

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

Contributors

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BOROUGH OF MITCHAM

REPORT

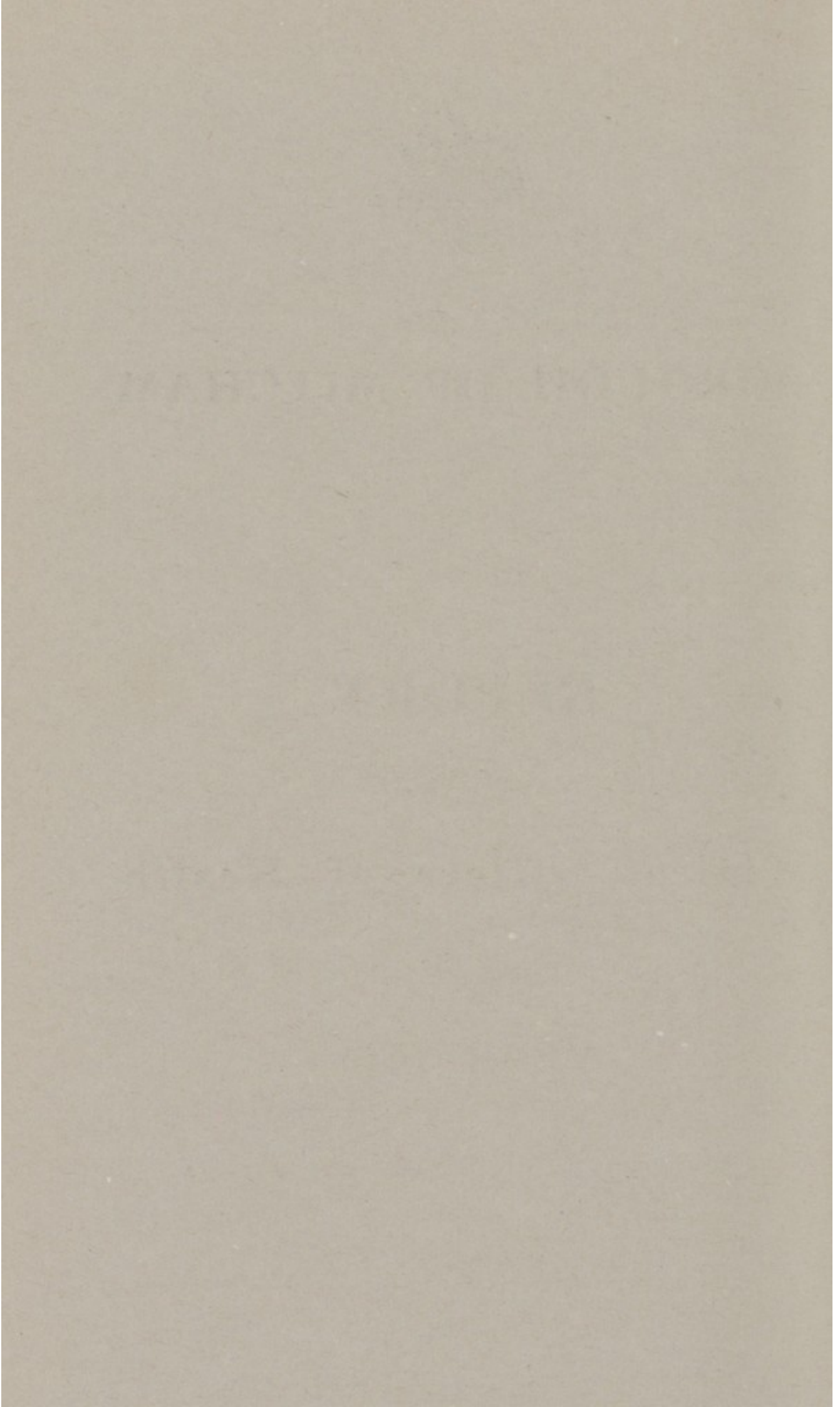
of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

YEAR 1950







BOROUGH OF MITCHAM

REPORT

of the

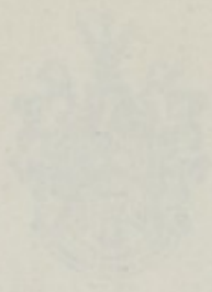
Medical Officer of Health

for the

YEAR 1950

MITCHAM :

H. G. MATHER, LTD., CAXTON WORKS, LOWER GREEN



BOROUGH OF MITCHAM

REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

YEAR 1950

MITCHAM
Municipal Council

Borough of Mitcham

HEALTH REPORT FOR 1950

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting the annual report for the year 1950.

The year 1950 was a very good one as regards infectious diseases, for although the incidence of disease rose the severity remained of a low order. Whooping cough notifications were almost doubled from last year, but no deaths occurred.

The 16 cases of dysentery notified were mild cases referred on clinical grounds only and where bacteriological examinations could be made they proved negative.

Probably the most outstanding point of interest is that for the first time within record there was no case of diphtheria, which followed on only one case in 1949. This compares with an average of 60 cases per year for the 20-year period 1927-1946, so that as a result of immunisation there must have occurred a tremendous saving of lives and illness as well as a considerable saving in nursing and hospital services; and immunisation has proved itself to be a preventive measure of the highest value.

Although the incidence of poliomyelitis was fairly high for England and Wales there were only two cases in Mitcham, both being of a mild character.

Notification of tuberculosis rose from 106 to 117 cases, while the 34 deaths gave a death rate of .5 per 1,000, which is above

that for England and Wales, although this has been the case for some time now, and may have some reference to the fact that Mitcham is fairly densely populated.

