

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

Contributors

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BOROUGH OF MITCHAM

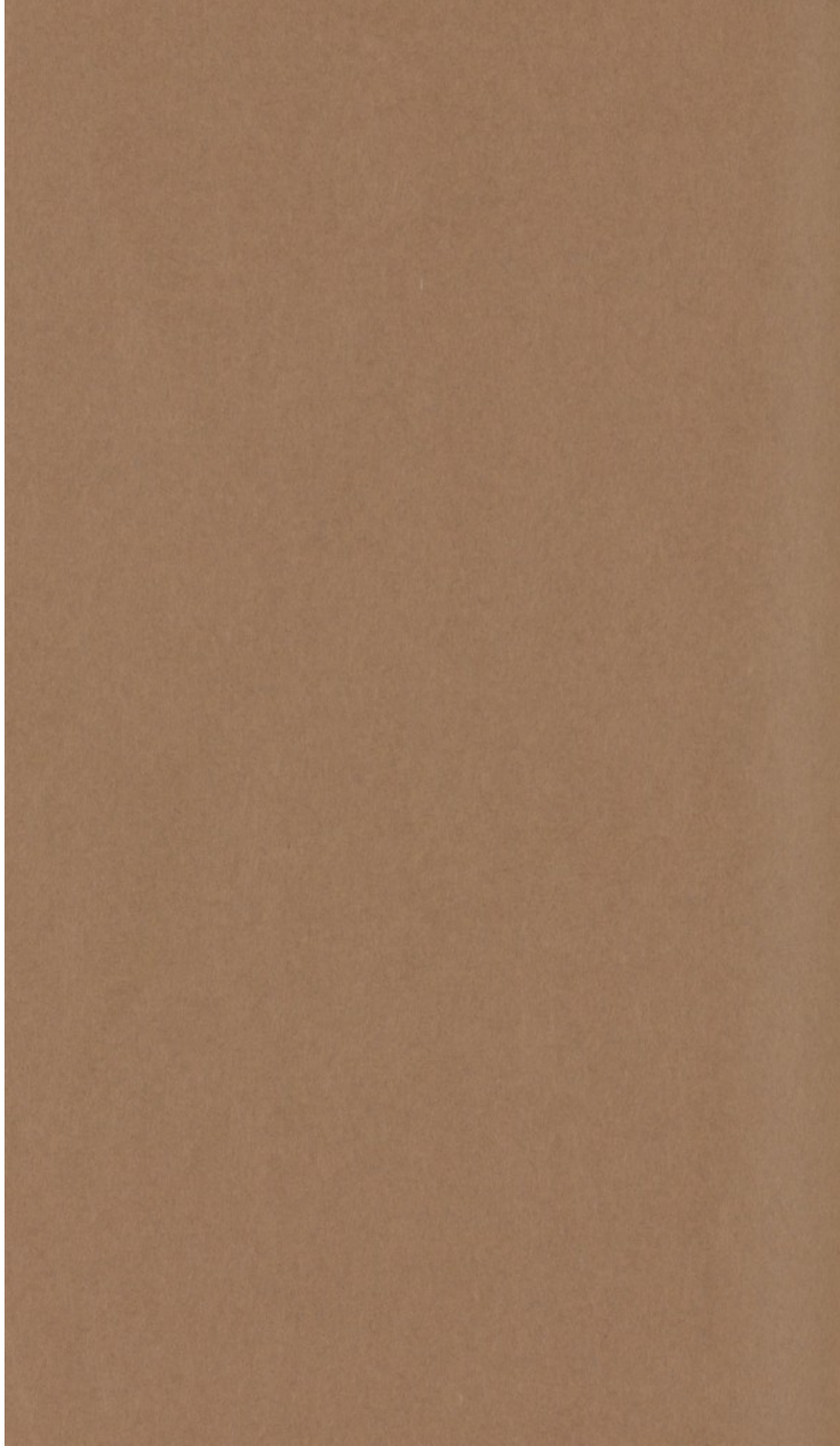
REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

YEAR 1961





BOROUGH OF MITCHAM

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Medical Officer of Health

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YEAR 1961

MITCHAM

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

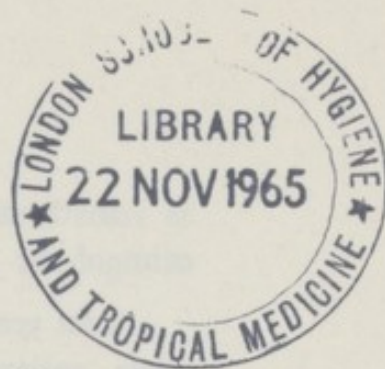
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Borough of Mitcham



HEALTH REPORT FOR 1961

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting my annual report for the year 1961.

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

The notifications of infectious diseases were 960 compared with 338 in 1960. The increase was mainly due to measles for which 1961 was a year of high incidence.

There were no cases of poliomyelitis. Since 1957 there has been only one case which occurred in 1959.

Whooping cough notifications at 58 shewed a return to the downward trend.

In December, 1961, outbreaks of smallpox, brought in from Pakistan, started in several areas of England and Wales which led to a widespread request for vaccination.

