

ANNUAL REPORT 1958

COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

A PICTURE OF HEALTH





PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Date Year '58
Place Suburban Cook County
Subject Annual Report

.... almost 1,000,000
people live in our area

Services:

health education
maternal and infant care
vital statistics
laboratory services
environmental health
veterinary public health
communicable disease
control

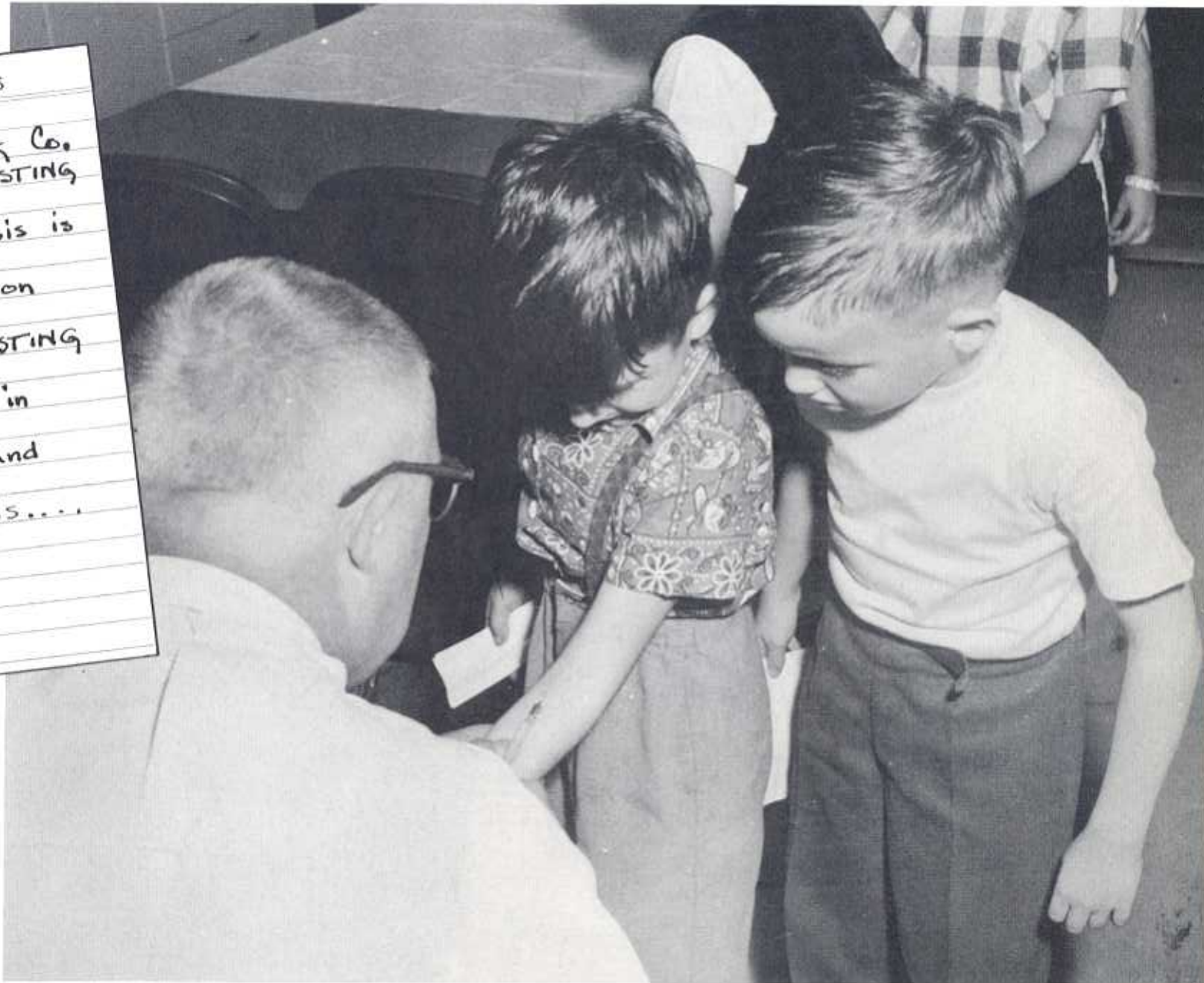
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Date 1958

Place Suburban Cook Co.

Subject TUBERCULIN TESTING

Greater emphasis is
being placed on
TUBERCULIN TESTING
programs in
elementary and
high schools....





PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Date 1958
Place CCDPH
Subject child health conferences

Health supervision
for WELL babies
up to age 4

(Only for families
unable to afford
private medical care)

279 sessions in '58

4,602 visits to
conferences

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Date 1958
Place ROBBINS
Subject Maternal clinic

