

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Mitcham].

Contributors

Mitcham (London, England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

[1935?]

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BOROUGH OF MITCHAM

REPORT

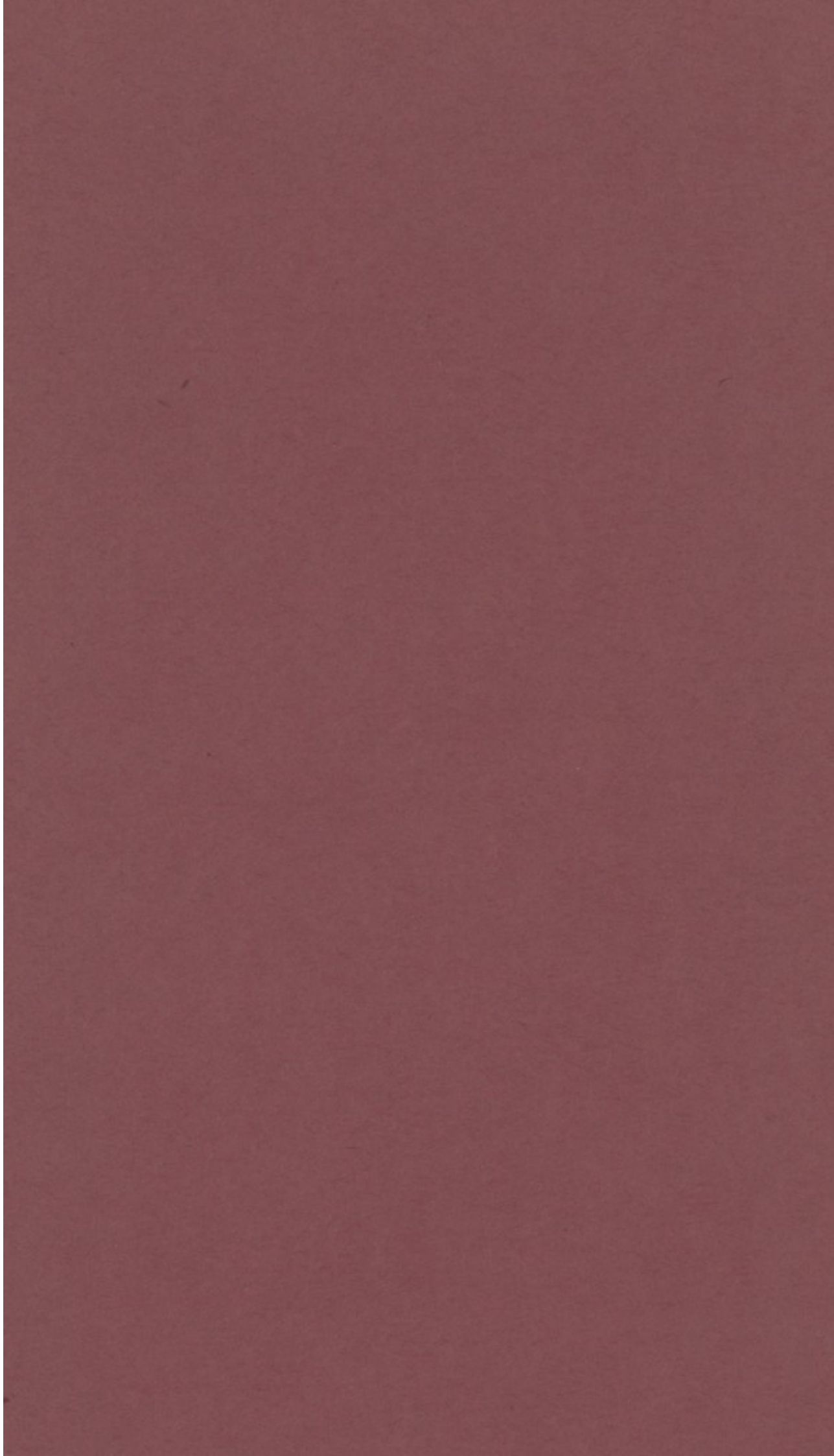
OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

YEAR 1934

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BOROUGH OF MITCHAM

HEALTH REPORT FOR 1934.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

YEAR 1934

Mitcham :

H. G. Mather, Caxton Works, Lower Green

Borough of Mitcham

HEALTH REPORT FOR 1934.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of
Mitcham.

Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year
1934.

On November 9, 1934, the Urban District of Mitcham ceased
to exist, and the Borough of Mitcham came into being. In order
to make my report as complete as possible I have taken into account
the figures for the entire year ended December 31, 1934.

I wish to place on record my appreciation of the support given
me by the members of the Public Health and the Maternity and
Child Welfare Committees, and also to the chief officials. To the
members of my staff I would once again express my thanks for their
loyal assistance and for the efficient manner in which they have
performed their duties.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

A. T. TILL,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,

Town Hall,

Mitcham, Surrey.

Urban District Council of Mitcham.

Committees from April to October, 1934.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN	-	-	-	MR. J. FITCH
Mr. J. R. Beaumont	Miss R. K. Wilson	Mr. W. S. Lawrence		
Mr. H. H. Dance	Mr. T. A. East	Mr. E. J. D. Field, J.P.		
Mr. S. W. Duckett		Mr. W. G. F. Searl		

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN	-	-	MR. S. W. DUCKETT
Miss R. K. Wilson	Mr. H. Richards	Mr. W. S. Lawrence	
Mr. H. H. Dance	Mr. T. A. East	Mr. E. J. D. Field, J.P.	
Mr. W. Dalton	Mr. J. Fitch	Mr. W. G. F. Searl	

Co-opted Members.

Miss E. C. Chart	Mrs. E. J. Chappell	Mrs. L. Brightwell
	Dr. G. M. Stoker	

REPRESENTATIVES ON WANDLE VALLEY JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD.

Miss R. K. Wilson	Mr. H. H. Dance	Mr. W. G. F. Searl
	Mr. E. J. D. Field, J.P.	

REPRESENTATIVES ON WANDLE VALLEY JOINT SEWERAGE BOARD

Mr. S. L. Gaston, J.P.	Mr. J. P. Turner	Mr. E. J. D. Field, J.P.
	Mr. W. Dalton	

REPRESENTATIVE ON THE CROYDON AND DISTRICT SMALL POX HOSPITAL BOARD.

Mr. H. Richards

Borough of Mitcham.

Committees from November to December 31, 1934.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN - COUNCILLOR W. G. F. SEARL

Aldermen—

Mrs. W. Toynbee Mr. J. Fitch, J.P. Mr. E. J. D. Field

Councillors—

Miss R. K. Wilson Mr. J. R. Beaumont Mr. J. M. Davies
Mr. T. E. Hanson Mr. W. S. Lawrence Mr. D. Bigham

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN - - ALDERMAN W. JEFFERY

Aldermen—

Mrs. W. Toynbee Mr. J. Fitch, J.P.

Councillors—

Mrs. E. Watson • Miss R. K. Wilson Mrs. C. Randall
Mr. A. T. Fabian Mr. G. R. Madgwick Mr. S. G. Silkstone
Mr. E. W. L. Wright

Co-opted members—

Mrs. Brightwell Mrs. Chappell Mrs. Leigh
Mrs. Sharp Dr. G. M. Stoker

REPRESENTATIVES ON WANDLE VALLEY JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD.

Alderman J. Fitch, J.P.

Councillors—

Mrs. E. Watson Miss R. K. Wilson Mr. J. S. Abraham

REPRESENTATIVES ON WANDLE VALLEY JOINT SEWERAGE BOARD.

Aldermen—

Mr. J. Fitch, J.P. Mr. S. L. Gaston, J.P. Mr. W. Jeffery
Councillor T. E. Hanson

REPRESENTATIVE ON THE CROYDON AND DISTRICT SMALL POX HOSPITAL BOARD.

Councillor H. Richards

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health.

A. T. Till, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health.

Elizabeth C. Loudon, M.B. Ch.B., D.P.H.

Part time Medical Officer to the Ante-natal and Child Welfare Clinics.

