HELPS SERVICE.

This Service, which was commenced by the Slough Borough Council and transferred to the Buckinghamshire County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946, continues to perform a very useful function. A local organisation is maintained, working under the policy of the County Council, whereby a Home Help Organiser runs the service in this area under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health as Area Medical Officer for South Bucks.

Further expansion of the service occurred in 1950.

Number of Home Helps as at 31.12.50 :—

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------|-------|------|
| (a) | Full-time | ..... | Nil. |
| (b) | Part-time | ..... | 61 |

Number of cases who received help during 1950 :—

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|-------|------------|
| (a) | Acute Sick | ..... | 66 |
| (b) | Chronic Sick | ..... | 254 |
| (c) | Tuberculosis | ..... | 27 |
| (d) | Maternity | ..... | 60 |
| | Total | ..... | <u>407</u> |

III. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases during 1950.

Showing cases notified during 1950. Numbers admitted to Hospital and Deaths. Also notifications for years 1940-1949.

	Cases Notified 1950	Cases admitted to Hospital 1950	Deaths 1950	Population in thousands							Total cases notified during				
				66	66	64	63	60	61	62	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943
				1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1940	1940
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	54	22	—	33	66	44	77	113	151	120	63	80	72	91	72
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	6	7	16	8	30	23	5	38	1	1	1
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	4	—	9	8	12	17	6	10	9	10	13	15	15	15
Pneumonia	32	2	18	14	20	27	22	28	33	34	27	26	34	34	34
Erysipelas	14	2	—	15	14	20	24	9	7	22	5	28	22	22	22
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
Measles	76	—	—	416	748	168	859	826	29	995	179	258	998	998	998
Whooping Cough	98	—	—	118	328	171	280	92	146	164	36	224	64	64	64
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	1	4	7	1	6	5	5	8	10	18	18	18
Poliomyelitis :—															
Paralytic	7	5	1	3	9	5	—	2	—	—	2	28	2	2	2
Non-Paralytic	8	7	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Encephalitis	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria (contracted abroad)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE II.

Showing Monthly Incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Measles	2	—	1	—	4	8	10	5	12	3	12	19
Whooping Cough	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	8	14	14	19	39
Tuberculosis: Pulmonary	9	1	6	6	8	15	1	6	9	6	2	10
Non-Pulmonary	1	—	2	—	—	5	2	—	1	2	3	—
Scarlet Fever	4	4	5	6	7	—	7	7	7	3	2	2
Erysipelas	1	5	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	2	—
Pneumonia	9	8	3	2	5	—	—	1	—	2	1	1
Poliomyelitis: Paralytic	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	2	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Sonne Dysentery	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria (contracted abroad)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—

TABLE III.

Showing Incidence in Wards of Borough.

	Burnham North	Burnham South	Central North	Central South	Chalvey	Farnham North	Farnham South	Langley	Stoke North	Stoke South	Upton
Measles	1	5	12	3	18	5	6	10	5	7	4
Whooping Cough	6	23	4	18	6	1	5	9	10	9	7
Tuberculosis: Pulmonary	6	11	6	3	7	13	6	9	9	5	4
Non-Pulmonary	—	1	4	—	1	4	3	2	—	1	—
Scarlet Fever	6	8	10	4	2	3	7	7	4	—	3
Erysipelas	—	2	1	5	4	—	—	—	—	2	—
Pneumonia	1	1	5	4	6	1	4	2	3	2	3
Poliomyelitis: Paralytic	1	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Non-Paralytic	2	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
Sonne Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Encephalitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria (contracted abroad)	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

DIPHTHERIA.

It is once again, and for the second year running, my pleasure to report that there were no cases of diphtheria during the year.

I have shown below the number of cases of diphtheria and deaths from that disease from the beginning of this century so far as records are available.

Years	Number of Cases.	Number of Deaths.	Mean Population
1901-1905	77	No records	—
1906-1910	91	—	—
1911-1915	72	6	1915 — 14,418
1916-1920	No records	No records	No records
1921-1925	155	12	16,686
1926-1930	244	17	19,362
1931-1935	86	3	37,090
1936-1940	233	11	51,504
1941-1945	104	8	62,840
1946-1950	29	2	65,258

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Inoculations against Diphtheria, which were carried out by Medical Officers of the County Public Health Services or by general practitioners, were continued during the year and 871 children received their primary inoculation, while 868 children had renewal doses. These "renewals" are given at school entry to produce an enhanced immunity at the time when the child comes into contact with large numbers of children and again at about the age of 10 years when the effect of the 5-year-old renewal has partially waned.

66 more primary and 276 more "renewal" inoculations were given in 1950 as compared with 1949.

As will be seen from the figures given below, diphtheria is being held in check as an epidemic disease but the Ministry of Health is disturbed at the falling off in the number of babies and children immunised, and the returns for England and Wales in 1950 show that over 140,000 fewer babies were protected in that year compared with 1949. As the greater part of this decrease occurred during the latter half of the year it is probable that the fear of poliomyelitis was one of the major causes. There has been little evidence to show that there is any relationship between poliomyelitis and a sub-cutaneous injection such as that given against diphtheria and, in any event, the saving of well over 2,000 lives a year far outweighs any possible risk which may be involved.

Deaths from diphtheria in 1950 were only 49 in the whole of England and Wales, compared with a pre-war average of 2,800 and there were only 980 cases compared with 55,000 in the same periods.

The almost complete disappearance of the disease tends to lull parents into a false sense of security, but the danger, although at present under control, is still present and if diphtheria is to be kept at bay it is vital that the level of immunisation does not fall.

WHOOPING COUGH.

98 cases of whooping cough were notified during 1950 as compared with 118 for 1949.

The main incidence of this disease occurred during the autumn and winter, and a high incidence was maintained during the early months of 1951. Although the number of cases was high towards the end of the year, there was no sign of a true epidemic. The number of cases notified in 1950 was below that found in seven of the eleven complete years since the disease became notifiable on 23rd October, 1939.