As there were no cases in this area the Ministry did not recommend general vaccination.

The very high vaccination rate in Mitcham is worthy of note, namely 75 per cent. of all babies under one in 1961 and an average of 72 per cent. over the past five years, which compares with just over 41 per cent. for England and Wales.

It is also of interest that I have done about one third of the babies vaccinated in the six years 1956-1961 inclusive. Incidentally, the success rate was 99.85 per cent. there being only two failures at the first attempt in the 1,341 vaccinations carried out.

In the six-year period General Practitioners carried out 23 per cent. of the vaccinations.

Last year the figures for ordinary immunisation, mostly with the triple antigen, against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, amounted to about 85 per cent. of all children under one year of age, again a very high rate.

The tuberculosis death rate at 0.06 compares with 0.07 per 1,000 population for England and Wales. Notifications were 21 compared with 17 for the previous year. Ten years ago there were more than 100 each year.

Dysentery was notified in one case only as against 6 for 1960.

There were no cases of enteric fever.

The birth rate of 14.55 per 1,000 population becomes, after correction by the comparability factor, 14.26 compared with 17.4 for England and Wales.

The death rate of 10.22 becomes, after correction by the comparability factor, 12.06 per 1,000 population, against 12.00 for England and Wales. It is almost invariably below that of England and Wales. The increase in deaths in 1961 was mainly due to respiratory diseases and accidents.

The death rate from cancer for Mitcham in 1961 stayed the same at 2.25 while that for England and Wales increased from 2.16 to 2.17 per 1,000 population. Deaths from lung cancer have been at much the same level for the past seven years in Mitcham.

As regards infant mortality the local rate was 18.32 and the rate for England and Wales, 21.6 per 1,000 live births, the lowest ever recorded.

A Home Safety Committee was set up in September which participated in Fire Prevention Week and instituted other Home Safety measures.

The Meals-on-Wheels service, run by the W.V.S., was able, thanks to the recruitment of more voluntary drivers, to increase its service to the housebound to four days a week and the number of meals supplied rose from 3,633 in 1960 to 4,959 in 1961.

Clean Air Act. Although there are no smoke control areas at present, a scheme has been put forward to cover the Borough in eight stages over a period of eight years.

I wish to thank the Chairmen of the Committees for their unfailing 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 - - - - - COUNCILLOR E. J. MILLS

His Worship the Mayor (Alderman T. L. Ruff, J.P.)

Aldermen—

Mrs. L. Crump G. W. Pearce, J.P. W. E. M. Townsend

Councillors—

E. E. Field	A. S. Hutchin	R. W. Muggeridge
J. W. Overy	D. A. Small	Mrs. J. E. Spalding

Representatives of the Council on Other Authorities :

WANDLE VALLEY JOINT SEWERAGE BOARD

His Worship the Mayor (Alderman T. L. Ruff, J.P.) (*ex-officio*)

Alderman T. J. Higgs, J.P.

Councillors—

D. J. Hempstead R. E. Roberts

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

Aldermen—

G. W. Pearce, J.P. H. T. Simms W. E. M. Townsend

Councillors—

A. S. Hutchin D. J. B. Vale

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)

Additional Public Health and Meat Inspector, deputising for
Chief Inspector

G. E. Hayne (1, 2, 3) (a)

Additional Public Health and Meat Inspectors

L. Gleed (1, 2, 3) J. E. Higgs (1, 2) (b) E. J. Sluis (1, 2)

Pupil Public Health Inspector

C. S. Smith

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

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

(d) Senior Clerk—F. G. Taylor (e) Secretary—Miss V. I. Hill

(f) Mrs. M. Drewett (f) Mrs. K. North

(a) Commenced 31st July, 1961.

(b) Commenced 8th August, 1961.

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

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

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

(f) 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	67,269
" " 1961	63,653
Registrar-General's estimate of population mid-year, 1961	63,790
Density of Population, 1961	21.4 persons per acre
Number of inhabited houses, 1921	7,150
" " " 1931	13,187
" " " 1961	20,145
Rateable Value, 1961	£1,123,849
Sum represented by a 1d. rate	£4,585

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.

In 1961 the employment position was satisfactory. There was no significant change in employment figures compared with the previous year, but slightly more unemployed in the summer months. There was an unsatisfied demand for skilled workers, particularly in the engineering industry.

Virtually no building land is available except for the Phipps Bridge scheme of about 776 houses and flats. The first stage comprising 72 flats and a laundry is nearing completion and it is hoped that the first flat will be ready for occupation in the autumn of 1962.

STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS.		Total	Male	Female	Rate per 1,000 of population
Legitimate	...	879	453	426	
Illegitimate	...	49	30	19	
Total	...	928	483	445	14.55

After correction by the comparability factor becomes 14.26

Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births 5.28

STILL BIRTHS.		Total	Male	Female	Rate per 1000 total births
Legitimate	...	5	3	2	
Illegitimate	...	1	1	—	
Total	...	6	4	2	7.28

DEATHS.		Total	Male	Female	Rate per 1,000 of population
		652	351	301	10.22

After correction by the comparability factor becomes 12.06

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	...	...	...	18.32
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live legitimate births				19.30
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births				Nil

Deaths from:—

Cancer (all ages) ...	...	...	...	...	...	145
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Whooping cough (all ages) ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
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
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
1959 ...	859	604	70.32
1960 ...	971	704	72.5
1961 ...	934	690	73.87

The birth rates, death rates per 1,000 of population, and the infant mortality rates for the years 1942-1961 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
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 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
1959	12.76	16.5	12.6	11.6	14.17	22.2
1960	14.42	17.1	11.12	11.5	22.26	21.9
1961	14.26	17.4	12.06	12.0	18.32	21.6

INFANT MORTALITY

During the year 17 deaths were registered of infants under one year of age:—

		Males		Females		Total
Legitimate	...	11	...	6	...	17
Illegitimate	...	—	...	—	...	—
Total	...	11	...	6	...	17

as compared with 21 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 ...	5	4	—	—	—	—
1-7 days ...	10	3	5	2	1	—
8 days - 1 mth.	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 mth. - 12 mths.	2	—	1	—	1	—
Total	17	7	6	2	2	—

Fifteen infants failed to survive the first month of life, giving Mitcham a neo-natal mortality rate of 16.16 per 1,000 related live births as compared with 15.5 for England and Wales.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

For the sixth successive year, no deaths were registered.

INQUESTS

Inquests were held on 26 residents dying within the district and on 12 Mitcham residents who died outside the district, a total of 38. In addition, post-mortems without inquests were held on 91 residents

dying within the district, and on 53 Mitcham residents who died outside the district, a total of 144.

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

Accidental death	...	...	...	...	23
Death from misadventure	...	...	...	...	3
Suicide	...	...	...	...	11
Natural causes	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/>
Total				...	38

DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1961

CAUSE OF DEATH					Males	Females	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	2	...	2
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	1	1	2
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	1	1
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Whooping cough	...	...	...	1	...	1
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	1	...	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	14	11	25
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	33	6	39
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	7	7
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	5	5
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	29	34	63
15	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	...	3	3	6
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	2	2	4
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	25	52	77
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	83	50	133
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	4	7	11
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	25	30	55
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	16	19	35
22	Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	1
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	27	13	40
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	29	12	41
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	1	...	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	5	1	6
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	1	1	2
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	2	2	4
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	3	...	3
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	2	1	3
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	20	27	47
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	12	1	13
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	4	9	13
35	Suicide	...	...	...	6	5	11
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	...	...
All causes					351	301	652

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY AND NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1961

	England and Wales		Mitcham	
	Rates per 1,000 home population			
<i>Births—</i>				
Live	17.4		14.26	
Still	{ 0.33 19.1*		{ 0.09 7.28*	
<i>Deaths—</i>				
All causes	12.0		12.06	
Malignant neoplasm—lung, bronchus ...	0.49		0.61	
Whooping cough ... ..	...		0.016	
Diphtheria ... ..	...		...
Tuberculosis—all forms	0.07		0.06	
Influenza	0.15		0.016	
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.001		...	
Pneumonia	0.65		0.63	
Coronary disease—angina pectoris ...	2.07		2.08	
Maternal mortality	0.33*		...*	
<i>Notifications (Corrected)—</i>				
Scarlet Fever	0.43		0.50	
Whooping Cough	0.53		0.91	
Diphtheria	0.001		...	
Measles	16.50		13.32	
Acute Poliomyelitis—				
Paralytic	0.016		...	
Non-Paralytic	0.004		...	
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	0.002		...	
Para-typhoid Fever	0.005		...	
Meningococcal Infection	0.014		0.016	
Erysipelas	0.05		0.094	
Dysentery	0.44		0.016	
Acute Encephalitis—				
Infective	0.003		...	
Post-Infectious	0.003		...	
Acute Pneumonia	0.40		0.11	
Food Poisoning	0.16		0.031	
Tuberculosis—				
Respiratory	0.41		0.33	
Non-Respiratory	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: MAL 7733).

DISINFECTION

The disinfection of houses is undertaken by the Council. Disinfection of bedding, etc., is done either at the Wandle Valley Isolation Hospital, or in the home.

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	—
Number of rooms disinfected by fumigator	31
Number of library books disinfected	477

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 St. Georges Hospital, Tooting.

Smallpox Cases.—By agreement with the South-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, any cases that might 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 morning, and a clinic for cases booked by midwives is held on Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

Ante-natal supervision for some St. Helier bookings is undertaken at Mitcham clinics.

An ante-natal session is held at the Cavendish Road Clinic every Friday afternoon.

An ante-natal session is held at Wide Way Clinic on Friday mornings, and 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, Gorrings Park Avenue.—Every Tuesday afternoon.

Wide Way Clinic.—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.

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC

This is held on four days a week, at Sherwood House, by appointment.

It has the services of a psychiatrist, a psychologist and a social worker.

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, WHOOPING COUGH, TETANUS AND POLIOMYELITIS 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.

Wide Way Clinic.—Each Monday afternoon (immunisation only—in conjunction with Welfare Clinic), each Thursday morning (immunisation and vaccination in conjunction with Welfare Clinic), and each Wednesday morning.

