

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

**Contributors**

Mitcham (London, England). Borough Council.

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**BOROUGH OF MITCHAM**

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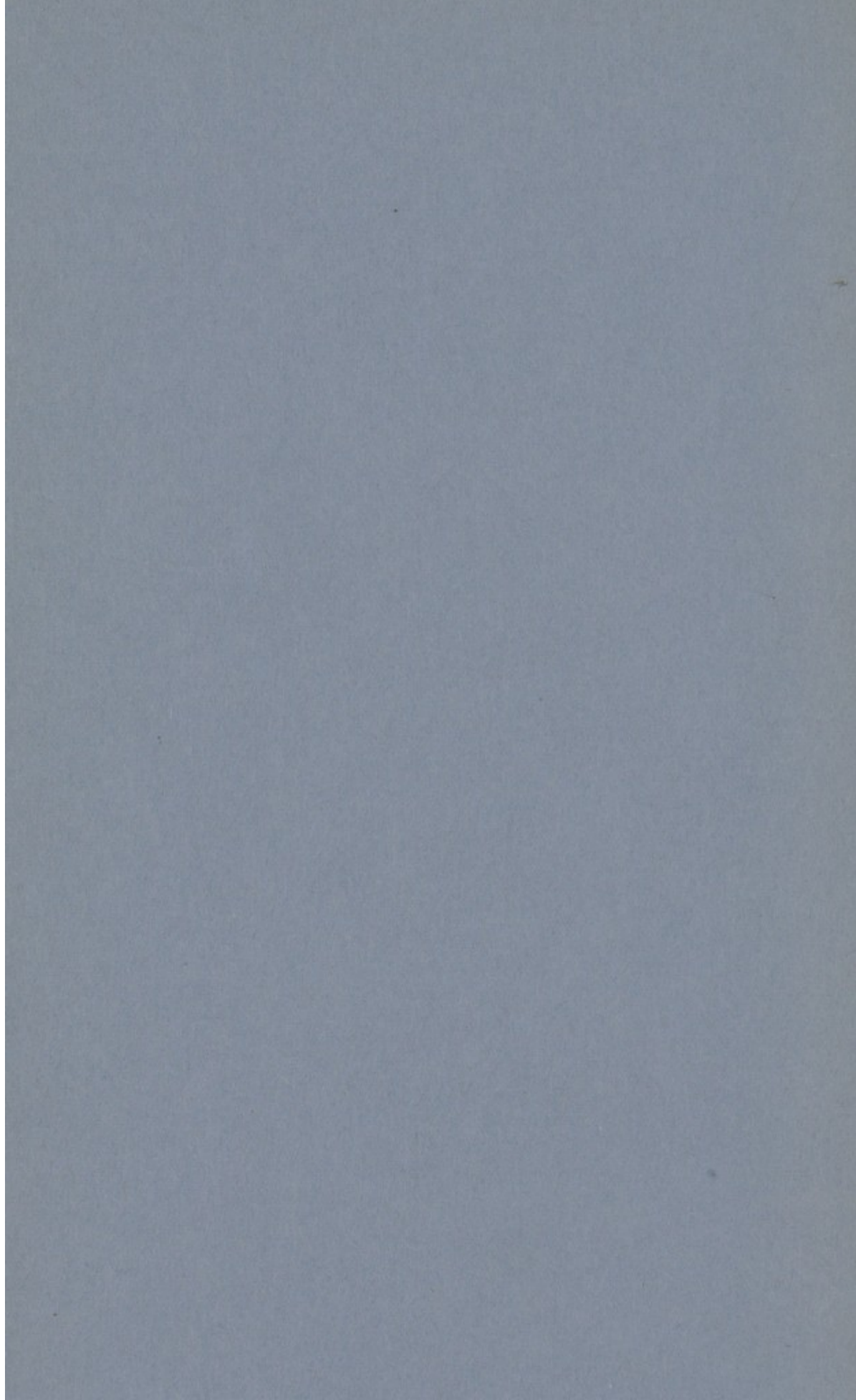
# **REPORT**

**of the**

**Medical Officer of Health**

**for the**

**YEAR 1951**





Borough of Mitcham

# BOROUGH OF MITCHAM

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors

My Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my annual report for the year 1951.

The general health in the Borough has been good.

Measles tends to recur in cycles, and an outbreak in the early part of the year was made notable by a high mortality rate. There was also a slight increase in Whooping Cough, but both diseases were remarkably mild in the Borough and there were no deaths.

Only one case of Poliomyelitis occurred, and the danger of this disease has been kept in mind.

## Medical Officer of Health

There was an isolated case of Paratyphoid B which was, however, of a mild nature, and infection being unable to be discovered.

There was again not a single case of Diphtheria in Mitcham.

The death rate for 1951 was 12.5 per 1,000, which is a slight improvement on the rate of 13.5 per 1,000 for 1950.

The birth rate of 13.5 per 1,000 is also a slight improvement on the rate of 13.0 per 1,000 for 1950. The average age of the population is 28.5 years, which is a slight improvement on the average age of 28.0 years for 1950. The whole population of the Borough is 12,500, which is a slight increase on the population of 12,000 for 1950.