1940	.....	.....	.....	64
1941	.....	.....	.....	224
1942	.....	.....	.....	36
1943	.....	.....	.....	164
1944	.....	.....	.....	146
1945	.....	.....	.....	92
1946	.....	.....	.....	280
1947	.....	.....	.....	171
1948	.....	.....	.....	328
1949	.....	.....	.....	118
1950	.....	.....	.....	98

The disease was not as a rule severe. Although this is, of course, very fortunate from the individual patient's point of view, a mild attack is much more difficult to diagnose even should parents consider it necessary to call a doctor. It is, therefore, probable, in times when cases are mild, that a number are undiagnosed and as the sufferers are not subject to restrictions the disease becomes more widespread.

The greatest danger of whooping cough lies in the first year of life and all possible precautions should be taken to keep children suffering from this disease away from young babies. Whooping Cough Immunisation is often carried out but is by no means a certain prevention.

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION.

517 children were immunised against Whooping Cough at their parents request during 1950, the great majority being immunised against diphtheria at the same time by a combined Diphtheria/Pertussis vaccine.

Some recent work has shown that there is possibly some relationship between whooping cough immunisation and the subsequent occurrence of poliomyelitis in the limb which has been inoculated. There is no evidence to show that the inoculation is the cause of poliomyelitis but it is possible that, following injection, the disease which has already

to be present may localise itself in the inoculated limb. Although the risk of poliomyelitis following whooping cough immunisation is very slight, it was felt wise to discontinue immunisation during the months when poliomyelitis was prevalent in this area, particularly as the efficacy of the whooping cough vaccine has not yet been definitely proven. For these reasons, no attempt is made to persuade parents to have their children immunised against whooping cough but the procedure is carried out only at the parents specific request.

SCARLET FEVER.

54 cases of this disease were notified in 1950, compared with 33 in 1949. The cases occurred sporadically in all months of the year, with the exception of June, and no sign of any outbreak was apparent. 22 of the cases were admitted to hospital; there were no deaths.

ERYSIPELAS.

14 cases, the same number as in 1949, were notified during 1950, and two were admitted to hospital. No deaths were attributed to this disease.

PNEUMONIA.

32 cases of "pneumonia" were notified during 1950, compared with 14 in 1949. As pointed out in my last report only Acute Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia are notifiable conditions and all cases of pneumonia are not, therefore, brought to my notice. A large number of notifications does perhaps, however, give some indication of a rise in chest diseases generally.

Of the 32 cases notified, 27 occurred in the first five months of the year.

MEASLES.

The number of measles cases notified in 1950, 76, was extremely low; lower in fact than in all the eleven years during which the disease has been notifiable with the exception of 1944. The greater proportion of the cases occurred during September, October, November and December, but there was no indication that within three months (in March 1951) would be recorded the highest number of cases ever notified. This outbreak which will be the subject of the 1951 report was not entirely a surprise, however, as the incidence of measles in parts of the surrounding countryside was high in the latter part of 1950 and the previous epidemic in this town had occurred some two years previously, during the late part of 1948 and the early months of 1949.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS (Infantile Paralysis).

The number of cases of poliomyelitis occurring in England and Wales during 1950 was the second highest ever recorded and it was not surprising that this Borough had its share of cases. There were 15 in all, (7 paralytic; 8 non-paralytic) and all except one occurred from July to November. It is perhaps interesting to note that the first five cases diagnosed were non-paralytic while six of the last nine cases in the outbreak were paralytic. One isolated case occurring in January was also paralytic.

The term "poliomyelitis" is now being increasingly used instead of the older words "infantile paralysis." Not only is this newer term more correct scientifically, but it also serves to correct an impression which is now no longer valid, that the disease is mainly confined to infants. While this was, without doubt, predominantly true some time ago there has been an increasing tendency in recent years for the disease to attack adolescents and young adults.

A table below gives the age and sex incidence of cases occurring in Slough during 1950.

	Paralytic		Non-Paralytic		Total	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0—	1	1	1	—	2	1
5—	—	1	3	—	3	1
15—	1	—	—	2	1	2
25—	1	—	1	—	2	—
35—44	—	2	—	1	—	3
TOTAL	3	4	5	3	8	7

New regulations concerning the notification of Acute Poliomyelitis, Acute Encephalitis and Meningococcal Infection came into force on 1st January, 1950.

The main effect of these regulations was to sub-divide notifications under paralytic and non-paralytic headings and also provide information as to whether encephalitis followed other infections or whether it was itself of an infective type.

FOOD POISONING.

Total No. of Outbreaks	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths	Organisms or other agents responsible.	Foods involved.
One	106	Nil.	Unknown.	Unknown but possibly meat.

One outbreak of food poisoning occurred during the year, at Cippenham County Primary School on 14th-15th November, 1950. About 90 pupils, 11 teachers and 5 canteen helpers were affected during this and the next two days but all those affected had completely recovered about 48 hours after onset of symptoms (diarrhoea and vomiting). About 700 people were served with the meal concerned and no cause for the outbreak could be discovered but the long incubation period and the nature of the symptoms suggested that the outbreak might be due to an organism such as *Cl. welchii* which produces an entero-toxin. The organism may have been contained in the meat, but, on the other hand, some toxins are more resistant than the organisms producing them and these toxins may have survived a degree of cooking lethal for the organisms.

Thorough inspection of the canteen showed that certain matters should receive attention in order to minimise the chance of further such occurrence and recommendations were made accordingly to the appropriate Committee.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

A considerable increase in the number of persons vaccinated against Smallpox was recorded in 1950. 504 persons received primary vaccinations and 113 were re-vaccinated.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Primary notifications of tuberculosis again rose in 1950, 79 pulmonary and 16 non-pulmonary cases being recorded. That there would be an increase on the previous year gradually became obvious from my monthly reports to the Health and Sanitation Committee and, as the result of alarm resulting from these reports, strenuous efforts were made by the Borough Council and the Slough Council of Social Service to persuade the North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board to carry out a Mass X-Ray Survey in Slough. These representations met with success and the Board carried out their first comprehensive survey in this town during the early months of 1951. The results of this survey will be published in my report for 1951.