Florence M. Parsons, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Consulting Gynæcologist.

G. F. Gibberd, Esq., M.S., F.R.C.S.

Consultant in Diseases of Infants.

N. L. Lloyd, Esq., M.B., M.R.C.P.

Part time Dental Surgeon.

T. T. Oliver, Esq., L.D.S.

Consultant in Ear Diseases.

R. S. Cann, Esq., M.S.

Chief Sanitary and Meat Inspector.

Petroleum Inspector.

Shops Act Inspector.

C. G. Rabbetts, C.R.S.I.

Assistant Sanitary and Meat Inspectors.

P. O'Grady, C.R.S.I.

A. W. Lock, C.R.S.I.

Superintendent Health Visitor and Infant Life Protection Visitor.

Mrs. E. S. Wray (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)

Assistant Health Visitors.

Miss G. Russell Harris (1, 2, 3)

Mrs. H. Parsons (2, 4)

Miss M. Burke (2, 3)

Matron of Woodlands Maternity Home.

Miss G. Evans (1, 2)

1. State registered nurse.
2. Certificate of Central Midwives Board.
3. Health Visitor's Certificate, R.San.I.
4. Health Visitor's Diploma.
5. Inspector of Nuisances.
6. Sanitary Inspectors' Exam. Board.
7. Diploma Sanitary Science.

Clerks.

J. B. A. Roodhouse

A. H. Riley

REPORT.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	2,935 acres
Population, Census 1921	...	...	...	...	...	35,119
" " 1931	...	...	...	...	...	56,856
Registrar-General's estimate of population mid-year, 1934	...	...	...	...	...	60,560
Number of inhabited houses, 1921	...	...	...	...	...	7,150
" " " 1931	...	...	...	...	...	13,187
" " " 1934	...	...	...	...	...	14,828
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	£414,889
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£1,645

STATISTICS.

	Total.	Male.	Female.	Rate per 1,000 of population.
LIVE BIRTHS.				
Legitimate	923	479	444	
Illegitimate	25	13	12	
Total	948	492	456	15.6

	Total.	Male.	Female.	Rate per 1,000 total births.
STILL BIRTHS.				
Legitimate	33	20	13	
Illegitimate	1	1	—	
Total	34	21	13	35.8

	Total.	Male.	Female.	Rate per 1,000 of population.
DEATHS.				
	553	265	288	9.1

Deaths from disease and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth :—

					Rate per 1,000 total births.
From puerperal sepsis	...	...	—	...	—
From other causes	...	...	2	...	2.1
Total	...	...	2	...	2.1

Deaths of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	51.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				48.5
Illegitimate „ „ illegitimate „				120.0

Deaths from :—

Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	11
Whooping cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	2
Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	...	8

VITAL STATISTICS.

During the year 948 live births were registered as belonging to this district, of which 422 were males and 456 were females, as compared with 970 births last year.

The live birth rate for the year was equal to 15.6 per 1,000 of population, as against 16.1 per 1,000 last year, the crude birth rate being 16.2 per 1,000.

The birth rate for England and Wales was 14.8 per 1,000, as against 14.4 per 1,000 last year.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

The number of births registered as being illegitimate was 34, as compared with 38 last year.

The illegitimate rate was equal to 2.5 per cent. of the total births, as against 3.2 per cent. in 1933.

STILL BIRTHS.

The number of still births registered was 34, of which 21 were males and 13 females ; 1 male was illegitimate.

DEATHS.

During the year 553 deaths were registered, of which 265 were males and 288 were females, as compared with 529 deaths last year.

The death rate for the year was equal to 9.1 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 8.8 per 1,000 in 1933.

The death rate for England and Wales was 11.8 per 1,000 for the year 1934 and 12.3 per 1,000 for 1933.

SENILE DEATHS.

The number of deaths of persons of 65 years of age and over was 205, of which 86 were males and 119 females. This constitutes 37.0 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 38.7 per cent. last year.

The birth rates, death rates per 1,000 of population, and the infantile mortality rates for the years 1915-1934 are shown in the following table:—

Year.	Births per 1,000 population.		Deaths per 1,000 population.		Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births.	
	MITCHAM.	England and Wales	MITCHAM.	England and Wales.	MITCHAM.	England and Wales.
1915	28.9	21.8	12.7	15.7	78	110
1916	23.0	21.6	10.1	14.3	71	91
1917	18.0	17.8	11.8	14.2	75	96
1918	17.9	17.7	14.8	17.3	77	97
1919	17.0	18.5	10.2	14.0	58	89
1920	27.8	25.4	9.2	12.4	50	80
1921	23.1	22.4	11.1	12.1	70	83
1922	20.9	20.6	11.0	12.8	61	77
1923	21.5	19.7	9.4	11.6	59	69
1924	20.3	18.8	9.2	12.2	55	75
1925	18.2	18.3	9.6	12.2	54	75
1926	21.5	17.8	9.9	11.6	63	70
1927	20.9	16.7	9.8	12.2	45	69
1928	20.4	16.7	8.8	11.7	48	65
1929	19.1	16.3	11.2	13.4	72	74
1930	19.3	16.3	8.2	11.4	49	60
1931	19.2	15.8	9.8	12.3	42	66
1932	18.0	15.3	8.4	12.0	43	65
1933	16.1	14.4	8.8	12.3	37.1	64
1934	15.6	14.8	9.1	11.8	51.6	59

DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1934.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Typhoid and paratyphoid ... ..	...	...	...
Measles	7	4	11
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	2	2
Diphtheria	4	5	9
Influenza	4	3	7
Encephalitis lethargica ... ..	...	1	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	...	1
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System...	20	21	41
Other Tuberculous Diseases	6	3	9
Syphilis	1	2	3
General Paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis ... ..	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	29	41	70
Diabetes ... ..	...	5	5
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	11	7	18
Heart Disease	57	79	116
Aneurism	1	...	1
Other Circulatory Diseases	7	13	20
Bronchitis	10	8	18
Pneumonia (all forms)	21	23	44
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	5	6
Peptic Ulcer... ..	1	...	1
Diarrhœa, &c. (under two years)	6	2	8
Appendicitis... ..	1	3	4
Cirrhosis of the Liver	3	1	4
Other Diseases of the Liver, etc....	1	3	4
Other Digestive Diseases	9	1	10
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	5	7	12
Puerperal sepsis ... ..	...	...	...
Other Puerperal causes ... ..	...	2	2
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	18	10	28
Senility	5	9	14
Suicide	4	4	8
Other Violence	22	7	29
Other defined Diseases	30	17	47
Causes ill-defined or unknown ... ..	...	...	...
Total... ..	265	288	553
Special Causes :—			
Small Pox ... ..	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ... ..	...	...	...
Polio-encephalitis ... ..	...	...	...

INQUESTS.

Inquests were held on 36 persons dying within the district and on 29 Mitcham residents who died outside the district, a total of 65.

The following table shows the results of the findings of these inquests.

Inquests.					Number.
Deaths from natural causes	...	...	...	...	26
Deaths from accidents:—					
Knocked down by motor vehicles	...	...	...	...	15
„ „ „ tram car	...	...	...	...	2
Drowning	...	...	...	...	1
Suffocation	...	...	...	...	1
Burns	...	...	...	...	2
Falls	...	...	...	...	6
Suicide:—					
Poisoning by—					
Coal gas	...	...	...	...	4
Spirits of salt	...	...	...	...	1
Fall from window	...	...	...	...	1
Drowning	...	...	...	...	1
Cut throat	...	...	...	...	1
Murder:—					
By coal gas poisoning...	...	...	...	...	1
Found drowned	...	...	...	...	1
Misadventure	...	...	...	...	1
Natural causes or accident (evidence insufficient)	...	...	...	...	1
Total					65

INFANT MORTALITY.

During the year 49 deaths were registered as occurring in infants under one year of age:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	30	16	46
Illegitimate	3	—	3
Total	33	16	49

as compared with 36 deaths last year.

The infantile mortality rate for the year is equal to 51.6 per 1,000 live births, as against 37.1 per 1,000 last year.

