

Vital Statistics

Infectious Diseases

Areas where numbers of notifications were high in the latest two weeks for which figures are available.

| | Week Ending | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|---------|
| | Dec. 3 | Dec. 10 |
| Measles | | |
| Lancashire | 1,902 | 1,790 |
| Liverpool C.B. | 221 | 250 |
| Manchester C.B. | 127 | 142 |
| Oldham C.B. | 151 | 128 |
| Yorkshire West Riding | 798 | 637 |
| Bradford C.B. | 195 | 169 |
| Leeds C.B. | 125 | 118 |
| Glamorganshire | 233 | 324 |
| Swansea C.B. | 110 | 187 |
| Dysentery | | |
| Cheshire | 41 | 23 |
| Hoylake R.D. | 32 | 11 |
| Kent | 7 | 24 |
| Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D. | 1 | 13 |
| Lancashire | 116 | 76 |
| Liverpool C.B. | 22 | 13 |
| Eccles M.B. | 18 | 24 |
| London | 50 | 39 |
| Middlesex | 24 | 39 |
| Edmonton M.B. | 10 | 21 |
| Nottinghamshire | 34 | 28 |
| Carlton U.D. | 15 | 15 |
| Surrey | 4 | 19 |
| Epsom and Ewell M.B. | 1 | 12 |
| Yorkshire West Riding | 99 | 93 |
| Bradford C.B. | 23 | 29 |
| Huddersfield C.B. | 19 | 14 |
| Leeds C.B. | 26 | 23 |
| Monmouthshire | 10 | 38 |
| Newport C.B. | 0 | 29 |
| Glasgow | 94 | 101 |

London Statistics

The population of the administrative County of London in 1959 was 3,225,000, slightly less than in the previous year. But the birth rate of 17.2 per 1,000 population was higher than for many years past. 10.41% of total live births in London were illegitimate. This rate has risen from 7.1 in 1954 to its present figure, though the illegitimacy rate for the whole of England and Wales rose only from 4.7 to 5.1 during that time. In his annual report for 1959, from which these figures are taken, Dr. J. A. Scott, Medical Officer of Health to the L.C.C., points out that London has a lower proportion of married women than other parts of the country and it also offers attractive facilities to unmarried mothers—antenatal care, anonymity, and support from moral welfare organizations.

London had 75 cases of diphtheria in 1959, much the highest figure since 1950. The notifications of dysentery (3,571) and enteric fever (84) were also relatively high. By the midpoint of 1959 about two-thirds of London children up to 16-years of age had been vaccinated against poliomyelitis. The incidence rate of poliomyelitis in unvaccinated children was about seven times that in the vaccinated. Although infestation with lice or nits is far less common than it used to be, about 5 schoolchildren out of every 400 examined at the annual comprehensive health surveys were found to be verminous. 544 cases of scabies were notified during the year.

The number of men (11,722) and of women (2,599) who were treated for gonorrhoea at London out-patient clinics in 1959 was more than double the number who came for treatment ten years ago.

Road Accidents in October

The 670 deaths from road accidents in October was the highest figure so far for any month in 1960—being 15 more than in October last year. The number of children killed was 61—4 more than in October, 1959—bringing the total child deaths on the roads this year to 641, or 64 more than in the same period of 1959. The total number of casualties—killed and injured—on the roads in October was 31,740, an increase of 522, or nearly 2% compared with last year. Motor traffic is estimated to have increased by 4% over the same period.

Graphs of Infectious Diseases

The graphs below show the uncorrected numbers of cases of certain diseases notified weekly in England and Wales. Highest and lowest figures reported in each week during the years 1951-9 are shown thus -----, the figures for 1960 thus ————. Except for the curves showing notifications in 1960, the graphs were prepared at the Department of Medical Statistics and Epidemiology, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