The birth rate dropped to 13.51, which is the lowest yet recorded in Mitcham and compares with 15.8 for England and Wales, although the death rate of 9.19 is much better than the 11.6 for the rest of the country.

The infantile mortality of 29.64 is almost identical with that for England and Wales.

Although so much has been done in building and re-housing, the housing problems still cause great concern.

With regard to clean food, all food premises in the Borough have been carefully examined and a special record kept with points being awarded. They were found on the whole to be satisfactory, with some minor adjustments necessary.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. R. GRAHAM,
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
Mitcham Court,
Mitcham.

BOROUGH OF MITCHAM

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN - - - COUNCILLOR MISS M. J. FARADAY

The Worshipful the Mayor (Alderman T. A. EAST, J.P.)

Aldermen—

Mrs. J. C. Ericson Mrs. H. E. Niven Mrs. E. Watson
G. R. Madgwick G. W. Pearce

Councillors—

Mrs. L. Crump Mrs. W. R. Martin E. Gulliver
E. J. Mills J. M. Togwell

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNCIL ON OTHER AUTHORITIES.

WANDLE VALLEY JOINT SEWERAGE BOARD

The Worshipful the Mayor (*ex officio*)
and Councillor F. S. Niven

NORTH-EAST DIVISIONAL HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE (SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL)

Aldermen—

Mrs. J. C. Ericson Mrs. H. E. Niven
G. W. Pearce H. T. Simms

Councillor—

J. M. Togwell

STAFF**Medical Officer of Health**

A. R. Graham, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Barrister-at-Law.
(Commenced duties April 1, 1950)

A. W. Johns, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(Acting Medical Officer of Health till end of March, 1950)

**Chief Sanitary and Meat Inspector. Petroleum Inspector
Shops Act Inspector**

K. J. Gutteridge (1, 2)

Assistant Sanitary and Meat Inspectors

L. Glead (1, 2, 3) E. N. Montague (1, 2)
E. J. Sluis (1, 2) L. M. Edwards (1)

1. Certificate Sanitary Inspectors' Board.
2. Certificate Meat and Foods R.S.I.
3. Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

Clerks

(a) L. J. Bellingham (b) Miss V. Valentine
(c) Mrs. V. E. Bevan (d) Miss M. Sanders
(e) Mrs. R. Osborn

- (a) Part-time—75 per cent. Surrey County Council.
- (b) Part-time—75 per cent. Surrey County Council.
- (c) Commenced duties 6.3.50. Part-time—40 per cent. Surrey County Council.
- (d) Part-time—40 per cent. Surrey County Council.
- (e) Full-time—Borough of Mitcham.

REPORT

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	2,916 acres
Population, Census 1921	35,119
" " 1931	56,856
Registrar-General's estimate of population mid-year, 1950	67,430
Number of inhabited houses, 1921	7,150
" " " 1931	13,187
" " " 1950	18,652
Rateable Value, 1950	£535,660
Sum represented by a 1d. rate	£2,163

STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS.	Total	Male	Female	Rate per 1,000 of population
Legitimate ...	873	445	428	
Illegitimate ...	38	20	18	
Total ...	911	465	446	13.51

STILL BIRTHS.	Total	Male	Female	Rate per 1,000 total births
Legitimate ...	20	13	7	
Illegitimate ...	2	—	2	
Total ...	22	13	9	23.58

DEATHS.	Total	Male	Female	Rate per 1,000 of population
	620	327	293	9.19

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion:—

				Rate per 1,000 total births
Number of cases ... ..	...	...	1	1.07

Deaths of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	29.64
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live legitimate births	...	...	...	26.35
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births	...	...	...	105.26

Deaths from :—

Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	102
Measles	...	...	...	—
Whooping cough (all ages)	...	...	...	—
Diarrhœa (under two years of age)	...	...	...	1

PERCENTAGE OF BIRTHS OCCURRING IN INSTITUTIONS

Year	Total births	Births in hospitals, etc.	Percentage of births occurring in institutions
1931	1143	370	32.3
1932	1084	381	35.1
1933	1010	420	41.5
1934	982	428	43.5
1935	969	474	48.9
1936	1033	497	48.1
1937	976	501	51.3
1938	1028	569	56.3
1939	966	518	53.7
1940	854	453	53.0
1941	737	408	55.4
1942	986	518	52.5
1943	1048	727	69.4
1944	996	678	68.1
1945	993	661	66.5
1946	1290	845	65.5
1947	1405	956	68.0
1948	1215	855	70.37
1949	1129	832	73.69
1950	933	718	76.96

The birth rates, death rates per 1,000 of population, and the infantile mortality rates for the years 1931-50 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 & Wales	MITCHAM	England & Wales	MITCHAM	England & Wales
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
1935	15.6	14.7	7.7	11.8	49.5	57
1936	15.4	14.8	9.1	12.1	48.0	59
1937	14.3	14.9	8.5	12.4	43.4	58
1938	15.1	15.1	8.3	11.6	38.0	53
1939	15.2	15.0	8.6	12.1	31.0	50
1940	15.4	14.6	11.8	14.3	46.0	55
1941	13.57	14.2	11.06	12.9	55.4	59
1942	17.54	15.8	9.81	11.6	43.75	49
1943	18.75	16.5	10.77	12.1	36.2	49
1944	18.99	17.6	11.88	11.6	36.8	46
1945	18.01	16.1	10.19	11.4	31.83	46
1946	20.3	19.1	9.2	11.5	19.9	43
1947	21.39	20.5	9.47	12.0	38.60	41
1948	17.99	17.9	8.79	10.8	23.49	34
1949	16.45	16.7	9.17	11.7	24.48	32
1950	13.51	15.8	9.19	11.6	29.64	29.8

INFANT MORTALITY

During the year 27 deaths were registered as occurring in infants under one year of age:—

		Males		Females		Total
Legitimate	...	13	...	10	...	23
Illegitimate	...	3	...	1	...	4
Totals	...	16	...	11	...	27

as compared with 27 deaths last year.