The story of deaths from tuberculosis is, however, a much happier one, and I am able, with great pleasure, to report that deaths due to this disease have fallen far below those in any other year since the outbreak of war in 1939. The death rate was falling steadily between 1945 and 1949, with a slight increase in 1946, but the low rate of 0.19 per 1,000 population for pulmonary tuberculosis is so far below that recorded in other years that doubts about its repetition must be felt. (The table on page 28 shows this in more detail). The death rate for all forms of tuberculosis in Slough was 0.24 per 1,000 while that for England and Wales as a whole was 0.36 per thousand.

Table showing age and sex distribution of Primary Notifications.

Age in years.	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—	—	1	—	—
1—	2	4	1	4
5—	3	3	1	4
15—	11	16	1	2
25—	7	8	—	1
35—	8	2	1	—
45—	4	2	—	—
55—	3	1	1	—
65 and over	3	1	—	—
Total	41	38	5	11

NOTIFICATION REGISTER.

Number of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the Notification Register
on 31st December, 1950 :—

<i>Pulmonary.</i>			<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>		
<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
283	219	502	44	52	96

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The sites of the new cases entered in the Notification Register during
the year were as follows :—

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Abdomen	1	1
Glands	1	7
Kidneys	1	—
Knee	—	2
Meninges	1	—
Sacro-iliac joint	1	—
Spine	—	1
	5	11

Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Year	Population	Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Pulmonary Death rate per 1,000 population
		Males	Females	Males	Females	
1940	60,670	2	3	11	15	0.43
1941	65,350	4	6	14	18	0.49
1942	64,420	3	2	11	13	0.37
1943	62,960	1	—	19	13	0.51
1944	61,250	4	1	18	14	0.52
1945	60,220	5	1	14	12	0.43
1946	63,040	2	1	16	17	0.52
1947	64,240	2	4	17	10	0.42
1948	66,060	2	2	17	12	0.44
1949	66,320	—	—	13	9	0.33
1950	66,340	1	2	10	3	0.19

IV. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

Centre.	Location.	Sessions.	Sessions with Medical Officer.
Cippenham	Central Hall, Bower Way.	Fridays, 2 p.m.	All sessions.
Langley	Women's Institute Hall, Elmhurst Road.	2nd and 4th Fridays, 2 p.m.	4th Friday.
Slough Health Centre	Burlington Road.	Mondays, 2 p.m. Thurs., 2 p.m.	All sessions. 1st Thursday.
St. Michael's	Slough Community Centre, Farnham Road.	Mondays, 2 p.m.	All sessions.
Wexham Road	Wexham Road Community Centre.	Fridays, 2 p.m.	All sessions.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINICS.

Centre.	Sessions.
Cippenham	1st Thursday, 10.30 a.m.
Langley	3rd Tuesday, 11 a.m.
Slough Health Centre	Thursdays, 9.30 a.m.
St. Michael's	1st Monday, 2 p.m.
Wexham Road	2nd Friday, 2 p.m.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

Location.	Ante-Natal Clinic.	Post-Natal Clinic.
Upton Hospital	Mondays, 1.30 p.m. (First bookings) Thursdays, 1.30 p.m.	Mondays, 11 a.m.
Slough Community Centre (Conducted by the Canadian Red Cross Memorial Hospital).	Tuesdays, 9.45 a.m. Fridays, 9.45 a.m. (First bookings).	Fridays, 11.30 a.m.

In addition to these clinics there is a Midwives' Ante-Natal clinic held at the Health Centre in Burlington Road for those cases whose confinements are to take place at home. In these cases, post-natal care is undertaken by the family doctor.

ANTE-NATAL BLOOD TESTS.

Arrangements were made in 1950, with the kind assistance of the Canadian Red Cross Memorial Hospital, Taplow, for all cases attending the ante-natal clinics at Burlington Road Health Centre to have full blood tests carried out. These tests included that for the Rhesus factor. The presence

of this factor in the blood is a fairly recent discovery and it is of importance in the birth of a child. Should this factor show certain differences in the father and the mother then the risk of stillbirth or death shortly after birth is increased. Although this incompatibility cannot be altered the knowledge of its presence allows steps to be taken to minimise the risk to the child.

SCHOOL CLINICS.

These clinics are part of the School Health Service and are available to all children of school age and also to those attending Nursery Schools. All clinics are held at the Burlington Road Health Centre. A Minor Ailments Clinic is held every morning by Health Visitors and a doctor is in attendance on Thursday mornings. Visits to the Dentists or Eye Specialists are arranged by appointment.

A Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic is held on Thursday mornings, at 9.30 a.m.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The Chest Clinic is at the Kipling Memorial Building, Alma Road, Windsor, with a subsidiary clinic at Upton Hospital, Slough. All arrangements are made by the Chest Physician who may be contacted at the Windsor Clinic. (Tel. No. Windsor 2033).

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The nearest treatment centres are :—

King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor.
Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading.
Hillingdon Hospital, Hillingdon.

MARRIED WOMEN'S ADVISORY CLINIC.

Community Centre, Farnham Road Wednesdays, 2—4 p.m.
(Entrance—Buckingham Avenue).
Health Centre, Burlington Road Fridays, 2.30—4 p.m.

DAY AND SHORT-STAY NURSERIES.

The following Nurseries, administered by the County Council, are situated in the Borough.

- (a) Day Nurseries for children from 0—3 years.
 - (i) Baylis Court, Oatlands Drive, Slough.
 - (ii) Manor Park, Penn Road, Slough.

Applications for admission should be made to the Area Medical Officer, Town Hall, Slough.

- (b) Short-stay Residential Nursery.
 - "Brookside," Salt Hill, Slough.

Applications for admission should be made to the Children's Officer, 22, Silver Street, Aylesbury.

HOSPITALS.

The Borough of Slough is served by the following hospitals and maternity homes, the majority of which are situated outside the Borough.

