

annual report 1952

**COOK COUNTY
DEPARTMENT of
PUBLIC HEALTH**

HOWARD FOX

The health of the public is our business and in the conduct of this business we strive to provide for all the people the highest possible level of health.

When the department was organized 12 years ago by the Board of Commissioners, the Illinois Department of Public Health, and the U.S. Public Health Service, there were 500,000 people living in the Suburban Cook County area, exclusive of Evanston, Oak Park, Winnetka-Kenilworth-Glencoe, and Stickney. Today, by the latest count, there are more than 750,000 people living in our 735 square mile jurisdiction. With the increase in population there was also a need and demand for more health services. Shortage of personnel has consistently been our problem. It has been difficult to find trained medical and nursing personnel to fill positions already budgeted. For this reason many services of necessity had to be curtailed or restricted during the past year. However, the high caliber of service has not varied.



Suburban Cook County is unique in many respects. It represents all manner of social complexity including an involved administrative pattern . . . over 150 school districts . . . 95 incorporated communities plus extensive unincorporated areas . . . some communities are highly urbanized . . . others distinctly rural . . . there is a wide variation in racial and religious groups . . . economically speaking some people are very poor . . . others very rich . . . many fall between these extremes . . . all have problems . . . many relate to housing, nutrition, infant care, community sanitation, tuberculosis, immunization. It takes a lot of planning to do a high quality job of providing health services.

We rely heavily on volunteers who have diligently helped us to meet our responsibility. A report of the services of the department would not be complete without grateful acknowledgment to these conscientious public health helpers.

The health of the public is our business, and we present with pride the report of our stewardship during the year 1952.

