

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

Contributors

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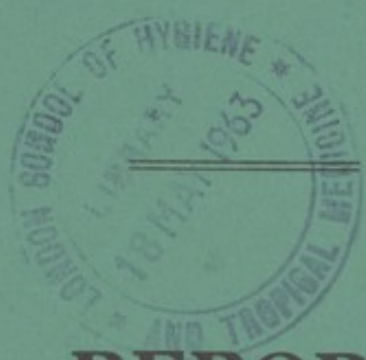
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BOROUGH OF MITCHAM



REPORT

of the

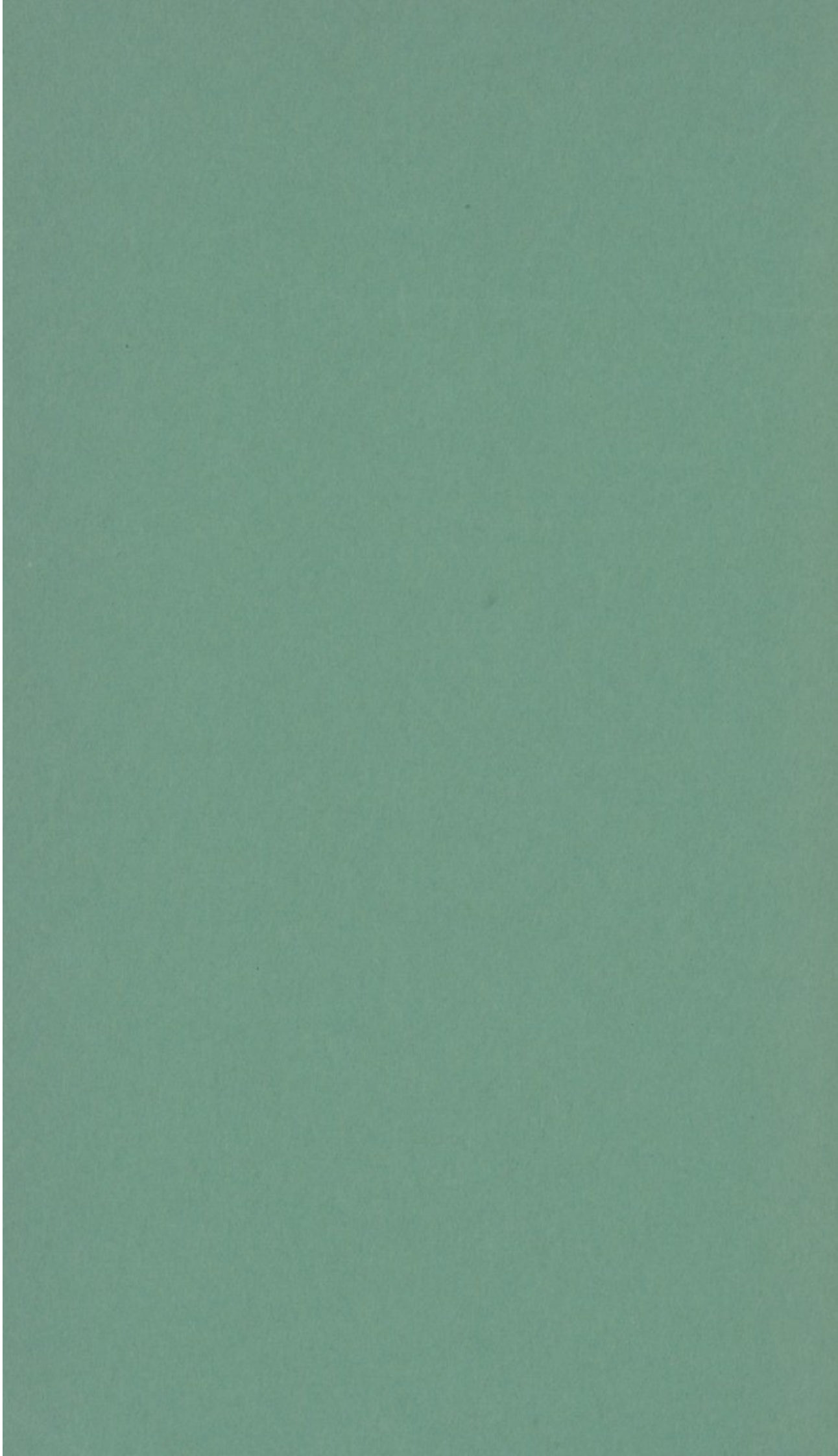
Medical Officer of Health

for the

YEAR 1958



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HEALTH REPORT FOR 1958

BOROUGH OF MITCHAM

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting my annual report for the year 1958.

The general health in the Borough has been good and there was no special outbreak of infectious disease.

The notifications of infectious diseases fell from the high figure of 1,590 in 1957 to 325, mainly due to the decrease in measles, which tends to have a two-year cycle.

There was no case of diphtheria, making nine years free of cases.

There was no case of poliomyelitis. This has happened only once before in the last 12 years and was probably due, in great measure, to the large number of children immunised, possibly helped by the cold weather.

Medical Officer of Health

It is of interest that there was a sharp drop in whooping cough notifications—to 45—which was the lowest in the 19 years since notification came into force. The highest year was 1951 when there were 420 cases, and the immunisation scheme in Surrey started the following year.

YEAR 1958

The tuberculosis death rate remained at 0.08 compared with 0.10 per 1,000 population for England and Wales. Notifications increased from 22 in 1957 to 31 in 1958.

Dysentery was notified in 8 cases against 47 for 1957.

There was one case of typhoid fever in MITCHAM but this was contracted in Ireland.

