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BOROUGH OF UXBRIDGE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF
HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1957

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MRS. M. HANCE.

MISS D. DUDLEY.

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1957

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
259, HIGH STREET,
UXBRIDGE.

July, 1958

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE UXBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

This is a factual report on the work of the Public Health Department during 1957. The statistics set out and the facts recorded give merely an indication of the type of work done and the scope of the various procedures carried out. These facts and figures are, however, only the skeleton of a vast body of work which goes on unceasingly throughout the year. If public health work is successful it is unobtrusive and rarely makes the headlines. Only in the event of an epidemic or other similar catastrophe is the general public interest aroused, and then, of course, public health work does indeed make the headlines most dramatically. The more successful the work the less is the public interest in it, and this, consequently, is a very grave disadvantage because a great deal of public co-operation is needed for the successful carrying out of modern preventive medicine. This is, perhaps, best demonstrated in the field of food hygiene. Great efforts are made by the Public Health Department to secure that food is offered to the consumer in as wholesome a state as possible. All this work can be completely nullified if the consumer will not take the trouble to keep the food in the wholesome state in which it was received. It may be said that a great many premises do not have adequate facilities for storing food and no doubt this is very often true. There is great need for a more universal use of refrigerators, and it is a pity that their price makes their use by very many families quite impossible.

The vital statistics for 1957 call for no detailed comment. There were 22 infant deaths, the causes of which are set out in the body of the report. The circumstances of each of these deaths was very thoroughly investigated with the object of finding out if any preventive measure would have been likely to have prevented the death. In practically every case, however, the cause of death was due to some condition about which we still know very little,

and it is obvious that further reduction in the infant mortality rate will only be brought about when increased knowledge of these obscure conditions enables us to do something about them. The number of deaths from cancer of the lung has increased once again and this disease is also the subject of very intense research, not only in this country but in practically every civilised country in the world.

There is not a great deal to be said about the incidence of infectious disease in the district, except to say that the notifications both for measles and whooping cough were up on those of the previous year. Once again, there was no case of diphtheria in the district, but I must emphasise that this position only exists because of the continued immunisation of a fair proportion of infants. There are now so many immunising procedures that it is comparatively easy for parents to tend to put off the diphtheria immunisation as being unimportant because diphtheria does not apparently exist in the district. This is a very dangerous attitude to adopt, as it is fairly certain that diphtheria will reappear if the proportion of infants immunised is allowed to fall below the present level. It is necessary also to repeat what I have said again and again in the past with regard to smallpox vaccination. In these days of international travel, national service taking persons to all parts of the world, and also having an international airport on our doorstep, the need for possible revaccination is patently obvious. Revaccination in a person who has been vaccinated before is a simple, harmless and comparatively trivial procedure. Primary vaccination in an infant is also a comparatively trivial procedure, but it becomes progressively more troublesome as age advances. It is, therefore, far better to have persons vaccinated as infants at about four months of age, when the procedure is simple and harmless, rather than subject them to the possible risks and severe discomfort of a primary vaccination later in life. During 1957 further progress was made with immunisation against poliomyelitis. Comparatively few children had been immunised by the end of the year but the campaign is increasing in momentum, and it is hoped that the protection offered will soon be universally accepted. The preliminary results seem to indicate that this immunisation procedure will be as successful as that waged against diphtheria and that it will be followed by the virtual elimination of poliomyelitis.

The work in connection with food hygiene has been prosecuted with vigour during the year and in this the Food and Drug Regulations have been most useful. The food traders are now accepting the various measures as a matter of course and, in general, they have co-operated with the department most satisfactorily. Unfortunately, during 1957, the department has been under strength to the extent of one district inspector, and this has made some of the routine work of food hygiene rather more irregular than it was in the previous year. Food hygiene work is very time-consuming and depends for its success on a close and friendly relationship

between the inspector and the food trader. Defects can most often be remedied by friendly discussion on the spot at the time the defect is discovered. This is much more effective than any use of statutory powers derived from Acts of Parliament or subsequent regulations.

I would like to put on record how much I have been helped by the work of the Public Health Department staff and how much I appreciate the fine team spirit they have shown, particularly during the period of the indisposition of Mr. Baughan, the Chief Public Health Inspector, towards the end of the year. I am deeply grateful for the co-operation and help I have had from Mr. Baughan and, indeed, I must also say how willingly the local hospitals and general practitioners have co-operated in the solution of various public health problems throughout 1957. Finally, I must pay tribute to the unfailing interest and help of the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, who at all times have been most anxious to find satisfactory solutions to the various Public Health problems arising in the district.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

O. C. DOBSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

AREA

Total area of Borough 10,240 acres

POPULATION

The Registrar-General's Estimate of Population for the mid-year 1957 is 60,780.