General Hospitals.

Upton Hospital, Albert Street, Slough.
King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor.
Canadian Red Cross Memorial Hospital, Taplow.
Old Windsor Hospital, Old Windsor.

Infectious Diseases Hospitals.

Maidenhead Isolation Hospital.
St. John's Hospital, Uxbridge.

Sanatorium.

All admissions arranged by the Chest Physician, Chest Clinic, Kipling Memorial Building, Alma Road, Windsor.

Maternity Accommodation.

Upton Hospital, Albert Street, Slough.
Canadian Red Cross Memorial Hospital, Taplow.
Colinswood Nursing Home, Farnham Common.

Applications for admission are dealt with by the County Medical Officer of Health, County Offices, Aylesbury.

Part III Accommodation.

Aged persons—Sick	Upton Hospital.
Non-Sick	Upton Towers.

Registered Nursing Homes.

There are two registered nursing homes in Slough for the aged and infirm :—

Heathfield Nursing Home, 10, Uxbridge Road, Slough.
Parkside Nursing Home, Upton Court Road, Slough.

ANNUAL REPORT

BY THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

-
- Section A—General Administration.
 - Section B—Housing.
 - Section C—Supervision of Food Supplies.
 - Section D—Factories, Workplaces and Shops.
 - Section E—General Sanitation.
 - Section F—Pest Infestation Control.
 - Section G—Miscellaneous.
-

SECTION A.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

TABLE No. 1.

Summary.

Total Inspections	13,938
Complaints Received and Investigated	1,148
Preliminary Notices Served	454
Secondary Notices Served	102
Statutory Notices Served	47
Letters Received	4,013
Letters Despatched	3,480
Interviews with Property Owners, Agents and Builders	972

TABLE No. 2.

Analysis of Inspection Work Performed by the District Sanitary Inspectors.

Housing	3,081
Inspection of Meat and Other Foods	1,936
Premises at which Food is Prepared, Stored and Sold	412
Dairies	120
Factories and Workplaces	1,156
Shops	353
General Sanitation	5,439
Pest Infestation Control	1,033
Building Licensing	408

TABLE No. 3.

Premises at which Improvements were Effected.

Dwelling-houses (rendered habitable)	194
Premises used for Preparation and Sale of Food	36
Factories and Workplaces	313
Smoke Abatement	13
Shops	16
Drainage (reconstruction, repair, etc.)	440
Portable Dustbins Provided	97

Staff.

During the year the Borough Council agreed to the appointment of a Pest Control Officer for the purpose of providing more efficient supervision of the ever increasing work of the Rodent Control Service and relieving the district sanitary inspectors of much routine work connected therewith.

New Legislation.

The principal new legislation affecting the work of the Department was the introduction of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, which came into operation on 31st March, 1950, the Shops Acts, 1950, mainly a consolidating measure, making little change in the law relating to shops, which came into operation on 1st October 1950, and the adoption by the Corporation of Byelaws relating to the handling, wrapping and delivery of food, etc., which became effective on 15th August, 1950.

SECTION B.

HOUSING.

Obsolescent Dwelling-houses.

During the year it was not found necessary to take emergency action by the demolition or closing of any of the obsolescent houses awaiting consideration and action under Parts 2 or 3 of the Housing Act, 1936, and such properties continued to be subjected only to such first-aid repairs as was found to be necessary from time to time.

In co-operation with the Town Planning Consultants engaged upon the preparation of the Slough Advisory Plan, a preliminary survey was made by the Department of those dwelling-houses within the Borough in respect of which it will be necessary to give consideration (a) as soon as practicable and (b) within 20 years. The survey revealed that some 345 houses await action as soon as alternative accommodation can be made available for rehousing families who will be displaced. In the meantime these houses must remain occupied in spite of their irremediable sub-standard condition.

Repair of Unfit Dwelling-houses.

There were 252 complaints received by the Department of defective structural and insanitary conditions of dwelling-houses and a total of 681 premises were surveyed and examined and following action under the provisions of the Public Health and Housing Acts, some 1,767 re-visits were made and resulted in 194 dwellings being rendered habitable.

Some 556 preliminary notices were served and in most cases the requisite work was carried out without the necessity of resorting to statutory action, and consequently it was only found necessary to serve statutory notices in 47 cases. From experience one finds that the present low level of rents of dwelling-houses has the tendency of acting as a deterrent to property owners in the voluntary maintenance of small houses.

Repairs to Properties in Default of Owners.

It was found necessary in the three under-mentioned cases of failure of owners of property to comply with statutory notices, to resort to default action, the works being executed by the Corporation at a total cost of £62 2s. 0d., which is recoverable from the owners concerned.

<i>Property.</i>	<i>Works Executed.</i>	<i>Cost.</i>		
		£	s.	d.
61, Grays Place.	Public Health Act, 1936, Section 45	10	9	0
45, Mill Street	Housing Act, 1936, Section 9.	44	5	6
65, Grays Place,	Housing Act, 1936. Section 9.	7	7	6

Overcrowding.

Twenty-three complaints of overcrowding of dwelling-houses were received and 112 routine investigations were made. Although the actual degree of overcrowding within the Borough has not been ascertained by survey in recent years it does appear to be high in some areas. Having regard to the particularly low standard prescribed by the Housing Act, 1936 it is obvious that many cases exist in which families reside in extremely congested conditions, although not actually "overcrowded" within the meaning of the Act, and a revised standard for the measurement of overcrowding would show an increase of overcrowding. Owing to the continued housing shortage, it is only possible to relieve the more serious cases.

There were no applications received in pursuance of Section 61 of the Housing Act, 1936, for licences to permit temporary overcrowding.

"Permitted Numbers" of dwelling-houses were supplied on request in respect of 205 premises, many being newly erected houses. Official records are kept of the "permitted numbers" of all dwelling-houses within the Borough.

Allocation of Council Houses.