POLIOMYELITIS IMMUNISATION

A large number of sessions are held in schools and on Tuesday evenings in rotation 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 Wide Way Clinic on Wednesday mornings, with a doctor in attendance.

MOTHERCRAFT CLASSES

Wide Way Clinic.—Thursday, 2 p.m.

Church Road Clinic.—Friday, 9.30 a.m.

Cavendish Road Clinic.—Thursday, 2 p.m.

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC

An eye specialist attends Western Road Clinic on Thursday mornings and Wednesday afternoons, and Wide Way Clinic on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesdays of the month, in the morning.

PARENTCRAFT CIRCLE

Church Road Clinic.—Monday, 3 p.m.

POST-NATAL CLINIC

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

SPEECH CLINIC

A session is held at Western Road Clinic on Tuesday (all day), and Thursday (all day). A speech therapist also holds a session at Wide Way Clinic on Friday afternoons.

U.V. RADIATION CLINICS

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

Church Road Clinic.—Thursday mornings and Monday afternoons.

Wide Way Clinic.—Tuesday afternoons, Friday afternoons.

HEALTH VISITING

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

There are nine Health Visitors, who are 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. Over 90 part-time workers are usually employed. Enough workers cannot be obtained to satisfy the full demand although we are not far short.

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 1961	...	52
Number of children affected	... ..	156
Number of visits paid	... ..	253

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948: SECTION 47

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

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

There were no cases in this category.

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 34 caravans.

The standard of purity of the water was raised to an even higher level and the Board's latest report shews the highest degree of bacteriological purity ever reached. There is no record in the Borough 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.

SWIMMING BATHS

Samples were again taken with satisfactory results.

A small open air swimming bath was constructed and brought into use during the year at the Alfred Mizen school. In both this and the public bath, water from the mains is circulated continuously through a filter plant and chlorinated.

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

In the winter a weekly collection of house refuse is carried out and in the summer more frequently. Eleven refuse collection vehicles are in use.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Although there are no smoke control areas as yet, a provisional scheme has been put forward to cover the whole of the Borough in eight stages over a period of eight or nine years.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Number of Council houses found infested during the year, 16.

Number of other houses found infested during the year, 6.

Total number of houses disinfested during the year, 22.

Methods employed:—

22 houses treated with insecticide spray.

Number of houses disinfested of beetles, 94.

Number of houses disinfested of other insects, 25.

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 Schools.—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	...	...	...	...	4,212
Complaints received	...	...	...	...	757
Number of treatments <i>re</i> rat infestation, including test baits, as result of inspection and complaints					896
Factory and business premises treated	...	...	...	...	93
Visits by Public Health Inspectors	...	...	...	...	94

Two sewer maintenance treatments were carried out in the year; 261 manholes were baited. A total of 47 baits were taken compared with 63 taken in 1960.

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	...	...	...	...	...	411
Nuisances found	...	...	...	...	...	267
Verbal Notices given	...	...	...	...	...	127
Verbal Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	77
Informal Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	148
Informal Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	101
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	77
Statutory Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	57
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	1,383
Houses inspected for defects	...	...	...	...	...	532
Visits made for this purpose	...	...	...	...	...	583
Drains tested and inspected	...	...	...	...	...	126
Private houses found verminous	...	...	...	...	...	9
Visits to butchers	...	...	...	...	...	183
Visits to slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	627
Visits to dairies	...	...	...	...	...	17
Visits to retail milk shops	...	...	...	...	...	29
Visits to restaurant kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	279
Visits to ice-cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	42
Visits to bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	47
Visits to other food premises	...	...	...	...	...	1,114
Number of notices served under Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955	...	...	...	...	...	12
Number of notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	12
Visits to factories	...	...	...	...	...	203
Visits to workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	21
Visits to outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	65
Visits to stables	...	...	...	...	...	72
Visits to piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	27
Visits <i>re</i> poliomyelitis survey	...	...	...	...	...	181
Visits <i>re</i> Home Safety	...	...	...	...	...	571

Visits to caravan yards	...	...	...	...	...	65
Smoke observations	...	...	...	...	...	94
Visits <i>re</i> infectious disease cases	...	...	...	...	...	82
Visits <i>re</i> smallpox contacts	...	...	...	...	...	—
Visits <i>re</i> food poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	3
Visits <i>re</i> rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	94
Visits <i>re</i> Shops Acts	...	...	...	...	...	93
Visits <i>re</i> schools	...	...	...	...	...	34
Visits <i>re</i> Rent Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	78
Visits to sewage works	...	...	...	...	...	12
Sundry visits	...	...	...	...	...	371