No. of inhabited dwellings 16,966

TOTAL BIRTHS

Sex	<i>Live</i>		<i>Stillborn</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Legitimate</i>	<i>Illegitimate</i>	<i>Legitimate</i>	<i>Illegitimate</i>	
Males ...	553	22	6	—	581
Females ...	449	18	6	1	474
Totals ...	1,002	40	12	1	1,055

BIRTH RATE

	No.	Birth Rate	Basis	
LIVE BIRTHS	1,042	17·1	Crude Rate	Per 1,000 Registrar-General's estimated Resident Population
		15·6	Corrected Rate	
STILL BIRTHS	13	12·3	Per 1,000 total (<i>i.e.</i> live and still) births	

These births occurred as under:

	<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Still Births</i>
At home	360	—
In hospitals, nursing homes or other maternity establishments	682	13
	1,042	13

The Birth Rates for England and Wales were:

Live Births	16·1
Still Births	22·4

In calculating the Live Birth Rate the crude rate of 17·1 has been adjusted by the Registrar-General's Area Comparability Factor of 0·91 to give a figure of 15·6 per thousand of the estimated population. This allows for age and sex distribution of the inhabitants of the district and enables a proper comparison to be made with other districts or the country as a whole.

DEATHS AND DEATH RATE

There has been an increase in the number of deaths from 489 to 553 and the crude Death Rate has increased from 8.2 to 9.1 per 1,000 of the Registrar-General's estimated population.

	Total Deaths (All Causes)	Death Rate (per 1,000) Registrar-General's esti- mated Resident Population
Male	297	9.1 Crude Rate
Female	256	
TOTAL	553	11.9 Corrected Rate

The Death Rate for England and Wales was 11.5.

The Registrar-General has increased the Area Comparability Factor for deaths from 1.29 to 1.32 and the application of this factor to the Crude Death Rate shows a Corrected Death Rate of 11.9, which compares with 10.6 for 1956.

DEATHS FROM CANCER

Year	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Population	55,320	56,000	56,840	57,940	59,640	60,780
Malignant neoplasm, stom- ach	17	16	21	14	15	13
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus... ..	23	16	18	27	24	31
Malignant neoplasm, breast	3	8	9	11	5	8
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	8	4	5	4	3	5
Other malignant and lym- phatic neoplasms ...	40	43	48	52	47	47
Totals	91	87	101	108	94	104
Rates per 1,000 of population						
UXBRIDGE						
All causes	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.9	1.6	1.7
Lung and bronchus ...	0.42	0.29	0.32	0.47	0.40	0.51
ENGLAND AND WALES						
All causes	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1
Lung and bronchus ...	0.32	0.34	0.37	0.39	0.40	0.42

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
In Total Live Births ...	12	10	22

The rate per 1,000 live births for the year under review is 21·1, compared with the figures of 23·0 for England and Wales.

The following table gives details of deaths of those infants who were resident in the Borough :—

Date of Death	Age	Sex	Cause of Death
16. 1.57	8 hours	M	Prematurity.
17. 1.57	1 day	M	Prematurity.
2. 2.57	1 day	M	Prematurity.
2. 3.57	5 hours	M	Prematurity.
9. 3.57	9 months	F	Acute Meningococcal Meningitis.
14. 3.57	1 month	M	Congenital heart disease.
1. 4.57	1 month	M	Congenital peritonitis due to staphylococcal infection of a congenital cavity in the posterior urethra.
19. 4.57	3 days	M	Prematurity. Atelectasis.
19. 8.57	5 hours	M	Atelectasis.
19. 8.57	3 days	M	Atelectasis. Extreme Prematurity.
29. 8.57	13 hours	F	Prematurity.
2. 9.57	11 days	F	Generalised pyæmia. Prematurity.
2.10.57	4 hours	M	Prematurity.
3.10.57	2 months	F	Asphyxia.
24.10.57	3 days	F	Neonatal Anæmia.
29.10.57	6 days	M	Meningomelocele. Laryngeal stridor.
3.11.57	3 days	F	Extreme Prematurity.
10.11.57	6 hours	F	Atelectasis. Prematurity.
25.11.57	2 days	M	Atelectasis.
26.11.57	3 months	F	Broncho-pneumonia.
8.12.57	3 weeks	F	Broncho-pneumonia. Prematurity.
25.12.57	8 months	F	Asphyxia due to strangulation by clothing.

CAUSES OF DEATH

The following table shows causes of death as given in the Registrar-General's statistics.