The following table shows the principal causes of death in the various age groups:—

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Age	No.	Cause of Death				
		Pre-maturity	Congenital Defects	Accidents of birth	Infectious conditions	Other conditions
Under 24 hrs...	9	2	7	—	—	—
1-7 days ...	6	—	6	—	—	—
8 days - 1 mth.	1	—	1	—	—	—
1 mth. - 12 mths.	11	—	2	1	8	—
Total	27	2	16	1	8	—

Sixteen infants failed to survive the first month of life, and prematurity was certified as the cause of death of two of these infants.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

During the year one death was registered.

In 1949 one death was registered due to disease or accident of pregnancy.

INQUESTS.

Inquests were held on 14 residents dying within the district and on 16 Mitcham residents who died outside the district, a total of 30. In addition, the coroner held 70 post-mortems without

inquests on residents dying within the district, and on 61 Mitcham residents who died outside the district, a total of 131.

The following table shows the results of the findings of these inquests:—

Accidental deaths	...	...	...	...	12
Deaths from misadventure	...	...	...	...	5
Suicides	...	...	...	...	7
Open verdict	...	...	...	...	3
Natural causes	...	...	...	...	2
Due to war operations	...	...	...	...	1
					—
Total	...	...	...	...	30

DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1950

CAUSE OF DEATH		Males	Females	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	20	11	31
2	Tuberculosis, other	2	1	3
3	Syphilitic disease	2	1	3
4	Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...
5	Whooping cough ... ..	...	...	...
6	Meningococcal infections ... ..	...	2	2
7	Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	...	...	...
8	Measles ... ..	...	...	...
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	...	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	11	6	17
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	21	2	23
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	...	12	12
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	...	5	5
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	28	17	45
15	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	1	5	6
16	Diabetes ... ..	...	4	4
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	31	36	67
18	Coronary disease, angina	62	23	85
19	Hypertension with heart disease	11	10	21
20	Other heart disease	29	57	86
21	Other circulatory disease	10	16	26
22	Influenza ... ..	...	2	2
23	Pneumonia	15	14	29
24	Bronchitis	28	19	47
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	1	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	3	6
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	...	1	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	3	3	6
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	5	...	5
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	...	1	1
31	Congenital malformations	8	5	13
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	26	26	52
33	Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
34	All other accidents	3	7	10
35	Suicide	5	2	7
36	Homicide and operations of war	1	...	1
All causes		327	293	620

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality, and
Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1950.

(Provisional figures based on quarterly returns.)

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Popula- tions 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 census)	London Admin- istrative County	Mitcham
Rates per 1,000 home population					
Births—					
Live	15.8	17.6	16.7	17.8	13.51
Still	0.37	0.45	0.38	0.36	0.33
Deaths—					
All causes... ..	11.6	12.3	11.6	11.8	9.19
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	00.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping cough	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.36	0.42	0.33	0.39	0.50
Influenza	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.07	0.03
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioencephalitis)	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.46	0.49	0.45	0.48	0.43
Notifications (corrected)—					
Typhoid fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Meningococcal infection	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.01
Scarlet fever	1.50	1.56	1.61	1.23	1.63
Whooping cough... ..	3.60	3.97	3.15	3.21	5.74
Diphtheria	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.00
Erysipelas	0.17	0.19	0.16	0.17	0.10
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	—	—	—
Measles	8.39	8.76	8.36	6.57	5.25
Pneumonia	0.70	0.77	0.61	0.50	0.42
Acute Poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioencephalitis)					
Paralytic	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.08	0.03
Non-paralytic	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.00
Food Poisoning	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.25	0.04
Rates per 1,000 live births					
Deaths under one year of age	29.8*	33.8	29.4	26.3	29.64
Deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis under two years of age	1.9	2.2	1.6	1.0	1.09
Rates per 1,000 total births (live and still)					
Notifications (corrected)—					
Puerperal fever	5.81	7.43	4.33	6.03	0.00
Puerperal pyrexia					
Maternal mortality... Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	0.86	Not available			1.07
Mortality per million women aged 15-44					
Abortion—					
With sepsis	7	Not available			
Without sepsis	4				

* Per 1,000 related live births.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Most of the bacteriological examinations for this district were carried out at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Epsom, including bacteriological examinations of milk, water and ice-cream. Examinations were also carried out in respect of certain infectious diseases at the Wandle Valley Isolation Hospital where 52 swabs for Diphtheria and 7 sputa for Tuberculosis were examined during the year.

The chemical analysis of milk, water and foodstuffs was carried out by the Public Analyst, Daniel D. Moir, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., 16, Southwark Street, London, S.E.1.

AMBULANCES

The Ambulance service is supervised by the Surrey County Council.

Two ambulances are stationed at Mitcham Court, Telephone No. Mitcham 3082. If an ambulance is not available telephone Fairlands 8893 (St. Helier Hospital).

DISINFECTION

The disinfection of houses is undertaken by the Council. Disinfection of bedding, etc., is done by the Wandle Valley Isolation Hospital.

No charges are made for disinfections carried out in cases of notifiable infectious disease.

Public library books which have been in contact with cases of infectious disease are disinfected at the Public Health Department.