John B. Hall M.D.
Director, Cook County Department of Public Health

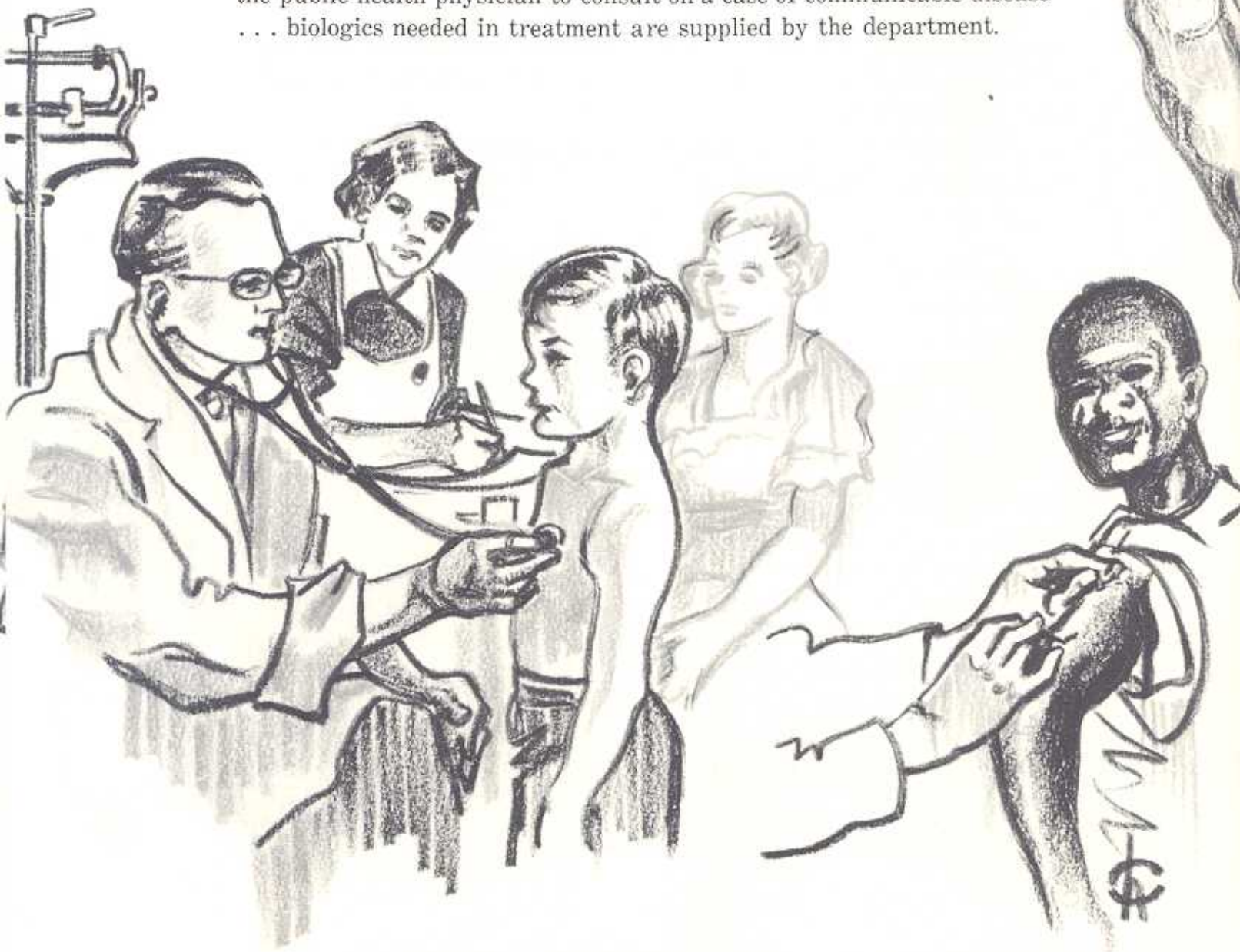


TION • PREVENTION • DIAGNOSIS

medical

One of the big jobs of the health department is to control the communicable and preventable diseases. The family doctor makes the diagnosis and treats the case, but the task of keeping the entire community "fireproofed" against epidemics is done by your health department.

"Consult your Family Physician" is the message we emphasize. In many ways the private physician and the health department staff work as a team. Public health doctors are specialists in diagnosis and treatment of communicable diseases. Frequently the family doctor calls on the public health physician to consult on a case of communicable disease . . . biologics needed in treatment are supplied by the department.





Every week, three or four medical students from Stritch School of Medicine, Loyola University, and the University of Illinois become familiar with the public health program by observing and participating in immunization clinics, physical examinations of school children and child health conferences.

The hidden record of accomplishment in public health is hard to measure, but we know that because of the day-by-day services of the health department many children were spared the contagious diseases by immunization and vaccination . . . chronic diseases were detected early when treatment could be more effective . . . possible epidemics were prevented by immunization and isolation . . . infant and maternal deaths were lessened because of prenatal care . . . the spread of TB was halted by early diagnosis and isolation . . . cases of malnutrition were averted by the teaching of adequate diets . . . water-borne epidemics did not occur because of the maintenance of high sanitation standards . . . health education helped pave the way for better living.

nursing

Who has health problems? Every family, of course. So it is easy to understand why the health of the family is the chief concern of the public health nurse. Helping mother and baby to keep well starts long before the cradle as expectant mothers are urged to seek medical care as soon as possible. Spotting trouble early in pregnancy may mean the difference between life and death both to the mother and baby. Since hospitals in the area report births of suburban Cook County babies, the nurse may visit in the home to help the mother follow the doctor's orders in caring for the new baby. In the child health conference it is not the job of the department to treat sick children, but instead to help keep them well from birth to school age — through immunizations, physical check-ups, and instructions about the baby's formula.





What does the health department do for premature babies? They need topnotch care. The infant is taken by the Sheriff's Police in an incubator to the premature center at Cook County Hospital or to a local hospital equipped to give this care. When the baby returns home the nurse visits regularly to instruct the mother in feeding and taking precautions against disease.

Spotting TB in the early stages by x-ray programs is important, but what happens after the x-ray is equally as important. The care, treatment, and follow-up on TB suspects, cases, and contacts in the home and supervision of these persons determine the eventual success of the TB control program. The health department by law is vested with the responsibility for TB control.

Public health services challenge the skill of the public health nurse such as . . . tracing VD contacts and arranging for tests and treatment to prevent the spread of venereal diseases . . . helping the polio patient to recovery through physical therapy treatments . . . demonstrating nursing care in the home in cases of illness or communicable diseases.

nutrition

Improving diets is an all-round job of nutrition education from meal planning to food purchasing, from food preparation to food service. Studies carried on in schools, maternal clinics, and child health conferences revealed that the majority of people do not eat the right kinds of food.

One of the highlights of the year was the addition of a second nutritionist to the staff. Expansion of nutrition services was evidenced by visits made to each nursing home for inspection of the food service for licensing by the State Health Department. A program was initiated at the request of the State Department of Welfare to assist day care centers and nursery schools in menu planning, food purchase, equipment for food preparation, and service.



THE FOODS YOU NEED EVERY DAY



MEAT, POULTRY OR FISH

One or more servings
for any kind of meat (beef, veal, pork or lamb). Include variety meats often, such as liver, kidney and heart.



MILK

Adults 1 pint—Children more
Drink milk or eat cheese and foods prepared with milk, such as custards, creamed dishes, soups and ice cream.



EGGS

One (at least three a week)
Have it cooked any way desired or in combination with other foods.



POTATOES

One or more servings
Choose either white or sweet potatoes prepared in any of a variety of ways.



VEGETABLES

Two or more servings
Eat green and yellow vegetables often. Include salads or other raw vegetables.



FRUITS

Two or more servings
Eat all kinds of fruit. Have oranges, grapefruit, tomatoes, or berries often.



BREAD AND CEREALS

As needed
Select enriched breads, cereals, etc., or those made of whole grain products.