Cause of Death	No. of Deaths		
	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	2	6
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	1	1
Acute poliomyelitis	—	1	1
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	9	4	13
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	29	2	31
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	8	8
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	5	5
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	28	19	47
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	2	2	4
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	26	48	74
Coronary disease, angina	54	22	76
Hypertension with heart disease	8	10	18
Other heart disease	32	54	86
Other circulatory disease	11	6	17
Influenza	5	2	7
Pneumonia	15	25	40
Bronchitis	19	10	29
Other disease of respiratory system	2	3	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	5	1	6
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	1	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	5	1	6
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	—	4
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	4	1	5
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	23	16	39
Motor vehicle accidents	7	2	9
All other accidents	3	6	9
Suicide	—	3	3
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
All causes	297	256	553

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the incidence of infectious diseases during 1957 and gives comparisons with the previous year.

Disease	Ages of Cases Notified								Total 1957	Total 1956	Total Cases Admitted to Hospital		Deaths			
	Under One Year	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 and over	Age un- known			Total 1957	Total 1956	1957		1956	
													1957	1956	1957	1956
Scarlet Fever ...	—	2	15	18	2	—	—	—	37	34	—	—	—	—		
Whooping Cough ...	10	25	27	68	9	—	7	—	146	49	3	—	—	—		
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Measles ...	49	237	362	643	16	4	3	1314	79	89	5	—	—	—		
Pneumonia ...	—	6	4	8	3	6	52	76	31	33	31	—	—	29		
Meningococcal Infection ...	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—		
Poliomyelitis (paralytic) ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	2	—	—	—		
" (non-paralytic) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	—	—	—		
Acute Encephalitis (infective) ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—		
(post infectious) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Dysentery ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	1	—	—	—		
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	68	99	167	167	124	167	—	—	—		
Paratyphoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Typhoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—		
Tuberculosis (pulmonary) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
(non-pulmonary) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Erysipelas ...	—	2	1	6	3	2	13	27	27	24	—	—	—	—		

TUBERCULOSIS

	NEW CASES NOTIFIED					
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	2	1	3	—	—	—
15—24	1	8	9	—	2	2
25—34	5	12	17	1	2	3
35—44	3	2	5	1	1	2
45—54	4	—	4	—	—	—
55—64	—	3	3	—	—	—
65 and over	1	2	3	—	—	—
TOTALS	16	28	44	2	5	7

	DEATHS					
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24	1	—	1	—	—	—
25—34	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—44	1	—	1	—	—	—
45—54	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—64	—	2	2	—	—	—
65 and over	2	—	2	—	—	—
TOTALS	4	2	6	—	—	—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the numbers of children immunised during the year at Middlesex County Council Welfare Clinics or by private medical practitioners.

AGE	Primary Immunisation			Reinforcing Injections		
	Diph-theria only	Combined Diph-theria and Whooping Cough	Whooping Cough only	Diph-theria only	Combined Diph-theria and Whooping Cough	Whooping Cough only
Under 1	46	524	14	—	—	—
1	13	176	16	—	1	—
2—4	11	99	4	32	33	—
5—14	30	43	1	391	217	1
15 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	100	842	35	423	251	1

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

The following table shows the number of vaccinations carried out during the year under arrangements made by the Middlesex County Council.

Age	Vaccination	Revaccination
Under 1	686	—
1	17	1
2—4	47	6
5—14	95	25
15 and over	74	193
TOTALS	919	225

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following table shows the number of children vaccinated up to 31st December, 1957, under arrangements made by the Middlesex County Council.

Age	Vaccination
Under 1	—
1	11
2—4	461
5—14	1,760
15 and over	1
TOTAL	2,233

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES

The following summary shows the inspections and other duties carried out by the Inspectorate during the year 1957, when a total of 6,284 visits were made.

Houses inspected under Housing Act	182
Premises visited under Public Health Acts	604
Re-visits to houses and other premises	1,393
Visits to works in progress	246
Unclassified visits	223
Visits to factories	185
" outworkers' premises	97
" old metal dealers' premises	17
" food premises (see table on page 20)	813
" slaughterhouses	2
" piggeries	85
" gypsy encampments and caravans	61
" tents, vans, sheds	7
" common lodging houses	2
" school premises	11
" public conveniences	20
" swimming pool	12
" petroleum installations	248
Visits <i>re</i> Rent Act	199
" Shops Acts	81
" Pet Animals Act	9
" unsound food	170
" nuisances from animals	98
" accumulation of refuse	80
" water supply	2
" drainage and cesspools	243
" ponds and ditches	23
" rats and mice	190
" insect pests	117
" infectious diseases	155
" alleged overcrowding	18
" Council houses	78
" permitted numbers of occupants	60
" smoke nuisances	28
Smoke observations	50
Council houses inspected	72
Water samples taken	41
Milk samples taken	28