The infant mortality rate for England and Wales was 59 per 1,000 for 1934 and 64 per 1,000 for 1933.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

During the year two deaths were registered as being due to diseases or accidents of pregnancy, compared with two deaths last year. The following is a summary of the causes of death:—

One was due to syncope following rupture of uterus.

One was due to secondary anæmia following adherent placenta.

All maternal deaths occurring within the district are enquired into personally by the Medical Officer of Health, and a confidential report is forwarded to the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health.

During the year 40 deaths were registered as occurring in infants under one year of age—

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
Male	20	3	23
Female	16	1	17
Total	36	4	40

as compared with 36 deaths last year.

The infantile mortality rate for the year is equal to 51.6 per 1,000 live births as against 57.1 per 1,000 last year.

The infant mortality rate for England and Wales was 50 per 1,000 for 1933 and 51 per 1,000 for 1932.

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1934.

	RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1000 POPULATION.									RATE PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.			
	Live Births.	Still-births.	All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two Years).	Total Deaths under One Year.	Certified by Registered Medical Practitioners	Inquest Cases.	Certified by Coroner after P.M. No Inquest.	Uncertified causes of Death.
England and Wales...	14.8	0.62	11.8	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.02	0.05	0.10	0.14	0.54	5.5	59	90.4	6.5	2.1	1.0
121 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	14.7	0.66	11.8	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.02	0.06	0.11	0.12	0.47	7.4	63	90.5	6.1	2.9	0.5
132 Smaller Towns (estimated resident populations 25,000—50,000 at Census 1931) ...	15.0	0.67	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.02	0.04	0.09	0.14	0.42	3.6	53	91.2	6.1	1.6	1.1
London ...	13.2	0.50	11.9	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.02	0.07	0.11	0.12	0.56	12.6	67	87.7	6.3	6.0	0.0
Borough of Mitcham	15.6	0.66	9.1	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.00	0.03	0.14	0.11	0.61	8.5	51.6				

			Puerperal Sepsis.	Others.	Total.
The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows :			per 1,000 Live births ...	2.03	4.60
			“ “ Total births ...	1.95	4.41
“ “ “ Borough of Mitcham :			“ “ Live births ...	—	2.1
			“ “ Total births ...	2.0	2.0

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological examinations for this district are carried out at the Wandle Valley Isolation Hospital.

The following number of specimens from this borough have been examined during the year:—

Swabs for diphtheria ...	...	528
Sputa for tubercle ...	...	162
Total		690

Arrangements have also been made with the Laboratories of Pathology and Public Health for special examination of urine, etc., of patients attending the ante-natal clinics.

HOSPITALS.

For General Cases.—The Wilson Hospital, which is situated within the district, receives accidents and general cases. Other general hospitals available for the district are the Nelson Hospital (Merton), the Croydon General Hospital, and the South London Hospital for Women (Clapham). The large London hospitals are also within easy reach of this district.

For Infectious Diseases.—The Council is one of the constituent authorities forming the Wandle Valley Joint Hospital Board, and cases of infectious disease from this area are treated at their hospital situated at Beddington Corner, Mitcham Junction. Cases of puerperal fever and pyrexia are sent to Queen Charlottes Hospital, Isolation Block.

For Small Pox Cases.—By an arrangement with the Surrey County Council cases of small pox are admitted to the Small Pox Hospital, Clandon.

AMBULANCES.

For General and Accident Cases.—An ambulance has been provided by the Council for the removal of general and accident cases. This ambulance is under the control of the fire brigade superintendent. The total number of cases removed during the year was 861.

For Infectious Disease Cases.—The Wandle Valley Joint Hospital Board have provided two motor ambulances for the removal of cases of infectious disease to the Isolation Hospital. The ambulance service for the district is quite adequate at present.

MIDWIVES.

The Surrey County Council are the local supervising authority for midwives. At present there are 21 midwives practising in this borough, five of whom are on the staff of the Woodlands Maternity Home and who do no district work.

HEALTH VISITING.

There are four health visitors employed in visiting the mothers and children in this district. The work is so arranged that children under one year of age are visited about once a month, children between one or two years of age are visited every two months, between three years and four years every six months, and between four years and five years once a year. Extra visits are paid if it is thought to be desirable.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

There are three nursing associations in the borough, employing a total of four nurses. During the year 652 cases were visited and the total number of visits paid was 13,440, an average of 20 visits per patient.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

WELFARE CLINICS.

Infant Welfare Centres are held at the following places:—

Surrey County Clinic, Western Road.—Sessions are held on the first and third Wednesdays in each month. Dr. Parsons attends both sessions.

Western Centre, Cavendish Road.—Sessions are held on the first four Tuesdays of each month. Dr. Parsons attends on the second and third Tuesdays.

St. Barnabas Church Hall, Gorringe Park.—Sessions are held on the first four Tuesdays of each month. Dr. Parsons attends on the first and fourth Tuesdays.

Meopham Road Centre.—Sessions are held on the first four Mondays of each month. Dr. Parsons attends on the first and fourth Mondays.

Parish Room, Lower Green.—Sessions are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. Dr. Parsons attends both sessions.

Sherwood Park Pavilion.—Sessions are held on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Dr. Parsons attends both sessions. This centre has now been transferred to Sherwood House. The Pavilion served the purpose as a temporary centre, but there was very little waiting accommodation, and in cold or wet weather the premises were not suitable as a centre. The new premises are better equipped and serve a real need for the district.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

Ante-natal clinics are held at the following places:

Cavendish Road, West Centre.—Sessions are held on the first Tuesday of each month. The total attendances of expectant mothers was 146, the number of mothers attending being 67.

Sessions are also held at this centre on Friday afternoons for patients who have booked for the Woodlands Maternity Home. The total attendances of expectant mothers at this clinic was 1801, the number of mothers attending being 260.

Meopham Road.—Sessions are held on the second Tuesday of each month. The total attendances of expectant mothers was 124, the number of mothers attending being 48.

No doctor's cases are examined at the ante-natal clinics unless the doctor expressly wishes it. Midwives are encouraged to attend the clinics with their patients, and the midwife is notified when one of her patients attends the clinic for the first time and a summary of the ante-natal examination sent to her.

40 per cent. of the mothers of children born during the year attended the ante-natal clinics (including Woodlands Maternity Home clinic), as compared with 35.5 per cent. last year.

ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC.

Arrangements have been made with the Nelson Hospital, Merton, for children in need of orthopædic treatment to attend the orthopædic clinic of this hospital. During the year 8 cases were sent to this clinic.

DENTAL CLINIC.

Arrangements have been made with the Surrey County Council for the use of the school dental clinic for children attending the welfare centres and women attending the ante-natal clinics. A part time dental surgeon has been engaged for this work. The clinic is held twice monthly and was opened in March, 1933. During the year the following amount of work was performed:—

Extractions—Local	...	...	22
Gas	...	...	52
Fillings	...	...	19
Scaling	...	...	4
Impressions	...	...	6
Fitting dentures...	...	...	19
Inspections	...	...	111
Total	...	...	233

X-RAY EXAMINATIONS.

Arrangements have been made with the Wilson Hospital, Mitcham, for the X-Ray examination of women attending the ante-natal clinics. The majority of the examinations are made to determine the presentation of the child in doubtful cases, and also to confirm the diagnosis of twins.

During the year 18 women attended for this examination.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

The Superintendent Health Visitor has been appointed the Infant Life Protection Visitor for this district.

Frequent visits during the year are paid to the homes of the foster children.

A strict supervision is kept on these homes and no cause was found to remove any infant from the care of the foster mother during the year.

The following are the number of foster mothers and children on the register :—

Number of foster mothers on register, December 31, 1934	...	...	...	...	...	42
Number of children on register, December 31, 1934	...	...	...	...	...	54
Number of children adopted during the year	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of children who have died during the year	...	...	...	...	...	nil.
Number of children on whom inquests were held	...	...	...	...	...	nil.
Number of prosecutions...	...	...	...	...	...	nil.
Number of visits paid by the Infant Life Protection Visitor	...	...	...	...	...	330

WOODLANDS MATERNITY HOME.