MITCHAM :

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





BOROUGH OF MITCHAM

REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

YEAR 1951

MITCHAM

H. G. MITCHELL AND SONS, PRINTERS, LONDON

## **Borough of Mitcham**

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# **HEALTH REPORT FOR 1951**

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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting my annual report for the year 1951.

The general health in the Borough has been good.

Measles tends to occur in cycles, and an outbreak in the early part of the year was easily the largest since it was made notifiable, a jump occurring from 354 cases in 1950 to 1,386 in 1951. There was also a slight increase in Whooping Cough, but both diseases were remarkably mild in that there were no deaths.

Only one case of Poliomyelitis occurred, and the diagnosis was not absolutely certain. There was some slight degree of paralysis, which cleared up.

There was an isolated case of Paratyphoid B which was, however, of a mild nature, the source of infection being unable to be discovered.

There was, again, not a single case of Diphtheria in Mitcham.

The death rate from Tuberculosis was down from last year's 0.5 per 1,000 to 0.33, which is just above that for England and Wales.

The birth rate of 13.48, after correction by the comparability factor to correspond with the average age and sex grouping of the whole population, becomes 12.54 and was for the second year in succession the lowest recorded in Mitcham, which compares with 15.5 for England and Wales.

The actual death rate of 9.76 becomes 10.32 after applying the comparability factor, which was considerably better than that of 12.5 for the whole of the country.

The infant mortality rate was low, being 25.47 compared with 29.6 for England and Wales.

I wish to thank the Chairmen of the Committees for their friendly support, and all the members of the staff for their loyalty and service throughout the year.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. R. GRAHAM,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

Public Health Department,

Mitcham Court,

Mitcham.



## BOROUGH OF MITCHAM

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### PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN - - COUNCILLOR MISS M. J. FARADAY

His Worship the Mayor (Alderman G. R. MADGWICK, J.P.)

Aldermen—

Mrs. J. C. Ericson      Mrs. H. E. Niven      Mrs. E. Watson

T. A. East, J.P.      G. W. Pearce

Councillors—

Mrs. W. R. Martin      E. E. Field      E. J. Mills

R. Stanley

### REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNCIL ON OTHER AUTHORITIES.

#### WANDLE VALLEY JOINT SEWERAGE BOARD

His Worship the Mayor (*ex officio*)

Alderman W. Jeffery

Councillors—

F. S. Niven      S. L. E. Saldanha

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

Aldermen—

Mrs. H. E. Niven      G. W. Pearce

Councillors—

Mrs. W. R. Martin      A. S. Mingay      R. Stanley



**STAFF****Medical Officer of Health**

A. R. Graham, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Barrister-at-Law.

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

K. J. Gutteridge (1, 2)

**Assistant Sanitary and Meat Inspectors**

L. Gleed (1, 2, 3)      (a) E. N. Montague (1, 2)  
 E. J. Sluis (1, 2)      L. M. Edwards (1, 2)  
    (b) F. A. Evans (1, 2)

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

**Clerks**

(c) L. J. Bellingham  
 (d) Miss V. Valentine      (e) Mrs. V. E. Bevan  
 (f) Miss M. Sanders      (g) Mrs. R. Osborn  
 (h) Miss B. J. Hogan

- (a) Resigned—31.7.51.
- (b) Commenced duties—5.11.51.
- (c) Commenced full-time duties—1.1.51 (ex 75 per cent. Surrey County Council).
- (d) Resigned—10.4.51.
- (e) Part-time—40 per cent. Surrey County Council.
- (f) Part-time—40 per cent. Surrey County Council.
- (g) Resigned—31.8.51.
- (h) Commenced full-time duties—20.8.51.

# 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, 1951	...	...	...	...	67,010
Number of inhabited houses, 1921	...	...	...	...	7,150
" " " 1931	...	...	...	...	13,187
" " " 1951	...	...	...	...	18,945
Rateable Value, 1951	...	...	...	...	£552,743
Sum represented by a 1d. rate	...	...	...	...	£2,256

The Borough of Mitcham received its present status in 1934, having previously been an Urban District from 1915, when the Croydon Rural District, of which it formed part, was split up into separate areas.

Mitcham is an irregular oval in shape, situated in North-East Surrey and is adjacent to the south-west border of the London metropolitan area. It is a fairly flat and low lying area, about 1/6th of it consisting of common land. Parts of Mitcham Common, which are inclined to be marshy, have been raised and levelled by the controlled tipping of refuse. Some nuisance of smell was present for a time in the summer months of 1951, but energetic measures were taken to abate it.

There is one river in Mitcham, the Wandle, which forms the south-west and western boundary, separating Mitcham from Beddington & Wallington in the south and Carshalton in the west, as it runs a northwards course towards the Thames.

The soil of Mitcham consists of up to 4 feet of top-soil, with about 10 ft. of gravel sub-soil, except for one or two parts where London clay comes to the surface. Below the gravel, London clay extends downwards for 200 to 300 ft.



Mitcham, with nearly 300 factories, has a great variety of industries, of which probably the chief ones are paint and varnish, chemical, rubber, margarine and dairy products. In 1951 there was little unemployment in the district.

