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BOROUGH OF ALDERSHOT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer
of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1946



BOROUGH OF ALDERSHOT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1946

HEALTH COMMITTEE AT DECEMBER 31st, 1946

His Worship the MAYOR (ALDERMAN C. J. PORTER, J.P.)

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR G. ROBERTS

ALDERMAN—

MRS. E. C. GARRATT

COUNCILLORS—

MRS. N. P. BENNETT SNELL F. A. RICKETTS

S. N. CHRISMAS A. J. SIMS

W. G. EDDY F. STAY

MISS M. E. KEMP LT.-COLONEL H. D. TANNER, O.B.E.

T. E. LEE COLONEL F. HARRIS, C.B.E., M.C., M.B.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

His Worship the MAYOR (ALDERMAN C. J. PORTER, J.P.)

CHAIRMAN :

MRS. N. P. BENNETT SNELL

ALDERMEN—

MRS. E. C. GARRATT W. M. R. DAVIS, M.B.E. J. W. WHITE

COUNCILLORS—

W. G. EDDY H. T. REEVES

MRS. C. HOWELLS, B.SC. T. WALSHAM

MISS M. E. KEMP COL. F. HARRIS, C.B.E., M.C., M.B.

Co-opted Members :

MRS. E. MIDDLETON

MRS. M. CLEMENT

MISS E. P. HUGHES

MRS. P. RICHARDSON

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health :

J. CRAIG LINDSAY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

Meat and Food Inspector, Hackney Carriage Inspector and Shops Act Inspector :

F. WHITEHEAD, R.S.I., R.S.I. Meat and Food Certificate
(Mr. Whitehead retired on October 12th, 1946)

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

W. E. ROBERTS, Cert. R.S.I., R.S.I. Meat and Food Certificate
(Mr. Roberts, Chief Sanitary Inspector from October 12th)

D. P. BROAD, Cert. R.S.I., R.S.I. Meat and Food Certificate
R.S.I. Tropical Hygiene

Health Visitors—Infant Life Protection Visitors :

MRS. M. R. ROWDEN, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.S.I.

MISS J. O. ROBERTS, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.S.I.

Domiciliary Midwives :

Nurse K. JINKS, S.R.M.

Nurse L. KERNICK, S.C.M., G.A.

Nurse S. D. ROGERS, S.R.N., S.C.M. Nurse M. DUNN, S.R.M., S.R.N., R.S.C.N., G.A.

Medical Superintendent, Isolation Hospital :

J. CRAIG LINDSAY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Matron, Isolation Hospital :

MRS. A. M. McDOUGALL STEVEN, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N.

Clerical Assistants :

MRS. K. KITCHEN

MISS G. LODGE

MRS. E. SHELLEY

THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF ALDERSHOT

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my second post-war Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1946.

In reporting on the health of the Borough it is gratifying to be able to draw attention to the high birth rate and low death rate, but any complacency that we might have is removed when we recall our housing shortage, and shortage of the many items which contribute to a reasonable standard of living. We must not underestimate the effect of these shortages on the health of the people. The insidious effect on the mental health not to mention the physical side is one which would be difficult to demonstrate by statistics, but it is nevertheless there. Measures to combat these influences must be constantly under review, and as a first step in order to draw attention to their importance, post-natal diagnostic facilities and the Home Help service are two items on which it is hoped to be able to report progress in the near future.