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

Borough of Mitcham

HEALTH REPORT FOR 1958

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors.

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The tuberculosis death rate remained at 0.08 compared with 0.10 per 1,000 population for England and Wales. Notifications increased from 22 in 1957 to 31 in 1958.

Dysentery was notified in 8 cases against 47 for 1957.

There was one case of paratyphoid but this was contracted in Ireland.

The birth rate of 14.34 per 1,000 population becomes, after correction by the comparability factor, 13.91 compared with 16.4 for England and Wales.

The death rate of 9.57 becomes, after correction by the comparability factor, 11.48 per 1,000 population, against 11.7 for England and Wales.

As regards infant mortality, the local rate was 20.46, and the rate for England and Wales, 22.6 per 1,000 live births, the lowest ever recorded.

The death rate from cancer dropped again, from 2.06 to 1.89 while the rate for England and Wales rose again to 2.12 per 1,000 population. The death rate for lung cancer in Mitcham fell from 0.63 to 0.40 per 1,000 while the rate for England and Wales rose to 0.44.

I wish to thank the Chairmen of the Committees for their un-failing 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

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN - - ALDERMAN MRS. J. C. ERICSON

His Worship the Mayor (Alderman H. T. Simms, J.P.)

Aldermen—

Mrs. L. Crump G. W. Pearce

Councillors—

Mrs. W. R. Martin	W. J. Dungate	J. H. Kemp
A. J. Pullman	E. J. Mills	J. E. Reece

Representatives of the Council on Other Authorities:

WANDLE VALLEY JOINT SEWERAGE BOARD

His Worship the Mayor (*ex-officio*)

Councillors—

D. J. Hempstead L. A. Cobb H. V. Byford

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

Alderman G. W. Pearce

Councillors—

Mrs. W. R. Martin	J. H. Kemp	J. E. Reece
	W. E. M. Townsend	

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

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

Chief Public Health and Meat Inspector

Petroleum Inspector

Shops Act Inspector

K. J. Gutteridge (1, 2)

Assistant Public Health and Meat Inspectors

L. Gleed (1, 2, 3)

E. J. Sluis (1, 2)

L. M. Edwards (1, 2) (a)

J. E. Higgs (1, 2)

1. Certificate R.S.H. and Public Health Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.
2. Certificate Meat and Foods R.S.H.
3. Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

Clerks

(b) Chief Clerk and Administrative Assistant—F. H. White

(c) Senior Clerk—F. G. Taylor

(d) Secretary—Miss V. I. Hill

(e) Mrs. M. Drewett

(e) Mrs. K. North.

(a) Resigned 1st November, 1958.

(b) 75 per cent. Surrey County Council duties.

(c) 25 per cent. Surrey County Council duties.

(d) 20 per cent. Surrey County Council duties.

(e) 40 per cent. Surrey County Council duties.

REPORT

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	2,932 acres
Population, Census 1921	35,119
" " 1931	56,856
" " 1951 (32,384 M.; 34,885 F.)	67,269
Registrar-General's estimate of population mid-year, 1958	64,700
Density of Population, 1951	22.9 persons per acre
Number of inhabited houses, 1921	7,150
" " " 1931	13,187
" " " 1958	19,896
Rateable Value, 1958	£989,807
Sum represented by a 1d. rate	£3,990

The Borough of Mitcham is an irregular oval in shape, situated in North-East Surrey adjoining the south-west border of the London metropolitan area. It is fairly flat and low lying, with some 600 acres of open space including the 440 acres of Mitcham Common.

The River Wandle, which forms the south-west and western boundary, separates Mitcham from Beddington and 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 four feet of top-soil with about ten feet 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 feet.

Mitcham, with over 300 factories, has a great variety of industries, of which the chief ones are paint and varnish, chemical, engineering, margarine and dairy products.

The unemployment situation deteriorated progressively during the year so that by the end of the year there was substantial unemployment which affected all classes except the most highly skilled.

Although Mitcham is chiefly a working class area, there are few houses that can be called slums. Under the recent 5-year slum clearance scheme only 54 houses had to be dealt with. Nearly two-thirds of the houses have been built since 1921 and more than 50 per cent. of all roads are tree-lined. Apart from a projected scheme at Phipps Bridge and one or two isolated sites that become vacant there is no building land available.

STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS.		Total	Male	Female	Rate per 1,000 of population
Legitimate	...	890	451	439	
Illegitimate	...	38	14	24	
Total	...	928	465	463	14.34

After correction by the comparability factor becomes 13.91

Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births 4.09

STILL BIRTHS.		Total	Male	Female	Rate per 1,000 total births
Legitimate	...	16	12	4	
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	
Total	...	16	12	4	17.24

DEATHS.		Total	Male	Female	Rate per 1,000 of population
		619	337	282	9.57

After correction by the comparability factor becomes 11.48

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion:—

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

Deaths of infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	20.48
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live legitimate births	...	...	17.97
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births	...	...	78.95

Deaths from:—

Cancer (all ages)	122
Measles	—
Whooping cough (all ages)	—
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under two years of age ...	—

PERCENTAGE OF BIRTHS OCCURRING IN INSTITUTIONS

Year	Total births	Births in hospitals, etc.	Percentage of births occurring in institutions
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
1952 ...	929	749	80.62
1953 ...	950	735	77.37
1954 ...	927	673	72.71
1955 ...	869	628	72.28
1956 ...	888	661	74.44
1957 ...	899	650	72.22
1958 ...	944	670	70.97

The birth rates, death rates per 1,000 of population, and the infant mortality rates for the years 1939-58 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
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 distributions of England and Wales.