Although Mitcham is chiefly a working class area, there are no real slums and no back-to-back houses. Nearly two-thirds of the houses have been built since 1921 and more than 50 per cent. of all the roads are tree lined. Mitcham is now a fairly densely populated area, with the few available building sites being rapidly filled up.

### STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS.		Total	Male	Female	Rate per 1,000 of population
Legitimate	...	875	451	424	
Illegitimate	...	28	13	15	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total	...	903	464	439	13.48

After correction by the comparability factor becomes 12.54

STILL BIRTHS.		Total	Male	Female	Rate per 1,000 total births
Legitimate	...	21	8	13	
Illegitimate	...	2	—	2	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total	...	23	8	15	24.84

DEATHS.		Total	Male	Female	Rate per 1,000 of population
		654	337	317	9.76

After correction by the comparability factor becomes 10.32

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion : —

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

Deaths of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	25.47
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live legitimate births	...	...	...	...	25.96
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births	...	...	...	...	35.71

## Deaths from:—

Cancer (all ages) ... ..	108
Measles ... ..	—
Whooping cough (all ages) ... ..	—
Enteritis and 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
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
1951 ...	926	703	75.92

\* After 1949 the actual Birth and Death Rates for Manchester are recorded by comparability factor to correspond with the average age and sex distribution of England and Wales.

1950	12.56	10.66	11.0
1951	12.51	10.5	12.5



The birth rates, death rates per 1,000 of population, and the infantile mortality rates for the years 1932-51 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
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

After 1949 the actual Birth and Death Rates for Mitcham are modified by a comparability factor to correspond with the average age and sex distribution of England and Wales.

1950	12.56	15.8	10.66	11.6	29.64	29.8
1951	12.54	15.5	10.32	12.5	25.47	29.6

### INFANT MORTALITY

During the year 23 deaths were registered as occurring in infants under one year of age:—

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ...	10	12	22
Illegitimate ...	1	—	1
Totals ...	11	12	23

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...	3	1	1	—	—	1
1-7 days ...	11	3	1	—	3	4
8 days - 1 mth.	3	—	1	—	—	2
1mth. - 12 mths.	6	—	—	—	1	5
Total	23	4	3	—	4	12

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

### MATERNAL MORTALITY.

During the year no death was registered.

In 1950 one death was registered in the disease or accident of pregnancy group.

### INQUESTS.

Inquests were held on 15 residents dying within the district and on 14 Mitcham residents who died outside the district, a total of 29. In addition, the coroner held 64 post-mortems without



inquests on residents dying within the district, and on 76 Mitcham residents who died outside the district, a total of 140.

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

Accidental deaths ... ..	21
Deaths from misadventure ... ..	2
Suicides ... ..	4
Inattention at birth ... ..	1
Chronic alcoholism ... ..	1
Total ... ..	29

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age			
Age	No.	Pre-maturity	Post-maturity
Under 24 hrs.	8	1	7
1-7 days	11	3	8
8 days-1 month	5	1	4
1 month-12 months	8	1	7
Total	32	6	26

Seventeen infants failed to survive the first month of life and pre-maturity was recorded as the cause of death of four of these infants.

During the year no death was registered in the district of pregnancy group.

In 1950 one death was registered in the district of industrial group.

## DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1951

CAUSE OF DEATH					Males	Females	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	11	8	19
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	1	2	3
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	1	...	1
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	1	1
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	1	...	1
8	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	2	2
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	15	3	18
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	21	2	23
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	5	5
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	6	6
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	26	30	56
15	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	...	2	...	2
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	3	2	5
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	26	33	59
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	43	29	72
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	7	6	13
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	37	64	101
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	14	8	22
22	Influenza	...	...	...	5	8	13
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	16	26	42
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	41	19	60
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	5	...	5
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	10	2	12
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	...	...	...	1	4	5
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	1	2	3
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	3	...	3
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	5	7	12
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	28	38	66
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	7	4	11
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	4	5	9
35	Suicide	...	...	...	3	1	4
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	...	...
All causes					337	317	654



Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality, and  
Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1951.

(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 ... ..	15.5	17.3	16.7	17.8	12.54
Still ... ..	0.36	0.45	0.38	0.37	0.34
Deaths—					
All causes... ..	12.5	13.4	12.5	13.1	10.32
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	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 ... ..	0.31	0.37	0.31	0.38	0.33
Influenza ... ..	0.38	0.36	0.38	0.23	0.19
Smallpox ... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioencephalitis)	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
Pneumonia ... ..	0.61	0.65	0.63	0.61	0.63
Notifications (corrected)—					
Typhoid fever ... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid fever ...	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.01
Meningococcal infection	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.04
Scarlet fever ... ..	1.11	1.20	1.20	1.10	1.66
Whooping cough... ..	3.87	3.62	4.00	3.11	6.27
Diphtheria ... ..	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.00
Erysipelas ... ..	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.15	0.12
Smallpox ... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—
Measles ... ..	14.07	13.93	14.82	14.64	20.69
Pneumonia ... ..	0.99	1.04	0.96	0.72	0.36
Acute Poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioencephalitis)					
Paralytic ... ..	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.01
Non-paralytic ... ..	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.00
Food Poisoning ... ..	0.13	0.15	0.08	0.23	0.06
Rates per 1,000 live births					
Deaths under one year of age	29.6*	33.9	27.6	26.4	25.47
Deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis under two years of age ... ..	1.4	1.6	1.0	0.7	1.11
Rates per 1,000 total births (live and still)					
Notifications (corrected)—					
Puerperal fever ... ..	10.66	13.77	8.08	14.90	14.04
Puerperal pyrexia ... }					
Maternal mortality...					
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion ... ..	0.79	Not available			0.00
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.