The Woodlands Maternity Home, Devonshire Road, Colliers Wood, was established by the Council in 1924.

During the year one of the wards has been enlarged and the beds from the small front ward transferred to it. The small front ward has now been turned into a study room for the pupil midwives.

STAFF.

The staff consists of a matron, two sisters, two staff nurses and three pupil midwives. All the staff are State registered nurses and, with the exception of the pupil midwives, hold the certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

HOME.

The Home can accommodate 15 patients at a time, but bookings are limited to 26 patients per month.

The following table shows the number of births which have occurred in each year since the opening of the Home :—

	No. of Births.
1924 (August to December)	42
1925	129
1926	240
1927 (10 months)	177
1928	265
1929	298

						No. of Births.
1930	...	...	...	...	...	318
1931	...	...	...	...	...	259
1932	...	...	...	...	...	239
1933	...	...	...	...	...	285
1934	...	...	...	...	...	285

Number of maternity beds in the institution (exclusive of isolation and labour beds), 15.

Number of maternity cases admitted during the year, 284.

Average duration of stay, 14 days.

Number of cases delivered by—(a) midwife, 249; (b) doctors, 35.

Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought by a midwife in emergency, 54 (33 abnormal conditions, 21 perineal sutures).

Number of cases notified as—(a) puerperal fever, nil; (b) puerperal pyrexia, 1.

Number of cases of pemphigus neonatorum, nil.

Number of infants not entirely breast-fed while in the institution, 3.

Number of cases notified as ophthalmia neonatorum, nil.

Number of maternal deaths, nil.

Number of infants deaths—(i.) stillborn, 6; (ii.) within 10 days of birth, 4.

An ante-natal clinic is held every Friday afternoon at the Cavendish Road Welfare Centre, adjoining the home, and patients who have booked for the home are expected to attend. For numbers attending, see under Ante-Natal Clinics.

REPORT ON MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES AND DENTAL CLINIC, 1934.

By F. M. Parsons, Medical Officer to the Ante-Natal and
Child Welfare Centres, Anæsthetist to Dental Clinic.

CHILD WELFARE.

Child Welfare sessions continue to be held at six centres. At the Parish Room, Sherwood Park and Western Road Centres two sessions are held each month and the doctor attends each one. At the Cavendish Road, Meopham Road and St. Barnabas Centres, four sessions are held each month, and the doctor attends each centre twice during each month.

On December 6 the Sherwood Park Clinic moved from the small cricket pavilion, in which it had its birth, to more commodious premises at Sherwood House, which has been reconditioned by the installation of electric fires, radiators and constant hot water to make it a suitable place in which to hold this clinic, which serves a very rapidly growing area.

The total number of attendances at the six Child Welfare Centres during 1934 was 9,058. Of these 800 were new cases, 571 being infants under one year of age, and 229 being children over one but under five years of age. The total number of attendances of children under one year of age was 5,858, and of children between one and five years of age 3,200.

At the end of the year there were 448 infants under one year and 860 children between one and five years attending the centres.

The average attendance at each individual centre was :—

Cavendish Road	...	...	...	...	46
Meopham Road	...	...	...	...	51
Parish Room	...	...	...	...	45
Sherwood Park	...	...	...	...	36
St. Barnabas	...	...	...	...	56
Western Road	...	...	...	...	42

giving an average attendance for all centres of 46.

The percentage of infants under one year of age attending the centres was 61.3 per cent. of the total number of notified births.

SUPPLY OF FOOD AND MEDICINES.

Packets of dried food, cod liver oil, cod liver oil emulsion, Brestol and Parrish's Food were sold at the centres and were supplied free in necessitous cases.

Grants of free milk were also made where necessary, applications for these being considered each month by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The nutrition, clothing and cleanliness of the children continued to attain a very high standard, and attendance at the centres was very regular. Children found to be suffering from any pathological condition were referred to the family doctor or hospital, a letter giving particulars of the conditions found being sent with the patient.

REMARKS ON PATHOLOGICAL CONDITIONS.

No cases of gross rickets were noted, and only a few cases of mild rickets.

The number of children found to be suffering from dental caries was 62. In all cases dental treatment was advised, and the cases were referred to the family dentist, or to the dental clinic or to hospital.

Enlarged tonsils were found in 47 cases. Treatment was advised where this was considered necessary.

Arrangements have been made for any orthopædic cases to attend for consultation at the Nelson Hospital, and during the year twelve cases were referred to the orthopædic surgeon there. Of the 12 cases referred, 8 actually attended and were treated.

There were 13 ophthalmic cases, and 8 of these were referred for treatment to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital with very gratifying results.

There were 17 cases of skin disease; 2 of these were treated at Charing Cross Hospital and 3 at the Belgrave Hospital. Nævi were found in 12 cases; 3 of these were treated at Charing Cross Hospital.

One case of webbed fingers was referred to the Bolingbroke Hospital, where operative treatment will be undertaken when the infant reaches a suitable age.

Two cases of malnutrition and two premature infants (twins) were admitted to the Infants Hospital, Vincent Square.

To sum up, pathological conditions were found in 183 cases, details of which are given in the following table:—

PATHOLOGICAL CONDITION.

			Number of cases.	Remarks.
<i>Congenital Conditions—</i>				
Cardiac disease	...	...	2	
Hypospadias	...	...	1	
Mental disease	...	...	2	
Spina bifida	...	...	1	
Syphilis	...	...	1	Referred to Belgrave Hos- pital—died.
Tongue-tie	...	...	5	
Webbed fingers	...	...	1	Referred to Bolingbroke Hospital.
<i>Acquired Conditions—</i>				
Burns	...	...	1	
Diphtheria, nasal	...	...	1	Admitted to Beddington Isolation Hospital.
Dental disease	...	...	62	
Enuresis	...	...	2	
Hæmatoma of Sterno-Mastoid			1	
Hemiplegia	...	...	1	
Hernia, right inguinal		...	1	
„ umbilical	...	...	4	
„ hydrocele	...	...	1	
Malnutrition	...	...	2	Admitted to Infants Hos- pital, Vincent Square.
Nævi	...	...	12	Three treated at Charing Cross Hospital.
Nits	...	...	3	
Carried forward	...	...	104	

	Number of cases.	Remarks.
Brought forward ...	104	
Ophthalmic—		
Blindness, unilateral ...	1	Eight treated at Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital.
Cellulitis eyelids ...	1	
Conjunctivitis ...	1	
Ptosis ...	2	
Strabismus... ...	8	
Orthopædic ...	12	Eight treated at Nelson Hospital.
Otorrhœa ...	1	
Phalanx, fracture of ...	1	X-Ray at Wilson Hospital.
Skin diseases ...	17	Two treated at Charing Cross Hospital. Three treated at Belgrave Hospital.
Threadworms... ...	8	
Tonsils, enlarged ...	47	
Total ...	203	

BABY SHOW.

This was held during the week beginning June 25, and proved a great success. There were 295 entries.

Five groups were arranged:—

- Group I. Breast fed infants, ages 4 to 6 months.
- „ II. Artificially fed infants, ages 4 to 6 months.
- „ III. Babies of 6 to 12 months.
- „ IV. Children from 1 year to 2½ years.
- „ V. Children between 2½ years and 5 years.

One prize and two certificates were given in each group.

The seven doctors who very kindly gave their services for the difficult task of judging were:—Dr. C. Alice King (Honorary Physician, Queen's Hospital for Children), Dr. Eleanor H. Kelly, Dr. Margaret Cryer, Dr. E. Cardwell, Dr. Laura Goulden Bach, Dr. E. C. McGregor, Dr. J. D. McKinney.

Prizes were given to the winners in each group. These prizes were given to the mothers of the winning babies at the Majestic Theatre, Mitcham. After the prize giving all the mothers saw the film "Rules for Jim."

The success of Baby Week was in large measure due to the time, care and thought given to the arrangements by Mrs. E. S. Wray, Superintendent Health Visitor, and I most gratefully acknowledge all her work in connection with it.

ANTE-NATAL CENTRES.