Number of disinfections carried out by Wandle Valley Isolation Hospital	... ..	37
Number of rooms disinfected by fumigator	...	231
Number of library books disinfected	... ..	243

HOSPITALS

The hospitals directly concerned with the Mitcham area are administered by the St. Helier Group Hospital Management Committee, which is situated at Carshalton, Surrey. This group is itself contained within the South-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

General Cases.—The principal hospitals are the Wilson Hospital which is situated within the district, and the St. Helier Hospital, Carshalton, which caters for all types of cases. The Nelson Hospital at Merton and the large London hospitals are also used.

Infectious Diseases.—Cases usually go to the Wandle Valley Isolation Hospital at Beddington Corner, Mitcham Junction. Other hospitals nearby, namely, the Grove Hospital, Tooting, and the Cuddington Isolation Hospital, Banstead, are also used frequently.

Smallpox Cases.—By agreement with the South-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, any cases are admitted to the Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford, Kent, upon application.

Maternity Cases.—Expectant mothers, if home conditions or medical history do not permit of home confinement, are admitted to the Woodlands Maternity Home situated within the district, or to the St. Helier Hospital, Carshalton, if hospital treatment is required.

Tuberculosis Cases.—The Regional Hospital Board is responsible for providing the specialist services for the tuberculous, also for institutional treatment. Dr. J. M. Hill is the chest physician for Mitcham patients and holds a clinic at the St. Helier Hospital, Carshalton, every Monday at 9.30 a.m., Wednesday at 1.50 p.m., Thursday at 1.50 p.m., and Friday at 9.30 a.m. A clinic is held, for old cases only, on every fourth Wednesday at 5.30 p.m.

Venereal Diseases Clinics.—Confidential treatment can be obtained at the St. Helier Hospital, Carshalton, and the Croydon General Hospital. Treatment can also be obtained from the out-patients' departments of many of the London hospitals.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES
(Under Control of the Surrey County Council)

WELFARE CLINICS

Infant Welfare Centres are held at the following places:—

Cavendish Road Welfare Centre.—Sessions are held every Monday afternoon.

St. Barnabas Church Hall, Gorringe Park Avenue.—Sessions are held every Tuesday afternoon.

Sherwood House, Commonside East.—Sessions are held every Thursday morning, and Monday afternoon (weighing).

Church Road Centre.—Sessions are held every Thursday afternoon, and Wednesday afternoon (weighing session).

Meopham Road Clinic.—Sessions are held each Wednesday afternoon.

Toddlers' Clinics for children between the ages of two to five years are held on alternate Monday mornings by appointment.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

Ante-natal clinic is held at the Church Road Clinic. Sessions are held every Tuesday and Friday morning, and a clinic for cases booked by midwives is held on Friday afternoons.

X-Ray examinations are carried out at the Wilson Hospital when necessary for expectant mothers.

POST-NATAL CLINIC

A post-natal clinic is held at Church Road Clinic on the first Monday in the month.

DENTAL CLINICS

Dental services are provided for expectant and nursing mothers, toddlers and school children at the Church Road, Western Road and Sherwood House Clinics.

MINOR AILMENTS

A clinic is provided at Western Road.

U.V. RADIATION CLINICS

Sessions are held as follows:—

Church Road Clinic: Monday afternoons, Thursday mornings.

Sherwood House Clinic: Tuesday mornings, Friday afternoons.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINICS AND VACCINATION AGAINST
SMALLPOX

Clinics are held as follows:—

Meopham Road Clinic	Monday afternoons
Church Road Clinic	Wednesday mornings
Cavendish Road Clinic	Thursday afternoons

DAY NURSERIES

The Surrey County Council provide two day nurseries in Mitcham, one at Eagle House, London Road, Mitcham, with 85 places, and the other at Robinson Road, Colliers Wood, with places for 50 children.

HEALTH VISITING.

Health visitors are under the control of the Surrey County Council.

There were eight Health Visitors employed in visiting the mothers and children in this district. Every Health Visitor carries out the combined duties of District Health Visitor and School Health Visitor.

HOME HELP SERVICE

The Home Help Service, which is under the control of the Surrey County Council, has proved most successful.

Applications for assistance are made to the Divisional Medical Officer at Mitcham Court.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN

The Society does very valuable work in the Borough and there is very close co-operation between the officials of the Public Health Department and the officers of the Society.

Number of Mitcham cases dealt with in 1950	...	...	...	32
Number of children affected	...	...	...	54
Number of visits paid	...	...	...	103

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

Except for eight houses in Goat Road, supplied by the Sutton Water Company, the whole of Mitcham is supplied by the Metropolitan Water Board. A few factories have an additional supply from deep wells.

There are six licensed caravan yards, each with a stand pipe, supplying altogether a total of 16 caravans.

The water has been of a consistently high standard of purity and no case of infectious disease has been transmitted by water.

A large number of houses in the Borough have no supply of drinking water direct from the main, but are supplied from a tank in the roof. Provided the tank is properly covered and is cleansed regularly, it provides a satisfactory supply.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Visits have been paid to all works suspected of discharging effluent into surface water sewers.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

The whole of the district is on the water carriage system, the houses being drained to the public sewer, then treated at the works of the Wandle Valley Joint Sewerage Board.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

A weekly collection of house refuse is carried out by direct labour. Eight refuse collection vehicles are in use.

A weekly collection of paper salvage is also made, two vehicles being used for this purpose.

Pig food is collected three times weekly, except for the months of June, July and August, when a daily collection is made.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Number of Council houses found infested during the year, 143.

Number of other houses found infested during the year, 20.

