

iodine-131. The first results had not shown any appreciable amount of this isotope in water supplies from large areas of fresh water.

Dried Milk for the Colonies

Mr. J. BOYDEN (Bishop Auckland, Lab.) asked on November 16 if arrangements would be made for quantities of dried milk to be available in British colonial territories where danger from iodine-131 might arise. Mr. R. MAUDLING, Colonial Secretary, stated that the attention of colonial governments was being drawn to the possible need to have reserve stocks of dried milk available in case there should be any likelihood of a hazard arising.

Psychiatric Treatment in Prisons

The HOME SECRETARY informed Mr. K. ROBINSON on November 15 that at present nine visiting psychiatrists were treating 171 inmates at 23 sessions in each week at Wormwood Scrubs, Wakefield, Holloway, and Pentonville prisons and at Feltham borstal. In addition, psychiatric treatment was provided by prison medical officers, many of whom held psychiatric qualifications. The whole-time equivalent was not ascertainable.

He also stated that Grendon Underwood psychiatric prison was expected to receive its first inmates early in June, 1962. The numbers would be built up gradually to a maximum of 300 men and 25 women. The head of the establishment, who would be a principal medical officer of the prison medical service and would be known as the medical superintendent, had been selected and would take up his appointment shortly before the establishment opened. The complement of other medical and ancillary staff had not yet been settled.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

The Theodore Williams Scholarship in Physiology for 1961 has been awarded to Richard Anthony Mayou, B.A., scholar of St. John's College.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

In Congregation on November 4 the following degrees were conferred:

M.D.—E. A. Cooper (by proxy).
M.CHIR.—P. H. Lord (by proxy).

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The title of Reader in Bacteriology has been conferred on Mr. C. H. Lack in respect of his post at the Institute of Orthopaedics; that of Reader in Physiology on Dr. M. Schachter in respect of his post at University College; and that of Reader in Virology on Dr. C. E. Gordon Smith in respect of his post at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

At a meeting of the Council of the College held on November 9, with Sir Arthur Porritt, President, in the chair, the death of Viscount Crookshank (Hunterian Trustee) was recorded with deep regret.

The Hallett Prize was awarded to Paul Vincent Mills, of the London Hospital Medical College.

The Council agreed, at the request of the United Arab Republic, to hold a Primary F.R.C.S. examination in Cairo in March, 1962.

After the meeting the Bradshaw Lecture was delivered by Professor Digby Chamberlain on "The Spleen and Its Removal."

SCOTTISH TRIPLE QUALIFICATION BOARD

The following candidates have passed the final examinations and have been granted the diploma of L.R.C.P.Ed., L.R.C.S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S.Glas.: W. E. Bangert, Jean J. Wong, L. M. Y. Perez, G. D. K. Flint, M. Akbani.

UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA

Dr. Emmanuel Patrick, M.R.C.P.Ed., has been appointed full-time physician for the University Health Service in Kuala Lumpur.

Vital Statistics

Acute Respiratory Infection in Pembrokeshire

An outbreak of acute respiratory infection which began in the Haverfordwest, St. Davids, and Fishguard areas of Pembrokeshire has spread into the neighbouring counties of Cardiganshire and Carmarthenshire. The virus believed to be causing the illness had not been identified at the beginning of this week, but laboratory investigations were continuing. Symptoms and signs included sore throat, pyrexia for 2 to 4 days, conjunctival injection, and slight photophobia. The outbreak started among children in grammar and secondary schools (in some of these schools up to 75% of the children have been absent), but younger children have since been affected. The infection spreads rapidly and the incubation period is short. No serious complications have so far been reported. (We are indebted to Dr. D. J. Davies, county medical officer of Pembrokeshire, for the above information.)

Births and Deaths in London

In his annual report for 1960, Dr. J. A. Scott, County Medical Officer of Health of London, records that the London birth rate in 1960 (18.0 per 1,000 population) and the number of live births (57,368) were the highest since the post-war bulge of 1946-8. The death rate of 11.4 per 1,000 population was about the average of the last decade. The still-birth rate (18.0 per 1,000 total births) was the lowest yet recorded. Despite this the estimated population of the County of London fell by 10,000 to 3,194,000. In the last ten years there has been a fall of 196,000 in the population aged between 25 and 44.

Of the 57,368 babies born, 6,530 (11.4%) were illegitimate. The borough with the highest rate (21.9%) was Paddington. The national illegitimacy rate in 1960 was 5.4%, and the only other large town in England and Wales with an illegitimacy rate approaching that of London is Manchester (9.3% in 1959). Dr. Scott attributes the high rate in London to a complex of factors—proportionately more single women, a continuous influx of unmarried women, many of whom are already pregnant, and the facilities which London can offer to an unmarried mother in the way of anonymity, antenatal care, and support from moral welfare organizations.