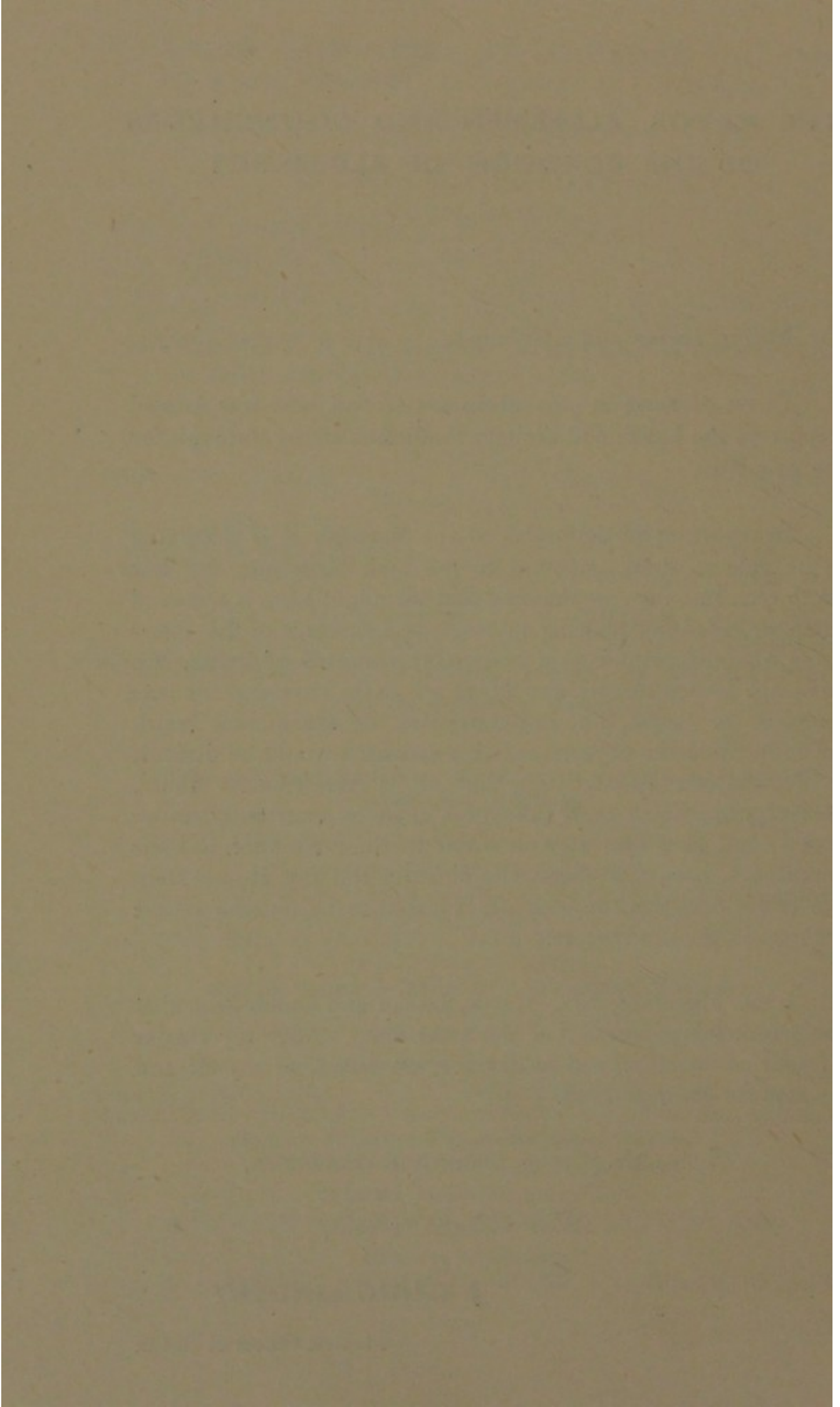
I ask, therefore, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, that you accept this report and at the same time tender my thanks for your co-operation and confidence, on behalf of myself and my staff for the year 1946.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. CRAIG LINDSAY

Medical Officer of Health



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1946

VITAL STATISTICS

Estimated population for mid-year 1946 ... 24,580
(*Excluding Military personnel*)

The following are submitted by courtesy of the Local Food Executive Officer :-

Total population of Aldershot as at December, 1946	26,852
Number of children in age-group 0-5 years	1,830
" " " " " " 5-15 "	5,269
Number of available houses	5,840
Number of houses with shops	361
Number of Licensed Premises	79
Rateable value (December 1945)	£282,743
Acreage — Civil 1,432 — South Camp 2746 — Total	4,178

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	287	258	545
Illegitimate	33	28	61
Total (<i>excluding South Camp</i>)	320	286	606

STILLBIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	11	4	15
Illegitimate	—	1	1
			Total 16

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population ... 24.7
(*Comparability factor not available for 1946*)

DEATHS (*excluding South Camp*)

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths	151	139	290
Death Rate	...	...	11.3
Infantile Deaths	...	...	16
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	26.4

Principal Causes of Death

Heart Disease	86	Influenza	2
Cancer	38	Congenital Malformation	4
Cerebral Lesions	42	C.S.F.	1
Bronchitis	16	Nephritis	7
Pneumonia	12	Road Accidents and	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	12	other Violent Causes	10
Non-Pulmonary		Suicide	5
Tuberculosis	2	Syphilitic Diseases	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	4	Maternal Causes	1
Other Circulatory Diseases	10	Diphtheria	1
Premature Births	6	All other causes	29
Whooping Cough	1		

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations are carried out at the County Laboratory, The Castle, Winchester and at the Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester. Owing to the distance, however (some 30 miles) urgent examinations may be delayed. Urgent examinations, by courtesy of the Military Authorities, can be carried out at the Leishman Laboratory, Cambridge Hospital.

During the year, at the request of the Aldershot General Hospital, arrangements for a hospital pathological service were discussed with them. Dr. Serge Keys, of Castleton, Epsom Road, Guildford was appointed to the Aldershot Hospital as Hon. Pathologist. In order to help the hospital over a shortage of premises, the Aldershot Borough Council granted permission for the use of a small laboratory at the Isolation Hospital. The pathological work has, however, increased and this small laboratory is now no longer suitable. Discussions have taken place and it is hoped that a larger scheme involving the use of buildings at the Isolation Hospital not required for any other purposes, will be put before the various interested bodies. A larger laboratory will undoubtedly increase the diagnostic facilities for the patients in this area under the Regional Hospital Board, which it is anticipated will take over on July 5th, 1948. The increased and "on the spot" laboratory facilities will thus become available to the Civil Isolation Hospital.