FATS AND SWEETS

As needed
Include some fat. Enjoy sweets after other foods needed have been eaten.



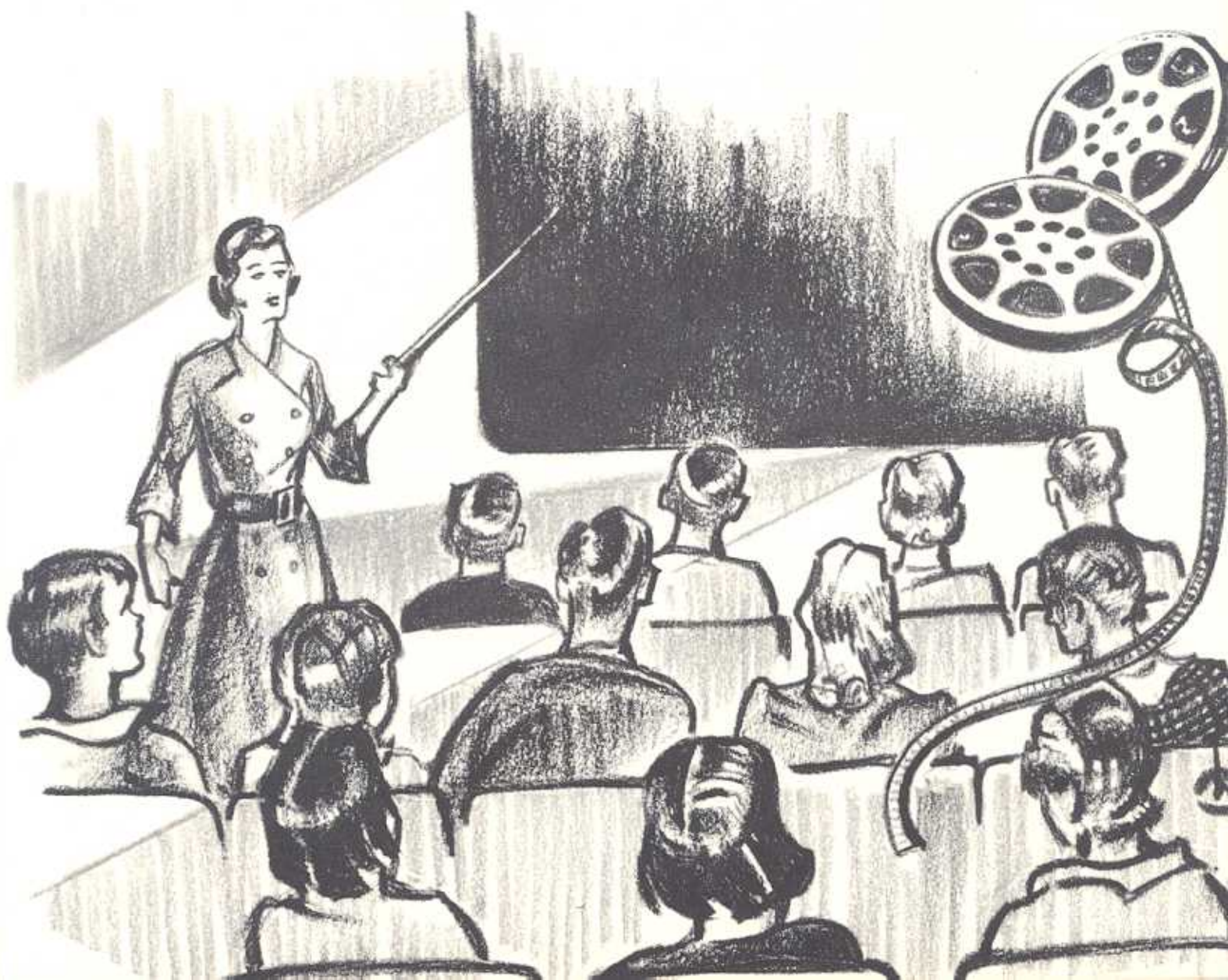
Frequently mothers attending the maternal clinic and expectant mothers classes eat a very poor diet and have the same food for their family. The nutritionist gives instruction to these mothers about improving food habits for themselves and their families.

School lunch programs are many times the means of building food habits in children . . . part of the successful treatment of a case of rheumatic fever is the food the patient eats, requiring instruction of patient as well as parents . . . health supervision for expectant mothers, infants and preschool children include education in eating the right kind of food . . . helpful suggestions on buying and preparing food may make the difference between an adequate and a poor diet . . . a visit in the home is another way to help solve food problems whether it's balancing a food budget, menu planning or instruction in special diets.

health education

Health education is an important phase of the public health business . . . whether it is interpreting our job to the public . . . providing field training experiences for students (future public health personnel) . . . mobilizing the forces in a community to plan a mass chest x-ray survey . . . exploring with community leaders the benefits of fluoridating their public water supply, we find ourselves deeply immersed in the education business.