1950	12.56	15.8	10.66	11.6	29.64	29.8
1951	12.54	15.5	11.32	12.5	25.47	29.6
1952	12.62	15.3	10.87	11.3	19.80	27.6
1953	13.21	15.5	10.52	11.4	18.39	26.8
1954	12.97	15.2	10.03	11.3	13.32	25.5
1955	12.40	15.0	10.81	11.7	15.20	24.9
1956	12.91	15.7	11.49	11.7	13.73	23.8
1957	13.05	16.1	11.07	11.5	12.36	23.0
1958	13.91	16.4	11.48	11.7	20.48	22.5

INFANT MORTALITY

During the year 19 deaths were registered of infants under one year of age:—

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ...	10	6	16
Illegitimate ...	—	3	3
Totals ...	10	9	19

as compared with 11 deaths last year.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

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

Age	No.	Cause of Death				
		Pre-maturity	Congenital Defects	Accidents of birth	Infectious conditions	Other conditions
Under 24 hrs ...	8	3	4	—	—	1
1-7 days ...	3	1	—	—	—	2
8 days - 1 mth.	2	—	1	1	—	—
1 mth. - 12 mths.	6	—	1	—	—	5
Total	19	4	6	1	—	8

Thirteen infants failed to survive the first month of life, giving Mitcham a neo-natal mortality rate of 15.09 per 1,000 related live births as compared with 16.2 for England and Wales.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

During the year no deaths were registered, as in 1957.

INQUESTS

Inquests were held on 16 residents dying within the district and on 10 Mitcham residents who died outside the district, a total of 26. In addition, post-mortems without inquests were held on 80 residents

dying within the district, and on 50 Mitcham residents who died outside the district, a total of 130.

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

Accidental death	...	...	...	...	15
Death from misadventure	...	...	...	...	1
Suicide	...	...	...	...	6
Natural causes	...	...	...	...	2
Homicide	...	...	...	...	2
<hr/>					
Total	...	...	...	...	26

DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1958

CAUSE OF DEATH					Males	Females	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	3	2	5
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	1	...	1
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	2	...	2
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	10	8	18
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	22	4	26
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	16	16
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	4	4
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	31	25	56
15	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	...	1	1	2
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	4	5
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	42	48	90
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	79	39	118
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	2	4	6
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	20	44	64
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	15	14	29
22	Influenza	...	...	...	2	1	3
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	12	8	20
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	28	7	35
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	2	1	3
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	9	2	11
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	3	1	4
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	1	3	4
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	9	...	9
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	4	6	10
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	29	26	55
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	2	1	3
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	5	7	12
35	Suicide	...	...	...	2	4	6
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	2	2
All causes					337	282	619

The hospitals directly concerned with the Merthyr 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,

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY AND NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1958

							England and Wales	Mitcham
							Rates per 1,000 home population	
<i>Births—</i>								
Live	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.4	13.91
							{ 0.36	{ 0.25
Still	...	...	...	...	...	...	{ 21.52*	{ 16.90*
<i>Deaths—</i>								
All causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.7	9.57
Malignant neoplasm—lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.44	0.40
Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.001	...
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.000	...
Tuberculosis—all forms	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.097	0.08
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.05	0.05
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.003	...
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.53	0.31
Coronary disease—angina pectoris	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.87	1.82
Maternal mortality	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.43*	...*
<i>Notifications (Corrected)—</i>								
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.86	1.16
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.74	0.70
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.001	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.75	2.66
Acute Poliomyelitis—								
Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.031	...
Non-Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.018	...
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.003	...
Para-typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.004	0.015
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.019	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.073	0.05
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.85	0.12
Acute Encephalitis—								
Infective	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.004	...
Post-Infectious	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.003	...
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.49	0.19
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.20	0.14
Tuberculosis—								
Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.59	0.41
Non-Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.08	0.06

* Per 1,000 total (live and still) 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. The ambulances operate from the Ambulance Control Station, Hill House, Bishopsford Road, Morden (Telephone: Mitcham 2084).

DISINFECTION

The disinfection of houses is undertaken by the Council. Disinfection of bedding, etc., is done at 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	Nil
Number of rooms disinfected by fumigator	74
Number of library books disinfected	396

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 London hospitals are also used.

Infectious Diseases.—Cases usually go to the Wandle Valley Isolation Hospital at Beddington Corner, Mitcham Junction, or to the Grove Hospital, Tooting.

Smallpox Cases.—By agreement with the South-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, any cases that should occur would be 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 St. Helier Hospital, Carshalton, or occasionally to other hospitals such as the Nelson Hospital, Kingston Road, Merton, S.W.20.

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 Cumberland Hospital, Mitcham, every Monday and Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning. A clinic is held for old cases only, on every fourth Thursday at 5 p.m. The Cumberland Hospital, which has 100 beds available, deals principally with tuberculosis although an increasing number of other chest diseases are dealt with.

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)

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 Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

An ante-natal session is held at the Cavendish Road Clinic every second and fourth Monday morning of the month.

An ante-natal session is held at Sherwood House Clinic on Wednesday afternoons for cases booked by midwives.

X-Ray examinations necessary for expectant mothers are carried out at the Wilson and St. Helier Hospitals.

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS

Infant Welfare sessions are held at the following places:—

Cavendish Road Clinic.—Every Monday afternoon.

St. Barnabas Church Hall, Gorringe Park Avenue.—Every Tuesday afternoon.

Sherwood House, Commonside East.—Every Thursday morning and Monday afternoon.

Church Road Clinic.—Every Thursday afternoon and Wednesday afternoon.

Meopham Road Clinic.—Every Wednesday afternoon.

Toddlers' Clinics for children between the ages of two to five years are held on Monday mornings, other than the first Monday in the month, by appointment.