Requests for support of applications for housing accommodation in Council owned houses, and huts situated at the several ex-military camps within the Borough, are frequently received, and necessitated the investigation of the housing conditions prevailing in 94 cases in respect of which appropriate recommendations were made.

Enquiries as to housing conditions were also received from other local authorities to whom Slough residents had applied for accommodation.

Rent Restrictions Certificates.

No applications were received under the provisions of the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts, 1920-1939, for certificates as to the state of repair of dwelling-houses.

Information re Local Land Charges.

Requests for information upon Official Search under the Land Charges Act as to statutory orders made in respect of, or outstanding statutory notices upon properties, were dealt with in respect of 1,135 properties.

Disinfestation of Verminous Dwellings.

Following the receipt of 55 complaints of infestation of premises by vermin and the routine examination of 706 dwelling-houses, it was found necessary to carry out disinfestation treatment at 61 houses of which 35 were Council owned houses. Insecticides containing D.D.T. have proved very effective, since the use of which recurrence of infestation has been found to be infrequent.

SECTION C.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

Hygiene of Food Premises and Food Handling.

The conditions under which food intended for sale for human consumption is kept and handled, particularly at premises used for catering purposes and for the preparation of preserved foods, the personal hygiene of food handlers and the cleansing of equipment are matters to which much attention is being given. During the year some 1,070 visits were made by the District Sanitary Inspectors in the supervision of these matters at restaurants, cafes, factory canteens, etc. In performing such duties these officers act to a considerable degree in an advisory capacity, seeking to gain the confidence and co-operation of food traders and their employees. Experience in Slough has shown that persons engaged in the food trades are becoming conscious of their responsibilities in relation to hygiene, no doubt due to national publicity combined with local effort, although much remains to be done. It is also encouraging to observe that members of the public are becoming "Clean Food" minded and are now more ready to come forward with matters of complaint than in past years.

I am pleased to be able to record that most food premises in Slough now possess a "constant supply" of hot water.

Milk and Dairies.

There are 33 persons registered as Distributors of Milk and 12 premises registered as Dairies. One hundred and twenty visits to dairies were made by the District Sanitary Inspectors. Matters of hygiene were well observed.

The following 40 licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949 :—

Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licences	3
Dealer's Tuberculin Tested Milk Licences	10
Dealer's Pasteurised Milk Licences	7
Dealer's Sterilised Milk Licences	15
Supplementary Licences	5

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

For the purpose of ascertaining the bacteriological quality of milk subjected to heat treatment and raw milk sold within the Borough, samples are regularly procured from all sources of supply and examined at the Department's Laboratory at the Town Hall. In 1950, 235 samples were submitted for examination, giving the following results: 8.9% of the samples were certified to be unsatisfactory as compared with 8.3% in 1949, and of designated milks 10.4% of the samples were unsatisfactory as compared with a similar result in 1949. The results are detailed in Table No. 4.

TABLE No. 4.
Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

Classes of Milk	Number of Samples Tested	Number of Samples	
		Passed	Failed
Pasteurised Milk	88	88	—
Tuberculin-Tested (Pasteurised) Milk	68	60	8
Tuberculin-Tested Milk	23	17	6
Sterilised Milk	4	3	1
Heat Treated Milk	35	31	4
Non-designated Milk	17	15	2

Heat Treatment of Milk.

At the request of the Ministry of Food, Milk Division, samples of pasteurised milk are regularly procured from three approved and licensed pasteurisation plants which treat approximately 3 million gallons of milk per annum. During the year 103 samples were procured for both bacteriological examination and efficiency of heat treatment. Adverse reports were received on only 4 of these samples.

Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream.

Applications for the registration of 21 premises for the manufacture and for sale of Ice Cream were approved by the Health and Sanitation Committee during the year, the premises registered at the end of 1950 being

premises for the purpose of manufacture and 121 premises for the purpose of retail sale of this commodity. It is noteworthy that most of the present-day applicants propose to sell pre-packed Ice Cream obtained from large scale manufacturers and that with the coming into operation of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, the tendency has been for the small scale manufacturer to cease to operate.

It is pleasing to record a general improvement in the hygienic condition of premises and of methods employed. Frequent visits to registered premises are made by the District Sanitary Inspectors and especially to factories to ensure strict observance of hygienic conditions so essential in the satisfactory production of Ice Cream and for that purpose 178 visits were made during the year.

It is to be hoped, however, that steps will be taken by the Legislature in the near future to introduce proper means of control of mobile shops, including street barrows, used for the sale of Ice Cream and other foods, and thereby remedy the present most unsatisfactory position.

Manufacture and Sale of Preserved Food.

Fifty-five premises are registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved foods intended for sale for human consumption, including 18 fish friers premises.

One hundred and sixteen inspections were made and improvements were effected at 22 premises. Hygienic conditions were found to be reasonably well observed.

Bakehouses.

Number on Register	16
Basement Bakehouses	Nil
Inspections	48
Notices served in respect of contraventions	5

Control of Foods and Drugs Standards.

Three hundred and twenty-four samples of foods and drugs were procured for analysis, representing 4.9 samples per thousand of the estimated population. Of these samples, 226 were submitted to the Public Analyst and 118 milk samples were informally tested by the sampling officers at the Department's laboratory. The practice of the sampling officers of examining a large number of informal milk samples, has the effect, not only of considerably reducing the cost of analysis, but particularly of saving time, so valuable in the following-up of milk suspected of adulteration by water or of fat deficiency.

Table No. 5 sets out the articles of foods and drugs submitted for analysis, of which the Public Analyst reported adversely upon 5 samples, i.e. 2.4% of the samples submitted to him as compared with 9.8% in 1949 and 1.5% in 1948; or 1.5% of all samples procured.

In no instance were summary proceedings necessary and the action taken in respect of the samples which were the subject of adverse analytical reports, is set out in Table No. 6.

The average quality of the milk samples examined was Fat 3.72% and Solids non-fat 8.82%, which is well above the minimum presumptive standard prescribed by the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939.

Preservatives and Colouring Matter.