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	...	...	...	32
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Number of rooms disinfected by fumigator	...	200
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Number of library books disinfected	...	420
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## 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, and itself comes under 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).

*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

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

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

### 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 afternoons, Friday afternoons.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

(Under the direction of the Local Medical Officer of Health.)

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 one day nursery in Mitcham, at Eagle House, London Road, Mitcham, with 85 places. The other day nursery at Robinson Road, Colliers Wood, was closed on 31st July, 1951.

### 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 1951	...	31
Number of children affected	... ..	56
Number of visits paid	... ..	136

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### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948: SECTION 47.

#### *Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention.*

There were two cases during the year.

1. An elderly woman of 75, aged and infirm, was living in very insanitary conditions, her aged husband being no longer able to cope with her. Action had to be taken urgently under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, then subsequently under Section 47 for an extension.

She was sent to a Surrey County Council Welfare Establishment, where she is likely to remain, and further extensions will probably be necessary.

2. An elderly woman of 84, aged and infirm, was living in very insanitary conditions, her aged husband being no longer able to look after her. She was sent to a Surrey County Council Welfare Establishment, but died after a short period.

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## 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 there is no record of any case of infectious disease being 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, 47.

Number of other houses found infested during the year, 14.

Number of requisitioned, etc., houses found infested during the year, 4.

Total number of houses disinfested during the year, 51.

Methods employed :—

No houses treated with sulphur dioxide.

51 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 of beetles, 130.

Number of houses disinfested of spiders and other insects, 24.

### 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 by reason of infectious disease.

*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 a 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.

### PREVENTION OF DESTRUCTION BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Three full-time and one part-time Rodent Operators were employed, one leaving for another post in November, 1951.

Properties inspected	...	...	...	11,505
Complaints received	...	...	...	619
Number of treatments <i>re</i> rat infestation including test baits as result of inspection and complaints	...	...	...	1,603
Factory and business premises treated	...	...	...	75
Visits by Sanitary Inspectors	...	...	...	155



Two sewer maintenance treatments were carried out; 113 manholes were baited. 177 intercepting chambers were also baited during the two maintenance treatments. 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.

Mr. Mayor, 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:—

Complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	1,004
Nuisances found	...	...	...	...	...	884
Verbal Notices given	...	...	...	...	...	135
Verbal Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	80
Informal Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	668
Informal Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	446
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	269
Statutory Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	253
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	3,210
Houses inspected for defects	...	...	...	...	...	926
Visits made for this purpose	...	...	...	...	...	1,057
Drains tested and inspected	...	...	...	...	...	300
Private houses found verminous	...	...	...	...	...	20
Visits <i>re</i> Building Licence applications	...	...	...	...	...	10
Visits to butchers	...	...	...	...	...	190
Visits to slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	66
Visits to dairies	...	...	...	...	...	95
Visits to restaurant kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	140
Visits to ice-cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	188
Visits to bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	44
Visits to other food premises	...	...	...	...	...	395
Number of notices served under Food and Drugs Act,						
1938	...	...	...	...	...	42
Number of notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	33
Visits to factories	...	...	...	...	...	147



Visits to workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	3
Visits to outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	166
Visits to stables	...	...	...	...	...	38
Visits to piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	77
Visits to marine stores	...	...	...	...	...	1
Visits to caravan yards	...	...	...	...	...	86
Smoke observations	...	...	...	...	...	24
Visits <i>re</i> infectious disease cases	...	...	...	...	...	174
Visits <i>re</i> smallpox contacts	...	...	...	...	...	25
Visits <i>re</i> food poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	11
Visits <i>re</i> rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	155
Visits <i>re</i> Shops Acts	...	...	...	...	...	44
Visits <i>re</i> schools	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sundry visits	...	...	...	...	...	445

#### *Character of Work Done*

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	234
Rainwater piping or gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	249
Yards paved or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	14
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	223
Water service pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	24
Waterclosets: Repairs to structure	...	...	...	...	...	35
Flushing apparatus repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	55
New pans and traps fitted	...	...	...	...	...	52
Water storage cisterns cleansed, repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	26
Water supply reinstated	...	...	...	...	...	6
Flooring of rooms repaired and sub-floor ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	110
Rooms cleansed and redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	149
Sinks and handbasins repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	17
Waste pipes and traps repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	35
Window frames and sashes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	137
Window sills repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	63
External brickwork (repaired, pointed or rendered)	...	...	...	...	...	45
Drains repaired or obstructions removed	...	...	...	...	...	132
Drain inspection covers renewed	...	...	...	...	...	15
Drains tested	...	...	...	...	...	76



Grid and mica flaps provided ... ..	11
Firegrates repaired (including surrounds and hearths)	67
Stoves, coppers, ranges, etc., repaired ... ..	17
Chimney stacks repaired ... ..	32
Staircases repaired ... ..	28
Doors repaired ... ..	40
Internal plaster repairs ... ..	446
Sash cords renewed ... ..	135
Dustbins provided ... ..	55
Accumulations removed ... ..	10

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

Six summonses were withdrawn before the respective hearings as the necessary works had been completed.