Teachers want help in classroom health instruction . . . communities want assistance in organizing health councils . . . students want to know more about public health facilities in the area





... mothers request the latest pamphlet on growth and development. It is easy to see why health education is recognized as an essential part of the public health program. The broad educational functions are part of the responsibility of all staff members. However, the health educator serves to stimulate public action and individual participation in preventive health activities through organized community effort.

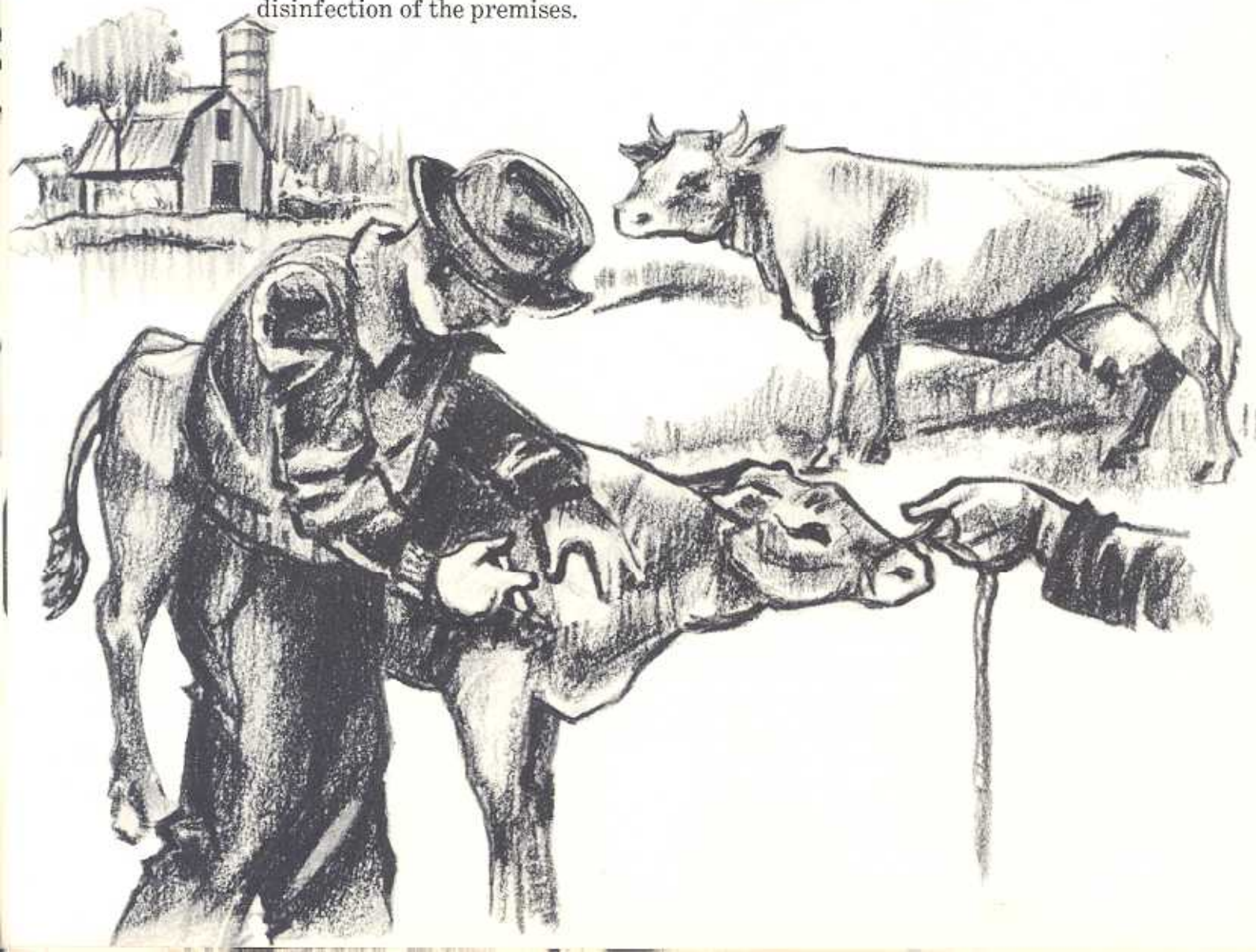
Effective health education requires the best of educational tools, materials, skills, and techniques. Health education materials were prepared, selected and assembled for distribution to professional and lay groups on request. Special kits of materials were prepared for teachers as supplementary teaching aids in classroom health instruction programs. Motion pictures on infant care, dental health, cancer, tuberculosis and mental health were shown to schools, clubs, and community organizations.