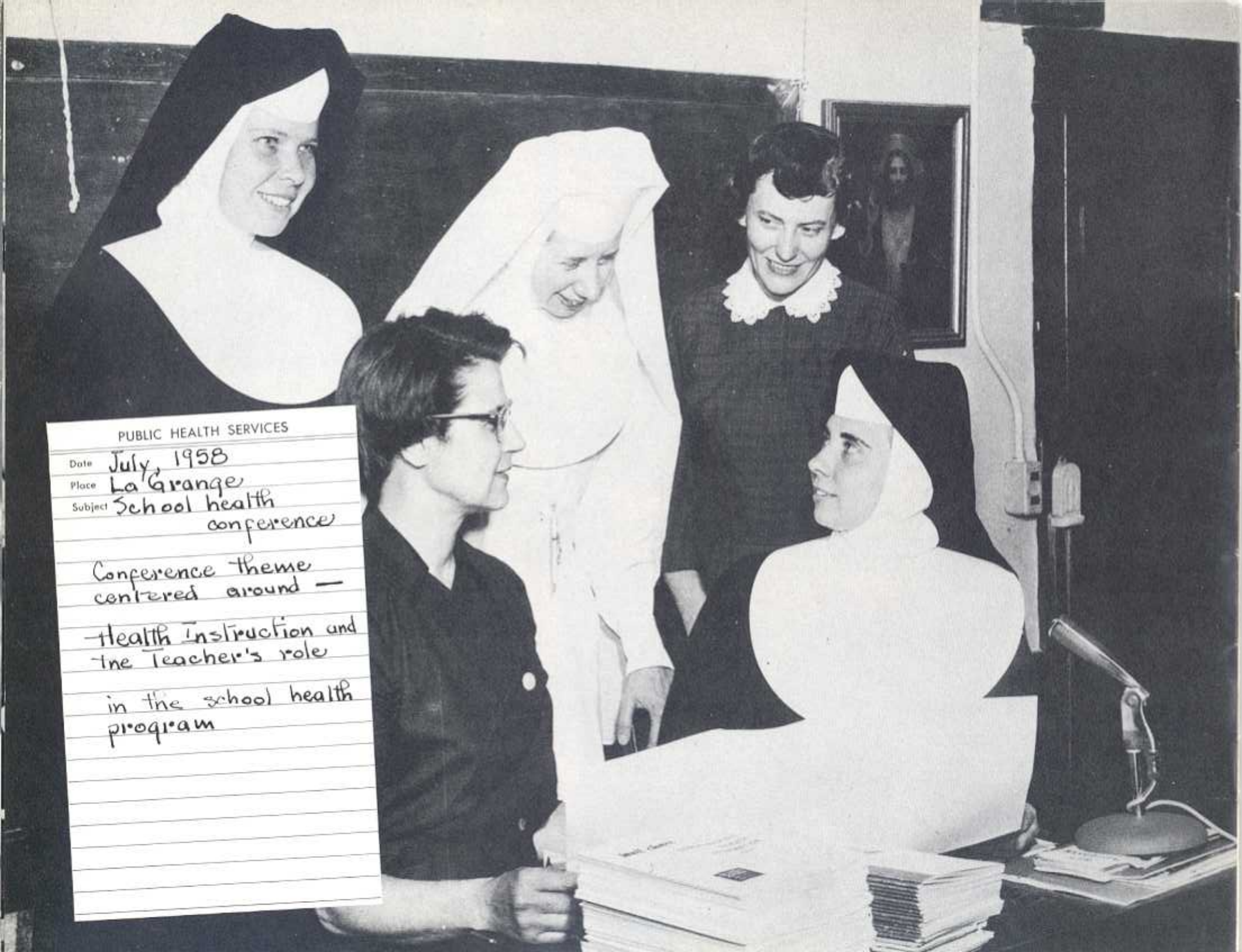
Only in 1 area
is medical care
provided for expectant
mothers

At the clinic -

- Physical examinations
- Laboratory tests
- Plans for delivery
- Classes on infant
of baby care
- Instructions on diet
and meal planning



PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES
Date July, 1958
Place La Grange
Subject School health
conference
Conference theme
centered around —
health instruction and
the teacher's role
in the school health
program







PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Date '58

Place Cook County

Subject Bedside Nursing Care

With an aging population illnesses are increasing..... Many people could be cared for at home if NURSING SERVICE was AVAILABLE to teach the family and supervise nursing care



