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BOROUGH OF ALDERSHOT

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1948

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Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1948

HEALTH COMMITTEE AT DECEMBER 31st, 1948

His Worship the MAYOR (ALDERMAN G. ROBERTS, J.P.).

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR W. G. EDDY.

ALDERMEN :—MRS. E. C. GARRATT, C. J. PORTER, J.P., A. J. SIMS.

COUNCILLORS :—MRS. N. P. BENNETT SNELL, C.C., S. N. CHRISMAS, T. HODGSON, R. L. HOPPER, T. E. LEE, F. A. RICKETTS, F. STAY and COL. A. J. BEVERIDGE, O.B.E., M.C.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE AT DECEMBER 31st, 1948

His Worship the MAYOR (ALDERMAN G. ROBERTS, J.P.).

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR MISS M. E. KEMP.

ALDERMEN :—MRS. E. C. GARRATT, W. M. R. DAVIS, M.B.E., C. J. PORTER, J.P.

COUNCILLORS :—MRS. N. P. BENNETT SNELL, C.C., W. G. EDDY, H. T. REEVES and COL. A. J. BEVERIDGE, O.B.E., M.C.

CO-OPTED MEMBERS :—MRS. J. CRAIG LINDSAY, MISS E. P. HUGHES, MRS. E. MIDDLETON, and MRS. P. RICHARDSON.

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health :
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.
(Left December 1st, 1948).

Matron, Day Nursery :

MISS E. STEPHENSON.

Health Visitors—Infant Life Protection Visitors :

MRS. M. R. ROWDEN, S.R.N., S.C.M.
MISS V. E. RUMBOL, S.R.N., S.C.M.
MRS. M. C. WRIGHT, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Domiciliary Midwives :

MISS M. DUNN, S.C.M., S.R.N., R.S.C.N.
MRS. K. JINKS, S.C.M.
MRS. S. ROGERS, S.R.N., S.C.M.
MISS L. KERNICK, S.C.M. *(Up to June, 1948).*
MISS F. KITSON, S.R.N. S.C.M., *(From 1st June, 1948).*

Clerical Assistants :

MRS. K. KITCHEN, MISS G. LODGE.

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

W. E. ROBERTS, M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

W. EDWARDS, M.S.I.A.
D. P. BROAD, M.S.I.A. (Part-time).

Clerical Assistant :

MRS. E. SHELLEY.

THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF ALDERSHOT

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my fourth post-war Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1948.

The radical changes which came into force on the 5th July, 1948, have had important effects on the set-up of the Public Health Department and its work.

The Borough of Aldershot, which was a Part III authority, prior to the Education Act, 1944, has had delegation powers for the purpose of Maternity and Child Welfare since 1930. It is, therefore, with some degree of regret that we have handed over this section of the work for which the Borough has been responsible, in which we could show the greatest development and in which we took the keenest pride. The Maternity and Child Welfare Service of the Borough was, it is freely granted, a small one but, nevertheless, it was efficient and it had the personal touch. Each family's problem was soon heard at every level in the Service and immediate action could be taken to alleviate hardship. A considerable measure of voluntary service developed throughout the Town in the form of the Aldershot Maternity and Child Welfare Voluntary Committee, and much good work has been carried out in the past. It is to be hoped that this interest will be maintained now that the controlling authority is removed from the Borough.

The Borough Council has also handed over, with regret, the up-to-date and well-designed Infectious Diseases Hospital, which was opened in 1937. In this branch of the Service, however, it must be admitted that the hand-over has been greatly in the interests of the Service to which the Hospital was devoted. Its link-up with the General Hospitals of the area and the Laboratory Services will undoubtedly add to the efficiency of the Service.

As things stand, after the 5th July, 1948, therefore, the following services are listed showing the new controlling authority. The order in which they appear is taken from my previous Annual Report :—

Service.	*Controlling Authority.*
Laboratory Facilities	Public Health Laboratory Service Medical Research Council.
Ambulance Facilities	Hampshire County Council.
Nursing in the Home	Hampshire County Council.
Hospitals—Aldershot General, Maternity, Unit and Infectious Diseases Hospital.	South-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.
Ante Natal Clinics	Hampshire County Council.
Domiciliary Midwifery Service.	Hampshire County Council.
Consulting Clinic.	South-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.
In-Patient Maternity Treatment	South-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.
Infant Life Protection	**Hampshire County Council (Children's Officer).**
Dental Treatment	Hampshire County Council.
Health Visitors	Hampshire County Council.
Sanitary Control of the Area	Aldershot Borough Council.
Diphtheria Immunization	Hampshire County Council (Aldershot Borough Council acting as Agent).
Cleansing Centre	Aldershot Borough Council.
Home Help Service	Hampshire County Council (Aldershot Borough Council acting as Agent).
Housing	Aldershot Borough Council.
Food Hygiene	Aldershot Borough Council.
Industrial Hygiene	Aldershot Borough Council.
Day Nursery	Hampshire County Council (Aldershot Borough Council acting as Agent).