In March, 1952 an additional health educator was employed by the department. This has substantially increased health education services to the local communities.

veterinary

Certain precautions must be taken to be sure meat, milk, butter and cheese are coming from healthy livestock. Animals that furnish us with food, and raw products, are capable also of bringing disease and injury to humans. At least every three years all breeding cattle must be tuberculin tested and infected animals must be removed from the herd. There are 20,000 head of cattle in 1,100 herds in Cook County . . . Bovine brucellosis (undulant fever) once common in cattle is sharply declining.

To keep it under control calves must be immunized between the ages of four months and eight months . . . animals sold for breeding purposes must show a negative report within a thirty day period of sale. Preventing infectious and contagious diseases in livestock requires constant vigilance. Quarantine measures rapidly stopped an out-break of a disease among two herds of swine by disposal of infected swine and disinfection of the premises.





dental

A dentist's office on wheels . . . better known as a mobile unit . . . is the way we provide needed dental service in areas where transportation is a problem and there are no clinics. Discovery and treatment of small cavities is the best way of controlling dental decay, the most widespread of all diseases. More than 90 per cent of school children have some decayed teeth . . . through dental clinics and the mobile unit dental care is made available to these children.

Dental authorities tell us that by adding small amounts of fluorides to the public water supply dental decay can be reduced . . . many communities are investigating and studying the benefits to be derived from this practical and effective public health measure.

environmental health

Environmental health is the way the public health expert refers to community housekeeping. In your own home you protect your family's health. But once you step outside your premises then the health department takes over. It becomes our job to be sure that the water that comes out of your tap is safe from contamination . . . the milk you drink and the dairy products you eat are pasteurized and handled according to sanitary standards . . . the whole community is protected from contaminated wells and poor septic systems . . . the maternity hospitals, nursing homes and private mental institutions are inspected to safeguard the patient . . . plans are worked out for abating stream pollution . . . people are given help in designing and building waste disposal systems.