DENTAL CLINICS

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

Western Road, Mitcham.—Every weekday morning and afternoon.

Church Road, Mitcham.—Every weekday morning and afternoon.

Meopham Road.—Every weekday morning and afternoon.

DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

Clinics are held as follows:—

Cavendish Road Clinic.—Each Monday afternoon in conjunction with Welfare Clinic.

Church Road Clinic.—On 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays of the month in the morning.

Meopham Road Clinic.—Each Wednesday afternoon in conjunction with Welfare Clinic.

St. Barnabas Clinic.—On 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesdays of the month in the afternoon.

Sherwood House Clinic.—Each Monday afternoon (immunisation only—in conjunction with Welfare Clinic) and each Thursday morning (immunisation and vaccination in conjunction with Welfare Clinic).

POLIOMYELITIS IMMUNISATION

A large number of sessions are held in schools and a large number on Saturday mornings at the various clinics, for children and adults.

MINOR AILMENTS

Sessions are held at Western Road Clinic on Monday and Friday mornings, with a doctor in attendance, and on Wednesday mornings under the supervision of a nurse; at Sherwood House Clinic, with a doctor in attendance, on Wednesday mornings.

MOTHERCRAFT CLASSES

Sherwood House Clinic.—Thursday, 2 p.m.

Church Road Clinic.—Tuesday, 2 p.m.

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC

An eye specialist attends Western Road Clinic on Thursday mornings and Wednesday afternoons.

PARENTCRAFT CIRCLE

Church Road Clinic.—Monday, 3 p.m.

POST-NATAL CLINIC

The post-natal clinics at Church Road and Cavendish Road are now held in conjunction with the ante-natal clinics.

SPEECH CLINIC

A session is held at Western Road Clinic on Tuesday (all day), Wednesday (morning only), and Thursday (all day), when two speech

therapists are in attendance. A speech therapist also holds a session at Sherwood House Clinic on Friday (all day).

U.V. RADIATION CLINICS

Sessions are held during the winter months, as follows:—

Church Road Clinic.—Thursday mornings and Monday afternoons.

Sherwood House Clinic.—Tuesday afternoons, Friday afternoons.

DAY NURSERY

The Surrey County Council provide one day nursery in Mitcham at Eagle House, London Road, Mitcham, with 49 places.

HEALTH VISITING

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

There are nine Health Visitors employed in visiting the mothers and children in this district under the supervision of a Divisional Superintendent Health Visitor. 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 1958	...	30
Number of children affected	... ..	55
Number of visits paid	... ..	185

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948: SECTION 47
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

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

There was only one case in this category and as the person concerned eventually entered hospital voluntarily no action was necessary.

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 five licensed caravan yards, each with a stand pipe, supplying altogether a total of 13 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, situated in Mitcham.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

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

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

There are no Smoke Control Areas as yet, as the Council do not consider the area to be a bad one compared with the neighbouring metropolitan areas. Mitcham is, however, included with those areas and the position will be reviewed from time to time.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Number of Council houses found infested during the year, 30.

Number of other houses found infested during the year, 10.

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

Total number of houses disinfested during the year, 44.

Methods employed:—

44 houses treated with insecticide spray.

Number of houses disinfested of beetles, 106.

Number of houses disinfested of other insects, 20.

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 public health 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 Shools.—No school has been closed by the local authority during the year by reason of infectious disease.

Infectious Diseases.—Scholars in contact with cases of certain infectious diseases 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 the reason.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

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

Properties inspected	...	...	...	...	3,272
Complaints received	...	...	...	...	687
Number of treatments <i>re</i> rat infestation, including test baits, as result of inspection and complaints					1,134
Factory and business premises treated	...	...	...	...	124
Visits by Public Health Inspectors	...	...	...	...	129

Two sewer maintenance treatments and one test treatment were carried out in the year; 270 manholes and five intercepting chambers were baited. A total of 32 baits were taken compared with 79 taken in 1957.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH 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 Public Health Inspectors:—

Complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	528
Nuisances found	...	...	...	...	...	387
Verbal Notices given	...	...	...	...	...	125
Verbal Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	77
Informal Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	256
Informal Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	156
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	96
Statutory Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	88
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	1,420
Houses inspected for defects	...	...	...	...	...	567
Visits made for this purpose	...	...	...	...	...	650
Drains tested and inspected	...	...	...	...	...	147
Private houses found verminous	...	...	...	...	...	9
Visits to butchers	...	...	...	...	...	192
Visits to slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	816
Visits to dairies	...	...	...	...	...	18

Visits to retail milk shops	37
Visits to restaurant kitchens	324
Visits to ice-cream premises	61
Visits to bakehouses	37
Visits to other food premises	1,080
Number of notices served under Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955	11
Number of notices complied with	11
Visits to factories	311
Visits to workplaces	46
Visits to outworkers	86
Visits to stables	81
Visits to piggeries	65
Visits to caravan yards	131
Smoke observations	84
Visits <i>re</i> infectious disease cases	165
Visits <i>re</i> smallpox contacts	3
Visits <i>re</i> food poisoning	15
Visits <i>re</i> rats and mice	129
Visits <i>re</i> Shops Acts	38
Visits <i>re</i> schools	16
Visits <i>re</i> Rent Act, 1957	277
Visits to refuse tipping site, Mitcham Common	57
Visits <i>re</i> refuse chutes	84
Visits to sewage works	10
Sundry visits	204

Character of Work Done

Roofs repaired	94
Rainwater piping or gutters repaired or renewed ..	65
Yards paved or repaired	14
Dampness remedied	86
Water service pipes repaired	13
Waterclosets: Repairs to structure	7
Flushing apparatus repaired or renewed ...	20
New pans and traps fitted	23
Water storage cisterns cleansed, repaired or renewed ...	4
Water supply reinstated	6