Fourteen summonses were abated prior to hearing, the court awarding the Council £2 2s. 0d. costs and 3s. 6d. court costs in each case, a total of £31 17s. 0d.

*Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936, and Petroleum (Mixtures) Order, 1929.*—Ninety-five licences to store petroleum spirit and/or petroleum mixtures were issued for a total of 203,984 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.

#### UN SOUND FOOD DEALT WITH.

Beef ... ..	1,189 lbs.	Fruit ... ..	59 jars
Corned Beef ... ..	176 $\frac{3}{4}$ „	Fruit, bottled ... ..	48 bottles
Kidney ... ..	5 „	Fruit, tinned ... ..	192 lbs.
Liver ... ..	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ „	Apples ... ..	80 lbs.
Veal ... ..	47 „	Prunes ... ..	30 lbs.



Leg of Mutton ...	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ „	Cereals ...	6 pkts.
Rabbit ...	34 „	Cereals & Fruit ...	18 pkts.
Luncheon Meat ...	12 „	Oatmeal ...	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Sausages ...	40 „	Biscuits ...	3 lbs.
Ham ...	1,061 $\frac{3}{4}$ „	Scone Mix ...	39 pkts.
Fish ...	49 $\frac{1}{4}$ stne.	Jellies ...	3 pkts.
Cheese ...	32 lbs.	Semolina ...	1 pkt.
Sugar ...	116 „	Sauce ...	2 bottles
Milk Powder ...	390 „	Tinned Foods ...	1,396 tins
Dried Milk ...	80 „	Assorted ...	89 bottles & jars

Yours faithfully,

K. J. GUTTERIDGE,

*Chief Sanitary Inspector.*

#### HOUSING STATISTICS

TOTAL NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES—18,945.

Permanent buildings built by the Council before the war—  
1,461.

Permanent buildings built by the Council after the war—  
1,052.

*Other Housing Accommodation Available:—*

Requisitioned and sundry properties ...	423
Temporary buildings, Arcon bungalows ...	325
Hutments, 320 originally, now reduced to ...	266
Gunsite Hutments, 61 originally, now reduced to ...	33

Therefore total number of properties acquired during and  
since the war is 2,119.

#### NUMBER OF PEOPLE REHOUSED.

About 8,000 applicants have registered since 1945, and the  
current list is still about 3,000, so that some 5,000 applicants have  
been dealt with. The actual number of people, including children,  
who have been rehoused is about 5,000.

#### TYPES OF ACCOMMODATION.

The Nissen huts and gunsite hutments were built to last only  
a few years, and do not always give protection against the



weather, although much has been spent on improvements. The numbers are gradually being reduced.

The temporary Arcon bungalows, however, give very good housing accommodation.

The chief new development is that of building large blocks of flats to get the greatest number of families rehoused with a limited building space available.

The post-war housing is also making provision for the communal needs of the occupants of new estates by proposed community centres, erection of garages, etc.

### 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) ...	926
(b) Number of inspections made ...	1,057

### 2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers ... ..	400
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Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of formal action by the local authority or their officers ... ..	244
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### 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
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Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of houses in which closing orders were made for underground rooms	... ..	—
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#### 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	—
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## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

Examinations are made of all food premises, the desirable features carefully assessed and marks awarded on a special form. The premises were on the whole satisfactory with some minor adjustments necessary. In addition the following measures were taken during the year:—

**CLEAN FOOD EXHIBITION.**—A successful exhibition was held, with the help of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and other interested parties, at the Baths Hall, Mitcham, from Saturday, 7th April, to Friday 13th April.

About 3,000 people attended, of whom almost 700 were children. Apart from the film annexe and the stage which was used for demonstrations, there were 18 exhibition stands consisting of a larger number of exhibits, as listed below.

The film shows, which took place two-hourly in the side room, were nearly always full to capacity and were seen by 1,625 persons.

The cookery demonstrations proved of great interest and the Gas and Electricity Boards expressed their pleasure that they were so well attended.



At the Brains Trust Meeting held on Wednesday, 11th April, under the Chairmanship of Professor Andrew Topping, a lively and interesting debate was given and appreciative comments were received afterwards.

A booklet containing clean food hints, to help both the housewife and the caterer, was sent out to every home in Mitcham.