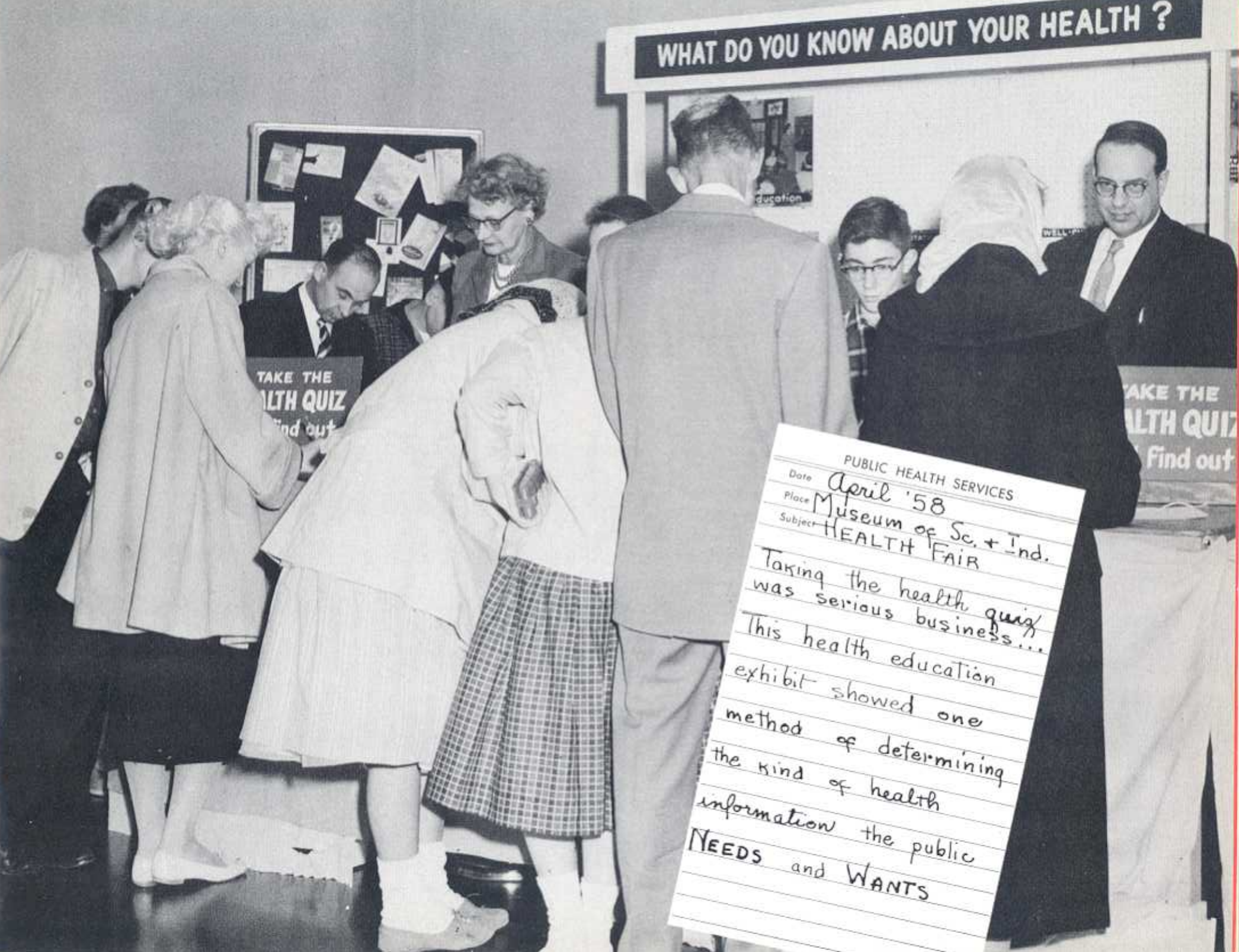
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES
Date 1958
Place in Coon County
Subject Physical Therapy
For this man the Salm
Vaccine came too late.
He must overcome
staggering odds
If **PHYSICAL THERAPY**
services were
available, as needed,
more patients could
be restored to self-
help and greater
independence



PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES
Date Year '58
Place Suburbia
Subject Nursing homes
A three-member team:
Nutritionist
Nurse
Sanitarian
inspect of nursing homes
for licensing



WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT YOUR HEALTH ?



TAKE THE
HEALTH QUIZ
Find out

TAKE THE
HEALTH QUIZ
Find out

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES
Date April '58
Place Museum of Sc. + Ind.
Subject HEALTH FAIR
Taking the health quiz
was serious business...
This health education
exhibit showed one
method of determining
the kind of health
information the public
NEEDS and WANTS



PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Date Year '58

Place Cook County

Subject Environmental health

Sanitation facilities must comply with accepted standards of design

Plans are reviewed and approved for proposed projects

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Date June, 1958

Place Cook Co.

Subject Brucellosis

Cook County was declared a modified certified brucellosis free area by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture



PERSONNEL

ADMINISTRATION

Director John B. Hall, M.D., M.P.H.
Administrative Clerk Jessie Pierson
Custodial Worker Luther Banks

HEALTH EDUCATION

Chief Irene Fahey, M.P.H.
Health Educator Addie Reninger, M.P.H.†

SECRETARIAL DIVISION

Chief Lorraine Johnson,
Betty Allen, Rose Berry, Bessie Bezemek, Mossie
Blanton, Mylah Diffay, Irene Erickson, Jose-
phine Iacuzzi, Dolores Judge, Rose Keenan,
Fredrika Kirkling, Lillian Klase, Doreen Katrba*,
Agnes Mulvihill, Nanette Rechord, Cele
Riffkind, Marilyn Rosone, Mildred Stockling,
Jule Sullivan, Thelma Tarrant.

MEDICAL

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE AND EPIDEMIOLOGY

Chief Robert Dessent, M.D., M.P.H.**

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Chief William M. Hanrahan, M.D., F.A.C.S.

COOPERATING PEDIATRICIANS

Alan J. Camin, M.D., Mehmet E. Erden, M.D.,
Saburo Hara, M.D., Francis Kodl, M.D., Rute
Medenis, M.D., Mohamed Moinfar, M.D., An-
gelos C. Papiouanou, M.D., Isidro L. Perez, M.D.,
Pola J. Piotrowski, M.D., Alice Bro Racher,
M.D., Priscilla C. Reyes, M.D., Helen L. Rhetta,
M.D., W. M. Winston, M.D.

COOPERATING OBSTETRICIANS

Frank F. Adrian, M.D., Burwyn E. Albright,
M.D., Richard W. Anderson, M.D., Richard H.
Blankshain, M.D., Jonas Kalpokas, M.D., Philip-
pos C. Karamatos, M.D., Anis R. Nakhla, M.D.,
Frank Sutkus, M.D.

VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH

Chief Clarence Hostetler, D.V.M.

DENTAL

Seymour Gould, D.D.S., W. C. Lukaszewski,
D.D.S., Frank Nuccio, Chauffeur.