Flooring of rooms repaired and sub-floor ventilation improved	61
Rooms cleansed	4
Sinks and handbasins repaired or renewed	10
Waste pipes and traps repaired or renewed	11
Window frames and sashes repaired or renewed	44
Window sills repaired or renewed	18
External brickwork (repaired, pointed or rendered)	18
Drains repaired or obstructions removed	100
Drains inspection covers renewed	8
Drains tested	43
Grid and mica flaps provided	9
Firegrates repaired (including surrounds and hearths)	13
Stoves, coppers, ranges, etc., repaired	5
Chimney stacks repaired	6
Staircases repaired	12
Doors repaired	14
Internal plaster repairs	115
Sash cords renewed	50
Dustbins provided	44
Accumulations removed	8

All ponds and ditches in the Borough where mosquito breeding was likely were sprayed with insecticide three times during the year and larger areas where mosquitoes were found to be breeding, and spraying was impracticable, were treated with a fogging apparatus with satisfactory results.

Disinfestation of dust chutes at the Council's blocks of flats was carried out by means of the high pressure fogging apparatus which was most effective: all school canteens were similarly treated.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Mitcham Urban District Council Act, 1923.—Summonses were issued against a landlord in respect of non-compliance with notices requiring the provision of dustbins at three of his properties. At the Hearing on 30th April the maximum penalty of £1 with £1 11s. costs was imposed in each case.

Public Health Act, 1936.—A summons was issued against the occupier of a caravan in Bath Road in respect of a contravention of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, by using the land as a site for a moveable dwelling for more than 42 consecutive days. At the Hearing on 3rd September the Court imposed a fine of £2 and made an Order for the removal of the caravan within 14 days with provision for a further penalty if the Order was not complied with. The Council was awarded £1 1s. costs.

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936, and Petroleum (Mixtures) Order, 1929.—104 licences to store petroleum spirit and/or petroleum mixtures were issued for a total of 231,624 gallons (inclusive of cellulose solutions).

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936, and Petroleum (Carbide of Calcium) Order, 1929.—Two licences were issued for the storage of 1,224 lbs. of carbide of calcium.

UN SOUND FOOD DEALT WITH

Beef	...	...	158 lbs.	Sultanas	...	...	30 lbs.
Pork	...	...	4 „	Pork luncheon meat	...	...	144 „
Corned beef	...	...	120 „	Ham	...	...	13 „
Veal	...	...	25 „	Fish	...	...	140 „
Chicken	...	...	4 „	Luncheon meat	...	...	15 „
Pineapple pieces	...	...	81 „	Assorted	...	...	201 tins

Your faithfully,

K. J. GUTTERIDGE,

Chief Public Health Inspector

HOUSING STATISTICS

TOTAL NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES—19,896.

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

Permanent buildings built by the Council after the war—2,319.

Other Housing Accommodation Available:—

A. Requisitioned and sundry properties	...	...	180
B. Temporary buildings, Arcon bungalows	...	...	345

C. Hutments, 320 originally, now reduced to ... 74

Therefore, total number of properties used for housing by the Mitcham Borough Council is 4,379

NUMBER OF PEOPLE REHOUSED

About 10,300 applicants have registered since 1945, and the current list is still about 1,300, so that some 9,000 applicants have been dealt with.

HOUSING SITUATION

The outlook is still rather bad as regards new housing. Very few houses could be built in 1958 as there is no available land in Mitcham apart from the Phipps Bridge area due for development some time in the future, and isolated sites that become vacant.

The few slum clearance areas serve in turn to rehouse those who are displaced.

The Council in their developments outside Mitcham are participating in a scheme at Frimley and Camberley to the extent of 250 dwellings.

SLUM CLEARANCE

The sites in High Street, Colliers Wood, and Byegrove Road are occupied. There remain a few families in Love Lane and Church Place not yet re-housed.

All the tenants in Nicholls Cottages, Gaston Road, have been rehoused and the site is to be developed.

At the end of the year twelve cottage flats on the Cedars Estate will be built, and the Mitcham Borough Council is co-operating with the Mitcham Old People's Housing Association in the conversion of 112, Tamworth Lane into 18 flatlets for old people.

RENT ACT, 1957

One hundred and one applications were made for Certificates of Disrepair. In 73 cases undertakings to carry out the work were received from the various landlords, but six of these undertakings were not accepted. In the remaining 34 cases certificates were issued.

Twenty certificates were subsequently cancelled on application by the landlords, the works having been completed.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

One thousand seven hundred and forty-nine inspections were made of food premises other than slaughterhouses. The premises were on the whole satisfactory with some minor adjustments necessary.

Food premises by type of business.

General Stores	23	Café & General Stores ...	2
Groceries	68	Roadside Snack Bars ...	2
Butchers	31	Fishmongers	7
Greengrocer & Fruiterers	58	Fried Fish Buffets ...	3
Greengrocer & General		Fried Fish	9
Provisions	4	Bakers and Confectioners	13
Confectionery	69	Milk & Provisions ...	12
Chemists	14	Public Houses	30
Restaurants & Cafés ...	34	Off-Licences	12

Food premises by type, registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The storage and sale of ice-cream	152
The manufacture for sale of ice-cream	1
The preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food	40
Dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949	1
Number of inspections of registered food premises during the year	284

All condemned food is either incinerated at the Refuse Destructor, Garth Road, Morden, by arrangement with the Merton and Morden Urban District Council, or treated with dye and disposed of to fat and bone merchants.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Formal Samples.