One Ante-Natal Clinic is held each month at the Cavendish Road and Meopham Road Centres, and one clinic each week in connection with Woodlands Maternity Home.

The total number of expectant mothers attending the centres was 375 (an increase of 48 over the number attending in 1933) the total number of attendances being 2,071 (an increase of 814 over the attendances for 1933).

The average attendance at each individual centre is shown below :—

Centre.		Number of Expectant Mothers attending.		Number of attendances.		Average attendance.
Woodlands	...	260	...	1,801	...	36
Cavendish Road	...	67	...	146	...	12
Meopham Road	...	48	...	124	...	11

This gives an average for all centres of 19.6.

Of the total number of notified births 40 per cent. of the mothers had attended the ante-natal centres, as compared with 35.5 per cent. in 1933.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Expectant mothers are coming to the ante-natal clinics in increasing numbers, and they attend with great regularity. The majority of them are primigravidæ.

Any patient found to be suffering from any serious pathological condition was referred to her own doctor, or in some cases to hospital, a letter giving details of the conditions present accompanying the patient in either case. Letters were sent to midwives who referred patients to the centres, and midwives were invited to attend the clinics, the patient's ante-natal form being available for her perusal. No patient who was to be attended by her own doctor was examined at the clinics.

REMARKS ON PATHOLOGICAL CONDITIONS.

142 patients were found to be suffering from dental disease. These were either referred to their own dentist or to the dental clinic, and it may be noted that an increasing number of expectant mothers show willingness to have their teeth put in order before confinement, in many cases having had this done before their first visit to the ante-natal clinic for examination.

Malpresentations were found in 17 cases. Of these 11 were corrected at the clinics, while 6 were referred to hospital for version under anæsthesia.

There were 35 cases of albuminuria of pregnancy and 5 cases of toxæmia of pregnancy. These 5 cases were so severe that arrangements were made for their immediate admission to hospital. No cases died, and none of them developed eclampsia.

One case of ovarian fibroma was treated by Cæsarian section at term with removal of the tumour. Both mother and baby did excellently.

Arrangements have been made at the Wilson Hospital for X-Ray of patients where necessary, and 18 cases had an X-Ray during the year, 17 of these being expectant mothers.

There was 1 case of threatened miscarriage, and 5 cases of ante-partum hæmorrhage. Two of these were admitted to hospital, while 4 were attended by their own doctors.

PATHOLOGICAL CONDITIONS.

	Number of cases.	Remarks.
<i>Complications of pregnancy—</i>		
Albuminuria of pregnancy ...	35	
<i>Hæmorrhage—</i>		
Threatened miscarriage ...	1	Referred to own doctor for treatment.
Ante-partum ...	5	Two admitted to Guy's Hospital. Three attended by their own doctors.
Malpresentations ...	17	Eleven corrected at centres. Five referred to Guy's Hospital and one to Epsom Hospital for version under anæsthesia.

			Number of cases.	Remarks.
Toxæmia of pregnancy	...	...	5	Three admitted to Guy's Hospital. Two admitted to Queen Charlotte's Hospital.
Varicose veins	...	...	16	
<i>Gynæcological conditions—</i>				
Cystocele	...	...	5	
Cystocele and rectocele	...	...	2	
Leucorrhœa	...	...	24	
Ovarian fibroma	...	...	1	Admitted to Guy's Hospital, Cæsarian Section, and removal of tumour at term.
Retroversion	...	...	1	
<i>Conditions unconnected with pregnancy—</i>				
<i>Cardiac—</i>				
Aortic disease	...	...	1	
Mitral stenosis	...	...	1	
Mitral incompetence and stenosis	...	...	1	
Cardiac disease of rheumatic origin	...	...	1	
Stystolic murmur	...	...	14	
Extrasystoles	...	...	4	
Reduplication of mitral second sound	...	...	9	
Dental...	...	...	142	
Epilepsy	...	...	1	
Ophthalmic	...	...	2	Treated at Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital.
<i>Orthopædic—</i>				
Scoliosis	...	...	1	
<i>Skin diseases—</i>				
Acne	...	...	1	
Lichen	...	...	1	
Scabies	...	...	1	
Various	...	...	2	

DENTAL CLINIC.

The dental clinic continues to "make good." Two sessions are held each month. At the first session the dental surgeon attends, and inspections, extractions under local anæsthesia, fillings, scalings, impressions and the fitting of dentures are carried out. At the second session the doctor attends to give gas for extractions. The dental clinic is open to children under school age and to expectant mothers.

The total number of patients referred to the dental clinic during the year was 128. Of these 92 actually attended, the total attendances being 233, the average attendance being 11.

The work done at the clinic during the year is shown in the following table:—

Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	111
Extractions, under local anæsthesia	...	...	...	...	...	22
„ „ gas or ethylchloride anæsthesia	...	...	...	...	...	52
Fillings	...	...	...	...	...	19
Scalings	...	...	...	...	...	4
Impressions	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fitting dentures	...	...	...	...	...	19
						<hr/> 233

In necessitous cases assistance was granted by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee towards the cost of new dentures, applications for this assistance being considered each month by the Committee and grants being made according to the scale adopted by the Council.

I desire to place on record my thanks to Mrs. E. S. Wray, Superintendent Health Visitor, and to Miss G. M. Evans, Matron of Woodlands, for their invaluable help and loyal co-operation during the past two years. To the Health Visitors and the Nursing Staff of Woodlands I also tender thanks.

I also take this opportunity of thanking all the voluntary workers, who give their time and services so generously and faithfully, week by week, at the infant welfare centres.

FLORENCE M. PARSONS,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

REPORT OF THE INFANT WELFARE CENTRES, 1934.

28

VISITS PAID BY HEALTH VISITORS, 1934.

	Mrs. Wray.	Miss Knight (temporary part time)	Miss Harris	Mrs. Parsons.	Miss Burke.	Total.
Primary ante-natal visits	25	4	32	36	63	160
Subsequent ante-natal visits	86	5	64	66	43	264
Primary birth visits	226	226	219	226	204	881
Subsequent visits to infants	531	212	871	1276	689	3579
Visits to children under five years of age ...	1250	546	1682	1745	864	6087
Visits <i>re</i> stillbirths	6	—	2	3	2	13
Visits <i>re</i> deaths of infants under one year of age	4	—	5	8	3	20
Visits <i>re</i> cases of ophthalmia neonatorum ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Visits <i>re</i> cases of puerperal fever	1	—	—	—	—	1
Visits <i>re</i> cases of puerperal pyrexia	3	—	—	—	—	3
Primary visits to cases of tuberculosis	14	2	24	26	14	80
Subsequent visits to cases of tuberculosis ...	107	38	67	137	34	383
Special visits	449	—	—	—	—	449
	2703	813	2966	3523	1916	11921

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

A constant supply of water is supplied to the whole of the district by the mains of the Metropolitan Water Board.

Complaints were received from certain householders in Stanford Road of a bad taste in the water. Samples of water were taken for analysis. The taste was due to naphthaline from the coating of new pipes. The matter was referred to the Water Board, and the defect was remedied.

During the summer drought samples of water were taken from a well in order to ascertain whether the water was fit for domestic purposes. The bacteriological report was as follows:—

B. Coli absent in 100 ccs.

Streptococci absent in 5 ccs.

B. Enteritidis Sporogenes absent in 5 ccs.

On gelatine plates, kept for four days at 20° C., 40 colonies per cc. developed. Of these 20 liquified gelatine.