Ice cream samples taken	17
Interviews	317
<hr/>	
Informal Notices served	361
Statutory Notices served	11

HOUSING

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	301
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	494
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included in sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 and 1932	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	94
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	192

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	124
--	-----

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(a) *Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957*

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

(b) *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	9
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	6
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(c) *Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	21
(2) Number of dwelling houses closed in pursuance of undertakings given by owners	11
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made... ..	4
(4) Number of dwelling houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure	6

(d) *Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	4
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

With reference to the ninety-four properties in Item 1 (3) above, the following action was taken :—

(i) *Clearance Areas.*

The Uxbridge (Barnsfield Place) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1957—comprising 14 houses—was made by the Council on 10th April, 1957, and confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on 28th August, 1957.

Twelve houses known as Kings Cottages, Moorhall Road, Harefield, were declared a Clearance Area on 14th November, 1957. These properties were subsequently purchased by the Council and further formal action to deal with them was not necessary.

(ii) *Demolition Orders.*

Demolition Orders were made in respect of the under-mentioned properties :—

- 1, 2, Black Horse Yard, Waterloo Road, Uxbridge.
- 7, Janes Place, Vine Street, Uxbridge.
- 34, 35, Villier Street, Uxbridge.
- 8, Packet Boat Lane, Cowley.
- 27, 29, Northwood Road, Harefield.
- 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 6, 10, 12, Star Road, Hillingdon.
- 3, 4, Janes Place, Vine Street, Uxbridge.
- 7, Rockingham Road, Uxbridge.
- 36, 37, Cowley Mill Road, Uxbridge.

(iii) *Closing Orders.*

Closing Orders were made in respect of the undermentioned properties :

- 5, High Street, Harefield.
- 29, Waterloo Road, Uxbridge.
- 9, High Street, Harefield.
- 51, The Lynch, Uxbridge.

(iv) *Undertakings not to use for human habitation.*

Undertakings were given by the owners that the following premises would not be used human for habitation until they were either demolished or works of repair carried out which would render the houses fit for human habitation :

- 93, 94, High Street, Uxbridge.
- 4, Black Horse Yard, Waterloo Road, Uxbridge.
- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, Bethel Place, George Street, Uxbridge.
- 29, Bennett's Yard, Uxbridge.
- 21, Waterloo Road, Uxbridge.

(v) *Council Owned Properties.*

The undermentioned properties were owned by the Council and Certificates of Unfitness were submitted by the Medical Officer of Health in accordance with the Housing Act, 1957, and Housing Subsidies Act, 1956. These were considered by the Council and formal notification given to the Minister of Housing and Local Government of the Council's intention to close or demolish the properties :

- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, Waterloo Cottages, High Street, Harefield.
- 1, 2, 3, Orchard Place, High Road, Cowley.
- 15, 16, Barnsfield Place, Uxbridge.
- 57, 58, 59, 73, 74, The Lynch, Uxbridge.
- 25, 26, 27, 28, Bennett's Yard, Uxbridge.
- 13, Waterloo Road, Uxbridge.
- 3, Windsor Street, Uxbridge. (Living accommodation over shop.)
- 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, Elthorne Road, Uxbridge.

With reference to Item 3 (d) (1) above, Closing Orders were made in respect of the following :

- 7, High Street, Harefield : three rooms on first floor over shop.
- 10, Wellington Road, Uxbridge : four rooms in first floor loft over veterinary surgery.
- 12, Hillingdon Road, Uxbridge : two underground rooms.
- 8, Cross Street, Uxbridge : two rooms on ground floor at rear of shop and two rooms on first floor.

SLUM CLEARANCE

The Council have energetically attacked the problem of insanitary houses within the area and completed extensive slum clearance schemes during the period from 1932 to the outbreak of war in 1939.

This policy has been continued in the post-war years and considerable progress has been made in dealing with individual unfit houses and clearance areas.

In August, 1955, following a comprehensive survey of the area to ascertain the extent of the problem, the Council's five-year programme was submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government : the total number of houses involved was 350, which are now being dealt with.