Eighty-eight formal samples were taken as follows:—

Milk	41	Extra White Flour	1
Chewing Gum	1	Rolls	1

Tomato Ketchup	1	Prunes	1
French Beans	1	Frankfurters	1
Jam	1	Steak & Kidney Pie ...	1
Fruit Sauce	2	Stoned Dates	1
Curry Powder	2	College Pudding	1
Custard Powder	1	Bicarbonate of Soda ...	1
Sardines	1	Saveloy Sausage	1
Munchmallow	1	Gelatine	1
Lard	1	Beef Sausage	1
Margarine	1	Pure Cream	1
Lemon Curd	1	Rheumatic Tablets ...	1
Raspberry Special Fruit		New Zealand Cheddar	
Product	1	Cheese	1
Fish Paste	1	Horseradish Relish ...	1
Ground Almonds	2	Beef Soup Mix	1
Pure Malt Vinegar	1	Celery Soup	1
Flavouring Essence	1	Tomato Juice	1
Buttered Cheese	1	Butter	1
Tartaric Acid	1	Sweets	4
Glycerin of Thymol	1		

Informal Samples

Fifty-six informal samples were taken as follows:—

Self Raising Flour	2	Cockles	1
Orange Squash	2	Minced Chicken	1
Marzipan	2	Lemon Juice	1
Chutney	1	Pure Ground Coffee ...	1
Ground Nut Oil	1	Dressed Crab	1
Irish Stew	1	Plain Flour	1
Instant Whip	1	Chocolate Macaroon	
Double Cream	4	Biscuits	1
Marzipan Fruits	1	Chicken in Jelly	1
Tomato Ketchup	1	Instant Coffee	1
Orange Juice	1	Sweet Mango Chutney ...	1
Swiss Roll	1	Swiss Trifle Pack	2
Cream of Asparagus Soup	1	Chocolate Sponge Mixture	1
Cream of Leek Soup	1	Sardines	1
Demerara Sugar	1	Orange Marmalade	1

Pork Luncheon Meat	...	2	Custard Cream Biscuits	...	1
Canadian Salmon	...	1	Pickled Onions	...	1
Rice Pudding	...	1	Jamaica Ginger Cake	...	1
Pilchards in Tomato	...	1	Coffee Flavoured Beverage	...	1
Spread Orange	...	1	Rose hip Syrup	...	1
Milk	...	1	Blackcurrant Syrup	...	1
Jellied Eels	...	3	Icing Sugar	...	1
Whelks	...	2	Olive Oil	...	1

The following samples were not up to standard and warning letters were sent to the firms concerned:—

Informal.—Cream of leek soup, cream of mushroom soup, minced chicken and pork luncheon meat.

Complaints from the public relating to food were as follows:—

- One of a spider in a milk bottle.
- One of a dirty milk bottle.
- One of insects in sweets.
- One of insects in rusks.
- One of pieces of wood in jam.
- One of string in a loaf of bread.
- One of a loaf contaminated by paint.
- One of maggots in chocolates.

Warning letters were sent to the firms concerned in these cases.

ICE-CREAM

One establishment in the Borough is registered for the manufacture of ice-cream and 152 for the storage of ice-cream. Sixty-one visits were paid during the year.

Two samples of ice-cream were taken and examined for bacteriological purity. The results are tabulated below:—

	Provisional Grade.			
	I	II	III	IV
Coliforms absent	2	—	—	—
Coliforms present in 1/10th ml	—	—	—	—
Fæcal coli present (in addition to above)	—	—	—	—

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF CUPS AND GLASSES

Eighty-one swabs were taken from tea cups at various catering establishments and nine swabs were taken from beer glasses at various public houses during the year, and were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. The results are tabulated below:—

TEA CUP SWABS.

TEA CUP SWABS.				Result			
Colony Count (per cup).	Coliforms		Fæcal Coli		Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory	
	Present.	Absent.	Present.	Absent.			
Under 100	2	67	—	1	69	—	
100-200	—	3	—	—	3	—	
200-500	1	7	1	—	—	8	
500-1,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1,000-1,500	1	—	—	1	1	—	
1,500-2,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	
2,000 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total	...	4	77	1	2	73	8

BEER GLASS SWABS.

BEER GLASS SWABS.					Result	
Colony Count (per glass).	Coliforms		Fæcal Coli		Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory.
	Present.	Absent.	Present.	Absent.		
Under 100	—	7	—	—	7	—
100-200	—	—	—	—	—	—
200-500	—	1	—	—	—	1
500-1,000	—	—	—	—	—	—
1,000-1,500	—	—	—	—	—	—
1,500-2,000	1	—	1	—	—	1
2,000 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	1	8	1	7	2

The result of the swabs was sent to the establishments concerned.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND
STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949 to 1953

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

Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licences	...	...	...	1
Dealer's Licences—				
Pasteurised	...	...	...	36
Sterilised	...	...	...	60
Supplementary Licences—				
Pasteurised	...	...	...	16
Sterilised	...	...	...	17

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949 to 1954

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

Dealer's Licences (Tuberculin Tested)	...	...	24
Supplementary Licences (Tuberculin Tested)	...	...	16

One hundred and sixty samples of Graded Milk were submitted for bacteriological examination. One was unsatisfactory and a warning letter was sent to the firm concerned.

BAKEHOUSES

The number of bakehouses in the district is six.

Thirty-seven visits have been paid.

DAIRIES

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

During the year eighteen visits of inspection were paid.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are two registered slaughterhouses in the borough; 816 visits have been paid.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933 TO 1958

Fifteen licences were issued to slaughtermen in accordance with the requirements of the above Acts.