Ambulance Facilities

For Accident and Sickness

1 2-Stretcher ambulance stationed at the Ambulance Depot, Laburnum Road.

For Infectious Diseases

Use continues to be made of the ambulance belonging to the Farnborough Urban District Council but the whole subject of ambulance facilities will be dealt with on a County basis, by the scheme of the Hampshire County Council to be submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Nursing in the Home

The Aldershot Borough Council have continued their grant of £150 per annum to the Aldershot District Nursing Association, and the Borough Council have representation on the Management

Committee. The shortage of hospital beds and the lack of staff have undoubtedly thrown an additional strain on the facilities for nursing in the home, and there is no doubt that this provision could be increased with advantage. No further steps can be taken in this matter, however, pending future developments in the area.

Hospitals Provided and Subsidised by the Local Authority or Otherwise

General

Aldershot General Hospital (50 beds). (Voluntary).

Cambridge Hospital (Military only).

EMERGENCY cases are being sent to the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, and to the County Hospital Farnham, Surrey when beds are available.

Maternity

Maternity Unit—attached General Hospital (14 beds). Provided by the Aldershot Borough Council.

Louise Margaret Hospital (Military only).

Infectious Diseases

Aldershot Civil Isolation Hospital (50 beds)

Military Isolation Hospital (Military only).

The great shortage of general and special hospital beds in this area is still apparent and the Civil Isolation Hospital is now being asked to cope with cases which in the ordinary course of events would be admitted to the Observation Wards of a General Hospital.

We look forward with interest to the work of the Regional Hospital Board in this area and we hope that they will be guided by the Ministry of Health Hospital Survey dated 1945, wherein a district hospital is recommended to be placed in Aldershot. Such a hospital would mean that the present Maternity Unit and existing Aldershot Hospital could be used as a Maternity and Gynæcological wing of the parent hospital and that the recently reconstructed Civil Isolation Hospital would be an infectious wing. This would make an ideal lay out for the North Eastern part of Hampshire, including Frimley and Camberley. There are admirable sites for the parent hospital which are well worthy of exploration and it is hoped that the discussions will not be unduly prolonged as these sites cannot remain available indefinitely.

Table No. 1

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

<i>Description.</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Where held</i>	<i>Times</i>	<i>By whom held</i>
Child Welfare Centres	Child Welfare	Manor Park House	Mondays, 2 p.m. Fridays, 2 p.m.	Aldershot Borough Council
Ante-Natal Clinics	Examination and supervision of Expectant Mothers	Manor Park House	Thursdays, 2 p.m. (Dr. Page) 1st and 3rd Tuesday in month (Dr. Dobbin)	Aldershot Borough Council
Diphtheria Immunization	Protection of children against Diphtheria	Manor Park House	1st Wednesday in month 2 p.m. (Dr. Page)	Aldershot Borough Council
Minor Ailment Clinic	Treatment of Minor Ailments	School Clinic	Every morning at 9.30 a.m.	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Dental Clinic	Dental Treatment (School children)	School Clinic	Morning and afternoon sessions—weekdays	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
M. & C. W. Dental	Treatment of Expectant and Nursing mothers and children under 5 years	School Clinic	Every Tuesday at 2 p.m. (Gas session fortnightly)	Aldershot Borough Council
Ophthalmic Clinic	Examination of ophthalmic cases and prescription of spectacles	School Clinic	1st and 3rd Friday in month	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Orthopaedic Clinic (Surgeon's Clinic)	Examination and supervision of muscle, joint defects	St. Mark's Church Rooms, Farnboro'	1st Tuesday in each month	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Remedial Exercises Clinic	Treatment of orthopaedic cases	St. Mark's Church Rooms.	Every Wednesday (Morning and afternoon sessions)	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Scabies and Cleansing Centre	Treatment of Scabies and other Vermineous conditions	Farnborough Cleansing Centre, Laburnum Road	Mondays, Wednesdays Fridays 9-12	Aldershot Borough Council
Tuberculosis Dispensary	Examination of definite and suspected cases of Tuberculosis	Manor Park House	Tuesdays and Saturdays 10-12	Hampshire County Council
Veneral Disease Clinic	Treatment of Veneral Disease	Manor Park House	Males. Mondays, 5-7 Females. Wednesdays (Morning and afternoon sessions)	Hampshire County Council
Women's Welfare Clinic	Birth Control	"Cranford" 16, Northbrook Rd. Aldershot (Miss Hughes)	1st and 2nd Tuesdays in month at 2 p.m.	Women's Welfare Association

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

Ante-Natal Clinic—Statistics

No. of mothers who attended the clinic during 1946	449
No. of Attendances	1,623
Average attendance per session	22
Number of cases attended by Midwives during the year (including cases in the Maternity Unit) :—	
As Midwives	456
As Maternity nurses	65

Midwives Practising in Aldershot during 1946

NURSE M. DUNN, 6a Avondale Road, Aldershot.