On Agar plates, kept for 24 hours at 37° C., 25 colonies per cc. developed. No exception could be taken to this water on bacteriological grounds, and as the chemical analysis was satisfactory, this water was used for domestic purposes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The new soil sewerage scheme which was commenced on August 14, 1933, was completed during the year. This scheme drains an area of 962 acres to a new outfall sewer.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Visits have been paid to all works suspected of discharging polluted effluent into the surface water sewers. On three occasions pollution was found and in each case the matter was remedied. One complaint was received during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

With very few exceptions the whole of the district is on the water carriage system, the houses being drained to the public sewer. At the end of the year there were seven pail closets and one cesspool in use.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A weekly collection of house refuse is carried out by direct labour. Five dust collection vehicles, of modern type, are in use under the continuous relay system. The refuse is burnt at the Council's destructor.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

One hundred and one observations were kept on chimneys during the year. In connection therewith nine notices were served and the nuisances abated.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

In connection with the administration of the Public Health Acts the following legal proceedings were undertaken during 1934:—

PARTICULARS.	RESULT.
Summons taken out under Sec. 91, Public Health Act, 1875, against owner of certain property.	Fined £5 and £2 2s. costs.
Ditto.	Fined £2 and £3 3s. costs.
Summons taken out under Sec. 68, Mitcham Act, against owner of certain property for failure to supply dustbin.	Fined £1.

SCHOOLS.

The supervision of the public elementary schools is under the control of the Education Department of the Surrey County Council.

The sanitary fittings, etc., however, are inspected periodically by the sanitary inspectors.

Water Supply.—All schools have a constant supply of water from the mains of the Metropolitan Water Board.

Medical Inspection.—The medical inspection of school children is carried out by the Education Department of the Surrey County Council.

Closure of Schools.—No school has been closed by the local authority during the year.

Infectious Diseases.—Scholars in contact with a case of infectious disease are excluded from school, the period of exclusion being that set out in the memorandum of the County School Medical Officer to the Surrey Education Committee. The head teacher of the school concerned is always notified of this exclusion and the reason for same.

HOUSING.

Inhabited houses.—The number of inhabited houses in the borough on December 31, 1934, was 14,828, being an increase of 345 houses since the previous year, the average number of persons per house being 4.081.

The number of inhabited houses in each ward is as follows:—

North Ward	...	3,154	Population	...	12,881
South	„	2,657	„	...	10,851
East	„	5,699	„	...	23,275
West	„	3,318	„	...	13,551
Total	...	14,828			

HOUSING ACT, 1930.

During the year the following clearance orders were confirmed by the Minister of Health:—

CLEARANCE AREA No. 4.

Four cottages known as 87, 89, 91, 93 Miles Road.

CLEARANCE AREA No. 5.

Three buildings known as 79, 81, 83 Commonside East.

CLEARANCE AREA No. 6.

Nine cottages known as 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 Berkeley Place. An objection having been made to this Order a local inquiry was held on April 24, 1934. The Order was confirmed.

CLEARANCE AREA No. 7.

Eight cottages known as 103, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117 Rowan Terrace. An objection having been made to this Order a local inquiry was held on April 24, 1934. The Order was confirmed.

CLEARANCE AREA No. 8.

A row of back-to-back cottages known as 85-143 (odd numbers) Smiths Buildings, Commonside East. An objection having been made to this Order a local inquiry was held on April 24, 1934. The Order was confirmed.

CLEARANCE AREA NO. 9.

Eight buildings known as 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29 and 31 Church Buildings, Church Road.

The occupiers of these houses will be rehoused in the Council Housing Estate in Lewis Road.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

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) 3360
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 3622
 - (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 232
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 274
 - (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation... .. Nil
 - (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 126
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 126
3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—
 - A. Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 33 of the Housing Act, 1930.
 - (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 4
 - (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By owners 3
 - (b) By local authority in default of owners 1

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied...	670
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	40
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	2
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	2

D. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	Nil
(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

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

The duties under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, are carried out by the Surrey County Council.

The following number of samples have been taken during the year from this district:—

Articles.	Analysed			Adulterated or Deteriorated			Prose- cutions	Convio- tions
	Formal	In- formal	Total	Formal	In- formal	Total		
Milk	60	...	60	3	...	3	...	...
Margarine	7	...	7	1	...	1	...	...
Sugar	6	...	6	1	...	1	...	...
Meat	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Butter	9	...	9	...	...	...	...	...
Confectionery & Jam	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Drugs ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
*Other Articles ...	13	2	15	..	..	...	...	...
Totals	98	2	100	5	...	5	...	...
*Details of Other Articles—								
Vinegar	7	1	8	...	...	...	...	...
Sultanas	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Raisins	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Dried mint ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pure beef dripping ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	13	2	15	...	...	...	...	...

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are seven slaughter houses, of which two are registered and five are licensed.

During the year 460 visits of inspection were made and in no instance was a defect discovered.

For details of meat inspection see the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

BAKEHOUSES.

The number of bakehouses in the district is 15. Eighty-one visits have been paid and no defect was found.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 173 factories and workshops in the district, of which 104 are factories and 69 are workshops.

In addition there are 15 workplaces.

During the year 473 visits of inspection were paid.

OUTWORKERS.

There are 96 outworkers in Mitcham. One hundred and sixty-two visits of inspection were paid, and, in connection with these, four sanitary notices were served.

During the year eight cases of infectious disease were notified as occurring in the houses of outworkers. In none of these cases was it necessary to make any order under Section 110 of Factories and Workshops Act, 1901.

The classes of work undertaken by the outworkers are as follows:—

Lampshades	...	...	...	48
Onion peeling	...	...	...	5
Making of wearing apparel	...	...	...	33
Tailoring	...	...	...	2
Surplices	...	...	...	1
Embroidery	...	...	...	1
Furrier	...	...	...	1
Artificial flowers	...	...	...	1
Boots	...	...	...	1
Cardboard boxes	...	...	...	1
Confectionery covers	...	...	...	1
Hairnets and combs	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	96

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories ... (Including Factory Laundries)	218	4	Nil
Workshops ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	225	15	Nil
Workplaces ... (Other than Outworkers' premises)	30	1	Nil
Total	473	20	Nil

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of Prose- cutions.
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness	13	13		
Want of ventilation ... ..	...	...
Overcrowding ... ..	...	...
Want of drainage of floors... ..	...	...
Other nuisances	20	20		
Sanitary accommodation {	insufficient	1	1	
	unsuitable or defective	10	10	
	not separate for sexes	5	5	
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101) ...				
Other offences				
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921).				
Total	49	49	Nil	Nil

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.

Nature of Work.	In- stances.	Notices served.	Prosecu- tions.
Wearing Apparel—			
Making, &c.	2	2	
Cleaning and washing			
Household linen			
Lace, lace curtains and nets			
Curtains and furniture hangings			
Furniture and upholstery			
Electro-plate			
File making			
Brass and brass articles			
Fur pulling			
Cables and chains			
Anchors and grapnels			
Cart gear			
Locks, latches and keys			
Umbrellas, &c.			
Artificial flowers			
Nets, other than wire nets			
Tents			
Sacks			
Racquets and tennis balls			
Paper, etc., boxes, paper bags			
Brush making			
Pea picking			
Feather sorting			
Carding, &c., of buttons, &c.			
Stuffed toys			
Basket making			
Chocolates and sweetmeats			
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, &c.			
Textile weaving			
Lampshades			
Onion peeling	2	2	
TOTAL	4	4	Nil

ANNUAL REPORT OF SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of Mitcham.

SIR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my annual summary of the work carried out in the Borough during the year 1934 by myself and Inspectors P. D. O'Grady and A. W. Lock.

Total number of visits paid	...	...	...	11761
Number of complaints received and investigated				468
Number of premises inspected	...	...	...	3480
Number of premises revisited	...	...	...	5276
Number of nuisances discovered	...	...	...	1234
Number of nuisances abated without report	...			1098
Number of nuisances abated after report	...			126
Number of intimatory notices served	...	...		1017
Number of statutory notices served	...	...		138
Notices followed by legal proceedings	...	...		3
Number of revisits to infected houses or houses of smallpox contacts	...	...	...	124
Number of house drains tested	...	...	...	10
Number of drains found defective	...	...		5
Number of tests applied to new drainwork	...			9

Character of Work Done.