Character of Work Done

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	54
Rainwater piping or gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	52
Yards paved or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	68
Water service pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10
Waterclosets: Repairs to structure	...	...	...	...	...	4
Flushing apparatus repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	17
New pans and traps fitted	...	...	...	...	...	17
Water storage cisterns cleansed, repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	5
Water supply reinstated	...	...	...	...	...	8
Flooring of rooms repaired and sub-floor ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	49
Rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	8
Sinks and handbasins repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	11
Waste pipes and traps repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	10
Window frames and sashes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	12
Window sills repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	12
External brickwork (repaired, pointed or rendered)	...	...	...	...	...	15
Drains repaired or obstructions removed	...	...	...	...	...	85
Drains inspection covers renewed	...	...	...	...	...	5
Drains tested	...	...	...	...	...	31
Grid and mica flaps provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Firegrates repaired (including surrounds and hearths)	...	...	...	...	...	4
Stoves, coppers, ranges, etc., repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	7

Doors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	8
Internal plaster repairs	...	...	...	...	...	81
Sash cords renewed	...	...	...	...	...	23
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	10
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	12

All ponds and ditches in the Borough where mosquito breeding was likely were sprayed with insecticide twice during the year and larger areas where mosquitoes were found to be breeding but spraying was impracticable, were treated with a fog generating 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

Public Health Act, 1936.—There were no legal proceedings in 1961.

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936, and Petroleum (Mixtures) Order, 1929.—100 licences to store petroleum spirit and/or petroleum mixtures were issued for a total of 246,410 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	...	...	94 lbs.	Poultry	...	...	500 lbs.
Ham	...	...	232 "	Lamb	...	...	40 "
Corned beef	...	...	66 "	Suet	...	...	20 "
Pork luncheon meat	...	...	40 "	Dripping	...	...	50 "
Liver	...	...	10 "	Coconut confectionery	...	...	104 "
Veal	...	...	36 "	Toffee	...	...	4 "
Pork	...	...	71 "	Cauliflower in brine	...	...	200 gal.
Fish	...	...	52 "	Assorted	...	...	182 tins
Sausages	...	...	51 "				

Yours faithfully,

K. J. GUTTERIDGE,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING STATISTICS

TOTAL NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES—20,145

The total number of housing properties now owned by the Council is 4,327 including 345 temporary dwellings.

About 160 cottage flats or bungalows have been built for old people since the war.

During the year 32 flats and maisonettes were completed and let. Altogether 96 families were rehoused from the waiting list during 1961, leaving 1,130 families still on the waiting list at the end of the year.

RENT ACT, 1957

Sixteen applications were made for Certificates of Disrepair during the year. In 12 cases undertakings were given by the various landlords and in the remaining four cases certificates were issued. Four certificates were cancelled during the year on application by landlords, the works specified having been completed. In one case cancellation was refused as the work had not been satisfactorily completed.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

One thousand seven hundred and eleven 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	15	Café & General Stores ...	1
Groceries	83	Roadside Snack Bars ...	2
Butchers	40	Fishmongers	10
Greengrocer & Fruiterers	57	Fried Fish Buffets ...	8
Greengrocer & General		Fried Fish	3
Provisions	2	Bakers and Confectioners	17
Confectionery	73	Milk & Provisions ...	11
Chemists	15	Public Houses	30
Restaurants & Cafés ...	32	Off-Licences	10

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

The storage and sale of ice-cream	...	...	...	169
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 (General) Regulations, 1959	...	...	...	1
Number of inspections of registered food premises during the year	...	...	...	454

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.

Fifty formal samples were taken as follows:—

Milk	...	...	...	33	Beef Sausages	...	...	3
Pork Sausages	...	...	...	5	Salmon Fish Cakes	...	...	1
Plum Jam	...	...	...	1	Chop Sauce	...	...	1
Mentholated Balsam	...	...	...	1	Hamburgers	...	...	1
Dairy Butter	...	...	...	2	Minced Beef	...	...	1
Blackcurrant Juice	...	...	...	1				

Informal Samples.

Eighty-nine informal samples were taken as follows:—

Instant Coffee	...	...	...	2	Double Devon Cream	...	...	1
Casserole Meat	...	...	...	1	Apple Sauce	...	...	1
Custard Powder	...	...	...	2	Dairy Cream Doughnuts	...	...	1
Fruit Pudding	...	...	...	1	Mince Meat	...	...	2
Cheese Spread	...	...	...	3	Chicken Noodle Soup	...	...	1
Crab Spread, with Butter	...	...	...	1	Stewed Steak	...	...	1
Ground Almonds	...	...	...	1	Instant Mashed Potatoes	...	...	1
Norway Sild in Oil	...	...	...	1	Corned Beef	...	...	1
Steaklets	...	...	...	1	Creamery Butter	...	...	1