*List of Exhibition Stands, in Brief.*

1. *Rats and Mice*.—Live exhibits with methods of rodent control.
2. *Meat*.—Exhibit by the Institute of Meat, which aimed at encouraging the practice of hygiene in the meat trade.
3. *Milk*.—Miniature pasteurisation plant shown and measures to ensure pure milk.
4. *Wet Fish*.—A modern refrigerated "shop window"—in direct contrast with the open-fronted fish shop.
5. *Ice-Cream*.—A model of modern ice-cream pasteurising equipment.
6. *Baker*.—Showing how the baker's goods may be protected from contamination.
7. *Gas*.—Uses of gas in the service of clean food.
8. *Fish Frying*.—A stand showing modern hygienic fish-frying equipment.
9. *Ministry of Food*.—The stand illustrated the clean and dirty shop and how the Food Byelaws are designed to protect your health.
10. *Catering Hygiene*.—Contrasting desirable and undesirable features of a small café, kitchen and toilet.
11. *Electricity*.—How electricity may further the ideal of clean food.
12. *Mothercraft*.—A stand of particular interest to the young mother, arranged by the Health Visitors and Dental Hygienist of the Surrey County Council.
13. *Refrigeration*.—Modern refrigeration plant demonstrated.



14. *Mitcham Foods*.—A display of food hygienically prepared and wrapped in Mitcham Factories.

15. *Detergents*.—New washing and sterilising preparations demonstrated.

16. *Dish Washing*.—An exhibition of modern mechanical aids to cleanliness of crockery and glassware.

17. *The Public Health Department*.—Exhibits by the Public Health Department and the Public Analyst.

18. *Personal Hygiene*.—This exhibit showed how food can become infected by those who handle it, and the organisms usually responsible.

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

#### *Formal Samples.*

Forty-five formal samples were taken as follows:—

Milk	...	...	36	Tinned Cambridge Saus-	
Beef Sausages	...	...	2	ages	...
Pork Sausages	...	...	2	Beef Sausage Meat	...
Chippolata Sausages	...	...	1	Baking Powder	...
				Ice-cream	...

#### *Informal Samples.*

Seventy-four informal samples were taken as follows:—

Tomato Ketchup	...	3	Asparagus Soup	...	1
Horseradish Sauce	...	1	Mint in Vinegar	...	1
Meat Paste	...	2	Lemon Squash	...	1
Sauce	...	4	Golden Raising Powder	...	2
Beef Soup	...	1	Chocolate Cup	...	1
Chicken Noodle Soup	...	1	Lemonade Crystals	...	1
Pork Sausages	...	1	Curry	...	1
Cooked Rabbit	...	1	Coconut Cake Filling	...	2
Solid Pack Apples	...	1	Sparkling Ale	...	2
Salmon and Anchovy Fish			Chocolate Cream Filled		
Paste	...	1	Wafers	...	1
Brisling in Tomato	...	1	Marshmallow Creme	...	1
Herrings in Tomato	...	1	Vinegar	...	1



Swiss Roll ... ..	1	Granulated Sugar ...	1
Meat Soup ... ..	1	Meat Pie ... ..	1
Desiccated Coconut ...	1	Tomato Soup ... ..	1
White Pepper ... ..	1	Peanut Butter ... ..	1
Cake Mixture ... ..	2	Sardines in Oil ... ..	1
Double Cream ... ..	1	Pure Honey ... ..	1
Spaghetti and Sausages in		Synthetic Cream ...	1
Tomato Sauce ... ..	1	Gelatine ... ..	1
White Fondant ... ..	1	Sponge Mixture ... ..	1
Garden Peas ... ..	1	Butter ... ..	1
Luncheon Meat ... ..	1	Ice-cream ... ..	18
Crabmeat ... ..	2		

All samples were satisfactory, with the exception of one formal (tinned Cambridge sausage) and two informal samples (coconut cake filling and meat pies); a warning letter was sent in each of these cases.

Three summonses, regarding dirty milk bottles, were applied for, and fines of (1) £20 and £8 8s. 0d. costs, (2) £5 and £3 13s. 0d. costs, (3) £5 and £3 13s. 0d. costs, were awarded.

#### ICE-CREAM.

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

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

	Provisional Grade.			
	I	II	III	IV
Coliforms absent ... ..	18	8	2	—
Coliforms present in 1/10th ml...	14	6	11	1
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	1	1
8-9 per cent.	9-10 per cent.	10-11 per cent.	11-12 per cent.	12-13 per cent.
2	4	3	6	1

## TEA CUP SWABS

Twelve swabs were taken from tea cups at various catering establishments during the year, and were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. The results are tabulated below: —

Colony Count (per cup)	Coliforms.		Fæcal Coli.		Result—	
	Present.	Absent.	Present.	Absent.	Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory.
Under 100 ...	—	3	—	—	3	—
100-500 ...	2	—	—	2	—	2
500-1,000 ...	2	2	—	2	—	4
1,000-1,500 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
1,500-2,000 ...	—	1	—	—	—	1
Over 2,000 ...	1	1	—	1	—	2
Total ...	5	7	—	5	3	9

Communications were sent to all establishments informing them of the result of the swabs.

## 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 ...	...	...	23
Sterilised ...	...	...	29
Supplementary Licences—			
Pasteurised ...	...	...	18
Sterilised ...	...	...	17



## 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) ... ..	18
Supplementary Licences (Tuberculin Tested) ... ..	17

One hundred and thirty-three samples of Graded Milk were submitted for bacteriological examination. One hundred and thirty-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 13.

Forty-four visits have been paid.