Number of requisitioned, etc., houses found infested during the year, 44.

Total number of houses disinfested during the year, 187.

Methods employed:—

6 houses treated with sulphur dioxide.

181 houses treated with insecticide spray (inclusive of those treated on more than one occasion).

No private house was treated by the Council staff, but advice was given and material supplied at cost price on request.

Number of houses disinfested for beetles, 84.

Number of houses disinfested for spiders and other insects, 23.

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 inspector. 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 School Health Service 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 the exclusion being that set out in 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.

PREVENTION OF DESTRUCTION BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Three full-time and one part-time Rodent Operators were employed.

House to house inspections	10,181
Complaints received	410
Number of treatments <i>re</i> rat infestation including test baits as result of inspection and complaints	1,942
Factory and business premises treated ...	101
Visits by Sanitary Inspectors	197

Two sewer maintenance treatments were carried out; 144 manholes were baited. 156 intercepting chambers were also baited on the route of one maintenance treatment. A ten per cent. test of the sewer manholes in the district was carried out.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of Mitcham

Madam, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit a summary of the visits and works carried out in the Borough by myself and the District Sanitary Inspectors:—

Number of complaints received	1,238
Visits <i>re</i> complaints and sundries	1,455

Revisits	3,670
Houses inspected for defects	1,222
Number of nuisances discovered	1,075
Number of intimation notices served	803
Number of intimation notices complied with	554
Number of statutory notices served	262
Number of statutory notices complied with	240
Visits to butchers	215
Visits to other food shops	453
Visits to ice-cream shops	280
Visits to factories	129
Visits to slaughter houses	72
Visits to restaurant kitchens	165
Visits to stables	47
Visits to outworkers' premises	8
Visits to marine stores	—
Visits to caravan yards	42
Visits <i>re</i> building licence applications	82

Details of visits to other premises are enumerated in other sections of the report.

Character of Work Done

Roofs repaired	281
Rainwater piping or gutters repaired or renewed	250
Yards paved or repaired	27
Dampness remedied	222
Water service pipes repaired	40
Waterclosets: Repairs to structure	61
Flushing apparatus repaired or renewed	89
New pans and traps fitted	78
Water storage cisterns cleansed, repaired or renewed	24
Water supply reinstated	8
Flooring of rooms repaired and sub-floor ventilation improved	164
Rooms cleansed and redecorated	229
Sinks and handbasins repaired or renewed	43
Waste pipes and traps repaired or renewed	62
Window frames and sashes repaired or renewed	187

Window sills repaired or renewed	...	...	...	89
External brickwork (repaired, pointed or rendered)	...	...	...	88
Drains repaired or obstructions removed	...	...	...	195
Drain inspection covers renewed	...	...	...	26
Drains tested	...	...	...	82
Grid and mica flaps provided	...	...	...	11
Firegrates repaired (including surrounds and hearths)	...	...	...	88
Stoves, coppers, ranges, etc., repaired	...	...	...	33
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	27
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	21
Doors repaired	...	...	...	91
Internal plaster repairs	...	...	...	952
Sash cords renewed	...	...	...	181
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	69
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	35

All ponds and ditches in the Borough where mosquito breeding was possible were sprayed with insecticide twice during the year. Twenty-six visits were paid for this purpose.

Legal Proceedings.—Twelve applications were made to the Justices for Nuisance Orders against property owners under Section 94, Public Health Act, 1936. The results were as follows:—

Nine summonses were dismissed, with one guinea costs in each case, as works were completed before the hearing of summonses.

On three summonses, the Magistrates made an order for the carrying out of works within 56 days and awarded one guinea costs in each case.

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936, and Petroleum (Mixtures) Order, 1929.—Ninety-six licences to store petroleum spirit and/or petroleum mixtures were issued for a total of 191,734 gallons (inclusive of cellulose solutions).

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936, and Petroleum (Carbide of Calcium) Order, 1929.—Three licences were issued for the storage of 2,344 lbs. (plus 448 lbs. temporary re-supply) of carbide of calcium.

UNSOUND FOOD DEALT WITH.

Beef	1,514 lbs.	Tinned Foods ...	1,256 tins
Corned Beef ...	75 $\frac{1}{4}$..	Almonds... ..	30 lbs.
Ham	77 $\frac{1}{2}$..	Apples	112 ..
Bacon	3 lbs. 10 ozs.	Potatoes	336 ..
Fish	25 stone	Flour	197 $\frac{1}{2}$..
Whelks	10 galls.	Barley	34 ..
Eggs	135 doz.	Oatmeal... ..	30 ..
Butter	16 lbs.	"Cereoca"	18 ..
Margarine	41 ..	Pastry Mix ...	67 packets
Milk Powder ...	413 ..	Salad Cream ...	11 bottles
Sugar	742 ..	Pickles	24 ..
Cheese	24 $\frac{1}{2}$..	Bottled Fruit ...	4 ..

Yours faithfully,

K. J. GUTTERIDGE,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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) ...	1,222
(b) Number of inspections made for the purposes	1,316

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	548
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of formal action by the local authority or their officers	215

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—

Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 1
- (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of informal notices:—
- (a) By owners —
- (b) By local authority in default of owners 1

Proceedings under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- (1) Number of houses in which demolition orders were made 1

Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- (1) Number of houses in which closing orders were made for underground rooms 1

4. RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST (RESTRICTIONS) ACT, 1920-1938.

- Number of certificates issued to occupiers that houses were not in a reasonable state of repair 2

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Byelaws with respect to handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air were confirmed by the Minister of Food on February 11, 1950, and came into operation on March 19, 1950.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Formal Samples.