The following table shows the number of houses in respect of which action had been completed up to the end of 1957 :

	<i>No. of Houses</i>	<i>Total Houses</i>
1932 to 1939:		
68 Clearance Areas	524	
Individual Unfit Houses	97	
	—	621
1946 to December, 1957 :		
2 Clearance Areas	26	
Individual Unfit Houses:		
1947	1	
1948	—	
1949	2	
1950	6	
1951	7	
1952	7	
1953	6	
1954	25	
1955	28	
1956	16	
1957	68	
	—	
	166	
	—	192
		—
		813
		—
Number of Houses included in the five-year programme, and not yet dealt with ...		224
		—
Total number of Houses dealt with since 1932 on completion of present programme		1,037
		—

In addition, since 1946, in 14 instances parts of buildings have been closed as being unfit for human habitation.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

The following table shows the action taken up to 31st December, 1957, with regard to Certificates of Disrepair, consequent upon the coming into force on 6th July of the Rent Act, 1957.

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair:

1.	Number of applications for Certificates	63
2.	Number of decisions not to issue Certificates ...	Nil
3.	Number of decisions to issue Certificates:	
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects	42
	(b) in respect of all defects	21
4.	Number of undertakings given by landlords under para. 5 of the First Schedule	22
5.	Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to para. 5 of the First Schedule ...	Nil
6.	Number of Certificates issued	41

Applications for Cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair on Completion of Specified Works:

7.	Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of Certificates	3
8.	Objections by tenants to cancellation of Certificates	Nil
9.	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection	Nil
10.	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	3

NUISANCES

Eight hundred and eight individual complaints were received relating to the following matters :

Insanitary condition of house	14
General defects	33
Defective chimneys and fireplaces	3
,, walls and ceilings	5
,, floors	1
,, roofs and guttering	6
,, drains and sanitary fittings	121
,, water storage tanks and fittings	17
,, sinks and wash-hand basins	2
,, dustbins	28
Nuisance from dampness	19
Overcrowding	2
Verminous premises	4
Wasps' nests	50
Accumulation of refuse	54
Nuisance from keeping animals	16
,, ,, gypsies	8
,, ,, rats or mice	324
,, ,, ponds or ditches	5
,, ,, insect pests	59
,, ,, smoke	6
Miscellaneous nuisances... ..	31

FACTORIES

The following tables show the number of inspections made, defects found, and the result of action taken.

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupier prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	17	22	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	177	155	9	—
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	8	8	—	—
TOTAL	202	185	10	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	8	8	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to home work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	10	10	—	2	—

3. HOME-WORK.

During the year 97 visits of inspection were made to the homes of outworkers residing in the Borough; all the premises were found to be in a satisfactory condition.

PETROLEUM INSTALLATIONS

During the year 248 visits were paid to the 97 premises licensed for the storage of petroleum spirit, petroleum mixtures and carbide of calcium.

In continuation of the policy commenced in November, 1951, the testing of underground storage tanks of twenty or more years' existence has been carried out during the year. Two tanks installed for twenty years and thirty-five tanks installed for twenty-five years were subjected to the approved gravitation test and all were found to be satisfactory.

DEALERS IN OLD METAL AND MARINE STORES

On 12th January, 1953, the Secretary of State made an Order, at the request of the Council, bringing into operation the provisions of Section 86 of the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907, which requires dealers in old metal to register their names and addresses with the Council and keep records as laid down in the Act.

The names and addresses of eleven dealers are registered, and all the premises were inspected during the year.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

A total of fifty observations of factory chimneys in the district were made during the year. Certain of these were considered to require timed observations and fourteen such recordings were made, and where necessary the matter of excessive emission of smoke was taken up with the firms concerned.

Once again the excessive emissions proving most difficult to abate arose from plant using wood-waste as fuel which, unless burnt in specially designed and carefully operated plant, can produce a disproportionate amount of smoke.

In Uxbridge those firms using wood fuel operate furnaces originally designed for the combustion of coal or coke, and although modifications have been carried out to facilitate the burning of wood it is very difficult to do this efficiently unless the greatest care is taken in stoking, and mechanical apparatus designed for the feeding of solid fuels is found to be unsuitable when used in connection with plant consuming wood.

It is expected that when the Regulations, made under the Clean Air Act, 1956, governing the emission of dark smoke become operative increased importance will be attached to plant efficiency by management irrespective of the type of fuel used.

WATER SUPPLY

The piped supply of the Borough is provided from the mains of the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company, and has been adequate for the requirements of the area.

During the year ten samples of water have been taken in the Uxbridge town area, the district formerly served by the Council's water undertaking, and eight samples taken in the outer areas. In addition, two samples were collected from a house following complaint concerning the taste of the water. All of the twenty samples were submitted to the Regional Public Health Laboratory for examination, and each was found to be of high bacterial purity and safe for drinking purposes.

The number of dwelling-houses and the population supplied from the public mains are estimated to be as follows:

	<i>Number of Dwelling-houses</i>	<i>Population</i>
Direct to the house ...	17,034	60,776
By means of stand-pipes ...	1	4

During the year nine samples have been taken from the deep wells supplying five factories where water is used for industrial purposes, food preparation and/or drinking purposes. The Laboratory reports showed the water from all the wells to be satisfactory.