Frankfurters	1	Margarine	1
White Pepper	1	Cream Layer Sponge ...	1
Pease Pudding	1	Creamed Rice Milk	
Creamed Mushrooms ...	1	Pudding	1
Red Cherries in Syrup ...	1	Curried Chicken with	
Vegetable Juices	1	Mushrooms	1
Pure Dairy Butter	2	Viennese Coffee with Fig	
Pure Lard	1	Flavouring	1
Pork Luncheon Meat ...	2	Casserole Lamb & Peas	
Tomato Purée	1	with Gravy	1
Beefsteak with Gravy ...	1	Chocolate Sponge Mix ...	1
Stewed Steak	1	Cheese Spread with Shrimp	1
Ceylon and Indian Tea ...	1	Starch Reduced Rolls ...	1
Batter Flour	1	Strawberry Jam	1
Cereal Beverage	1	Danish Pork Luncheon	
Australian Butter	1	Meat	1
Kosher Tomar Margarine	1	Cornish Pasty	1
Tenderising Salt	1	Fridge Freeze Ice Pops ...	1
Ice-cream	5	Yorkshire Relish	1
Ice-cream Mix, pre-freezing	1	Gluten nutmeat	1
Steak & Kidney Pie ...	1	Veal Curry	1
Beef Sausages	1	Breakfast Grill	1
Chicken Pie, frozen ...	1	Chutney	1
English Stewed Steak in		Chicken & Ham Meat	
Gravy	1	Paste	1
Piccalilli	1	College Cream Biscuits ...	1
Raspberry Milk Shake		Yellow Cling Peaches ...	1
Syrup	1	Self-Raising Flour ...	1
Portuguese Sardines in Pure		Batter & Pancake Flour ...	1
Olive Oil	1	Marmalade	1
Blackcurrant Jam	1	Unsweetened Full Cream	
Beans in Tomato Sauce ...	1	Evaporated Milk	1
French Mustard	1	Concentrated Blackcurrant	
Fruit Caramels	1	Vitamin C Drink	1
Butter, including Imported		Luncheon Meat	1
Butter	1	Vita Cup	1

The following sample was not up to standard and a warning letter was sent to the firm concerned:—

Informal.—Casserole meat.

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

Three of foreign matter in a loaf.

Two of a foreign body in a bottle of milk.

One each of:—

Foreign matter in butter.

Decomposition in fried fish.

Wasp in a jam tart.

Glass in a bottle of milk.

Foreign body in water ices.

Ant-infested nut-crisp.

Mould growth in a meat pie.

Larvæ in self-raising flour.

Warning letters were sent to the firms concerned.

ICE-CREAM

One establishment in the Borough is registered for the manufacture of ice-cream and 169 for the storage and sale of ice-cream. Forty-two visits were paid during the year.

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

Provisional Grade.			
I	II	III	IV
7	—	1	—

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF CUPS AND GLASSES

Fifty-nine swabs were taken from tea cups at various catering establishments and seven 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.		Coliform		Bact. Coli		Result	
Colony Count (per cup).		Bacilli.		Type I.		Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory.
		Present.	Absent.	Present.	Absent.		
Under 100		7	43	3	4	48	2
100-200		3	3	2	1	3	3
200-500		1	1	1	—	2	—
500-1,000		1	—	—	1	—	1
1,000-1,500		—	—	—	—	—	—
1,500-2,000		—	—	—	—	—	—
2,000 and over		—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	12	47	6	6	53	6

BEER GLASS SWABS.		Coliforms		Bact. Coli		Result	
Colony Count (per glass).		Bacilli.		Type I.		Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory.
		Present.	Absent.	Present.	Absent.		
Under 100		—	5	—	—	5	—
100-200		—	—	—	—	—	—
200-500		—	1	—	—	—	1
500-1,000		—	—	—	—	—	—
1,000-1,500		1	—	1	—	—	1
1,500-2,000		—	—	—	—	—	—
2,000 and over		—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	1	6	1	—	5	2

The results of the swabs were sent to the establishments concerned and visits were paid to premises where the results were unsatisfactory.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1960

Licences under these regulations are now renewable every five years instead of annually as heretofore.

During the year the Council granted the following number of licences:—

Dealer's Licences—

Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	7
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	6
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	5

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

BAKEHOUSES

The number of bakehouses in the district is five.
Forty-seven visits have been paid.

DAIRIES

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

During the year seventeen visits of inspection were paid.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

One of the two licensed slaughterhouses in the borough was closed. During the year 627 visits were made to slaughterhouses.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

Eleven licences were issued to slaughtermen in accordance with the requirements of the above Act. One licence was granted to slaughter only under supervision.

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) ...	216	19	2179	1171	11,767
Number Inspected ...	216	19	2179	1171	11,767
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci:					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	...	...	...	...	74
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	15	...	4	21	1031
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	6.94	...	0.18	1.79	9.40
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	...	..	...	...	9
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	...	...	...	49
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis... ..	0.93	...	...	...	0.49

FOOD PREPARING FACTORIES

There are 16 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 (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Number of notices served, 12. Number of notices complied with, 12.

PIGGERIES

There are five piggeries in the Borough. Twenty-seven visits were paid during the year.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Four licences were issued to occupiers of pet shops.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

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	10	17	...	...	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	321	196	10	...	2
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	...	...	...	...	3
TOTAL ... ..	...	331	213	10	...	...

2.—Cases in which defects were found:—

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

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	51						13
apparel { Cleaning and washing	14							14
Household linen	15	2						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							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	6						34
Brush making	35							35
Pea picking	36							36
Feather sorting	37							37
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc. ...	38	1						38
Stuffed toys	39							39
Basket making	40							40
Chocolates and sweetmeats ...	41							41
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc. ...	42	12						42
Textile weaving	43							43
Lampshades	44	59						44
TOTAL		131						

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS

The total number of confirmed notifications received during 1961 was 960.