NUTRITION

Chief Martha J. Thomason, M.S.
Nutritionist Martha M. Tosti, M.S.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Chief Hertha Larsen, M.A.*
Chief Thelma Cline, Ph.B., B.S.
Assistant Chief Myrtle Sorenson, M. Litt.

SUPERVISING NURSES

Bridget M. Campbell, M.Ed.; Maria Coburn,
B.S., Eleanor Fackler*, Faye Krauss, Elaine
Nemoto, B.S., Edith Nyden, B.S.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES

Katherine Ase, B.S., Joanne Becker, B.S., Myr-
tle Benton*, Harriet Blain, B.S., Dorrence
Brooks, Eleanor Coghlan, B.S., Mary Dawson,
Annelle Durrenberger, Rosella Fingert, Cath-
erine Flaherty*, Willa Mae Hinson, Rosella
Honey, B.S., Elizabeth Howard, B.S., Elizabeth
Huessers, B.S.*, Lois Jarnagin, B.S., Elizabeth
Joyce, B.S., Loraine Kalbfell*, Margaret Koe-
nig, B.S.*, Barbara Kudrnovsky, B.S., Mary
Maloney, June Middo, B.S.*, Mary Jane Mc-
Elligott, Frances Oakes, B.S., Irene O'Connor,
May Omura, B.S., Frances Peterson, Adele
Richardson, B.S., Gertrude Ruehrdanz, B.S.,
Rosemary Slattery*, Margaret Stypul, B.S.,
Patricia Tivnan, B.S., Dolly Tsang, B.S., Dar-
lene Wilke, B.S., Wilma Wood*.

PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

Marjorie Hart, B.S.*, Donna Thiemann, B.S.†

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

SANITARY ENGINEERING

Chief Robert R. deJonge, B.S.
Assistant Chief Steven W. Nich, B.S.

PROGRAM SUPERVISING ENGINEERS

LeRoy V. Dzierzanowski, B.S., Robert J. Woll-
schlager, M.S.

DISTRICT ENGINEER

John F. Schultz

SANITARIANS

Chief Joseph W. Svec,
Morris Albaum, Stanley Gizewski, William
Hoffman, Sylvan Kahn, B.S., Bruno Mannella

*Resigned **Deceased †Part-Time

HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFICES

Central Administrative Office

737 South Wolcott Ave., Chicago 12
CHesapeake 3-5833

West District

1907-09 Rice Street, Melrose Park
Fillmore 4-6052

North District

1062 Lee Street, Des Plaines
VAnderson 4-8182

Southwest District

3411 West 95th Street, Evergreen Park
GArden 2-7424

South District

51 East 154th Street, Harvey
EDison 3-0006

A PICTURE OF HEALTH

Annual report '58

Cook County Department of Public Health

*Edited and Distributed by the
Division of Public Health Education*

Credits for photographs:

Gerber Baby Foods
Illinois Department of Public Health
The New World
The Tuberculosis Institute of Chicago
and Cook County

1958 IN REVIEW

Suburban Cook County is growing — it has been growing at a far greater rate than Chicago or adjacent counties, and is one of the fastest growing areas in the United States. Close to a million people live within the jurisdiction of the Cook County Department of Public Health.

Problems faced by the Board of Health, intensified by suburbia's staggering growth include shortages of professional health personnel, increased demands for more and better public health services, and budgetary limitations.

In the past year and a half the Illinois Department of Public Health has made a special study of the health department. Recommendations include "extensive additions to the professional and supporting staff, housing which will permit efficient function, and a budget sufficient to provide salaries which will attract and hold qualified professional and technical people."

ORGANIZATION

The Cook County Department of Public Health (formerly the Cook County Public Health Unit) was organized July 1, 1940 as a cooperative agency of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, the Illinois Department of Public Health, and the U.S. Public Health Service. It was set up in the Bureau of Public Welfare and conducted the activities of the department under public welfare legislation. As there was no provision at the time for county health ordinances, the Public Health Unit was empowered by the Illinois Department of Public Health to enforce State health rules and regulations.

In December, 1945 the Board of Commissioners established by unanimous resolution the Department of Public Health. It has its legal authorization in the County Health Act of 1943 (the Searcy-Clabaugh Act) and a special 1945 amendment to this Act. According to the special laws which govern Cook County, the Board of Commissioners are also the Board of Health.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The health department is financed from the general fund of Cook County with additional financial assistance provided by the Illinois Department of Public Health. About 53 cents per person is spent for public health services. Experience throughout the nation indicates that a minimum of \$1.50 per person annually is needed to provide a reasonably well-rounded public health service.

| APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS | |
|---|--------------|
| Cook County | \$370,536.00 |
| State of Illinois | 145,620.00 |
| Total | \$516,156.00 |

JURISDICTION

The Board of Health has jurisdiction throughout the county except within cities, villages or incorpo-

rated towns, or combination thereof, which maintain full-time health departments as defined by the Illinois Department of Public Health. The Cook County Department of Public Health does not serve Oak Park, Chicago, Evanston, Stickney, or Winnetka-Kenilworth-Glencoe and Northfield Villages. About 84 per cent of the suburban area population is within the jurisdiction of the Cook County Department of Public Health, and the other 16 per cent is currently served by four health departments.