SWIMMING POOL

The Council's swimming pool was open to the public during the season May to September.

As in previous years the routine examination of the swimming pool water was carried out throughout the season, frequent tests being made to establish the degree of free chlorine present in the water. The results fluctuated according to the number of bathers using the pool, but on no occasion was it found that the amount of available free chlorine present was reduced below the minimum desirable standard.

FOOD HYGIENE

The systematic inspection of all food premises in the Borough was continued during the year, when the new standards laid down in the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1956, continued to be applied.

The following tables give a broad indication of the nature and extent of the inspections made and action taken.

(a) INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES.

Type of Premises	Premises		Visits Made	Notices Served
	Total No.	Inspected		
Restaurants and Cafes ...	58	45	89	12
Industrial Canteens	37	15	18	—
School Canteens	19	19	29	—
Ice Cream Premises	121	61	72	1
Licensed Premises	67	24	51	4
Milk Distributors' Premises ...	18	8	21	—
Preserved Food Premises ...	18	6	6	—
Bakehouses	14	14	58	1
Bakers' Shops	19	17	47	6
Butchers' Shops	34	34	79	13
Grocer Shops and Wholesale Depots	93	55	210	17
Wet Fish Shops	14	12	25	2
Fried Fish Shops	13	10	16	—
Confectioners' Shops	53	19	37	5
Greengrocers' Shops	31	26	51	11
Food Hawkers' Premises ...	4	2	4	—
TOTALS	613	367	813	72

(b) REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES.

Act or Regulation	Type of Premises	No. of Premises
Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 14 ...	Ice Cream	93
	Preserved Food	18
Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 ...	Distributors of Milk	18
Middlesex County Council Act, 1950, Section 11	Food Hawkers	4
		133

(c) DEFECTS REMEDIED.

Water Closets:

Insufficient closet accommodation	1
Not properly screened	2
Lack of intervening space	2
Defective pans	4
Defective flushing apparatus	1
Dirty W.C. compartment	6
Lack of "Hand Washing" notice	23
Insufficient light or ventilation	7

— 46

Drainage:

Defective gulleys	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
							—	2

Sinks:

Defective or insanitary sink	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	
Hot water required to sink	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Defective waste pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
							—	8

Washing and other Facilities for Staff:

Absence of or defective hand basin	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	
„ „ hot water	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	
„ „ cold water	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	
Provision of towels	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	
„ „ soap or detergent	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	
„ „ nailbrushes	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	
Absence of proper storage for clothes	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	
Provision of suitable First Aid material	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	
							—	95

Uncleanliness:

Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Food Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	
Preparation rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	
Preparation surfaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Dining rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Handling of foodstuffs	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	
Foodstuff less than 18 in. from ground	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
							—	43

Utensils:

Defective	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Unclean	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
							—	6

Refrigerators:

Unclean	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
							—	3

Refuse:

Defective or insufficient dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	
Accumulations of offensive matter	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	
							—	18

Rats and Mice:

Number of infestations	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	
Rat-proofing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
							—	32

General Defects:

Defective plaster (number of rooms)	7
Defective floors	4
Insanitary condition of walls and ceilings (number of rooms)	6
Insufficient natural light	1
Defective windows	2
Defective yard paving	1
	— 21
	TOTAL 274

(i) *Butchers' Shops.* **MEAT INSPECTION**

During the year 3 cwts. 104 lbs. of fresh meat, home killed and imported, was found to be unfit for human consumption and destroyed.

(ii) *Slaughterhouses.*

There is only one private slaughterhouse in the area but no slaughtering took place during the year, and the required table of carcasses and offal inspected is, therefore, not given.

UNSOOUND FOOD

The total amount of food (other than butchers' meat) surrendered for destruction during the year was 2 tons 9 cwts. 109 lbs., as shown in the following table.

Class of Food	Quantity		
	Tons	Cwts.	Lbs.
Meat—tinned		12	69
Soup—tinned			79
Fish—tinned			41
Fish—wet		6	77
Poultry			8
Bacon			38
Cheese			8
Milk—tinned		1	84
Fruit—tinned		11	14
Fruit—dried			79
Vegetables—tinned		9	104
Jam and Marmalade			45
Cereals			52
Pickles and Sauces			1
Biscuits and Cake			19
Salt			51
Butter			30
Cooking Fat			3
Sugar		3	49
Confectionery			1
Jellies			3
Tea			28
Cocoa			10
	2	9	109

In the absence of a local authority refuse destructor all unsound food for disposal is treated with an application of strong disinfectant, containers being broken open for this purpose, and is then buried under supervision of a member of the staff of the Public Health Department at the Council's refuse tip.