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		82
Public Health Inspectors to smallpox contacts ...	...	—
		<hr/>
	Total ...	82
Rooms disinfected after infectious disease ...	...	31

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	7	...	...	...	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	21	18	1	...	...	...	...	51
February	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	54	5	...	...	...	...	...	63
March	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	130	7	...	...	...	...	...	142
April	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	152	3	...	...	...	...	...	158
May	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	198	7	1	...	...	...	...	210
June	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	112	14	...	...	...	...	...	127
July	1	...	...	...	...	...	98	1	...	...	...	...	...	100
August	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47	...	...	...	1	...	...	49
September	4	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	1	...	...	...	...	...	27
October	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
November	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	7
December	3	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	6
Totals	32	...	...	6	7	1	1	1	1	...	...	850	58	2	...	1	...	...	960

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS, 1942/61

DISEASE	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	1959	1960	1961
Smallpox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	175	212	97	147	95	62	35	57	89	110	111	225	86	47	33	56	18	75	69	24	32
Diphtheria ...	25	42	10	63	32	4	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhoid Fever ...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	6	3	5	8	6	9	3	...	2	...	13	23	11	3	1	...	...	...	...	5	1
Meningococcal	6	8	3	3	1	2	1	1	...	1	3	1	...	2	...	1	...	...	1	1	1
Infections																					
Erysipelas ...	7	22	13	16	25	9	18	6	12	7	8	14	11	6	9	7	4	3	4	5	6
Measles ...	599	651	112	739	358	533	818	252	354	354	1386	591	888	131	1059	50	1358	172	847	162	850
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis:																					
Paralytic ...	...	...	...	2	3	11	2	2	6	2	1	4	4	...	4	5	2	...	1	...	...
Non-Paralytic ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	8	1	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia	10	4	4	...	2	2	6	3	8	2	1	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	1
Neonatorum																					
Acute Encephalitis:																					
Infective ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Post-Infectious ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	20	50	37	33	41	37	30	13	19	28	24	26	27	16	34	19	24	12	22	10	7
Malaria ...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough ...	161	162	166	96	234	216	117	149	212	387	420	112	336	183	167	103	130	45	17	118	58
Food Poisoning ...	11	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	6	3	4	10	17	12	8	11	4	9	27	6	2
Dysentery ...	...	4	67	13	6	1	2	5	7	16	7	16	15	46	17	60	47	8	10	6	1
Paratyphoid ...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Totals ...	1021	1161	515	1126	807	888	1033	490	717	911	1980	1027	1396	450	1335	322	1590	325	1000	338	960

SMALLPOX

No case of smallpox was notified during the year 1961. The last case was in 1932.

The following table shows the number vaccinated during the year:—

Age at date of vaccination	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total
Number vaccinated ...	679	24	20	27	36	786
Number re-vaccinated	—	—	7	12	67	86

During the year 75 per cent. of babies under one year of age were vaccinated and over the last five years an average of 72 per cent. as against 41 per cent. for England and Wales in 1960 and about the same level for the previous years.

The bulk of vaccinations are carried out in the clinics, 77 per cent. of babies under one year being done by the assistant medical officers.

SCARLET FEVER

The number of cases of scarlet fever notified during the year was 32 as compared with 24 in 1960, equivalent to a case rate of 0.50 per 1,000 population. This disease has continued mild in character. All cases were treated at home.

DIPHTHERIA

No case of diphtheria was notified for the twelfth year in succession, whereas cases used to average sixty per year.

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

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH
AND TETANUS

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

Every effort is made to have as many babies as possible immunised before their first birthday, the policy nowadays being to

give the triple antigen against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus. It was commenced in 1958 but as large numbers were not done till 1960, the tetanus part has lagged behind the others.

The following table shews the number of children immunised and reinforced against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus in 1961.

Whooping cough immunisation is not carried out in schools as it is intended primarily for children under five years old.

Number of children receiving:—		YEAR OF BIRTH							
		1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956-2	1951-47	Total
A. Primary Course against:	Diphtheria ...	327	496	81	44	25	223	46	1242
	Whooping Cough	325	491	77	40	24	41	2	1000
	Tetanus ...	326	492	65	35	22	44	6	990
B. Reinforc- ing injection against:	Diphtheria ...	—	11	3	7	48	899	510	1478
	Whooping Cough	—	11	3	7	31	162	22	236
	Tetanus ...	—	11	3	4	12	80	19	129

POLIOMYELITIS

There were no cases of poliomyelitis during the year. For England and Wales the number of cases goes down year by year, for which the immunisation campaigns are undoubtedly responsible.

POLIO VACCINATION

The scheme now includes all up to 40 years of age. Those over 40 may be inoculated by private practitioners. Fourth injections were given, for the first time this year, starting with the age group 5-11 years.

		Numbers vaccinated in 1961		
		Primary courses	Third injections	Fourth injections
0-18 years ...	...	1,414	1,246	3,594
Over 18 years ...	...	1,669	2,305	—

The total number inoculated since the inception of the scheme is 23,495 which includes 14,948 persons 0-18 years of age. Oral immunisation against poliomyelitis will commence early in 1962.