IN THE AREA OF THE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT JURISDICTION

| |
|---|
| 108 incorporated communities |
| 12 hospitals |
| 71 nursing homes and homes for the aged |
| 10 children's homes |
| 484 schools |
| 120 public water supply systems |
| 89 swimming pools |
| 88 trailer parks |
| 62 motels |

ADMINISTRATION

The health department is organized into nine major divisions: General Administration, Preventive Medicine, Dental Health, Maternal and Child Health, Nursing, Health Education, Nutrition, Sanitary Engineering and Veterinary Public Health.

Each division is headed by a chief who is responsible to the director of the department. As a group, the chiefs form a professional team to assist the director in planning health services, determining health needs and establishing broad program policies. Field services are provided largely through four district offices located in Des Plaines, Melrose Park, Evergreen Park and Harvey.

The staff is composed of professional and clerical workers. All professional personnel must meet education and experience qualifications established by the Illinois Department of Public Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

The study of records of births and deaths occurring in suburban Cook County are beneficial tools for improving public health services, and provide valuable information in determining health needs. However, the lack of a professionally trained statistician severely limits the department's work in analyzing the wealth of data available from the records it files.

Birth certificates are reviewed for premature births, home deliveries and evidences of birth abnormalities. Investigations are then made by the medical or nursing staff. Certificates showing cause of death due to communicable diseases and complications of pregnancy are reviewed, as well as death certificates of newborn infants. Information regarding perinatal and maternal deaths is made available to the Suburban Cook County Maternal and Infant Welfare Committee.

In addition, all birth and death records filed in eight other registration districts in Cook County are routed through the Cook County Department of Public Health to the State Health Department, thus providing access to much information of significance to the department.

The administration of the birth and death registration system continues to make heavy demands on the resources of the department. Since its establishment in the department, there has been a continuous increase in the number of records filed.

In 1958 there were 5,827 births, stillbirths and deaths registered in the Cook County Health Department, a 51 per cent increase over 1954 when the system was established.

| | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Live births | 287 | 641 | 1,377 | 1,548 | 1,759 |
| Stillbirths | 11 | 22 | 26 | 31 | 35 |
| Deaths | <u>3,182</u> | <u>3,254</u> | <u>3,470</u> | <u>3,901</u> | <u>4,033</u> |
| Total | 3,480 | 3,917 | 4,873 | 5,480 | 5,827 |

Copies of all vital records are made for the county clerk and the files of the health department. In connection with death registration, permits are issued for the transportation, interment, and the disinterment of human bodies. Certified copies are prepared at a fee of one dollar per copy for persons having a legitimate interest in these vital records. In 1958 fees collected for certified copies and certifications amounted to \$13,953, as compared with \$7,774 in 1954.

| | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| Certified Copies Issued | 7,774 | 9,041 | 10,402 | 12,999 | 13,953 |

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

Contagious diseases are no longer the threat they were at the turn of the century. Although many of the diseases that once took a heavy toll of life among children and young people are of minor importance today, communicable diseases still require constant vigilance.

The most important activity in communicable disease control is promoting immunization of infants against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio-

myelitis and smallpox. Since protection does not last for life, booster injections are necessary throughout school, and except for whooping cough, throughout life.

Poliomyelitis vaccine has been widely recommended for adults up to age forty. Immunization against diphtheria and tetanus, and smallpox vaccinations are likewise necessary for adults. Epidemiological investigations of cases and deaths from the above diseases indicate that immunization procedures have not been adequately carried out. One death from diphtheria was reported in 1958. Upon investigation it was learned that the patient, age 29, had had diphtheria immunization as a child, but there was no history of a recent booster and the immunization had, therefore, lapsed.

Immunization clinics were established once monthly at all district offices of the department in the early summer of 1958. This was done because of growing concern regarding the apparent low immunization coverage in the population. The department will need to promote adult immunization through publicity, health education, and immunization services.

For some time there has been concern about the actual immunization coverage among school children.

| Disease | 1957 | 1958 |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Chickenpox | 2,382 | 2,472 |
| Diphtheria | 0 | 1 |
| Encephalitis | 18 | 18 |
| German measles | 680 | 2,750 |
| Measles | 434 | 3,447 |
| Meningitis (all types) | 40 | 50 |
| Mumps | 1,263 | 1,110 |
| Psittacosis | 8 | 0 |
| Rheumatic fever | 62 | 73 |
| Scarlet fever | 363 | 397 |
| Strep throat | 307 | 346 |
| Typhoid and paratyphoid | 0 | 1 |
| Whooping cough | 19 | 12 |

No smallpox reported in Suburban Cook County since 1942.

Two schools were selected for a sampling to determine adequacy of booster and original immunization for whooping cough, tetanus, diphtheria, smallpox and polio. The returns indicated good coverage. In 1959 there is a need to study the merits of determining immunization status in all schools in suburban Cook County or taking a broader and more extensive sampling.

Poliomyelitis

The decline in the incidence of poliomyelitis has been dramatic. Newer laboratory techniques have revealed that persons previously diagnosed as having non-paralytic poliomyelitis have been infected with other viruses. Laboratory examinations are made of all reported cases to determine the cause of infection.

| YEAR | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 |
|--------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Cases | 488 | 311 | 220 | 36 | 6 |
| Deaths | 20 | 19 | 7 | 1 | 0 |

Tuberculosis

Finding tuberculosis in an early stage, providing hospital and clinic service through the Suburban Cook County Tuberculosis Sanitarium District, and the follow-up in the home and district offices by the medical and nursing staff form the basis for a strong control program.