NURSE K. JINKS, 58 St. George's Road, Aldershot.

NURSE L. KERNICK, 48 Sandford Road, Aldershot.

NURSE S. D. ROGERS, 69 North Lane, Aldershot.

Ante-Natal Clinics

The clinics continue their work at the Manor Park House with weekly sessions every Thursday at 2 p.m. the work being carried out by Dr. Clifford Page, Lindum House, Eggars Hill, Aldershot. Additional clinics are also held on the first and third Tuesday of the month at the Manor Park House with Dr. Dobbin of Fraynes Croft, Fleet, in attendance.

Institutional Accommodation for Maternity Cases

The Maternity Unit carried out a full year's work to the extent of 297 patients during 1946.

The Staff of the Maternity Unit is as follows :—

Medical Director	Col. E. Lawton Moss, C.M.G. F.R.C.O.G.
Medical Officers	Drs. Page, Dobbin and Tipler
Anæsthetists	Drs. Tipler and Reynolds
Sister in Charge	Miss E. E. Garrett

In common with other similar institutions, the provision of adequate nursing and domestic staff gives rise to constant anxiety. In fact, at times there has existed some doubt as to whether it would be possible to carry on the essential work. At the same time we are faced with an increased demand for the admission of the "booked" cases. It has been necessary, therefore, to attempt to correlate the numbers being confined in hospital to those confined at home. Every mother who applies for booking is asked if she will consider confinement at home. If she is agreeable one of the

Domiciliary Midwives is asked to visit and discuss the details involved in such a procedure. In this way, vital bed space is conserved for the anticipated abnormal or emergency cases.

Even with these precautions, it was, on occasion necessary to send mothers elsewhere for confinements as the records show, i.e., 13 were sent to Winchfield Public Assistance Institution, 2 to Farnham County Hospital and 1 to St. Paul's Hill, Winchester.

Maternity Unit

Record of work done during 1946 :—

<i>Origin of Case</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>No. of days maintenance</i>	<i>Average duration of stay</i>
Civil Borough	183	2,439	10-14 days
County Council	47	754	10-14 days
Private Ward	64	930	10-14 days

Further classification showing the type of work undertaken:

<i>Origin of case</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Normal</i>	<i>Ab-normal</i>	<i>Result—Child</i>		<i>Result—Mother</i>	
				<i>Discharged</i>	<i>Died</i>	<i>Discharged</i>	<i>Died</i>
Civil Borough	183	131	52	175	9	182	1
County Council	47	8	39	45	6	47	—
Private Ward	64	56	8	65	2	64	—

Domiciliary Midwifery Service

This service continues to be under the administration of the Aldershot Borough Council as Welfare Authority by arrangement with the Hampshire County Council who retain their responsibilities as Local Supervising Authority. The record of work of the midwives has already been shown, and it is interesting to note that (dealing with mothers from the Borough only) 179 cases were dealt with in the home, whereas 190 cases were dealt with in the Maternity Unit.

In common with the tendency noted throughout the country mothers to-day are tending towards institutional confinement, but, by close co-ordination of the work of the Maternity Unit and the Domiciliary Midwifery Service, it is possible to direct the cases where they can best and most efficiently be dealt with having regard to the available Midwifery staff.

Infant Life Protection

Number of Foster-mothers registered (at 31st Dec.1946)	12
Number of Foster Children in the Town	17

The problem in Aldershot to-day, which is also nation wide, is that there is a great shortage of foster-mothers. Many enquiries are received in the Health Department from mothers who wish to hand their children over to foster-mothers. The reasons for these mothers so acting, are varied and many are undoubtedly activated by motives which deserve little, if any, encouragement. Post war conditions, present economic stress and laxity in moral values account for many of the cases. Much time and effort is spent by the Health Visitors in this work which requires great tact and patience as in not a few instances the visits are resented and information is difficult to obtain. The closest liaison exists with the Probation Officers and the various Womens' Welfare Organisations in the town.

Dental Treatment

Number of Mothers treated	152
Number of children under 5 years treated	34
Number of general anæsthetics given	109
Number of dentures supplied	24

Mr. E. V. O'Hara, L.D.S., carried out the dental work under a part-time appointment.

Health Visiting—Statistics

Number of visits paid during the year by the Health Visitors:—

	<i>First Visits</i>	<i>Total Visits</i>
To Expectant Mothers	224	224
To children under 1 year	516	1,271
To children 1-5 years	....	2,013
		3,508

Child Welfare Statistics

Total number of children under 5 years of age who first attended at the Centre during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance were:—

Under 1 year of age	422
Over 1 year of age	27

Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centre during the year and who, at the end of the year were:—

Under 1 year of age	384
Over 1 year of age	233

Premature Babies

No special facilities exist for the care of premature infants and of illegitimate children but such a statement does not do justice to the work done in this area for such cases. The Aldershot Borough Council acting as Welfare Authority in such a small and compact area keeps a close eye on such matters, and where such cases exist, which require special care, efforts are made either by providing special nursing care from the Health Visiting staff or via Domiciliary Midwives. Appliances such as hot water bottles, blankets (electric if necessary) special foods and equipment etc., are available from voluntary sources while the case remains under the close supervision of the Health Department. Illegitimate children particularly are kept under review and in a Garrison town of this nature, the incidence of such cases is relatively high. The sickness and mortality rates however amongst these special children give rise to no particular anxiety.