### DAIRIES

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

During the year 26 visits of inspection were paid.

### SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are two registered slaughterhouses in the Borough; 66 visits have been paid.

## MEAT INSPECTION

### CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle, excluding cows	Cows	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ... ..	1	...	...	162
Number inspected ... ..	1	...	...	162
All diseases except tuberculosis :				
Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	...
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis ... ..	...	...	...	1.23
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 12 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, 42. Number of Notices complied with, 33.

## PIGGERIES

There are 28 piggeries in the Borough. Seventy-seven 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	15	13	...	...	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. ... ..	2	262	120	7	...	2
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises) ... ..	3	16	1	...	...	3
TOTAL ... ..	...	293	134	7	...	...

2.—Cases in which defects were found:—

Particulars	M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No.
		Found	Remedied	Referred			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	(6)	(8)
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	4	2	2	...	...	...	4
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	5	...	...	...	...	...	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..	6	...	...	...	...	...	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..	7	...	...	...	...	...	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	8	...	...	...	...	...	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)							
(a) Insufficient ... ..	9	3	3	...	...	...	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	10	11	11	...	6	...	10
(c) Not separate for sexes ... ..	11	1	1	...	1	...	11
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework) ... ..	12	7	7	...	...	...	12
TOTAL ... ..	60	24	24	...	7	...	60



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 { Making, etc. ... ..	13	100						13
apparel { Cleaning and washing ...	14							14
Household linen ... ..	15							15
Lace, lace curtains and nets ...	16							16
Curtains and furniture hangings ...	17							17
Furniture and upholstery ... ..	18							18
Electro-plate ... ..	19							19
File making ... ..	20							20
Brass and brass articles ... ..	21							21
Fur pulling ... ..	22							22
Iron and steel cables and chains ...	23							23
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels	24							24
Cart gear ... ..	25							25
Locks, latches and keys ... ..	26							26
Umbrellas, etc. ... ..	27							27
Artificial flowers ... ..	28							28

Nets, other than wire nets ... ..	29							29
Tents ... ..	30							30
Sacks ... ..	31							31
Racquet and tennis balls ... ..	32							32
Paper bags .. ..	33							33
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper ...	34	8						34
Brush making ... ..	35							35
Pea picking ... ..	36							36
Feather sorting ... ..	37							37
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc. ...	38							38
Stuffed toys ... ..	39							39
Basket making ... ..	40							40
Chocolates and sweetmeats ...	41							41
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc. ... ..	42	20						42
Textile weaving ... ..	43	3						43
Lampshades ... ..	44	1						44
TOTAL ... ..	70	132						70



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

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS

The total number of confirmed notifications received during 1951 was 1,980.

#### CONTACTS, SUSPECTS, ETC.

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

#### VISITS

Sanitary Inspectors in common infectious diseases	174
„ „ to small pox contacts	25
Total	199
Rooms disinfected after infectious disease	200

The monthly incidence of infectious disease was:—

	Small Pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid Fever	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Dysentery	Meningococcal Infections	Polio- myelitis Paralytic	Polio- myelitis Non-Paralytic	Measles	Whooping Cough	Food Poisoning	Paratyphoid	Malaria	Acute Encephalitis Infective	Acute Encephalitis Post-Infectious	Totals
January ... ..	...	5	...	...	2	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	167	97	...	...	...	...	...	275
February ... ..	...	4	...	...	...	7	2	...	1	...	...	...	296	110	...	...	...	...	...	420
March ... ..	...	23	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	490	58	1	...	...	...	...	576
April ... ..	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	190	31	...	...	...	...	...	235
May ... ..	...	15	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	134	32	...	...	...	...	...	182
June ... ..	...	15	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	91	47	...	...	...	...	1	158
July ... ..	...	8	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	10	16	...	...	...	...	...	38
August ... ..	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	5	6	...	...	...	...	...	19
September ... ..	...	2	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	10	...	...	...	...	...	17
October ... ..	...	4	...	...	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	16
November ... ..	...	8	...	...	...	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	17
December ... ..	...	9	...	...	4	1	1	1	2	...	1	...	1	3	3	1	...	...	...	27
Totals ... ..	...	111	...	...	8	24	13	1	7	3	1	...	1386	420	4	1	...	...	1	1980



# INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS, 1932-51.

DISEASE	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	1951
Small Pox ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	174	240	392	143	171	192	150	61	48	75	175	212	97	147	95	62	35	57	89	110	111
Diphtheria...	32	40	83	80	104	89	64	27	36	72	25	42	10	63	32	4	...	1	1	...	...
Typhoid Fever ...	3	3	...	3	5	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Puerperal Pyrexia...	4	9	6	4	11	5	4	7	2	2	6	3	5	8	6	9	3	...	2	...	13
Meningococcal	1	4	1	1	3	1	2	1	13	12	6	8	3	3	1	2	1	1	...	1	3
Infections																					
Erysipelas ...	11	31	30	20	22	16	8	19	17	19	7	22	13	16	25	9	18	6	12	7	8
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	301	194	599	651	112	739	358	533	818	252	354	354	1386
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis:																					
Paralytic ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	11	2	2	6	2	1
Non-Paralytic ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neona-	4	2	2	4	3	1	3	3	1	3	10	4	4	...	2	2	6	3	8	2	1
torum																					
Acute Encephalitis:																					
Infective...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Post-Infectious...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia ...	52	37	45	35	36	32	43	...	30	22	20	50	37	33	41	37	30	13	19	28	24
Malaria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	16	186	161	162	166	96	234	216	117	149	212	387	420
Food Poisoning ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	6	11	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	6	3	4
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	67	13	6	1	2	5	7	16	7
Paratyphoid ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	1
Totals...	288	368	560	293	357	338	275	125	468	591	1021	1161	515	1126	807	888	1033	490	717	911	1980

## SMALL POX

No case of small pox was notified during the year 1951. The last case was in 1932.