MILK SUPPLY

The responsibilities of this Authority under the Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders are limited to the supervision of dairies and retail distributors' premises, in respect of which twenty-one visits were made during the year.

(a) PREMISES AND DISTRIBUTORS.

The following table shows the number of registered premises and distributors within the district:—

Retail distributors	...	...	...	...	18
Retail distributors from other districts	...	...	...	...	6

Thirty-eight principal and eight supplementary licences were granted for the sale of designated milks.

(b) MILK IN SCHOOLS SCHEME.

As in previous years, samples of milk have been taken at regular intervals from the various schools in the area, which are supplied by three different distributors.

Twenty-eight such samples were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination by the methylene blue and phosphatase tests, and all were found to be satisfactory.

ICE CREAM

During the year seventeen samples of ice cream were sent to the Public Health Laboratory for examination by the methylene blue reduction test. The results of these examinations showed fifteen of the samples to be Grade I and two Grade II.

PET SHOPS

All premises licensed under the Pet Animals Act, 1951, were visited and inspected during the year and were found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition and the licences renewed.

There are four pet shops in the Borough. One shop sells fish only and the others sell birds, mice, rabbits, reptiles and tortoises in addition to fish ; no shops sell puppies.

DISINFECTION

When required steam disinfections are carried out at the Council's plant at Cowley Mill Road following the occurrence of certain diseases. The installation has again been inspected by the

Council's insurers and found to be maintained in good working order.

Home disinfections have been carried out following the occurrence of certain infectious and other specified diseases.

DISINFESTATION

During the year under review four occupied private or Council dwelling houses, which were found to be bug infested, were disinfested.

The spraying of unoccupied Council houses was continued and during the year 72 new houses and 214 vacant houses were treated.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

As in previous years, the many watercourses, lakes, ponds, ditches, etc., throughout the District were treated with a larvaecide.

The material used is manufactured specifically for mosquito control, and it is considered that some relief from this summer pest is afforded the residents in the area.

RODENT CONTROL

The rodent control section of the Public Health Department continued to operate, and works of disinfestation were carried out at factories, wholesale depots, business premises and private dwelling-houses. Works were also carried out at the Council's refuse tip, depots and premises.

The majority of the infestations investigated on business and private premises were found to be of minor character.

In continuance of the treatment of sewers first carried out in 1944 and repeated each year, two further maintenance treatments of the sewers in the town area of Uxbridge and the outer areas of the district were carried out during the year. Systematic baiting and poisoning campaigns took place and all areas of infestation detected were dealt with.

PATHOLOGICAL WORK

Material requiring pathological examination is sent to the Neasden Public Health Laboratory, but in certain instances this has been submitted to the Central Public Health Laboratory at Colindale.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

There is close co-operation between the personal health services provided by the Middlesex County Council and the environmental health services of the Borough Council, as the Borough Medical Officer of Health is also the Area Medical Officer supervising the personal health services on behalf of the County Council.

An outline of the County Council services is given below :—

CLINICS

Central Hillingdon, British Legion Hall, Uxbridge Road	1
Hillingdon, Oak Farm Clinic, Long Lane	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Harefield, St. Mary's Church Hall ...	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
Ickenham Church Hall	1, 2, 4, 7
Uxbridge Clinic, Local County Offices, High Street	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10
<i>Mobile Clinic attends—</i>	
Cowley Recreation Ground... ..	1, 4
Violet Farm Estate	4
British Legion Hall, Uxbridge Road	2, 4, 7
Harlington Road, Hillingdon ...	1
Dellside, Harefield	1

KEY TO SERVICES PROVIDED

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Child Welfare | 6. Ophthalmic |
| 2. Ante-Natal | 7. Post-natal |
| 3. School Minor Ailments | 8. Dental |
| 4. Immunisation and Vaccination | 9. Orthodontic |
| 5. Speech Therapy | 10. Orthopædic |

Times and days of various sessions may be obtained on enquiry at any of the Clinics or to the Area Health Office, Local County Offices, High Street, Uxbridge. Uxbridge 8290.

HEALTH VISITING

The service makes available practical advice on all matters relating to the health of the family. Qualified Health Visitors, who are also School Nurses, are in attendance at clinic sessions and also visit homes where there are babies and young children.

DAY NURSERIES

All enquiries concerning applications for admission to Day Nurseries should be addressed to the Area Medical Officer, Area Health Office, Local County Offices, High Street, Uxbridge.
High Street Day Nursery, Uxbridge.

MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING SERVICES

MIDWIVES.