Finance—General Welfare Services

The following financial statement has been prepared by the kindness of the Borough Treasurer, and I am asked to point out that the figures 1946/47 are estimated figures, although they can be taken as reasonably accurate. The increase in expenditure throughout the years can be taken as an index of the interest shown in the Maternity and Child Welfare services. The large increase shown under Maternity Unit can be accounted for by the increased salary scales recommended by the Rushcliffe Committee.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Welfare Service</i>	<i>Midwifery Service</i>	<i>Maternity Unit</i>	<i>Total Aldershot Service</i>	<i>County Rate Refund</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
1936/37	1,018	—	1,238	2,456	1,205
1937/38	1,391	63	1,320	2,774	1,222
1938/39	1,401	50	797	2,248	1,294
1939/40	1,282	Cr. 24	1,497	2,755	1,514
1940/41	1,179	80	1,601	2,860	1,289
1941/42	1,544	97	1,774	3,415	1,329
1942/43	1,427	1	1,838	3,266	1,413
1943/44	1,460	24	2,160	3,644	1,671
1944/45	1,567	Cr. 118	2,001	3,450	2,384
1945/46	1,418	27	1,922	3,367	2,938
1946/47	1,896	Nil	3,401	5,297	3,400

Incidence and Control over Infectious Diseases

Infectious Diseases notified during 1946 (Excluding South Camp)

Measles	67	Whooping Cough	3
Scarlet Fever	13	Erysipelas.....	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	33	Puerperal Pyrexia	4
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
Diphtheria	18	C.S.F.	3

Civil Isolation Hospital

The record of work for 1946 is as shown on Table 2.

The work of the Hospital continued without interruption throughout the year. It will be remembered that the Hospital admits cases from an extensive part of the North Eastern corner of Hampshire and an increasing number of cases are also being admitted from Basingstoke.

Owing to the shortage of observation wards in the various small hospitals throughout the area, the type of case which would normally be admitted there, is being referred to the Isolation Hospital. Such a procedure is, of course, a compliment to the Hospital with its modern, bright cubicle wards opening directly on to well kept grounds. The only difficulty is in the fact that increased use requires to be made of the services of specialists in medicine, surgery and especially pathology if we are to give our patients the benefits of modern medicine. Improvements in other directions are bound to come as a result of the Hospital passing into the care of the Regional Hospital Board particularly in the provision of a Resident Medical Officer who could also act for the local General Hospital.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

The water supply of this area was fully described in my reports for the year 1935 and later supplemented in that for 1938, and such details as are contained therein can be forwarded on request to those interested.

The following particulars have been received through the courtesy of the Mid Southern Utility Co.:—

(a) Supply has been entirely satisfactory in quality and quantity.

(b) Regular bacteriological tests made as follows:—

Raw water	19
Treated water	30

With the exception of one raw water sample only *B. Coli* and *B. Welchii* were absent; the exception showed *B. Coli* (Presumptive Coliform Count) 3 per 100 c.c. which was believed caused by repacking of pump glands. Two chemical analyses of chalk water were made during 1946, which showed no material variation from previous results.

- (c) Waters have no plumbo-solvent action.
- (d) No cases of contamination.
- (e) Within the Borough of Aldershot and excluding the supply in bulk to War Department, the number of dwelling houses is estimated at 6,242, and the corresponding population estimated at 31,000.

There are no known cases of supply by stand-pipe in Aldershot.

Diphtheria Immunization

The following statistics show work done during 1945

Children who were immunized while under 1 year	....	9
" " " " " between 1-5 years	....	342
" " " " " " 5-9 "	....	223
" " " " " " 9-14 "	....	297
Total	....	871

Number of 'Refresher' doses given during 1945

Children between 5-9 years	....	....	....	....	194
" " 9-14 "	....	....	....	....	155
Total	....	....	....	....	349

It appears that, as far as the initial immunization of the under fives goes, i.e. 9-12 months, the position is almost satisfactory, but where there is room for further improvement lies in the follow-up and administration of a refresher dose. Efforts towards the end of the year lay in stepping up the number of school children receiving refresher injections. Such a procedure received some stimulus from the fact that the age incidence of diphtheria in this Borough is definitely increasing, indicating the need for a higher degree of immunity amongst the older children.