Clinics are now held on Tuesday evenings, 5—7 p.m., in rotation at the various clinics.

ENTERIC FEVER

There were no cases of enteric fever during the year.

DIARRHŒA AND ENTERITIS UNDER TWO YEARS OF AGE

No death was registered during the year.

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

There were two notified cases in 1961. In neither case could the cause nor the source be identified.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA

There were no cases notified during the year.

ERYSIPELAS

Six cases were notified. Two were removed to hospital.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

There was one case of puerperal pyrexia during the year.

PNEUMONIA

Seven 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 40, of which 27 were males and 13 females.

MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS

One case was notified during the year.

INFLUENZA

As in 1960, there was only one death from influenza.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

During the year one 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	...	...	...	...	...	54
Mumps	...	...	...	...	...	49
Ringworm	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rubella	...	...	...	...	...	15
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	38
Glandular fever	...	...	...	...	...	1

CANCER

The number of deaths from cancer registered during the year was 145, of which 79 were males and 66 females. This compares with 144 in 1960.

The trend for England and Wales is continuing upwards.

The site distribution for 1961 was as follows:—

Stomach	...	...	...	...	25 cases
Respiratory organs	...	...	...	...	39 „
Breast	...	...	...	...	7 „
Genito-urinary organs	...	..	...	...	5 „
Other sites	...	...	...	...	69 „

Total ... 145

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.	
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
1959	...	145	...	2.25	...	2.14
1960	...	144	...	2.25	...	2.16
1961	...	145	...	2.27	...	2.17

DEATHS IN MITCHAM FROM LEUKÆMIA AND LUNG CANCER, 1952-1961

Year.			Deaths from Leukæmia.			Deaths from Lung Cancer.
1952	...	...	3	...	...	31
1953	...	...	5	...	...	17
1954	...	...	4	...	...	27
1955	...	...	2	...	...	40
1956	...	...	3	...	...	36
1957	...	...	3	...	...	41
1958	...	...	2	...	...	26
1959	...	...	3	...	...	32
1960	...	...	8	...	...	36
1961	...	...	6	...	...	39

The deaths from lung cancer in Mitcham have been fairly static over the last seven years. As in England and Wales cancer of the lung accounts for between one quarter and one third of all deaths from cancer.

In the case of leukæmia the rate increased sharply in 1960 and 1961; but as the numbers are so relatively few, conclusions cannot be drawn from this area alone.

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year 21 new cases of tuberculosis were notified, viz:—

			Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary ...	...	...	17	4	21
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	—	—	—
Totals	...	...	17	4	21

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

			Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary ...	...	...	10	9	19
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	—	2	2
Totals	...	...	10	11	21

The total number of deaths from tuberculosis was:—

			Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary ...	...	...	2	—	2
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	1	1	2
Totals	...	...	3	1	4

			England and Wales.	Mitcham.
Death rate from tuberculosis, all forms, per 1,000 population ...	...	...	0.07	0.06

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 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 " " 14 " ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 " " 19 " ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 " " 34 " ...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 " " 44 " ...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
45 " " 64 " ...	10	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 " and upwards	1	...	...	...	2	...	1	1
Totals	17	4	...	...	2	...	1	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	Nil
Non-Pulmonary : Males	Nil
Non-Pulmonary : Females	1	1

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 ...	...	...
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 25 per cent.

Non-notified tuberculosis deaths ...	...	1
Total tuberculosis deaths ...	...	4

HOME SAFETY

A Home Safety Committee was set up on 28th September, 1961, under the Public Health Committee. All members of the Public Health Committee are automatically members and all outside bodies concerned in home safety are represented on the committee.

The committee participated in Fire Prevention Week, setting up stands in public places, distributing leaflets, pamphlets, posters and book marks and giving lectures.

General Home Safety propaganda was also issued.

MINIATURE MASS RADIOGRAPHY

The mass radiography unit paid an extended visit to Mitcham this year the following sessions being held: one of a week at Colliers Wood, one of a week at Pollards Hill and one of a fortnight at the public baths.

The following figures were supplied by the Medical Director of the unit, Dr. F. J. H. Walters.

	Male	Female
Total number examined ...	4,716	2,604
Pulmonary tuberculosis (active)	8	—
Primary lung cancer ...	4	—

The main non-tuberculous abnormalities revealed were abnormal heart conditions, bacterial and virus infections of the lung and pulmonary fibrosis.

The above figures do not apply to Mitcham residents only, as the service is available to any member of the public.

The examination is of value in the early diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis and non-tuberculous abnormalities.

MITCHAM, BEDDINGTON AND WALLINGTON CARE COMMITTEE FOR TUBERCULOSIS AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST

Functions of the Committee

1. To alleviate want or distress amongst those suffering from tuberculosis and diseases of the chest.

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. This year, the Committee has also been able, through the generosity of a Mitcham firm, to arrange for the rental of one or two television sets at a small cost. Help has also been given with the licences.

The number of non-T.B. cases dealt with is now almost equal to the number of notified patients.

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. This is becoming more difficult each year.

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