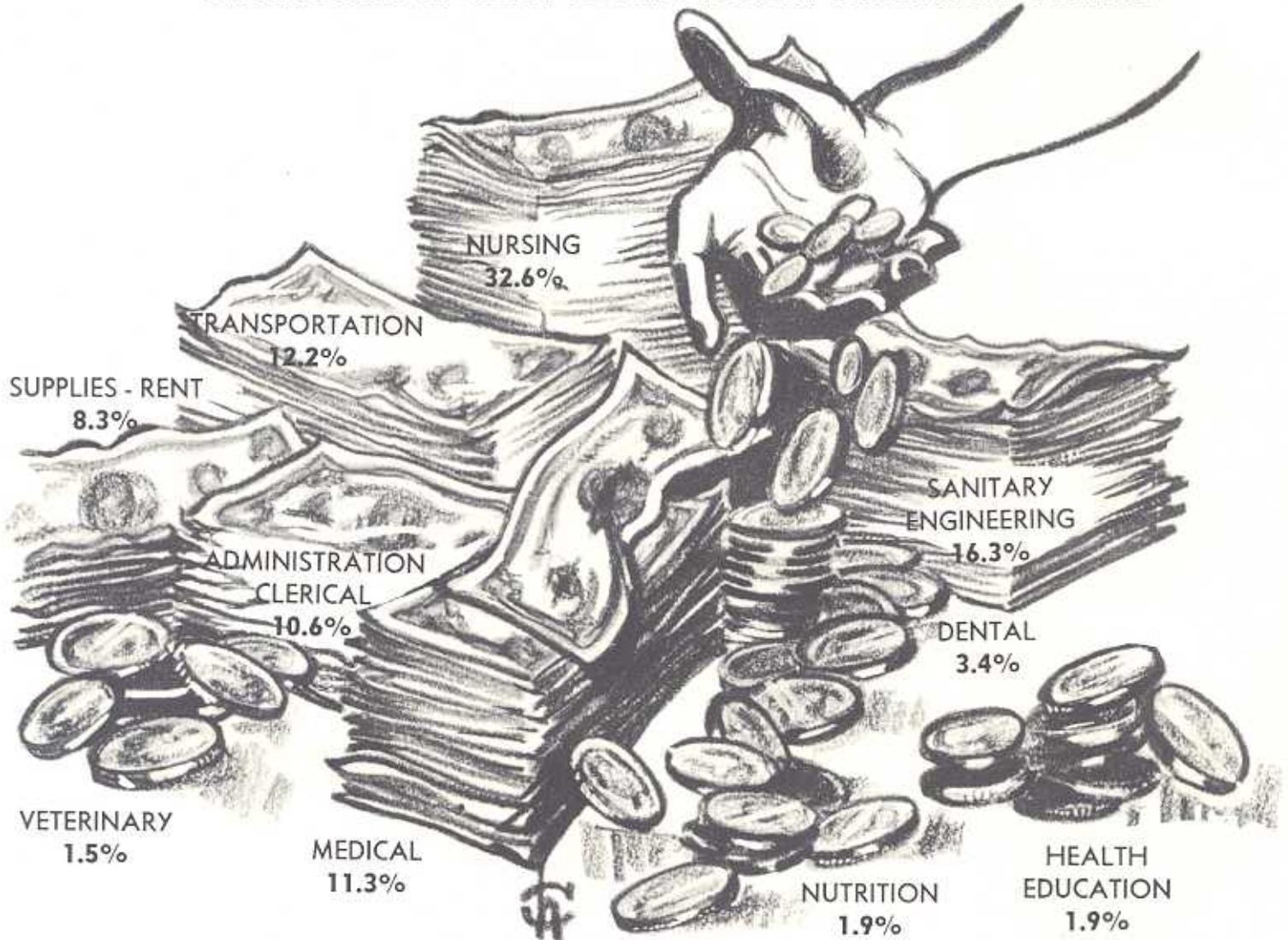


The Cook County Zoning Bureau requires all plans for septic tanks be passed on by the sanitary engineer to be sure they come up to standards. Hours of the engineers time is spent reviewing plans with consulting engineers, contractors, prospective home builders and maintenance personnel. Tourist camps are common throughout Cook County. An operating ordinance adopted by the Board of Health in 1949 requires each camp to secure a permit. But before the permit is issued the camp must pass a complete sanitation inspection.

The health department doesn't perform the job of collecting garbage and refuse, operating sewage treatment plants, private water supply systems, swimming pools, restaurants or milk plants. But we do serve as vigilant inspectors, counselors, and law enforcers maintaining health standards to protect the whole community from health menaces that may cause sickness or death.

budget

DISTRIBUTION OF COOK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT DOLLARS



COOK COUNTY FUNDS
\$321,758

STATE-FEDERAL FUNDS
\$175,087

TOTAL
\$496,845

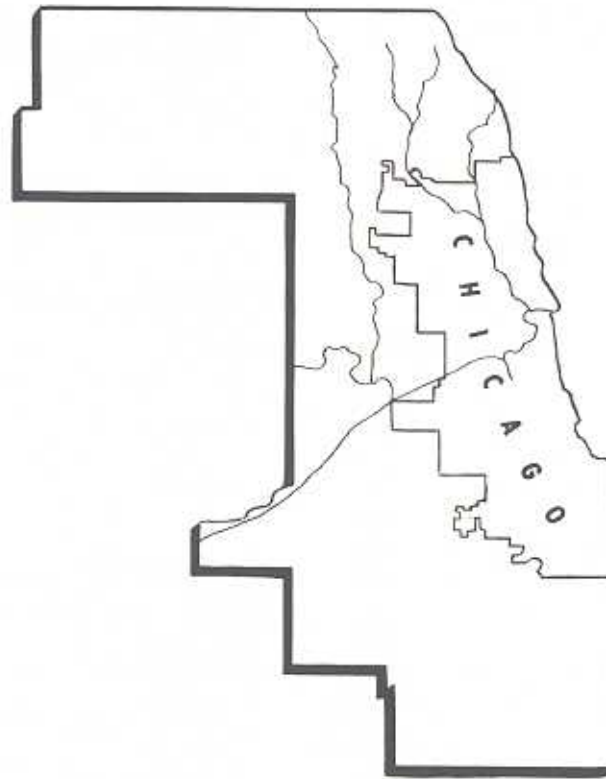
COOPERATING AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

American Cancer Society, Illinois Division
Chicago Hearing Society
Chicago Dental Society
Chicago Medical Society
Community Fund of Chicago
Illinois Association for the Crippled
Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers
Illinois Department of Public Health
Illinois Society for Mental Hygiene

Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness
National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis,
Cook County Chapter
The Suburban Cook County Tuberculosis
Sanitarium District
Tuberculosis Institute of Chicago and Cook County
University of Illinois, Division of Services for
Crippled Children
Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago

field services

COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



1 — CHICAGO

Central Administrative Office
737 South Wolcott Avenue
Chesapeake 3-5833

2 — DESPLAINES

North District Office
Physical Therapy Treatment
Center
1062 Lee Street
Vanderbilt 4-8182

4 — MAYWOOD

West District Office
Venereal Disease Clinic
Physical Therapy Treatment
Center
1900 St. Charles Road
Fillmore 4-6052

5 — BERWYN

Venereal Disease Clinic
Physical Therapy Treatment
Center
6600 West 26th Street
Stanley 8-6600

6 — EVERGREEN PARK

Southwest District Office
Physical Therapy Treatment
Center
3411 West 95th Street
Garden 2-7424

7 — ROBBINS

Venereal Disease Clinic
Maternal Clinic
Dental Clinic
139 and St. Louis Avenue
Fulton 5-4251