Seventy-eight formal samples were taken as follows:—

Milk	57	Beef Suet	1
Sausages, Sausage Meat	10	Flour	1
Malt Vinegar	2	Swiss Roll	1
Non-brewed Vinegar ..	1	Lemon Curd	1
Cake	1	Gelatine	1
Pepper Compound ...	1	Table Jellies	1

Informal Samples.

Fifty-nine informal samples were taken as follows:—

Blancmange, Custard		Digestion Tablets ...	1
Powders, etc. ...	7	Saccharine Tablets ...	1
Sandwich Spreads,		Sage and Onion Stuffing	1
Pastes, etc. ...	5	Tomato Soup ...	1
Dessert Pudding Mix-		Beef Cubes ...	1
tures... ..	4	Cake ...	1
Pepper Compound ...	4	Table Jellies ...	1
White Pepper ...	2	Apple Juice ...	1
Milk	4	Tinned Spaghetti and	
Yoghourt	1	Sausages ...	1
Milk Whipping Com-		Luncheon Meat ...	1
pound	1	Sild	1
Pickles, Sauces, Salad		Broth	1
Cream, etc. ...	5	Ground Ginger ...	1
Swiss Roll	2	Flavouring ...	1
Sausage Meat ...	1	Breadcrumbs ...	1
Pie Crust	1	Icing	1
Gravy Powder ...	1	Nougat... ..	1
Baking Powder ...	1	Honey	1
Aspirin Tablets ...	1	Rice	1

One case, regarding a dirty milk bottle, was dismissed on the grounds that the offence had been committed at the premises where the milk was bottled, and that the address of those premises was outside the jurisdiction of the Court.

Proceedings were instituted against a manufacturer for an infringement of the Labelling of Food Order, 1946, and the Defence (Sale of Food) Regulations, 1943, in respect of an article sold as pepper compound. A fine of £1 and £5 5s. costs were awarded on each of two summonses.

ICE-CREAM.

Four premises in the Borough are registered for the manufacture of ice-cream, and one hundred and twelve for the storage of ice-cream. Two hundred and eighty visits were paid during the year.

One hundred and twelve samples of ice-cream were taken and examined for bacteriological purity. Fourteen samples were also tested for fat content. The results are tabulated below:—

	Provisional Grade.			
	I	II	III	IV
Coliforms absent	42	18	8	2
Coliforms present in 1/10th ml...	11	13	14	4
Fæcal coli present (in addition to above):—				
In 1 ml.	—	—	—	—
In 1/10th ml.	—	1	1	—
In 1/100th ml.	—	—	—	—

FAT CONTENT

3-4 per cent.	4-5 per cent.	5-6 per cent.	6-7 per cent.	7-8 per cent.
—	1	2	3	1
8-9 per cent.	9-10 per cent.	10-11 per cent.	11-12 per cent.	
2	3	1	1	

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949 AND 1950.

During the year the Council granted the following number of licences under the aboved-named Regulations:—

Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licences	1
Dealer's Licences—	
Pasteurised	22
Sterilised	33
Supplementary Licences—	
Pasteurised	14
Sterilised	13

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949 AND 1950.

During the year the Council granted the following number of licences under the above-named Regulations:—

Dealer's Licences (Tuberculin Tested)	16
Supplementary Licences (Tuberculin Tested)	13

One hundred and forty-three samples of Graded Milk were submitted for bacteriological examination. One hundred and forty-one samples were satisfactory and two were unsatisfactory. Communications were sent to the dairies regarding the unsatisfactory samples.

BAKEHOUSES

The number of bakehouses in the district is 11.

Seventy-two visits have been paid.

DAIRIES

There is one registered dairy and pasteurising establishment within the district.

During the year 13 visits of inspection were paid.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are two registered slaughterhouses in the Borough; 72 visits have been paid.

MEAT INSPECTION

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle, excluding cows	Cows	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	156
Number inspected	156
All diseases except tuberculosis:				
Whole carcasses condemned	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	1.28
Tuberculosis only:				
Whole carcasses condemned
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis

FOOD PREPARING FACTORIES

There are 16 other premises in which food is prepared for human consumption. All of these have been systematically visited.

INFORMAL ACTION TAKEN UNDER SECTION 13, FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Number of Notices served, 70. Number of Notices complied with, 45.

PIGGERIES

There are 23 piggeries in the Borough. Seventy-five visits were paid during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

I.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors):—

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	14	13	2	...	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies						
(a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938	2	249	94	6	...	2
(b) Others	3	...	...	...	...	3
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises)	4	8	9	1	...	4
TOTAL ... ..	...	271	116	9	...	...

2.—Cases in which defects were found:—

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred			
				To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	5	5	6	...	1	...	5
Overcrowding (S.2)	6	...	...	...	...	...	6
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	7	...	...	...	...	...	7
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	8	1	1	...	...	...	8
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	9	...	...	...	...	...	9
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)							
(a) Insufficient	10	5	6	...	1	..	10
(b) Unsuitable or defective	11	14	12	...	3	...	11
(c) Not separate for sexes	12	...	...	...	...	...	12
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	13	2	2	...	...	...	13
TOTAL ... ..	...	27	27	...	5	...	...