An intensive propaganda campaign has been initiated during 1946. Slides have been shown in cinemas, pictorial advertisements have appeared in the newspapers, and stick-on bills have been displayed. There is no doubt that this operation is bearing fruit and the response amongst the parents, even those who objected in the first place, has been favourable. The position in this Borough is not yet considered satisfactory at the present time and it is hoped to record an improvement in the numbers of children immunized during 1947.

Scabies Order 1941 — Cleansing Centre, Laburnum Road

The incidence of the disease showed a considerable rise during the month of March, 1946. Thereafter the number of cases fell to the lowest recorded for any period since the war ended. The greater part of the work during the year was the cleansing of verminous heads carried out by arrangement with the County Medical Officer, under the provisions of the Education Act, 1944. In this way children from the surrounding districts, including Aldershot, were taken to the Centre for cleansing after a first notice had been sent to the parent to take the necessary action.

Table No. 2

Aldershot Civil Isolation Hospital — Record of Work

Area	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria—Faucial	Diphtheria—Laryngeal	Diphtheria—Nasal	Diphtheria—Carriers	Diphtheria—Observation	Measles	Whooping Cough	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Glandular Fever	Chicken Pox	Acute Rheumatism	Cellulitis	Impetigo	Dysentery	Scabies	Malaria	Erysipelas	TOTALS
Aldershot ...	5	18	3	3	8	7	4	1	3	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	56
Farnborough ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1 obs.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	7
Basingstoke ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Camberley ...	9 (1 obs.)	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 obs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18
Fleet ...	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	8
Hartley Wintney	10	1	—	—	—	1	—	12	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	26
Final Total																			120

HOUSING

The Housing position in this Borough can be briefly set out under three headings—Demand, Supply and Policy.

(1) Demand

The following statistics show the extent of the problem of housing shortage. They constitute the waiting list for houses in the Borough.

Single Persons	....	....	....	20
Married persons with no children	....	....	....	589
" " " 1 child	....	....	....	647
" " " 2 children	....	....	....	339
" " " 3 "	....	....	....	124
" " " 4 "	....	....	....	65
" " " 5 "	....	....	....	23
" " " 6 "	....	....	....	12
" " " 7 "	....	....	....	3
" " " 8 "	....	....	....	1
" " " 9 "	....	....	....	1
" " " 11 "	....	....	....	1
				1,825

(2) Supply

Month 1946	Houses completed by L.A.	Houses completed by P.E.	Conversions or adaptations of properties to provide flats.		Pre-Fab. Houses
			By L.A.	By P.E.	
January	—	—	6	—	—
February	—	—	1	—	18
March	—	2	—	—	—
April	—	—	—	2	44
May	—	—	—	—	32
June	—	1	—	1	10
July	—	1	—	—	15
August	—	—	—	4	—
September	6	—	3	1	—
October	6	2	—	2	—
November	6	—	—	—	—
December	12	3	—	1	—
	30	9	10	11	119

Total number of houses built and occupied since the war ended 1945 :—179.

(3) Policy

The Borough of Aldershot finds itself in rather a peculiar position. There is an active organization—the Borough Surveyor's Department—anxious and willing to build houses and have indeed gone ahead rapidly with plans for considerable numbers. The position now facing us is that, in common with the rest of Country, there are shortages of materials, and labour, but peculiar to ourselves there is a shortage of building sites. No land is available within the Borough capable of being developed. We are 'built up' in fact and proposals are well advanced towards building houses in the area of another authority. Thus we are creating the unusual situation whereby Aldershot's over-spill of population will be accommodated in Ash. Therefore, we find the Town being compelled to part with its greatest asset—its citizens—to another authority and this surely is a good example of the administrative tangles which our modern society, as we know it in this country, gives rise to.

One further reflection on the housing position which is worthy of recording is the apparent lack of finality as to the solving of the Town's housing shortage. We, as the Health Department, are constantly stimulating the Housing Department to accommodate grossly over-crowded families where there is an acute health problem. In those few cases that we can deal with in this way, we have no sooner moved the grossly over-crowded family when to our great disappointment further families crowd into the accommodation rendered vacant, and frequently we are faced with a worse problem than before.

This set of circumstances is particularly applicable to housing in places like Aldershot with its many contacts throughout the country generally. The number of people who pass through the Town at some time or other in their career covers a considerable portion of the general population. Many people thus gain friends locally and some knowledge of the lay-out of the Town with the result that the slightest rumour of vacant premises brings families here from almost every part.