Houses repaired and cleansed generally	...	...	...	363
Overcrowding cases abated	...	...	...	31
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	139
Damp walls remedied	...	...	...	52
Eaves guttering and spouting renewed or repaired				71
Water closets renewed, repaired or cleaned	...			80
Water closet flushing cisterns and flush pipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	83
Water cisterns cleansed or covered	...	...		28
Water supply to houses reinstated	...	...		6
Back yards paved or paving repaired	...	...		38
Floors repaired	...	...	...	83
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	455
Premises where animals improperly kept were removed or improved	...	...	...	1

Offensive accumulations removed	56
Urinals cleansed or repaired	3
Piggeries repaired or improved	8
Houses or parts disinfected and cleansed ...	573
Smoke nuisances abated	6
Houses at which drains were reconstructed or new provided	3
Drains repaired, cleansed, trapped or ventilated	155

Considerable attention has been given to temporary dwellings. There are 18 caravan yards in the district, accommodating 60 caravans and 174 persons, a reduction of 77 on last year's figures. Action under the Surrey County Council Act, 1932, resulted in an appreciable reduction in the number of caravans in three yards; another solitary caravan was removed from a site at Lonesome. An improvement was made in a Fountain Road yard by the erection of an additional watercloset and the yard being paved and drained. Eight caravans were evicted from the Lewis Road yard following High Court proceedings. In all 106 visits were paid to these yards. Three families occupying insanitary sheds were also removed.

Only one application under the Rents Restriction Act was applied for and granted.

The byelaws relating to houses let in lodgings were applied in three instances to secure to sub-tenants proper domestic services.

One hundred and one smoke observations on factory chimneys were made and six nuisances were abated.

Complaints regarding the emission of smells from two fish frying establishments were investigated and the nuisances abated by extending the flues well above the roofs.

Disinfection and Disinfestation.—Disinfection has been carried out at 573 houses after removal of cases of infectious disease or treatment at home, also class rooms at two schools. Infected bedding and clothing is removed to the Wandle Valley Isolation Hospital for disinfection by steam. One hundred and nine bug infested rooms were fumigated or sprayed with insecticide. Notices were served on occupiers in 37 cases. Ponds and ditches were sprayed with paraffin, as in previous years, to combat the mosquito

nuisance. With few exceptions only one application was necessary owing to the drying up of the ponds and ditches during the hot summer.

Food Inspection.—Inspections are regularly made to food establishments, particularly butchers and fishshops. 1,226 visits were paid to such places, in addition to 460 visits to the seven regulated slaughterhouses. These include two horse-slaughtering establishments where very little business is done. In the course of the visits the following articles of food were found to be diseased or unwholesome and were surrendered and destroyed and a certificate given to the owner of the condemned food:—Pork, 1,509 lbs., of which 765 lbs. were tuberculous, jaundiced, 160 lbs., pleurisy, 72 lbs., peritonitis, 64 lbs., fevered, 152 lbs., dropsy, 96 lbs., decomposed meat, 80 lbs., meat otherwise unsound, 120 lbs.; 445 pigs lungs, 130 pigs' livers, the carcass of a tuberculous cow weighing 400 lbs., the liver and other organs.

The Inspectors were also called upon to examine at tradesmen's shops 14 lbs. of halibut, 42 lbs. of cod, 60 lbs. kippers, barrel of herrings, eight cases of oranges, and eight sacks of greens, all of which were found to be in such a decomposed state as to be unfit for human food, and were certified as such and destroyed. Three breaches of the Meat Regulations (keeping meat in prohibited places) were detected and the practice stopped.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

Licences have been granted to 81 persons in the district to store petroleum spirit, and three to store carbide of calcium. The quantity licensed to be stored totals 97,155 gallons; of this quantity 90,665 gallons is stored underground in steel tanks surrounded with concrete.

SHOPS ACTS.

Several complaints have been made of shop-keepers keeping open after proper closing hours. Observations have been made and warnings given, one report was made to the Committee and an official warning given.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES G. RABBETTS,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS.

The total number of certificates of notification received during the year was 560, as compared with 368 last year.

CONTACTS, SUSPECTS, ETC.

On 46 occasions during the year the Medical Officer of Health was called in consultation by medical practitioners to see patients in their own homes.

The sanitary inspectors have paid 675 visits to cases of infectious disease; 551 were primary visits and 124 revisits.

The monthly incidence of infectious disease was :—

	Small Pox.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Puerperal Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Encephalitis Lethargica	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Totals
January	25	7	...	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	38
February	45	3	...	3	10	...	2	...	...	...	63
March	57	3	...	2	9	...	...	...	...	...	71
April	50	7	...	3	6	1	1	2	...	...	70
May	31	6	...	2	4	...	1	...	...	...	44
June	48	17	...	7	1	...	1	...	...	1	75
July	32	3	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	39
August	21	3	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	27
September	16	12	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	30
October	26	14	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	45
November	19	1	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	24
December	22	7	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	34
Total	392	83	...	30	45	1	6	2	...	1	560

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1934.

DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.													TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH WARD.				Total Cases Removed to Hospital.	Deaths.	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.												North.	East.	South	West.			
		Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 3 years.	3 and under 4 years.	4 and under 5 years.	5 and under 10 years.	10 and under 15 years.	15 and under 20 years.	20 and under 35 years.	35 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and over.							
Small Pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	392	...	10	10	23	21	196	75	18	25	14	...	...	57	227	27	81	344	...	...
Diphtheria	83	3	1	8	4	9	28	14	4	10	1	1	...	11	36	25	11	80	9	...
Typhoid Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	30	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	3	7	14	3	9	8	6	7	10	...	...
Pneumonia	45	3	4	1	3	5	3	3	3	7	3	8	2	3	17	7	18	20	44*	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	...	...	1	1	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	...	1	1	...	4	4	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1†	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...
Totals	560	8	15	19	30	36	228	94	25	47	30	23	5	81	289	65	125	461	56	...

* Includes all forms, many of which are not notifiable.

† Transferred death.

Disease.	Case rates per 1,000 of population.		Case rates per 1000 Ward population.			
	England & Wales.	Mitcham.	North.	South.	East.	West.
Small Pox ...	0.004	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever ...	3.76	6.4	4.42	2.4	9.8	5.9
Diphtheria ...	1.70	1.3	0.85	2.3	1.1	0.82
Enteric Fever ...	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Puerperal Fever	0.06	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07
Puerperal Pyrexia	0.15	0.09	0.07	0.00	0.04	0.2
Erysipelas ...	0.51	0.49	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.5

Disease.	Case rates per 1,000 total births.	
	England and Wales.	Mitcham.
Puerperal Fever ...	4.0	1.01
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	9.6	6.1

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS, 1922-34.

DISEASE.	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934
Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	7	...	4	1	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	178	110	87	106	104	145	102	134	113	105	174	240	392
Diphtheria ...	84	35	59	201	87	76	75	133	129	49	32	40	83
Typhoid Fever ...	1	2	1	4	2	6	3	4	9	2	3	3	...
Continued Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	3	2	1	5	6	9	4	6	1	7	5	1	1
Anthrax ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1	...	6	...	...	2	1	4	...	...	1	4	1
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	13	15	11	10	13	14	10	22	22	17	11	31	30
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Diarrhoea ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox ...	26	91	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ...	...	4	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neona- torum	3	6	7	5	12	10	3	3	1	3	4	2	2
Polio-encephalitis...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	2	1	1	1	...
Pneumonia ...	30	19	39	42	30	62	54	57	35	45	52	37	45
Malaria ...	8	3	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia...	...	...	...	...	1	14	9	5	6	9	4	9	6
Totals ...	347	287	246	376	259	340	270	375	319	242	288	368	560

SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS.

The school intimation notices of infectious disease are always compared with the notifications received from the medical practi-

tioners. If any case on the school return is found to be unnotified, investigations are made in order to find out if the patient is receiving medical attention.

The school notices also give a fairly accurate estimate of the prevalence of non-notifiable infectious diseases, such as chicken-pox, measles, mumps, etc. The numbers so notified are reported on under various diseases mentioned later in this report.

SMALL POX.

No case of small pox occurred in the district during the year, and no contacts of cases were notified as residing in the Borough.

SCARLET FEVER.

The number of cases notified during the year was 392, this being 152 more than last year. Three hundred and forty-four cases were removed to hospital. No death was registered from this disease during the year.