The finding of previously unknown minimal (early) cases helps to reduce further spread of the disease. In child health conferences, clinics and home visiting, the nursing staff play an important role in case finding. They encourage families to have periodic physical examinations which include X-ray and/or a tuberculin test. They teach the cause of tuberculosis and how it can be prevented.

Medical and nursing supervision of reported cases and their contacts is the most effective and time

consuming facet of the tuberculosis control program. This supervision is concerned with direct patient and family service, and teaching of the patient and contacts over a long period of time.

Chest X-ray programs in all high schools in suburban Cook County were discontinued as of June, 1958 due to low case finding potentials with this method as well as concern about radiation. Tuberculin testing programs will be the choice method of case finding in this age group. Routine chest X-rays at the prenatal clinic at Robbins were replaced by tuberculin tests.

| Services | 1957 | 1958 |
|--|--------|-------|
| Patients hospitalized | 399 | 546 |
| Streptomycin injections | 11,115 | 7,401 |
| Home visits to diagnosed cases | 1,760 | 1,731 |
| Home visits to suspect cases or contacts | 2,374 | 2,064 |
| Interviews about patients | 1,968 | 1,177 |

Biologics

Continuing emphasis is being placed on the prevention and control of communicable diseases by Cook County physicians and the health department. As part of the control program approximately \$60,000 worth of biologics were distributed to practicing physicians in the suburban area. One of the largest expenditures was for polio vaccine. No doubt this preventive had a significant bearing on the decline in the incidence of infantile paralysis in the county.

Large quantities of vaccines and toxoids for protection against the three common diseases of childhood, whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus were distributed.

The biologics available to physicians in the control of communicable diseases include vaccine to prevent smallpox and typhoid fever, schick testing material to determine susceptibility to diphtheria, and tuberculin to test for tuberculosis.

The department also provided penicillin and other prophylactic drugs for the prevention of recurrent attacks of rheumatic fever.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Premature Program

About 900 babies a year arrive prematurely to suburban Cook County residents, bringing with them special medical and nursing problems. They may be speeded by private ambulance service provided by the department to hospitals equipped for their care.

Premature births are reported by the seven hospitals within the health department's jurisdiction. This information guides the public health nurses in their home visits, both before and after the infants are sent home from the hospital, by helping to prepare

| | Number | |
|---|---------|-----------|
| | 1957 | 1956 |
| POPULATION, Estimated | 920,000 | 895,900** |
| LIVE BIRTHS | 30,375 | 27,870 |
| DEATHS, All causes | 8,387 | 7,806 |
| TWELVE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH. Ranked according to 1957 experience. | | |
| 1. Heart Disease | 3,594 | 3,331 |
| 2. Cancer | 1,478 | 1,413 |
| 3. Vascular lesions affecting central nervous system | 805 | 711 |
| 4. Congenital malformations and certain diseases of early infancy | 513 | 469 |
| 5. All accidents | 421 | 397 |
| (Motor vehicle) | (186) | (202) |
| (Other accidents) | (235) | (195) |
| 6. Influenza and pneumonia | 335 | 267 |
| 7. Diabetes mellitus | 129 | 138 |
| 8. Cirrhosis of liver | 105 | 84 |
| 9. General arteriosclerosis | 96 | 102 |
| 10. Nephritis and nephrosis | 89 | 81 |
| 11. Suicide | 72 | 95 |
| 12. Tuberculosis, all forms | 22 | 40 |

* Health department jurisdiction.
** Chicago Community Inventory.

the mother and family in the care of the new baby. Due to limited nursing staff it became necessary to develop selectivity in home visits to prematures. Prematures weighing 4½ pounds or less are visited routinely rather than all prematures under 5½ pounds as was our policy previously.

Prenatal Program

A prenatal clinic is conducted twice each month at the Health Center in Robbins. Prenatal and post-natal care is given to registered patients by obstetricians who are employed on a part-time basis. Plans for delivery are made at Cook County, Illinois Research and Provident hospitals. In August, 1958 mother and baby care classes were started. All mothers registered at the clinic and pregnant with their first baby are expected to attend the series of six classes as part of their antepartum care.

Rheumatic Fever Prevention Program

Through the health department, sulfa drugs and antibiotics are furnished to diagnosed rheumatic fever or rheumatic heart disease patients who are medically indigent and in need of medication.

Statistical data are compiled regarding the incidence of rheumatic fever and development of bacterial endocarditis. This information is necessary to justify continuation of this type of program at public expense. A register of all rheumatic fever patients receiving prophylactic medications through the State Health Department and Chicago Heart Association became well established during 1958. All new admissions to the register were visited in their homes by the nursing staff for actual nursing care and teaching.

School Health

Some 10 to 35 per cent more children file into the classrooms than did ten years ago. Packed school rooms and limited public health nursing personnel have necessitated a shift in emphasis from direct school health services to one of advisory service and health counseling to school personnel.

Throughout the school year, the public health nurse meets with the school administrator and faculty to

help plan school health programs. She helps prepare them for emergencies, first aid, physical and dental examinations, and meets in teacher-nurse conferences. Throughout the year, she helps with various screening programs, and the health needs of children with special physical and emotional handicaps.

With the valuable aid of volunteer workers recruited from the community, the school child's health receives careful and continuing attention.

Many requests for aid in planning health instruction programs for elementary schools have been channeled to the public health educators during the past year.

One significant effort was a school health conference conducted for more than 100 Sisters of St. Joseph at their motherhouse, Our Lady of Bethlehem, LaGrange Park, Illinois. The conference was sponsored by the department with assistance from the Bureau of Health Education, American Medical Association.