3.—Outwork (Sections 110 and 111):—

Nature of Work (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Section 110			Section 111			M/c line No. (9)
		No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c) (3)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (4)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists (5)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (6)	Notices served (7)	Prosecu- tions (8)	
Wearing apparel { Making, etc.	14	93						14
{ Cleaning and washing ...	15							
Household linen	16							16
Lace, lace curtains and nets ...	17							17
Curtains and furniture hangings ...	18							18
Furniture and upholstery	19							19
Electro-plate	20							20
File making	21							21
Brass and brass articles	22							22
Fur pulling	23							23
Iron and steel cables and chains ...	24							24
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels	25							25
Cart gear	26							26
Locks, latches and keys	27							27
Umbrellas, etc.	28							28
Artificial flowers	29							29

3.—Outwork (Sections 110 and 111) *continued* :—

Nets, other than wire nets	30							30
Tents	31							31
Sacks	32							32
Racquet and tennis balls	33							33
Paper bags	34							34
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper ...	35	22						35
Brush making	36							36
Pea picking	37							37
Feather sorting	38							38
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc. ...	39							39
Stuffed toys	40	7						40
Basket making	41							41
Chocolates and sweetmeats ...	42							42
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.	43	29						43
Textile weaving	44							44
Lampshades	45	1						45
TOTAL ... ..	...	152						...

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS

The total number of confirmed notifications received during 1950 was 911.

CONTACTS, SUSPECTS, ETC.

The Medical Officer of Health is called in consultation by medical practitioners to see patients in their homes, as required.

VISITS

Made by	No.
Sanitary Inspectors in common infectious diseases	251
To small pox contacts 	12
<hr style="width: 10%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/>	
Total 	263
Rooms disinfected after infectious disease ...	231

The monthly incidence of infectious disease was:—

	Small Pox.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid Fever	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Dysentery	Meningococcal Infections	Poliomyelitis	Measles	Whooping Cough	Food Poisoning	Paratyphoid	Malaria	Totals
January	16	...	...	1	5	...	...	1	...	...	12	6	...	...	...	...	41
February	9	...	...	2	7	...	...	...	1	...	77	6	...	...	...	...	102
March	13	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	95	1	...	...	...	...	114
April	19	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	34	11	...	...	...	...	67
May	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	8	31	...	...	...	...	57
June	3	...	...	1	1	...	...	7	...	...	6	22	...	...	...	...	40
July	6	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	38	26	3	...	...	...	75
August	5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	16	25	...	...	...	...	47
September	8	...	1	...	3	...	1	1	...	...	8	30	...	...	...	...	52
October	7	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	1	4	38	...	...	...	...	54
November	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	1	7	112	...	...	...	...	126
December	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	49	79	...	...	...	...	136
Totals	110	...	1	7	28	...	2	16	1	2	354	387	3	...	...	...	911

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS, 1931-50.

DISEASE	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1.1.48 to 4.7.48	5.7.48 to 31.12.48	1949	1950
Small Pox ...	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	105	174	240	392	143	171	192	150	61	48	75	175	212	97	147	95	62	35	57	89	110
Diphtheria...	49	32	40	83	80	104	89	64	27	36	72	25	42	10	63	32	4	...	1	1	...
Typhoid Fever ...	2	3	3	...	3	5	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Continued Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Undulant Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia...	9	4	9	6	4	11	5	4	7	2	2	6	3	5	8	6	9	3	...	2	...
Anthrax ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal Infections	...	1	4	1	1	3	1	2	1	13	12	6	8	3	3	1	2	1	1	...	1
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	17	11	31	30	20	22	16	8	19	17	19	7	22	13	16	25	9	18	6	12	7
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	301	194	599	651	112	739	358	533	818	252	354	354
Acute Diarrhoea ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	11	2	6
Ophthalmia Neona- torum	3	4	2	2	4	3	1	3	3	1	3	10	4	4	...	2	2	6	3	8	2
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	45	52	37	45	35	36	32	43	...	30	22	20	50	37	33	41	37	30	13	19	28
Malaria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	16	186	161	162	166	96	234	216	117	149	212	387
Food Poisoning ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	6	11	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	6	3
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	67	13	6	1	2	5	7	16
Paratyphoid ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	242	288	368	560	293	357	338	275	125	468	591	1021	1161	515	1126	807	888	1033	490	717	911

SMALL POX

No case of small pox was notified during the year 1950.

SCARLET FEVER

The number of cases of scarlet fever notified during the year was 110 as compared with 89 in 1949, equivalent to a case rate of 1.63 per 1,000 population. The disease has continued mild in character; no death due to this cause was recorded. Of the total number of cases notified 61 were treated in hospital and 49 cases were treated at home.

DIPHTHERIA

No case of diphtheria was notified during the year.

Immunisation and reinforcing doses were available to every school child whose parents gave consent.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

There are three clinics situated within the district, within relatively easy reach of everyone, as well as immunisation sessions held in the schools.

Efforts have continued during the year to obtain the immunisation of every child before the first birthday. The health visitors urge mothers at the welfare centres, and at home visits, to have their children immunised, making special visits in difficult cases. A birthday greeting letter is sent at the approach of the first birthday, making an appointment for immunisation for those infants not yet immunised.

The following figures show the number of children immunised during the year:—

Under five	...	...	...	...	720
Five—14	...	...	...	...	405
					<hr/>
			Total	...	1,125

The following figures show the number of the child population considered immunised at December 31, 1950:—

Age at 31.12.50 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1950	1 1949	2 1948	3 1947	4 1946	5 to 9 1941-1945	10 to 14 1936-1940	Total under 15
Number immunised	24	707	892	956	922	3805	3598	10904
Estimated mid-year population 1950	5828					8642		14470

The percentage immunised is as follows:—

Under five	...	...	...	...	60.07%
Five—14	...	...	...	...	85.66%

The number of birthday greetings sent in 1950 was 643.

TYPHOID FEVER

One case was notified during the year, the source of infection unknown, the case not being diagnosed for several weeks.