The majority of the cases of scarlet fever occurred in the East Ward. This ward not only has the largest ward population, but also contains a younger population, and therefore a population which is more susceptible to infectious disease. The rapid development of, and the influx of population into this ward have been important factors in the spread of this disease.

DIPHTHERIA.

Eighty-three cases of diphtheria were notified during the year.

Eighty cases were removed to hospital.

Nine deaths were registered from this disease.

Arrangements have been made by the Council for the examination, free of charge, of swabs taken from suspected cases of diphtheria, and during the year 528 such examinations have been made. Anti-toxin is also issued free of charge to practitioners who may require it.

The number of cases of diphtheria notified during the year is double the number notified in 1933. This is partly accounted for by the very distressing fact that in several instances medical aid was not called in until the patient was very ill and had infected several members of the household. On inquiries being made into this matter, it was found that in the majority of cases the parents

thought the child was suffering from mumps and did not bother to call in a doctor. The type of diphtheria prevalent was a rather severe faucial form, in which there was considerable swelling of the neck. This swelling was mistaken for mumps by the parents. At the same time, mumps was fairly prevalent in the district, which rather confused the diagnosis, as far as the parents were concerned.

In one particular case a child was kept home from school as she did not feel well. In a day or two she had a swelling of the neck, and the parents assumed she was suffering from mumps. It was not until the child was *in extremis* that a doctor was called. He arrived at the house within half an hour and found the child dead, and on examining the rest of the family he discovered that the mother and seven other children were all suffering from diphtheria.

In four other instances a similar sort of history was obtained, though these cases were not as bad as the one just quoted.

The head teachers of the schools in the borough were asked to impress on parents the necessity of obtaining medical aid for their children if they were sent home from school because of illness.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

A diphtheria immunisation clinic was started in November. At the end of December 27 children had attended for immunisation. During the year 53 persons had been immunised by private practitioners. Diphtheria prophylactic is supplied free of cost to medical practitioners.

TYPHOID FEVER.

No case of typhoid fever was notified during the year.

DIARRHŒA AND ENTERITIS UNDER TWO YEARS OF AGE.

Eight deaths were registered during the year. Six were of males and two of females.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

No case was notified during the year, but one death registered. This was a transferred death, that is, the patient died outside the Borough but, being a Mitcham resident, the death is counted in this district.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

One death was registered from this disease during the year.

CANCER.

The number of deaths from cancer registered during the year was 70, of which 29 were males and 41 were females, as compared with 52 deaths last year.

There was no unusual site distribution of cancer in 1934. In males, the usual sites—namely, stomach, rectum, intestines, generative organs and liver—were affected; in females, the generative organs, breast, intestines, stomach and liver were affected.

Cancer is mainly a disease of the digestive system, with the exception of its preference for the generative system in females.

Arrangements have been made with the Radium Institute, Portland Place, for the radium treatment of cases of cancer under the care of this Council.

The following table shows the number of deaths from cancer, together with the death rate as compared with England and Wales :—

Year.	Number of Deaths.			Death Rate per 1,000 of Population.		
				Mitcham		England and Wales.
1915	...	26	...	.77	...	1.22
1916	...	21	...	.63	...	1.16
1917	...	17	...	.50	...	1.19
1918	...	25	...	.72	...	1.19
1919	...	31	...	.89	...	1.18
1920	...	34	...	.94	...	1.16
1921	...	31	...	.87	...	1.21
1922	...	34	...	.94	...	1.22
1923	...	33	...	.90	...	1.26
1924	...	42	...	1.11	...	1.29
1925	...	49	...	1.29	...	1.33
1926	...	44	...	1.14	...	1.36
1927	...	46	...	1.13	...	1.37
1928	...	58	...	1.27	...	1.42
1929	...	66	...	1.33	...	1.43
1930	...	73	...	1.25	...	1.45
1931	...	81	...	1.41	...	1.48
1932	...	68	...	1.0	...	1.51
1933	...	52	...	.86	...	1.52
1934	...	70	...	1.1	..	1.56

INFLUENZA.

During the year seven deaths from influenza were recorded. Four were males and three were females. Last year 20 deaths were registered.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

By an arrangement with the London County Council cases of ophthalmia neonatorum can be treated at St. Margaret's Hospital, Kentish Town.

Blind children are looked after by the Surrey Voluntary Association for the Blind.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

During the year two cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified :—

Cases Notified.	Treated At Home.	Treated In Hospital.	Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired.	Total blindness.	Deaths.
2	1	1	1	—	—	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, during the year.

During the year 73 new cases of tuberculosis were notified, viz. :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pulmonary... ..	33	30	63
Non-Pulmonary	6	4	10
Total	39	34	73

The total number of deaths registered as occurring from tuberculosis was, viz. :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pulmonary... ..	20	21	41
Non-Pulmonary	6	3	9
Total	26	24	50

	England & Wales.	Mitcham.
Death rate from respiratory tuberculosis per 1,000 population	0.63	0.67
Death rate from non-respiratory tuberculosis per 1,000 population	0.12	0.14

The sources from which information as to the above-mentioned cases was obtained are as follows :--

		No. of Cases.	
		Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
Death returns ...	(a) From Local Registers ...	2	...
	(b) Transferable deaths from Registrar General ...	2	1
Posthumous notifications ... ..		...	...

The notification of tuberculosis in this district is fairly efficient, as will be seen by the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to the total tuberculosis deaths, viz. :—

Non-notified tuberculosis deaths	...	...	5
Notified tuberculosis deaths	...	...	45
Percentage of non-notified T.B. deaths (all forms)	...	...	10 per cent.
Percentage of non-notified pulmonary T.B. deaths	...	...	8 per cent.

Treatment for cases of tuberculosis is under the control of the Surrey County Council.

A dispensary has been established at Western Road, Mitcham. Arrangements have been made by this Borough for the examination of sputa from cases or suspected cases of tuberculosis, and during the year 162 such examinations have been made.

CHICKEN POX.

One hundred and ten cases of chicken pox were notified by the head teachers of the schools in the district.

WHOOPING COUGH.

One hundred and twenty-three cases of whooping cough were notified during the year by the head teachers of schools in this district. Two deaths from whooping cough were registered during the year.

MEASLES.

Two hundred and ninety-three cases of measles were notified during the year by the head teachers of schools in the district. Eleven deaths from measles were registered during the year.

MUMPS.

One hundred and fifteen cases of mumps were notified by the head teachers during the year.

PNEUMONIA.

Forty-five cases of pneumonia were notified by practitioners during the year. Six of these cases were notified as primary influenzal pneumonia. The total deaths registered as pneumonia was 44; this includes all forms of pneumonia, both primary and secondary.

ERYSIPELAS.

Thirty cases of erysipelas were notified, and ten cases were removed to hospital. There was no death from this cause.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

One case of puerperal fever was notified; the patient made a good recovery.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

Six cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified and no death was recorded from this cause.

CHICKEN POX.

One hundred and ten cases of chicken pox were notified by the head teachers of the schools in the district.

WHOPPING COUGH.

One hundred and twenty-three cases of whooping cough were notified during the year by the head teachers of schools in the district. Two deaths from whooping cough were registered during the year.

WANDLE VALLEY JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD.

Cases admitted to hospital during the year ended December 31, 1934.

DISEASE	Beddington & Wallington		Coulsdon & Purley		Merton & Morden		Mitcham	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Diphtheria	29	2	21	...	84	6	73	9
Scarlet Fever... ..	60	...	78	...	295	...	339	...
Typhoid ... ..	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
OTHER DISEASES								
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Whooping Cough and Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Whooping Cough and Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...
Measles and Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Measles	2	...	2	...	12	1	11	1
Influenza ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis... ..	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Influenzal Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Tonsillitis	6	...	10	...	22	...	17	...
Abscess ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Rubella	1	...	2	...	3	...	4	...
Otitis Media ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Pyrexia, following Vaccination ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Laryngitis	1	2	...
Babies (no disease) admitted with mother	2	...	3	...	1	...	1	...
	101	2	122	...	424	8	457	13

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