The position of the Health Department in dealing with the housing situation is a difficult one. We find ourselves presented with lowered standards of living accommodation and any attempt to improve matters may make the situation worse. The problem is a national one but our local function, and it is an important one, is to endeavour to mitigate the ravages of overcrowding, limiting the spread of communicable disease and promoting resistance to infection by giving advice particularly through the medium of the Health Visitors.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Number and Nature of Inspections

Dwelling-houses

Inspections	1658
Re-inspections	2990

Number of Visits to :-

Cowsheds and Dairies	144
Fried Fish Shops	64
Bakehouses	56
Food Premises	354
Ice Cream Premises	112
Shops	83
Factories	137
Slaughterhouses	687
Verminous Houses	104
Small Pox Contacts	53
Scabies Contacts	163
Typhus Contacts	2
Infectious Disease Cases	87
Overcrowding	26
Works in Progress	662
Offensive Accumulations	14
Drains subjected to Smoke Test, No. of Houses	36
Re Rats and Mice Infestation	500

Nuisances and Other Matters dealt with

Foul Drains, W.C.'s, etc., opened and cleared	86
Accumulations of Noxious Matters	14
Nuisances arising from keeping animals	2
Verminous Houses	35
Dustbins Renewed	495
Smoke Nuisance	2

Principle Structural Improvements carried out

Premises installed with new drainage system	23
Drain Inspection Chambers provided	11
New Water Supply installed	2
Water Supply re-installed	12
New W.C. Pedestal Pans fitted	31
Water Closets put in order	61
Yards paved or repaired	9
New Sinks fitted	6
Sink Wastepipes repaired or renewed	19
New Soil and Ventilating Shaft	10
New Gully Traps provided	12
New Food Stores provided	3
Dangerous Structures reported to Borough Surveyor	12

Houses Improved

Roofs repaired	205
Eaves, Guttering repaired or renewed	30
Rainwater Downpipes repaired	15
Wall and Ceiling Plaster renewed	220

Wall and Ceilings cleansed (rooms)	226
Damp Walls remedied	93
Scullery Floors re-formed	9
Other Floors re-formed	107
Firegrates renewed or repaired	32
Cooking Ranges repaired	35
Washing Coppers repaired	18
Windows repaired and made to open	165
Doors repaired	50
Stairs retreaded	3
Stair Handrails provided	6
Mantelpieces refixed	5
Chimneys repaired or renewed	6

Number of Notices served during the Year

Informal	858
Statutory Public Health Act, 1936, Section 39	2
" " " " " " 75	28
" " " " " " 84	1
" " " " " " 93	30
Rats and Mice Destruction Act, Section 5	2

ADMINISTRATION OF THE ACTS AND BYELAWS RELATING TO HOUSING

Unhealthy Areas

(1) Clearance Areas	nil
(2) Improvement Areas	nil

Number of Houses owned by the Local Authority

(1) Under the Housing Act, 1936	639
(2) Other Powers	133

Number of Houses Erected during the Year

(1) By Local Authority	149
(2) By other Bodies or Persons	9

HOUSING STATISTICS

I. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	389
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1167
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected under the Housing Acts)	nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	389

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers

362

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 | |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :- | |
| (a) By Owners | nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | nil |
| (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :- | |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 33 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :- | |
| (a) By Owners | 33 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | nil |
| (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :- | |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made | nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders | nil |
| (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :- | |
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made | nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenant or room having been rendered fit | nil |

DISINFECTIONS

Steam disinfection of bedding, clothing, etc., is carried out by the staff of the Civil Isolation Hospital

Number of rooms disinfected after infectious, contagious and other diseases	52
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Number of cases where bedding was subjected to steam disinfection and disinfestation	94
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DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES

During the year 49 complaints of verminous premises were received and 41 premises comprising 118 rooms were disinfested.

The treatment consists of spraying with liquid insecticide, containing D.D.T., and removal of bedding to the disinfecting station for steam disinfection.

An inspection is made of all furniture and bedding of families allocated premises by the Corporation, and of the premises to which the family is moving. Any infestations by vermin thus found are dealt with before the removal takes place.

Work is undertaken by the department for the extermination of cockroaches in hotels, bakehouses and food preparing premises. The cost of this work being borne by the occupiers.

RODENT DESTRUCTION

One whole-time operator is employed, and this work has been actively carried out during the year.

The following is a summary of action taken during the year :-

Complaints received (re Rats and Mice)	500
Premises inspected and found to be infested	168
Visits of inspection	385
Visits for baiting and extermination	2070
Premises cleared of infestation	168

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Factories, Factories (no mechanical power) and Workplaces

No. of Factories on Register	47
No. of Factories on Register (no mechanical power)	10
No. of Factories, Factories (no mechanical power) and Workplaces inspected during the year	137
No. inspected and found satisfactory	55
No. inspected and found unsatisfactory	2

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

Licensed Dealers "Pasteurised" Milk	1
Licensed Dealers "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	2
Registered Purveyors	47
Registered Cowkeepers	1

During the year 168 samples of "Pasteurised" Milk were obtained and submitted for examination :- 153, Satisfactory 15, Unsatisfactory

165 samples of "Heat-Treated" Milk were taken and submitted for examination of which 18 were unsatisfactory, the remainder passing the prescribed test.

Manufacture and sale of Ice-cream

The manufacture and sale of Ice-cream was resumed in the district on a limited scale. 112 visits were made to Ice-cream premises and 8 samples taken for bacteriological examination. In addition 18 samples of faeces and 9 samples of urine were taken from Ice-cream handlers, all of which proved negative.