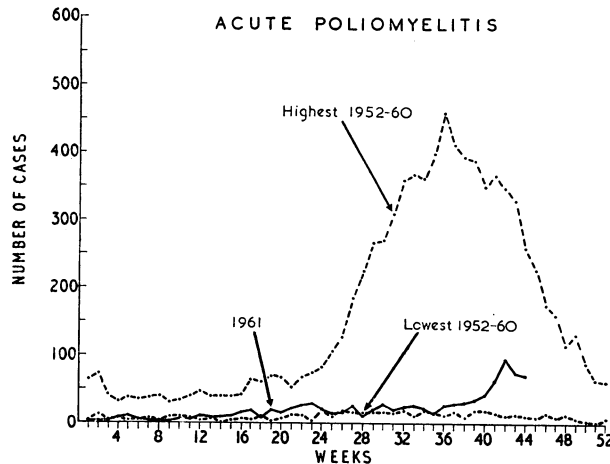
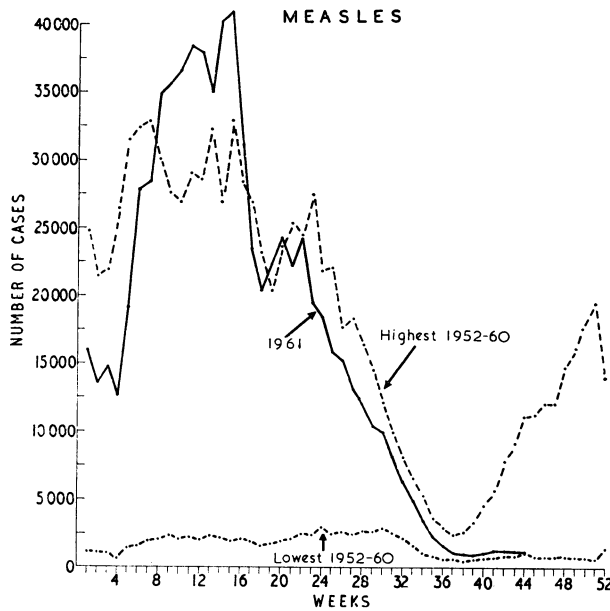
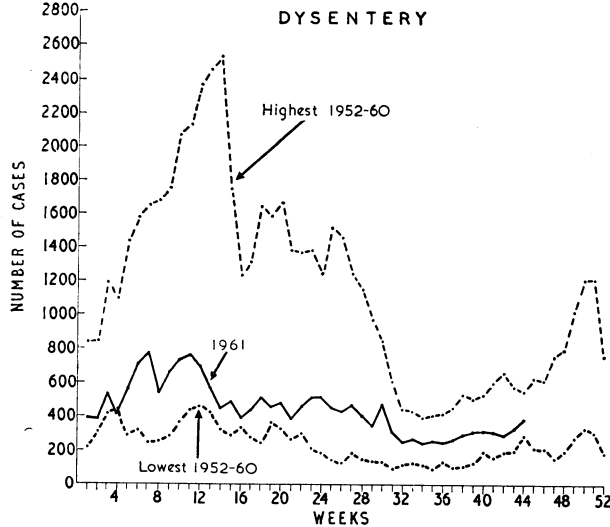
Infectious Diseases

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

| | Week Ended | |
|--------------------------------|------------|---------|
| | Nov. 4 | Nov. 11 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | | |
| Lancashire | 18 | 9 |
| Worsley U.D. | 0 | 2 |
| Yorkshire East Riding | 26 | 13 |
| Kingston upon Hull C.B. | 22 | 11 |
| Withernsea U.D. | 0 | 2 |
| Durham | 1 | 5 |
| Easington R.D. | 1 | 3 |
| Paratyphoid Fever | | |
| Lancashire | 0 | 10 |
| Golborne U.D. | 0 | 9 |
| Typhoid Fever | | |
| London | 2 | 6 |
| Poplar | 1 | 5 |
| Dysentery | | |
| Lancashire | 128 | 128 |
| Great Harwood U.D. | 33 | 16 |
| Clitheroe R.D. | 0 | 21 |
| Yorkshire West Riding | 39 | 54 |
| Leeds C.B. | 24 | 32 |
| Glasgow | 102 | 106 |
| Dundee | 23 | 24 |
| Edinburgh | 20 | 40 |

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 1952-60 are shown thus -----, the figures for 1961 thus ———. Except for the curves showing notifications in 1961, the graphs were prepared at the Department of Medical Statistics and Epidemiology, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.



INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND VITAL STATISTICS

Summary for British Isles for week ending **November 4** (No. 44) and corresponding week 1960.

Figures of *cases* are for the countries shown and London administrative county. Figures of *deaths* and *births* are for the whole of England and Wales (London included), London administrative county, the 17 principal towns in Scotland, the 10 principal towns in Northern Ireland, and the 14 principal towns in Eire.

A blank space denotes disease not notifiable or no return available. The table is based on information supplied by the Registrars-General of England and Wales, Scotland, N. Ireland, and Eire, the Ministry of Health and Local Government of N. Ireland, and the Department of Health of Eire.

| CASES | 1961 | | | | | 1960 | | | | |
|---|--------------|-------|-------|---------|------|--------------|-------|-------|---------|------|
| | Eng. & Wales | Lond. | Scot. | N. Ire. | Eire | Eng. & Wales | Lond. | Scot. | N. Ire. | Eire |
| Diphtheria .. | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | | 4 | 0 | 3 | 0 | |
| Dysentery .. | 386 | 33 | 176 | 16 | 12 | 422 | 56 | 166 | 9 | 4 |
| Encephalitis, acute | 3 | 0 | | 0 | | 3 | 1 | | 0 | 1 |
| Enteric fever: Typhoid .. | 6 | 2 | 1 | 0 | | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Paratyphoid .. | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 | | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | |
| Food-poisoning .. | 329 | 12 | 40 | 2 | | 161 | 24 | 15 | 1 | |
| Infective enteritis or diarrhoea under 2 years .. | | | | 21 | 29 | | | | 16 | 41 |
| Measles* .. | 1 145 | 51 | 12 | 77 | 120 | 5,280 | 288 | 96 | 15 | 39 |
| Meningococcal infection .. | 17 | 2 | 8 | 1 | | 18 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 1 |
| Ophthalmia neonatorum .. | 17 | 6 | 1 | 0 | | 26 | 3 | 2 | 0 | |
| Pneumonia† .. | 161 | 13 | 98 | 0 | 1 | 215 | 21 | 132 | 2 | 1 |
| Poliomyelitis, acute: Paralytic .. | 50 | 4 | 0 | 0 | | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Non-paralytic .. | 20 | 0 | 2 | | | 2 | 1 | 1 | | 1 |
| Puerperal fever‡ .. | 153 | 29 | 13 | 0 | | 175 | 29 | 7 | 0 | |
| Scarlet fever .. | 378 | 22 | 48 | 16 | 16 | 416 | 23 | 67 | 24 | 25 |
| Tuberculosis: Respiratory .. | 324 | 47 | 44 | 18 | | 363 | 46 | 68 | 11 | |
| Non-respiratory .. | 62 | 6 | 10 | 2 | | 56 | 3 | 12 | 3 | |
| Whooping-cough | 207 | 17 | 29 | 5 | 18 | 1,000 | 73 | 86 | 15 | 59 |

| DEATHS | 1961 | | | | | 1960 | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|-------|-------|---------|------|--------------|-------|-------|---------|------|---|---|
| | Eng. & Wales | Lond. | Scot. | N. Ire. | Eire | Eng. & Wales | Lond. | Scot. | N. Ire. | Eire | | |
| Diphtheria .. | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Dysentery .. | 0 | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | | 0 | | | |
| Encephalitis, acute | | 0 | | | 0 | | 0 | | | 0 | | |
| Enteric fever .. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Infective enteritis or diarrhoea under 2 years .. | 5 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 3 | | |
| Influenza .. | 15 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Measles .. | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Meningococcal infection .. | | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Pneumonia .. | 488 | 35 | 23 | 17 | 7 | 459 | 35 | 23 | 14 | 8 | | |
| Poliomyelitis, acute | 2 | 0 | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | | |
| Scarlet fever .. | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Tuberculosis: Respiratory .. | } 54 | { 3 | 0 | 6 | { 1 | 2 | } 62 | { 1 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| Non-respiratory .. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Whooping-cough | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Deaths 0-1 year .. | 302 | 26 | 36 | 12 | 8 | 318 | 37 | 27 | 8 | 12 | | |
| Deaths (excluding stillbirths) .. | 9,827 | 801 | 602 | 125 | 161 | 9,758 | 776 | 583 | 116 | 157 | | |
| LIVE BIRTHS .. | 15,221 | 1331 | 1021 | 259 | 351 | 14,485 | 1238 | 1003 | 251 | 351 | | |
| STILLBIRTHS .. | 294 | 23 | 24 | | | 289 | 15 | 16 | | | | |

* Measles not notifiable in Scotland, whence returns are approximate.
 † Includes primary and influenza pneumonia.
 ‡ Includes puerperal pyrexia.