Forty-nine samples of food were examined by the Public Analyst and were found to be free of excessive permitted preservatives and of prohibited preservatives and colouring matter.

Labelling of Food.

One offence under the labelling of Food Orders 1946 and 1950 was detected, namely, sample 186 (formal) "Dressed Crab". Particulars of the action taken is contained in Table No. 6.

Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941.

No offences were observed.

Merchandise Marks Act.

No action was found necessary.

TABLE No. 5.

Summary of Food and Drugs Samples Submitted to the Public Analyst.				
	Procured		Adulterated	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
FOODS :				
Almond, ground	2			
Almonds, ground sweet	1			
Almond, flavour	1			
Angelica	1			
Arrowroot	1			
Arrowroot, ground	1			
Batter, flour	1			
Beef suet with flour	1			
Beef, pressed	1			
Beef paste	1			
Beef cubes	1			
Blancmange powder, chocolate	1			
Blancmange powder	4			
Brawn, pork	1			
Brandy flavour	1			
Bun or cake flour	2			
Bun flour, unsweetened	1			
Butter	2			
Cake flour, sweetened	1			
Cake, sponge, and steamed pudding mixture	1			
Caraway seeds	1			
Cayenne, ground	1			
Choc toffee bars	1			
Coconut	1			
Coconut, dessicated	1			
Cocoa, pure soluble	1		1	
Cocoa	1			
Coconut squares, chocolate	1			
Cod liver paste	1			
Coffee and chicory, essence of	1			
Coffee extract	1			
Coffee, pure ground	1			
Coffee, pure	3			
Crab, dressed	1		1	
Cream filled eggs	1			
Crisps, potato	1			
Curry powder	2			
Curry powder, genuine Indian	1			
Custard powder	3			
Dessert, caramel flavour	1			
Dessert mould, strawberry flavour	1			
Dessert powder, sweetened	1			
Dripping, pure	1			
Easter eggs	3			
Fat, cooking	6			
Fat, sweetened	1			
Fizzers, fruit	1			

TABLE No. 5 (contd.)

Summary of Food and Drugs Samples Submitted to the Public Analyst.				
	Procured		Adulterated	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Fish paste, lobster and other fish	1			
Flour, soya	1			
Fountain, sherbert	1			
Frizets	1			
Galantine, pork	1			
Gelatine	3			
Gelatine, granulated	1			
Ginger, ground	5			
Ginger, preserved	1			
Ginger	1			
Gravy salt	1			
Gravy powder	1			
Herbs, dried mixed sweet	1			
Honey crisp	1			
Horseradish, with vitacream	1			
Jelly, table	3			
Jelly, table crystals	1			
Jelly, dessert cuttings	1			
Jellies, mixed fruit	1			
Jelly babies	1			
Ketchup, tomato	1		1	
Lemonade powder	1			
Lemonade sucker	1			
Lemonade crystals	1			
Lemonade powder, effervescing	1			
Malt cup, chocolate flavour	1			
Malted milk	1			
Margarine, special	1			
Meat, galantine of	1			
Meat, luncheon	1	1		
Milk	7		1	
Mints	1			
Mixture, pancake	1			
Nutmeg, ground	1			
Oil, mustard seed		1		
Paprika	1			
Pastry mix	3			
Pastry mixture	1			
Pea flour	2		1	
Pepper, black	1			
Pepper, cayenne	1			
Pepper, flavoured compound	3			
Pepper condiment, compound	1			
Pepper, white	8			
Pepper, ground white	4			
Pickle	1			
Pies, pork	1			

TABLE No. 5 (contd.)

Summary of Food and Drugs Samples Submitted to the Public Analyst.

	Procured		Adulterated	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Pies, steak and kidney	1			
Pork in natural juice	1			
Pork, pressed	1			
Powder, onion (dehydrated)	1			
Powder, soft drink (lemon flavour)	1			
Pudding, christmas plum	1			
Puffs, sweet nutty	1			
Rennet, essence of	2			
Saccharin tablets	1			
Sausages, beef	3			
Sausages, pork	5			
Sausage, liver	1			
Semolina	1			
Snowmints	1			
Soup, dessicated (brown)	1			
Soup, tomato flavour	1			
Spice, mixed	2			
Sponge mixture, sweetened	1			
Tablets, fruitade	1			
Tapioca dessert	1			
Tartar, cream of	1			
Thyme	1			
Veal, jellied	2			
Vinegar, non-brewed	1			
Vinegar, pure malt and caramel	1			
Vitacream, synthetic	1			
Wine, ginger	1			
SPIRITS :				
Gin	1			
Rum	4			
Whisky	13			
DRUGS :				
Aspirin, tablets of	3			
Bicarbonate of Soda B.P.	2			
Boracic Powder B.P.	1			
Felsol powders	1			
Glycerine lemon ipecac.	1			
Lung Syrup	1			
Yaralettes, bishops	1			
TOTALS	204	2	5	—

In addition to the above samples, 118 informal samples of milk were tested by the Sampling Officers; 18 were found to be sub-standard.

TABLE No. 6.

Food and Drugs Samples Reported not to be Genuine.			
Sample No.	Food	Adulteration	Action Taken.
103 (formal)	Pea Flour.	Stale and not fit for human consumption.	Vendor withdrew from sale remaining stock.
153 (formal)	Milk.	Deficient in fat 6.6 per cent.	Further samples proved satisfactory.
186 (formal)	Dressed Crab.	Deficient in crab meat 13 per cent.	Manufacturer cautioned.
213 (formal)	Pure Soluble Cocoa.	Contained 3.3 parts per million arsenious oxide.	Manufacturer cautioned.
292 (formal)	Tomato Ketchup.	Contained excessive Copper (137 parts per million on the dry matter.)	Distributor withdrew remaining stock.

Meat and Food Inspection.

Slaughtering continued at the Ministry of Food requisitioned slaughterhouse at Cippenham Court Farm, this being the eleventh year of centralised slaughtering. During the year discussions took place between your officers and officers of the Ministry of Food upon proposed improvements at the slaughterhouse now in use and it is anticipated that alterations to provide for more slaughtering and hanging space and improvement of general facilities will be carried out during 1951.