The following midwives practice in the Borough :—

Miss I. M. Bailey (District Nurse/Midwife), 13, Harvil Road, Harefield (Harefield 2233).

Miss E. I. Johnson, 143, Tudor Road, Hayes (Hayes 1406).

Miss I. K. Gardner, 74, Halford Road, Ickenham (Uxbridge 4389).

Miss J. Reed, 18, Churchill Avenue, Hillingdon (Uxbridge 3913).

Miss T. S. Kavanagh, 143, Tudor Road, Hayes (Hayes 1406).

HOME NURSES.

The following home nurses practice in the Borough :—

Harefield

Mrs. S. M. Harrison, 104, Oxford Road, Denham (no telephone).

Uxbridge

Mrs. E. M. Galley, "Wardley," Warren Road, Uxbridge (Uxbridge 4775).

Cowley

Miss V. M. Colchester, 20, Morgans Lane, Hayes End (Hayes 0124).

Hillingdon

Mrs. B. D. Galley, 9, Charville Lane West, Hillingdon (Uxbridge 2895).

Mrs. M. T. Shannon, 35, Victoria Avenue, Hillingdon (Uxbridge 8103).

Ickenham

Mrs. L. McKee, 10, Court Road, Ickenham (Ruislip 7558).

HOME HELP SERVICE

All enquiries concerning this service should be made to the Area Health Office, Uxbridge.

Home Help is provided in cases where an emergency arises owing to illness in the home and in cases of confinement taking place at home. Payment for this service is assessed according to income.

PRIVATE MIDWIVES AND PRIVATE NURSING HOMES

The names and addresses of Private Midwives and Private Nursing Homes can be supplied on application to the Area Health Office, Uxbridge.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Diphtheria immunisation, whooping cough immunisation and vaccination will usually be carried out by family doctors. In addition, provision for these procedures is available at the various County Council Clinics.

CHIROPODY

A chiropody clinic for nursing and expectant mothers and children up to the age of five years, is held at Minet Clinic, Coldharbour Lane, Hayes, on Friday, at 1.30 p.m. Attendance by appointment only.

SOME OTHER SERVICES AND GENERAL INFORMATION

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Service is administered by the Middlesex County Council Fire and Ambulance Service. In an emergency the Ambulance Service can be called by telephoning "999" or "0" and asking for Ambulance Service. Other enquiries should be made to Fire and Ambulance Service Headquarters, Harrow Road, Wembley (Telephone No. WEMbley 1121 or 4861) or *local Fire Station*.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

For the care of all children deprived of normal home life, adoptions, Child Life Protection, residential nurseries, etc.

Children's Area Officer, No. 8 Area :

F. W. Clay, Local County Offices, High Street, Uxbridge (Uxbridge 8290).

WELFARE DEPARTMENT

For the care and supervision of the aged and infirm and their effects ; the supervision and assistance to the blind and other severely handicapped adults.

Area Welfare Officer, No. 8 Area :

A. E. Mansell, Local County Offices, High Street, Uxbridge (Uxbridge 8290).

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Mental Welfare Officers (Duly Authorised), Local County Offices, High Street, Yiewsley (West Drayton 2432 and 2531).

Divisional Mental Welfare Officer :

A. G. Ash, 69, Helen Avenue, Feltham (FELtham 2096).

Psychiatric Social Worker :

Miss M. Bosanquet, Local County Offices, High Street, Yiewsley.

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC

Psychiatrist :

W. Robson, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M., Child Guidance Clinic, 255, High Street, Uxbridge (Uxbridge 8290).

NORTH KENSINGTON MARRIAGE WELFARE CENTRE

Branch Clinic (Birth Control, Gynæcology, Sub-Fertility, Marriage Problems and Remedial Exercises) :

Uxbridge Clinic, Local County Offices, High Street, Uxbridge. Thursday, 1.45-3.15 p.m. ; 5.30-7.0 p.m.

THE UXBRIDGE DEANERY ASSOCIATION FOR MORAL
WELFARE WORK

Deanery Worker :

Miss L. G. Polman, St. Andrew's Church Hall, Hillingdon
Road, Uxbridge (Uxbridge 2208). Monday to Friday
10 a.m.-12 noon.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES

Uxbridge Registration District, Superintendent Registrar :

Miss E. K. O'Keefe, Local County Offices, Uxbridge
(Uxbridge 8290).

Uxbridge Registration Sub-District, Registrar of Births and Deaths:

G. Hardcastle, Local County Offices, Uxbridge (Uxbridge
8290).

Hillingdon Hospital, Royal Lane, Hillingdon :

Mrs. H. Burke (Uxbridge 6490).