8 — HARVEY

South District Office
Venereal Disease Clinic
Physical Therapy Treatment
Center
41 East 154th Street
Harvey 6
Dental Clinic
156 - 154th Street
Harvey 72

12 — STEGER

Dental Clinic
33rd and Emerald Street
Skyline 4-1541

9 — CHICAGO HEIGHTS

Venereal Disease Clinic
Physical Therapy Treatment
Center
Rheumatic Fever Clinic
1423 Chicago Road
Skyline 4-3200
Dental Clinic
W. 16th St. nr. Chi. Rd.
Skyline 4-3700

13 — EAST CHICAGO HEIGHTS

Dental Mobile Unit
Lincoln Highway and
Cottage Grove Avenue
Skyline 4-8814

10 — CALUMET CITY

Dental Clinic
154th and Wentworth Ave.
Torrence 2-5000

14 — MIDLOTHIAN

Dental Mobile Unit
147th and Crawford Avenue
Fulton 5-8035

11 — OAK FOREST

Dental Clinic
159th and Cicero Avenue
Waterfall 8-4200

15 — PHOENIX

Dental Mobile Unit
155th and 7th Avenue
Harvey 4589

statistics

HEALTH EDUCATION SERVICES

Community Organization Projects.....	21
Consultant Service to Community Health Councils.....	5
Consultant Service Regarding Health Information.....	27
Consultant Service to Schools.....	18

NUTRITION SERVICES

Home Visits.....	83
Office Visits.....	1407
Consultant Service to Nursing Homes.....	21
Nutrition Classes.....	14
School Lunch Workshop.....	1
Consultant Service to Schools.....	7

HOME AND OFFICE VISITS BY PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES

Communicable Diseases.....	2093
Venereal Diseases.....	1569
Tuberculosis.....	1927
Maternal.....	2852
Infant.....	2633
Preschool.....	2698
School.....	2505
Morbidity.....	2060
Handicapped.....	1555
Physical Therapy.....	2287
Dental.....	32
Nursing Home Inspections.....	47

VETERINARY SERVICES

Cattle Population.....	20,000
Herds.....	1,100
Cattle Tuberculin Tested.....	11,982
Herds Tuberculin Tested.....	766
Tuberculin Reactors.....	7
Infected Herds.....	6
Cattle Tested for Brucellosis.....	3,163
Herds Tested for Brucellosis.....	344
Brucellosis Reactors.....	135
Infected Herds.....	50
Calves Vaccinated Against Brucellosis.....	1,732

MAJOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASES REPORTED IN 1952

Animal Bites.....	499
Chickenpox.....	2,022
Diphtheria.....	2
Gonorrhoea.....	172
Measles.....	5,133
Meningitis (all types).....	34
Mumps.....	1168
Poliomyelitis.....	453
Scarlet Fever.....	390
Smallpox.....	—
Syphilis.....	309
Tuberculosis.....	256
Typhoid Fever (and paratyphoid).....	4
Whooping Cough.....	58

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Schools.....	145
Teachers.....	1,210
Pupils.....	37,568
Pupils Immunized.....	18,844
Diphtheria.....	10,660
Smallpox.....	8,184
Physical Examinations.....	10,360
Vision Tests.....	17,388
Hearing Test.....	14,975
Dental Inspections.....	13,909

DENTAL CLINIC SERVICES

Visits.....	5,522
Examinations.....	3,109
Fillings.....	2,960
Treatments.....	2,589
Extractions.....	843
Prophylaxis.....	616

CLINIC SERVICES

Maternal Clinic Sessions.....	24
Attendance.....	920
Child Health Conferences.....	702
Attendance.....	8,854
Physical Therapy Treatment Center Sessions.....	152
Attendance.....	818
Venereal Disease Clinic Sessions.....	500
Attendance.....	1,957
Typhoid Fever Immunization Center Sessions.....	15
Attendance.....	2,597

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Regular and emergency inspections at:	
87 public water supplies	
13 municipal sewage treatment plants	
49 other sewage treatment plants	
93 tourist camps	
54 swimming pools	
59 institutions (maternity hospitals, nursing homes, child welfare homes, private mental homes)	
23 Recreational: camps and areas	
Inspections at schools and golf and country clubs presently made only upon receipt of request.	
285 public and parochial elementary schools	
35 public and parochial secondary schools	
86 golf and country clubs	
Inspections made following receipt of request or complaint:	
254 private water supplies	
132 private sewage disposal systems	
649 nuisances	
61 stream pollution	
12 food handling establishments	

personnel

ADMINISTRATION

Director..... John B. Hall, M.D., M.P.H.
Administrative Assistant..... Milton Breault
Maintenance Assistant..... John McElligott

DIVISION OF HEALTH EDUCATION

Chief..... Irene Fahey, Ph.B., M.P.H.
Staff Health Educator..... Dale Houghland, B.S., M.S.P.H.