Summary of Results

	Samples Submitted	Bacteriological Count per m.l.			
		Under 30,000	30,000 to 100,000	100,000 to 500,000	Over 500,000
Ice-cream	8	6	—	1	1

Meat and other Foods Inspection

There is one slaughterhouse operating in the Borough under the control of the Ministry of Food, catering for this District and the adjoining Urban District of Farnham.

During the Autumn months, the Royal Army Service Corps Slaughterhouse was brought into use to cope with the exceptional heavy killing taking place in the Borough. This necessitated working much overtime during evenings and week-ends.

A regular system of meat inspection is carried out in accordance with the recommendations laid down in Memo 62 (Food) and 687 visits were made during the year for this purpose.

*Particulars of diseased and unsound food condemned and disposed
of during the year :—*

Tuberculosis

Bovines

Carcases complete with offal	57
Heads and Tongues	328
Lungs	465
Livers	112
Hearts	17
Mesenteries	100
Spleens	15
Thick Skirts	29
Forequarters	8
Udders	5
Tripes	17
Sets of Offal	3
Caul Fats	7
Sticking	1
Brisket	1

Sheep

Carcase complete with offal	1
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Calves

Carcase complete with offal	1
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Other Diseases

Bovines

Carcases complete with offal	3
Livers	637
Liver Tips	52
Lungs	58
Heads and Tongues	7
Flanks and Round	4
Udders	96
Forequarters	5
Hindquarter	1
Hearts	4
Tripes	4
Thick Skirts	3
Kidneys	9
Top Sides	5
Mesenteries	4
Spleens	6
Ribs and Ponies	2
Trimmings	94 lbs.
Top	326 "
Brisket	41 "
Caul Fat	1 "
Kidney Fat	38 "

Pigs

Carcase complete with offal	1
Livers	6
Heart	1
Lungs	1
Mesenteries	17

Plucks	2
Udder	1
Guts	11
Leg	$\frac{1}{2}$

Sheep

Carcases complete with offal	5
Lungs	2
Livers	347
Plucks	135
Forequarter	1
Head	1
Legs	2
Trimmings	28 lbs.

Calves

Carcases complete with offal	7
Livers	2
Feet	2

Unsound Foodstuffs

Tins Foodstuffs (Misc)	2100
Tins Milk	3213
Jars Mixed Pickles	165
Jars Foodstuffs (Misc)	157
Bottles Foodstuffs (Misc)	299
Packets Foodstuffs (Misc)	415
Eggs	1262
Woodcocks	8
Oxo Cubes	25
Marmite Cube;	134
Onions	21 lbs.
Cabbage	6720 "
Peas	13 "
Tomatoes	1680 "
Mixed Cereals	752 "
Biscuits	139 "
Flour	3035 "
Dough	860 "
Cake	47 "
Xmas Pudding	19 "
Oranges	844 "
Apples	535 "
Lemons	337 "
Grape Fruit	71 "
Apricots	40 "
Raisins	373 "
Prunes	104 "
Peaches	188 "
Sugar	28 "
Lemon Curd	61 "
Cheese	6 "
Margarine	56 "
Bacon	49 "
Mustard	15 "

Unsound Foodstuffs (continued)

Sausage Meat	20 lbs.	Blanc Mange Powder	56 lbs.
Fresh Fish	656 „	Egg Powder	5 „
Fish Cakes	74 „	Custard Powder	14 „
Chocolate	77 „	Milk Powder	24 „
Boiled Sweets	2 „	Baking Powder	17 „
Cocoa	80 „	Pickling Spice	8 „
Lemonade Powder	30 „	Salt	7 „
Soup Powder	101 „		

NUMBER OF CARCASSES

Class	Slaughtered	Inspected
Cattle	3374	3374
Calves	2324	2324
Sheep	3878	3878
Pigs	223	223

SUMMARY WEIGHT OF CONDEMNED FOOD

Beef	Tuberculosis Other causes	58876 lbs. 14772 lbs.
Pigs	Tuberculosis Other causes	— 300 lbs.
Sheep	Tuberculosis Other causes	47 lbs. 1382 lbs.
Calves	Tuberculosis Other causes	77 lbs. 293 lbs.
TOTALS	Tuberculosis Other causes	59000 lbs. 16747 lbs.

Or	33 tons	16 cwt.	1 qtr.	7 lbs.
Unsound Foodstuffs	13 tons	1 cwt.	3 qtrs.	21 lbs.
Grand Total	46 tons	18 cwt.	1 qtr.	

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

The number of Slaughtermen on the register on 31st Dec. 1946 was 8.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

From information supplied by Mr. C. O. Perry, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures, the following samples of food and drugs were taken during the year ending 31st March, 1947:—

110 samples of Food and Drugs were taken within the Borough of Aldershot.—65 Milk and 45 other samples.

Milk Samples.—The average percentage of fat and non-fatty solids in these samples was 3.83% and 8.72% respectively.

All the samples taken were satisfactory.



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