Further consideration was given by the Health and Sanitation Committee to the provision of a Municipal Abattoir, and discussions also took place between officers of the Corporation and the Ministry of Food at Guildford.

During the year there were 12,749 animals slaughtered for food, 100 per cent examination being made of all carcasses and organs by the Sanitary Inspectors who are also all qualified as Food Inspectors, 609 visits being made for that purpose including many visits outside office hours. Some 33 tons of meat was condemned as unfit for human consumption. (For details see Tables Nos. 7 and 8.)

In addition to the meat inspection work of the Department some 7 tons of other foods at foodshops, warehouses, and factories were condemned as unfit for human consumption, 168 visits being made for that purpose. (See Table No. 9.)

TABLE No. 7

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.					
	Cattle Ex. Cows	Cows	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Calves
No. of animals slaughtered and inspected	1,707	1,207	6,691	765	2,379
Disease except tuberculosis :					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	7	11	20	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	406	351	363	82	7
% of No. inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	23.3	29.6	5.6	13.3	0.5
Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses condemned	9	33	—	3	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	196	358	—	13	4
% of No. inspected affected with tuberculosis	12.0	32.4	—	2.1	0.3

TABLE No. 8.

Weights of Condemned Meat.						
	Tuberculosis.			Other Diseases.		
	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Carcases and parts of carcasses	211	3	5	99	3	23
Organs	219	2	7	125	3	16
TOTALS	431	1	12	225	3	11
TOTAL WEIGHT :—32 tons 17 cwts. 0 qrs. 23 lbs.						

TABLE No. 9.
Weights of Canned and Other Foods Condemned as Unfit for
Human Consumption.
(lbs).

Canned Food	Preserves	Fish	Bacon	Imported Meat	Vegetables
11,550	267	1,006	97	877	2
Fruit	Cereals	Eggs (No.)	Cheese	Misc.	
—	687	—	148	996	
TOTAL WEIGHT: 6 tons 19 cwts. 2 qrs. 6 lbs.					

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Nine licences were granted to slaughtermen during the year, such licences being subject to annual renewal. The co-operation of the Ministry of Food slaughtering contractors has been appreciated and no contraventions of the Act were observed.

SECTION D. **FACTORIES, WORKPLACES AND SHOPS.**

The routine inspection of factories, both mechanical and non-mechanical, and workplaces, was regularly carried out, the visits made and results achieved being set out in Tables Nos. 10 and 11.

TABLE No. 10.
Inspection of Factories.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	64	27	1	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	508	269	29	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	2	5	—	Nil

TABLE No. 11.
Improvements Effected at Factories.

Particulars. (1)	Number of cases in which d were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Fnd. (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	9	2	1	2	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	—	20	—	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers)	3	1	11	1	—
TOTALS	15	24	12	5	Nil

Outworkers.

Lists received in February and August 1950 from employers, returned 102 homeworkers in certain specified occupations, principally the making and altering of wearing apparel, the homes of these workers being visited to ascertain that the work was being carried out under satisfactory conditions. Fifty-three lists of particulars of outworkers were sent to other local authorities and nineteen lists were received from various authorities.

Shops Acts, 1912-1938 and Shops Act, 1950.

The administration of the whole of the Shops Acts and Employment of Young Persons Act is carried out by the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Section of the Health Department. In October 1950, the Shops Act, 1950, consolidating measure, came into operation and the earlier Acts were revoked.

In the Annual Report for the year 1949, a classified list, in tabular form, of retail shops was included, but as there is little change that information has been omitted from this report.

The following visits were made and improvements effected :—

Shops Acts, 1912-38 and 1950—Inspections :—

Arrangements for the Health and Comfort of Shop Workers	99
Conditions of Employment	91
Hours of Employment of Young Persons	32
Hours of Closing	91
Sunday Trading	131

Improvements Effected at Shops :

Provision of additional sanitary accommodation	.....	.....	Nil
Provision of washing facilities	.....	.....	8
Means of Lighting or Heating Improved	.....	.....	2
Facilities provided for taking meals	.....	.....	4

Places of Entertainment.

During the year 46 visits were made by the District Sanitary Inspectors to various buildings used for public entertainment.

SECTION E.

GENERAL SANITATION.

Atmospheric Pollution and Smoke Abatement.

The Health and Sanitation Committee gave close attention to matters of atmospheric pollution which arose from time to time and the District Sanitary Inspectors have kept careful observation upon the emission of industrial smoke from the chimneys of steam-raising plant and trade processes. Seventeen complaints of smoke and grit emission were dealt with including a recurring nuisance from an oil-fired bakery. In no instance was it found necessary to resort to statutory action, the nuisances being abated following advisory measures by officers of the Department. Many smoke nuisances are found to be due to lack of knowledge of fuel efficiency principles and such difficulties are usually overcome by co-operation between industry and the local authority.

The Borough Council is represented on the National Smoke Abatement Society and the London and Home Counties Smoke Abatement Advisory Council and your Chief Sanitary Inspector is a member of the Executive Committees of both bodies. Two officers of the Department are specially qualified to deal with Smoke abatement.

During the year a serious nuisance arose from the emission of obnoxious effluvia from the dehydration plant of a factory manufacturing animal food. This nuisance proved to be particularly offensive and became the cause of many complaints by residents of the neighbourhood. After acting on the advice of a consultant chemical engineer, the firm concerned installed plant for the washing of the offensive vapours and these precautions, in considerable measure, abated the nuisance.

Moveable Dwellings.

At the close of the year 1950 there was one licensed camping site to accommodate five dwellings and 28 licensed moveable dwellings stationed in various parts of the Borough. During the year, 210 visits of inspection were made.

There were no outstanding problems arising from illicit camping as were experienced in previous years, neither was it found necessary to institute summary proceedings. I am pleased to record appreciation of the co-operation of the Area Planning Officer on matters relating to moveable dwellings which require both licences under the Public Health Act, 1936 and consent under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

Offensive Trades.