SECRETARIAL DIVISION

Chief..... Lorraine Johnson
Rose Berry
Bessie Bezemek
Coral Chandler
Donna Christian
Essie Hannon
Rose Keenan
Ellen Kenny
Marlene Lipin
Mildred Love
Patricia Love
Marie Loye
Mary Louise Murphy
Mossie Perry
Jessie Pierson
Julia Sullivan

MEDICAL

DIVISION OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

Chief..... Robert Dessent, M.D., M.P.H.
Public Health Veterinarian..... Clarence B. Hostetler, D.V.M.
Dentist..... Seymour Gould, D.D.S.
Dentist..... W. C. Lukaszewski, D.D.S.
Dental Assistant..... Frank Nuccio

Cooperating Clinicians

Emile J. Bunata, M.D. M. C. Higgins, M.D. Hugo Long, M.D. W. M. Winston, M.D. W. H. Young, M.D.

DIVISION OF MATERNAL AND CHILD HYGIENE

Chief..... William M. Hanrahan, M.S., M.D.

Cooperating Pediatricians

Elizabeth Fisher, M.D. Francis Kodl, M.D. Hazel Mrazek, M.D. Frank Rosen, M.D.
John Hyde, M.D. Anne C. Leonard, M.D. Irving Plotnick, M.D. Henrietta Sachs, M.D.
David Johnson, M.D. Richard L. Marks, M.D. Helen Rhetta, M.D. W. M. Winston, M.D.

Cooperating Obstetricians

O. R. Ennis, M.D. David Johnson, M.D. M. D. Sims, M.D. Stark Williams, M.D.*

DIVISION OF NUTRITION

Chief..... Lillian Nash, B.S., M.S.
Staff Nutritionist..... Dorothy Heideman, B.S., M.P.H.†

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Acting Chief..... Myrtle Sorenson, R.N., B.S., M.Litt.
Assistant Chief..... Thelma Cline, R.N., Ph.B., B.S.
Supervisor, Handicapped Program..... Esther Dahlstrom, R.N., R.P.T.

District Supervisors

Bridget M. Campbell, R.N., B.S. Sibyl C. Davis, R.N., B.S., M.A. Esther Doyle, R.N., B.S. Edith Nyden, R.N., B.S. Martha Willis, R.N., B.S.**

District Staff Nurses

Irene Baker, R.N.* Annelle Durrenberger, R.N. Mary Louise Kavanaugh, R.N. Margaret Phelan, R.N.
Leila Bashaw, R.N., B.S. Luella Feezor, R.N.** Faye Krauss, R.N. Ethel Reames, R.N.
Caroline Blankshain, R.N., B.S. Elizabeth Feldt, R.N., B.S. Harryetta Matthews, R.N. Nancy Roth, R.N., B.S.
Alice Burch, R.N., R.P.T. Mary Flynn, R.N.** Olive MacDougall, R.N., B.S. Harriette Shapiro, R.N.*
Eleanor Coghlan, R.N., B.S. Sarahann Greenberg, R.N., B.S. Mary McElligott, R.N. Mildred Tesch, R.N.
Mary Dawson, R.N. Irene Gregg, R.N., B.S. Alice Michalak, R.N., B.S. Myrtle White, R.N.
Lovetta Dixon, R.N. June Hall, R.N., B.S.* Irene O'Connor, R.N. Geraldine Wojtowicz, R.N., B.S.†
Margaret Duffy, R.N., R.P.T.*

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

DIVISION OF SANITARY ENGINEERING

Chief..... Benn J. Leland, B.S., M.S., P.E.

Program Supervising Engineers

Robert R. de Jonge, B.S., P.E. Steven W. Nich, B.S., P.E. Arthur F. Vondrick, B.S.

District Engineers

LeRoy V. Dzierzanowski, B.S. Paul C. Levin, B.S. Edward C. Rubin, B.S. Robert J. Wollschlager, B.S., M.S.

Sanitarians

Joseph W. Svec John F. Schultz

*Military Leave

**Sick Leave

***Educational Leave

†Resigned

board of health

- **WILLIAM N. ERICKSON, President**
- **ELIZABETH A. CONKEY, Secretary**
- **RICHARD J. DALEY, Clerk**
- **JAMES F. ASHENDEN**
- **FRANK BOBRYTZKE**
- **WILLIAM BUSSE**
- **JOHN J. DUFFY**
- **ARTHUR X. ELROD**
- **CHRIST A. JENSEN**
- **JOHN MACKLER, JR.**
- **GEORGE A. MILLER**
- **GEORGE F. NIXON**
- **DANIEL RYAN**
- **CLAYTON F. SMITH**
- **EDWARD M. SNEED**
- **JOHN J. TOUHY**