Highlighted in the conference were sound practices in school health programs. Assistance was given to teachers in developing health instruction programs based on needs and interests of children.

Poison Control Program

Poison control centers in Suburban Cook County are in operation in Evanston, Berwyn and Harvey. In addition there are eight centers in Chicago. Each of the centers offers facilities for emergency treatment of cases of poisoning. Telephone service is provided on a round-the-clock basis to answer inquiries from physicians regarding the ingredients of drugs and household supplies and to make recommendations as to treatment methods. In reply to inquiries from persons other than physicians, the centers give only emergency advice, followed by the suggestion that a doctor be called promptly.

The public health nurse visits the homes where children have accidentally taken poisons. Attention is also focused on potential accident hazards by the nurse in her home visits and in child health conferences.

CHRONIC ILLNESS AND AGING

Bedside Nursing Care

Once again, personnel limitations interfere with a complete program of bedside nursing, but as much service is rendered as possible. The public health nurse may visit the home at the request of a private physician, clinic or family member. The type of care is prescribed by the physician. During her visit, the nurse gives care to the patient and instructs family members how to provide adequate care, offering as much supervision as time permits.

Serious or prolonged illness in the home causes many hardships, not only to the one who is ill, but to the family as well. Earlier hospital discharge, lack of hospital beds, and a rising cost of professional medical care have created a greater demand than ever before for home nursing services.

Once the illness itself has been conquered, attention must be devoted to any after-effects so that the person will be able to return to a useful, productive life. One part-time physical therapist, subsidized by the Cook County Chapter of the National Foundation, helps restore patients through special therapy services. The program may be carried on in the home, or for those who are ambulatory, at treatment centers.

The need for actual bedside nursing is tremendous in the suburban area. A number of communities have requested counsel in establishing bedside nursing services. Because of nursing staff resignations, the morbidity services of necessity were less in 1958 than 1957.

Nursing Homes

Although the blessings of an extended life expectancy rate are many, increases in the older population are a matter of concern for public health authorities. Current hospital facilities are not adequate for the care of long-term illnesses caused by the degenerative chronic diseases of the aged. Under the supervision of the department, nursing homes are meeting the rising need of care for diseases of old age. Directly responsible for the supervision of these homes is a three-member team consisting of a sanitarian, nurse and nutritionist. Seventy-one such homes are operating in the suburban area.

ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION

Water Supplies

Water supplies serving ten or more units, are under the State Public Water Supply Control Law. One hundred and twenty (120) water supply systems serve incorporated and unincorporated communities. Seventy (70) communities draw water from their own wells, fifty (50) from Lake Michigan through Chicago and other communities on the lake. In many subdivision developments each residence and lot is a self-contained unit having its own well water supply.

Analysis of samples from public and private water supply systems, swimming pools, private wells, new main installations and Forest Preserve District wells are made to confirm results of inspections. Approximately 9,000 samples a year are submitted to the Chicago Branch Laboratory of the Illinois Department of Public Health. These are collected by the Sanitary Division. Reports are prepared by the engineering staff and forwarded to the responsible individuals.

Sewage Disposal and Stream Pollution

Sewage disposal in Cook County is accomplished through various methods. Almost all of Cook County is now under the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Sanitary District of Greater Chicago. The District operates a large system of intercepting sewers and four major treatment works which treats the major portion of sewage from the highly congested areas of Cook County. These are of little concern to the health department; our concern is with the small treatment plant serving a unit such as trailer park, restaurant, motel, etc., and with the private sewage disposal system serving the individual home. Approximately 135 such investigations were made in 1958 in addition to about 70 stream pollution inspections.

In order to install a private water supply or sewage disposal an approval must be obtained from the department before the Cook County Building and Zoning Bureau will issue a permit. Approximately 1,225 such approvals were issued exclusive of revisions and rejections.

Trailer Parks and Motels

Tourist parks are regulated by the department through enforcement of a County Tourist Camp Operating Ordinance. Operating permits are issued following inspection. Municipalities having local stringent ordinances exercise control over the tourist camps within their limits. In several instances, the health department acts in an advisory capacity in the enforcement of local ordinances. The Cook County Department of Public Health assists the Illinois Department of Public Health in enforcement of the State Trailer Coach Park Law passed in 1953.

There are a total of 88 trailer parks and 62 motels in Cook County. Some of these are in areas that are exempt from licensure; however, check inspections are still made yearly.

Nuisances

Requests for service or abatement of nuisances are received in connection with private water supply and sewage disposal systems, e.g.; bathing and recreational areas and subdivisions, stream pollution nuisances, garbage and refuse dumps, air pollution, smoke nuisances. Investigations are made, information furnished or corrective action requested. In many instances, failure to secure voluntary correction, necessitates enforcement proceedings through the State's Attorney and the County Courts although this is used only as a last resort since court procedure is time consuming and expensive. About 370 nuisance complaints have been received in the Central Office of which 60 per cent have been closed. The preceding figure does not include the health violations the field men find in the course of their inspectional duties.

Review of Plans and Specifications

To help secure sanitation facilities to comply with accepted standards of design, the sanitary engineers review and approve plans and specifications for proposed projects. This is in conjunction with specific laws and regulations enforced by the Illinois Department of Public Health, the Cook County Building and Zoning Bureau, the Federal Housing Administration, the Veterans Administration, the Sanitary District of Chicago, and the Cook County Plat Officer.