MEAT INSPECTION

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

	Cattle, excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ...	108	52	2840	1579	15,623
Number Inspected ...	108	52	2840	1579	15,623
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci:					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	...	...	...	...	67
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	...	11	2	34	773
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci ...	...	21.14	0.07	2.16	4.74
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	...	..	...	...	9
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	...	3	...	...	102
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis... ..	...	5.77	...	...	0.71

FOOD PREPARING FACTORIES

There are 17 factories which are engaged in the manufacture and preparation of food products. All of these are systematically visited.

INFORMAL ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

Number of notices served, 11. Number of notices complied with, 11.

PIGGERIES

There are 15 piggeries in the Borough. Sixty-five visits were paid during the year.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Four licences were issued to occupiers of pet shops.

10197 3.—General (Sections 110 and 111):— 10197

I.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health 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	16	34	...	...	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	297	268	...	...	2
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	5	9	...	...	3
TOTAL ... ..	...	318	311	...	...	...

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	M/c line No.
		Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	...	...	...	...	...	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	...	...	...	...	...	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	3	3	...	...	...	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	...	...	...	...	...	11
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	12	2	2	...	...	...	12
TOTAL		5	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)
		Number of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c) (3)	Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (4)	Number of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists (5)	Number of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (6)	Notices served (7)	Prosecu- tions (8)	
Wearing { Making, etc.	13	34						13
apparel { Cleaning and washing	14	2						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

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

Nets, other than wire nets	29							Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	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	5							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	16							42
Textile weaving	43								43
Lampshades	44	6							44
TOTAL		63							

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS

The total number of confirmed notifications received during 1958 was 325.

CONTACTS, SUSPECTS, ETC.

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

VISITS

Public Health Inspectors to common infectious diseases	165
Public Health Inspectors to smallpox contacts	3
	<hr/>
Total	168
Rooms disinfected after infectious disease	74

The monthly incidence of infectious disease was:—

	Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid Fever	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Dysentery	Meningococcal Infections	Poliomyelitis Paralytic	Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic	Measles	Whooping Cough	Food Poisoning	Paratyphoid	Malaria	Acute Encephalitis Infective	Acute Encephalitis Post-Infectious	Totals
January	3	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	1	...	...	...	...	26
February	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	10
March	5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	13
April	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	11
May	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	8
June	3	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	18	3	...	...	...	...	...	27
July	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	1	...	...	...	...	...	34
August	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	2	3	...	...	...	...	11
September	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	3	2	2	1	...	...	...	13
October	11	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	1	...	...	...	...	...	25
November	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	55	1	...	...	...	...	...	79
December	19	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	41	3	3	...	...	...	...	68
Totals	75	...	...	3	12	...	...	8	...	...	...	172	45	9	1	...	...	...	325

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS, 1939-58

DISEASE	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	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Smallpox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	61	48	75	175	212	97	147	95	62	35	57	89	110	111	225	86	47	33	56	18	75
Diphtheria	27	36	72	25	42	10	63	32	4	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhoid Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	7	2	2	6	3	5	8	6	9	3	...	2	...	13	23	11	3	1	...	...	...
Meningococcal Infections	1	13	12	6	8	3	3	1	2	1	1	...	1	3	1	...	2	...	1	...	...
Erysipelas	19	17	19	7	22	13	16	25	9	18	6	12	7	8	14	11	6	9	7	4	3
Measles ... ..	...	301	194	599	651	112	739	358	533	818	252	354	354	1386	591	888	131	1059	50	1358	172
Typhus Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis:	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paralytic ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	11	2	2	6	2	1	4	4	...	4	5	2	...
Non-Paralytic ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	8	1	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	1	3	10	4	4	...	2	2	6	3	8	2	1	4	...	1	...	...	...	...
Acute Encephalitis:	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Infective ... ..	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Post-Infectious ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Pneumonia ... ..	...	30	22	20	50	37	33	41	37	30	13	19	28	24	26	27	16	34	19	24	12
Malaria ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	4	16	186	161	162	166	96	234	216	117	149	212	387	420	112	336	183	167	103	130	45
Food Poisoning	4	4	6	11	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	6	3	4	10	17	12	8	11	4	9
Dysentery ... ..	...	...	...	...	4	67	13	6	1	2	5	7	16	7	16	15	46	17	60	47	8
Paratyphoid ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
Totals	125	468	591	1021	1161	515	1126	807	888	1033	490	717	911	1980	1027	1396	450	1335	322	1590	325

SMALLPOX

No case of smallpox was notified during the year 1958. The last case was in 1932.

SCARLET FEVER

The number of cases of scarlet fever notified during the year was 75 as compared with 18 in 1957, equivalent to a case rate of 1.17 per 1,000 population. This disease has continued mild in character. Of the total number of cases notified six were treated in hospital and 69 were treated at home.

DIPHTHERIA

No case of diphtheria was notified for the ninth year in succession and only two in the past twelve years, whereas before that cases averaged sixty per year.

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

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

There are five clinics 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.

The following figures show the number of children immunised and reinforced during the year (this includes those children who received the combined diphtheria and whooping cough prophylaxis):—

	Immunised.	Reinforced.	Total.
Under five years	790	73	863
Five to fourteen years ...	84	67	151
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	874	140	1,014

The following figures show the number of the child population considered immunised at 31st December, 1958:—

Age at 31.12.58, i.e. born in year	Under 1 1958	1 to 4 1957-1954	5 to 9 1953-1949	10 to 14 1948-1944	Under 15 Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster)					
A. 1954-1958... ..	247	2366	2990	3541	9144
B. 1944-1953... ..	—	—	724	1355	2059
C. Estimated mid-year child population ...	904	3489	10238		14631
Immunity Index 100 A/C	26.22	67.81	63.79		62.49

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

This is carried out at the same clinics as diphtheria immunisation, but special visits to schools are not made as this inoculation is intended primarily for children under five years old.