There are two offensive trades, namely, a soap boiler and a rag and bone dealer, within the Borough, which in pursuance of the Public Health Act

1936, require the annual consent of the Borough Council. Conditions were found to be generally satisfactory.

House Drainage.

Nine hundred and eighty-two visits were made by officers of the Department in supervising the reconstruction and repair of drainage systems of dwelling-houses and other buildings. Ninety-six complaints of defective drains and sanitary fittings were received.

At 22 premises drainage systems were reconstructed and other improvements were carried out at 251 premises, 56 hydraulic and smoke tests being applied. The cesspools of eight dwelling-houses were abolished and the drainage systems were connected to the public sewer.

Water Sampling

43 samples of water were procured for examination and 79 visits were made in connection with water supplies and sampling :—

Domestic water supply samples	5
Food Premises water supply samples	1
Swimming Baths	37

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

No samples of rag flock were taken during the year.

SECTION F.

PEST INFESTATION CONTROL.

For administrative purposes the work of the Pest Infestation Section of the Health Department may be summarised as (a) private dwelling-houses, (b) industrial and business premises—immediately necessary treatment, (c) industrial and business premises—annual agreement scheme, (d) sewer treatment, (e) local authority properties, and (f) the destruction of pests other than rodents.

Owing to the increase in demand for the services of the Pest Infestation section, it became necessary during the year to increase the personnel to four operators and outside assistants.

Rodent Control.

During the year 332 notifications of infestation by rats and mice were recorded, this being an increase over previous years, which I am of the opinion indicates a greater public consciousness of the value of notification and does not indicate increased infestation. These notifications resulted in 1,033 investigations being carried out by the Sanitary Officers, in addition to the work of the rodent operators, statistics of which are summarised in Table No. 12.

I am pleased to record that no “reservoir” or “major” infestations now appear to exist in the Borough, but, of course, to maintain this position it is necessary to be constantly on the alert.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, treatment of sewers was carried out twice during the year.

During the second year, the Annual Agreement Scheme continued to gain popularity among industrialists and tradesmen, etc. The scheme which provides for continuous preventive measures by the periodical servicing of

premises, is particularly valuable where infestation is likely to recur. It embraces industrial and business premises of all kinds, particularly those at which food is manufactured and stored or at which canteens are situated, and also buildings used for public entertainment. Of the 55 firms who entered the scheme during 1949/50, 54 of these renewed their agreements for the year 1950/51 and further firms entered, making a total of 92 annual agreements in respect of 131 premises for a sum of £1,054.

Treatment of business premises is entirely re-chargeable work and a grant-in-aid of 50% of approved expenditure is made by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in respect of private dwellings, local authority property and sewers, subject to an efficient control service being maintained by the local authority.

Other Pests.

Pest infestation control is not restricted to rats and mice and attention was also directed to a number of complaints arising from other pests. In one area of the Borough, preventive measures were taken against mosquitoes.

SECTION I.

FIRST INFESTATION CONTROL

The following proposals for the work of the First Infestation Control Section are divided into three parts: (a) private dwelling-houses, (b) industrial and business premises, and (c) local authority property. The proposals are divided into three parts: (a) private dwelling-houses, (b) industrial and business premises, and (c) local authority property. The proposals are divided into three parts: (a) private dwelling-houses, (b) industrial and business premises, and (c) local authority property.

Granting to the increase in demand for the services of the First Infestation Control Section, it became necessary during the year to increase the personnel in the Section and to make arrangements for the recruitment of new staff. The Section has been able to recruit a number of new staff during the year.

During the year 1949/50, 732 notifications of infestation by rats and mice were recorded, this being an increase over previous years. The value of notification of infestation is a good index of the value of the work of the Section. The value of notification of infestation is a good index of the value of the work of the Section. The value of notification of infestation is a good index of the value of the work of the Section.

The work of the Section has been carried out in accordance with the proposals set out in the Annual Report of the Section for the year 1949/50. The work of the Section has been carried out in accordance with the proposals set out in the Annual Report of the Section for the year 1949/50. The work of the Section has been carried out in accordance with the proposals set out in the Annual Report of the Section for the year 1949/50.

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TABLE No. 12.
RODENT INFESTATION CONTROL (RODENT OPERATORS)

	Private Dwellings	Business Premises		Sewer Treatment (Manholes)	Refuse Destructor and Dumps	Hedges, Ditches, Parks, etc.	TOTALS
		Short-term Action	Annual Agreement Scheme				
1. Premises at which investigation was made	706	57	1,830	652	—	—	3,245
2. Premises at which rodent infestation was found	673	48	949	123	—	—	1,793
3. Premises treated by the Corporation	612	35	1,261	123	—	—	2,031
4. Poison baits laid	2,363	300	3,110	86	106	166	6,131
5. Poison baits taken	1,491	165	1,037	80	46	147	2,966

SECTION G.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Building Licensing.

Licences permitting the execution of Housing work (other than the erection of new houses) were granted to the value of £11,814, the monetary ceiling for licences for the Borough having been fixed at £12,640 by the Ministry of Works.

The following work was carried out under the direction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector who is appointed Licensing Officer for that purpose :

1. Applications for Building Licences received and investigated	60
2. Applications granted	51
3. Applications refused	9
4. Applications referred to Ministry of Works	Nil
5. Visits of investigation made	209
6. Interviews with Owners and Builders	199

Petroleum (Regulations) Acts, 1928-1936 and Petroleum (Carbide of Calcium) Order, 1929.

Licences issued to store petroleum spirit	148
Licences issued to store carbide of calcium	4
Visits of inspection made by the District Sanitary Inspectors	259
Contraventions remedied	11
Total quantity of petroleum spirit stored under licence	481,737 galls.
Total quantity of carbide of calcium stored under licence	1,720 lbs.

Registries for Female Domestic Servants.

Byelaws made in pursuance of Section 85 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, have been made by the Corporation, and came into operation on 1st July, 1950.