## SCARLET FEVER

The number of cases of scarlet fever notified during the year was 111 as compared with 110 in 1950, equivalent to a case rate of 1.66 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 53 were treated in hospital and 58 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 and reinforced during the year:—

	Immunised.	Reinforced.	Total.
Under five years ...	596	14	610
5 to 14 years ...	235	2,356	2,591
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	831	2,370	3,201



The following figures show the number of the child population considered immunised at 31st December, 1951:—

Age at 31.12.51 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1951	1 1950	2 1949	3 1948	4 1947	5 to 9 1942-1946	10 to 14 1937-1941	Total under 15
Number immunised	19	474	674	832	959	4912	3939	11809
Estimated mid-year population 1951	5764					8861		14625

The percentage immunised is as follows:—

Under five	...	...	...	...	51.32%
Five—Fourteen	...	...	...	...	99.88%

The total of immunised children is probably on the high side because of the difficulty in finding out the number who should no longer be recorded due to death or transfer out of the district.

The number of birthday greetings sent in 1951 was 379.

#### ENTERIC FEVER.

No cases of typhoid fever were notified during the year, but there was one case of paratyphoid B. This belonged to a rare group but the source of infection could not be discovered. The case was mild in nature.

#### DIARRHOEA AND ENTERITIS UNDER TWO YEARS OF AGE

One death was registered during the year.

#### FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

There was one outbreak which affected three persons in one household, and one in the house next door.

There were no fatalities, and all tests of foodstuffs and faeces examinations proved negative.

#### ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA

No case was notified during the year.

### ERYSIPELAS

Eight cases were notified. No case was removed to hospital.

### PUERPERAL PYREXIA

Thirteen cases were notified during the year. The increased number was probably due to the wider scope following the revised definition of Puerperal Pyrexia under the 1951 regulations.

### PNEUMONIA

Twenty-four 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 42, of which 16 were males and 26 females.

### MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS.

Three cases occurred during 1951. There was one female death.

### INFLUENZA

During the year thirteen deaths from influenza were recorded, five males and eight females. The previous year two deaths were registered.

### PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

This comes under the control of the Surrey County Council.

### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

During the year one case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified.

### POLIOMYELITIS

One isolated case of poliomyelitis occurred, belonging to the paralytic group, although it affected only very slightly the right thigh. There was some doubt as to whether it really was a case.

### 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 information of the prevalence of non-notifiable infectious disease, such as chicken pox, mumps, etc. The numbers were as follows:—

Chicken pox	...	...	...	...	212
Mumps	...	...	...	...	243
Ringworm	...	...	...	...	1
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	5
Rubella	...	...	...	...	8
Hepatitis	...	...	...	...	1

#### CANCER

The number of deaths from cancer registered during the year was 108, of which 62 were males and 46 were females.

The site distribution for 1951 was as follows:—

Digestive organs	...	...	...	18 cases
Respiratory organs	...	...	...	23 "
Breast	...	...	...	5 "
Genito-urinary organs	...	...	...	6 "
Other sites	...	...	...	56 "

Total ... .. 108

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	
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

Year	Number of Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 of population		
		Mitcham	England and Wales	
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
1951	108	1.61	...	—

## TUBERCULOSIS

During the year 121 new cases of tuberculosis were notified  
viz.:—

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	62	54	116
Non-Pulmonary	3	2	5
	—	—	—
Totals	65	56	121

Twenty-six cases were transferred into the Borough as follows:—

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	7	17	24
Non-Pulmonary	—	2	2
	—	—	—
Totals	7	19	26

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

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	11	8	19
Non-Pulmonary	1	2	3
	—	—	—
Totals	12	10	22

England  
and Wales      Mitcham

Death rate from tuberculosis, all forms,  
per 1,000 population      ...      0.31      0.33





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

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 ...	...	...	...	2
Total tuberculosis deaths ...	...	...	...	22
Percentage of non-notified tuberculosis deaths ...	...	...	...	9.09

#### MINIATURE MASS RADIOGRAPHY

This unit comes to Mitcham every year and is granted free facilities at the Vestry Hall (Town Hall). Several new cases come to light at each visit, and treatment is then instituted.

#### 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 are given to hardship cases,



Assistance is 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.

The Committee has the onerous task of raising the larger portion of the funds necessary, the Chairman having great pleasure in expressing thanks to all those who helped, especially with the Christmas Seal Campaign, which resulted in the record figure of £258 12s. 8d. for 1951.

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