Subdivisions

Before a new subdivision utilizing individual sewage treatment can be platted, the section of the report dealing with percolation testing must first be reviewed and passed on by the health department. Fifty such subdivisions were reviewed and approved in 1958. In April of this year, our regulations for the submission of these reports were strengthened and, among other things, now require that the overall subdivision percolation tests be witnessed in the field by our engineers or sanitarians. We feel that this survey, in addition to the project engineers report, gives a more complete picture and will help prevent large scale sewage disposal system failures.

Swimming Pools

There are 66 outdoor and 23 indoor swimming pools in suburban and rural Cook County. In addition, 6 outdoor and 7 indoor pools are proposed. These pools are inspected and graded each year under the State Swimming Pool Law. It is interesting to note that only one pool (outdoor) failed to measure up to our high standards and has been warned not to reopen for the 1959 season. Should this pool disregard the warning, immediate court action will be taken.

Food Handling

Through cooperative programs, the Sanitary Engineering Division make inspections and prepare reports on all sanitation facilities and establishments in Cook County which are the responsibility of the State Health Department. These reports serve as the basis for action by the State Health Department. There is no countywide ordinance for regulation of sanitation of food handling establishments. The health department advises communities having regulations and, upon request, makes surveys of food handling establishments and conducts classes for food handlers. We have also received a number of requests in the past year from incorporated areas for help in training village employed personnel as restaurant inspectors.

VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH

The incidence of brucellosis in the more than 10,000 head of cattle in over 1,000 herds in Cook County has been reduced to less than 1 per cent infection in less than 5 per cent of the herds. In recognition of this achievement, the county was declared a modified certified brucellosis free area in June, 1958 by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Cook County was one of the first 10 of the 102 counties in Illinois to achieve certified status and a continuing effort is being made to further reduce the rate of infection through testing of cattle and vaccination of calves.

Cook County is a bovine tuberculosis modified accredited area. Routine tuberculin testing of all of the breeding cattle in the county has been a big factor in keeping the incidence of tuberculosis at less than .05 per cent. Even though the number of infected cattle still present are few, these few pose a constant threat and every effort is being made to detect and remove them from the herds.

Communicable diseases in livestock are being held at a low incidence by uniform disease control methods and proper reporting of disease with effective quarantine measures. This includes a close liaison with state and federal agencies in preventing and discovering contagious animal diseases before they become widespread.

There is no method now in Cook County whereby wholesome animal food products, exclusive of milk, are assured the consumer. Animals that are taken to our slaughtering establishments receive adequate inspection, but the many wholesale provisioners and retail outlets have no inspection service to assure that meat and meat products do not become adulterated and contaminated between the time animal carcasses leave the slaughtering plant until they are purchased by the consumer.

Health Fair

"What Do People Know About Their Health?" was the subject of the health quiz conducted by the department at the Chicagoland Health Fair at the Museum of Science and Industry for ten days during April, 1958.

In addition to giving the quiz, the department distributed health literature, answered questions, and showed services of the department by means of slides on an automatic slide projector and a display of photos.

The booths were manned at all times by at least two professional public health staff members. After the participants completed the quiz, it was scored and the results were interpreted. A leaflet which contained the questions and correct answers with explanations was given to each person who took the quiz.

The results of the quiz were interesting, and although the sampling was small, (1,833 persons took the quiz), this health education project shows one method of determining the kind of health information the public needs and wants. This educational effort resulted in over 1,300 people requesting pamphlets on arthritis, diabetes, cancer, heart disease, tuberculosis, nutrition and other health subjects.

Professional Education

One of the difficult problems facing the department today is the shortage of personnel trained in public health for the performance of health services. An increasing number of requests to provide field experiences for students are being received by the department from Schools of Public Health, Medical and Nursing Schools, Hospitals and Universities. Student guidance is a stimulating experience to all staff and serves as a recruiting method for personnel as well.

Cook County is one of three health departments in Illinois approved for residency training in Preventive Medicine and Public Health by the American Medical Association. Three physicians have been trained for employment as health officers. Each week medical students from the University of Illinois and Loyola University are instructed in the activities of health

departments. Since many of these students will be practicing in the area, their knowledge of public health services is important.

Field experience and observation is provided for physicians, medical and nursing students, nutritionists, health educators and dietetic interns.

For some time the Nursing Division has been concerned about the high cost of the public health nursing student program in terms of the time required on the part of staff-teachers and supervising nurses. It is hoped in future planning with universities that field practice will be managed as are other clinical nursing entities by providing a faculty member to be in the agency full-time working with the students on a teaching and guidance basis.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

The most effective public health work is carried on in communities where there is interest and active participation by the citizens in planning and organizing health programs. During the past year community and citizen interest in public health was aroused through the efforts of community newspapers, civic-minded citizens and organized groups. Requests were received to assist communities in studying and planning for more adequate health services, as well as utilization of the services provided by the department.

The Glenview Village Board of Health and Community Council have met frequently during the past year with the members of the staff of the department to assess existing health services, and aid in planning additional services to supplement the work of the health department. As a result of this joint planning, Glenview has taken positive action to improve health services in their community. A part-time sanitarian has been employed and a visiting nurse service to give bedside care to the sick has been established.

In order that public health move in a coordinated and purposeful direction increased emphasis should be placed on this type of consultant service to communities.

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