The following figures show the number of children immunised and reinforced during the year (this includes those children who received the combined diphtheria and whooping cough prophylaxis): —

	AGE at date of final injection (as regards A) or of re-inforcing injection (as regards B)							Total
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	
A. Number of children who completed a course of inoculation with pertus- sis vaccines (including diphtheria pertussis pro- phylactic) during 1958	588	124	17	23	10	9	—	771
B. Number of children who received a secondary (reinforcing) injection during 1958	—	1	1	2	42	34	2	76

POLIOMYELITIS

There was no case during the year, the second time this has occurred in the last 14 years. This was probably helped by the extensive vaccination of children and by the rather inclement weather.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

During the year the scheme was extended to the age group 16 to 25 years. There was a very poor initial response of less than 2 per cent.

For children under 15 the response was good so that during the year 7,395 children had been vaccinated. The total of all children immunised by the end of 1958 was 9,586 out of 15,631 children, that is 61.3 per cent. and each had received two or more doses of vaccine.

Large numbers of applications for vaccination were still coming in, however, at the end of the year.

Fortunately, the question left to parents as to whether they should ask for Salk or British manufactured vaccine, for the most part died out, as did the British testing of Salk vaccine, which was additional to tests in America.

It is a pity that other measures, such as not giving a poliomyelitis injection within two weeks of other injections and giving only single injections in the summer months, are still not rescinded at a time when some countries are giving a four in one vaccine.

ENTERIC FEVER

There was one case of enteric fever during the year, a case of paratyphoid which was, however, contracted in Ireland.

DIARRHOEA AND ENTERITIS UNDER TWO YEARS OF AGE

No death was registered during the year.

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

There were nine cases of food poisoning in 1958. Three were single cases and in two instances three members of a family were affected. The illness was caused by *S. Typhimurium* in one case and

by S. Newport in two cases. In the remaining six cases the cause was unknown. The source could not be discovered in any of the cases.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA

There were no cases notified during the year.

ERYSIPELAS

Four cases were notified. None was removed to hospital.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

No case was notified during the year.

PNEUMONIA

Twelve 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 20, of which 12 were males and 8 females.

MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS

None was notified during the year.

INFLUENZA

During the year three deaths were recorded, as against ten the year before.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

During the year no case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

This comes under the control of the Surrey County Council.

SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS

The school intimation notices of infectious disease are 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	...	...	...	...	364
Mumps	...	...	...	...	47
Ringworm	...	...	...	...	1
Rubella	...	...	...	...	25
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	7
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	6
Influenza	...	...	...	...	13
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	—
Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	...	—

CANCER

The number of deaths from cancer registered during the year was 122, of which 63 were males and 59 females.

The trend for England and Wales is continuing upwards, while the case rate for Mitcham is rather lower than that for the country as a whole.

The site distribution for 1958 was as follows:—

Digestive organs	...	...	...	18 cases
Respiratory organs	...	...	...	26 „
Breast	...	...	...	16 „
Genito-urinary organs	...	...	...	4 „
Other sites	...	...	...	58 „

Total ... 122

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.
1939	73	1.12	1.64
1940	94	1.55	1.66

Year.	Number of Deaths.		Death Rate per 1,000 of population	
			Mitcham.	England and Wales.
1941	...	84	1.6	1.67
1942	...	104	1.90	1.698
1943	...	95	1.7	1.74
1944	...	83	1.6	1.7
1945	...	103	1.91	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	1.90
1952	...	128	1.91	1.94
1953	...	129	1.94	1.95
1954	...	108	1.64	2.04
1955	...	132	2.02	2.06
1956	...	135	2.08	2.07
1957	...	134	2.06	2.09
1958	...	122	1.89	2.12

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year 31 new cases of tuberculosis were notified, viz:—

			Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	...	...	14	13	27
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	1	3	4
Totals	...	...	15	16	31

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

			Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	...	...	10	18	28
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	—	1	1
Totals	...	...	10	19	29

The total number of deaths from tuberculosis was:—

			Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	...	...	3	2	5
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	—	—	—
Totals	...	...	3	2	5

England
and Wales. Mitcham.

Death rate from tuberculosis, all forms,
per 1,000 population 0.10 0.08

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	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 years to 9 „ ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 „ „ 14 „ ...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 „ „ 19 „ ...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 „ „ 34 „ ...	7	7	1	1	...	1	...	...
35 „ „ 44 „ ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
45 „ „ 64 „ ...	5	...	...	1	3	...	...	...
65 „ and upwards	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	14	13	2	2	4	1	...	...

New cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year through death returns and posthumous notifications:—

Age Periods	0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	Total
Pulmonary : Males	Nil
Pulmonary Females	1	1	2
Non-Pulmonary : Males	Nil
Non-Pulmonary : Females	Nil

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

		Number of Cases	
		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Death Returns ...	(a) From Local Registrar ...	1	...
	(b) Transferable deaths from Registrar General ...	1	...
Posthumous notifications from doctors ...		...	...

The percentage of non-notified tuberculosis deaths (i.e., new cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health after death of the case) is 40.

Non-notified tuberculosis deaths ...	...	2
Total tuberculosis deaths ...	...	5

MINIATURE MASS RADIOGRAPHY

There was no visit in 1958 but one was due in early 1959.

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 task of raising the larger portion of the funds necessary, the bulk coming from the sale of Christmas seals and donations from voluntary associations.

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