DIARRHŒA AND ENTERITIS UNDER TWO YEARS OF AGE

One death was registered during the year.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA

No case was notified during the year.

ERYSIPELAS

Seven cases were notified. No cases were removed to hospital.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

No case was notified during the year.

PNEUMONIA

Twenty-eight cases of primary pneumonia were notified during the year. The number of deaths from all forms of pneumonia, some of which are not notifiable, was 29, of which 15 were males and 14 females.

MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS.

Two female deaths were returned in the Registrar-General's figures, but no notification was received at this office.

INFLUENZA

During the year two female deaths from influenza were recorded. The previous year eight deaths were registered.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

This comes under the control of the Surrey County Council.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

During the year two cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified.

POLIOMYELITIS

Two cases of poliomyelitis, both paralytic were notified during the year, the diagnosis was subsequently confirmed in both cases. In one case there was mild paralysis of the left arm and shoulder; while in the other case there was moderate paralysis of the right hand, together with mild paralysis of the right leg.

SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS

The school intimation notices of infectious disease are always compared with the notifications received from the medical practitioners. 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 fairly accurate estimates of the prevalence of non-notifiable infectious disease, such as chicken pox, mumps, etc. The numbers were as follows:—

Chicken pox	...	...	...	...	140
Mumps	...	...	...	...	69
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	3
Ringworm	...	...	...	...	3
Measles	...	...	...	...	121
Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	119
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	40
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	3
Scabies	...	...	...	...	1

CANCER

The number of deaths from cancer registered during the year was 102, of which 60 were males and 42 were females.

The site distribution for 1950 was as follows:—

Digestive organs	...	...	...	17 cases
Respiratory organs	...	...	...	23 „
Breast	...	...	...	12 „
Genito-urinary organs	...	...	...	5 „
Other sites	...	...	...	45 „
				102

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		
1931	...	81	...	1.41	...	1.48
1932	...	68	...	1.0	...	1.51
1933	...	52	...	.86	...	1.52
1934	...	70	...	1.1	...	1.56
1935	...	61	...	1.0	...	1.58
1936	...	80	...	1.2	...	1.61
1937	...	76	...	1.1	...	1.63
1938	...	103	...	1.5	...	1.66
1939	...	73	...	1.12	...	1.64
1940	...	94	...	1.55	...	1.66
1941	...	84	...	1.6	...	1.67
1942	...	104	...	1.9	...	1.698
1943	...	95	...	1.7	...	1.74
1944	...	83	...	1.6	...	1.7
1945	...	103	...	1.9	...	1.74
1946	...	108	...	1.74	...	1.76
1947	...	103	...	1.60	...	1.86
1948	...	111	...	1.67	...	1.85
1949	...	124	...	1.85	...	1.87
1950	...	102	...	1.51	...	1.89

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year 117 new cases of tuberculosis were notified
viz.:—

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	59	50	109
Non-Pulmonary	3	5	8
Totals	62	55	117

Fourteen cases were transferred into the Borough as
follows:—

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	3	9	12
Non-Pulmonary	—	2	2
Totals	3	11	14

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

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	20	11	31
Non-Pulmonary	2	1	3
Totals	22	12	34

	England and Wales	Mitcham
Death rate from tuberculosis, all forms, per 1,000 population	0.36	0.50

The following table shows the number of new cases, the type of disease and the deaths from tuberculosis during the year.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 year to 4 years	1	4	1	...	...	...	1	...
5 years to 9 " ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 " " 14 " ...	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 " " 19 " ...	8	8	...	2	...	...	...	...
20 " " 34 " ...	26	31	1	3	1	2	1	...
35 " " 44 " ...	12	4	...	3	4	3	...	...
45 " " 64 " ...	13	6	1	...	10	5	...	1
65 " and upwards	2	1	...	...	4	1	1	...
Totals ...	65	59	3	8	19	11	3	1

New cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year through (a) Death returns; (b) Posthumous notifications:

Age Periods	0-	1-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	Total
Pulmonary : males	1	1	2
Pulmonary : females	2	...	...	1	3
Non-Pulmonary : males
Non-Pulmonary : females	1	...	1

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 Registrar	3	...
	(b) Transferable deaths from Registrar General	2	1
Posthumous notifications ... ..	...	...

Number of cases removed from register during 1950:—

Reason	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total Cases
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
Withdrawal of notification	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Recovery from disease ...	5	3	8	...	1	1	9
Death... ..	19	8	27	3	...	3	30
Removed from district ...	21	27	48	1	...	1	49

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths (i.e., new cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health after death of the case) to the total tuberculosis deaths is as follows:—

Non-notified tuberculosis deaths	6
Total tuberculosis deaths	34
Percentage of non-notified tuberculosis deaths ...	17.64

MITCHAM, BEDDINGTON AND WALLINGTON TUBERCULOSIS CARE
COMMITTEE

Functions of the Committee

1. To alleviate want or distress amongst those suffering from tuberculosis, providing where necessary, extra nourishment, clothing, bedding, coal, surgical appliances, travelling expenses and help in the home.

2. To care for the families of patients who are in sanatoria so that their changed economic circumstances shall not result in impaired health, and that the sufferer shall not be harassed by undue anxiety.

Christmas gifts were given to hardship cases.

Assistance was given towards extra nourishment, beds and bedding, occupational therapy material, education, clothing, provision of wireless, holidays, fares for relatives to visit, pocket money for patients, removal expenses, etc., etc. The Committee also carry for distribution a stock of milk foods, blankets and sheets. The help given improves the morale of the patient or the well being of his or her family.

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