Reference to this list will simplify the problem for many members of the Council in finding out which authority is responsible for any particular section of the work previously administered by the Aldershot Borough Council. It is pleasing to record that during the year no major crisis developed either epidemiologically or administratively. The hand-over of the various parts of the Service enumerated above on the 5th July, 1948, occurred smoothly mainly because your staff carried on in the absence of instructions to the contrary until the new authority had taken over.

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 1948.

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, 1948

VITAL STATISTICS

Estimated population for mid-year 1948	25,780
(*Excluding Military personnel*)	

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

Total population of Aldershot as at December 31st, 1948	28,724
Number of children in age-group 0—5 years ..	3,033
Number of children in age-group 5—18 years ..	5,391

Number of available houses	6,143
Number of houses with shops	360
Number of Licensed Premises	79
Rateable value (December 1948)	£295,839

Acreage — Civil 1,432 — South Camp 2,746 — Total :—4,178

LIVE BIRTHS (*Excluding South Camp*)	*Male*	*Female*	*Total*
Legitimate	341	334	675
Illegitimate..	16	17	33
Total	357	351	708
STILLBIRTHS			
Legitimate	7	4	11
Illegitimate	–	–	–
Total	7	4	11

Birth Rate per 1,000 Live Births of the Town Population (*Comparability factor not available for 1948*)	25.5

DEATHS (*Excluding South Camp*)	*Male*	*Female*	*Total*
Deaths	140	122	262
Death Rate	..	..	9.4
Infantile Deaths	..	..	22
Infantile Death Rate	..	..	31.1

Principal Causes of Death. Total :—262

Heart Disease ..	86	Congenital Malformations	7
Cancer	47	Pneumonia	3
Cerebral Lesions ..	23	Road Accidents and other Violent Causes	8
Bronchitis	12	Nephritis	8
Premature Births ..	9	Suicide	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	9	Syphilitic Diseases ..	1
Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	2	Whooping Cough ..	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	4	Diabetes	1
Other Circulatory Diseases	8	All other causes ..	30

HOSPITALS PROVIDED AND SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY OR OTHERWISE

General

Aldershot Hospital (50 beds).

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).

Louise Margaret Hospital (Military only).

Infectious Diseases

Aldershot Civil Isolation Hospital (50 beds).

Military Isolation Hospital (Military only).

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

Ante Natal Clinic—Statistics—Jan. 1st to July 5th, 1948

No. of mothers who attended the clinic	207
No. of Attendances	896
Average attendance per session	27

Midwives Practising in Aldershot during 1948

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

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

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

NURSE L. KERNICK, 48 Sandford Road, Aldershot (up to June 1st).

NURSE F. KITSON, 127a Gloucester Road, Aldershot (from June 1st).

Ante Natal Clinics

The Clinics continue their work at the Manor Park House with two sessions weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 p.m. The work at the Tuesday clinic is carried out by Dr. L. W. B. Dobbin, of Fraynes Croft, Fleet, and that of the Thursday clinic by Dr. H. J. C. Page, of Lindum House, Eggars Hill, Aldershot.

Consulting Clinic—Ante Natal

A consulting clinic is held by the Medical Director of the Maternity Unit by appointment on Wednesday mornings at the Maternity Unit.

The Staff of the Maternity Unit is as follows :—

Medical Director ..	MAJOR D. A. D. KENNEDY, M.C.
Medical Officers ..	DRS. PAGE, DOBBIN and TIPLER.
Anæsthetists	DRS. WOOLLATT and TIPLER.
Sister-in-Charge ..	MISS J. E. GARRETT.

Maternity Unit

Record of work done during 1948 :—

Origin of Case	*No. of cases*	*No. of days maintenance*	*Average duration of stay*	
			Normal	*Abnormal*
Civil Borough	193	2,606	12 days	14 or 21 days
County Council	52	995	,,	,,
Private Ward	51	684	,,	,,
Civil Outside Borough	3	35	,,	,,

Further classification showing the type of work undertaken :—

Origin of case	*Total*	*Normal*	*Abnormal*	*Result—Child*		*Result—Mother*	
				Dis.	*Died*	*Dis.*	*Died*
Civil Borough	193	126	67	182	7	193	—
County Council	52	17	35	52	1	52	—
Private Ward	51	40	11	48	3	51	—
Civil Outside Borough	3	1	2	3	—	3	—

Infant Life Protection

Number of Foster-mothers registered (at July 5th, 1948)	9
Number of Foster-children in Town at July 5th ..	13

Health Visiting—Statistics, January 1st to July 5th, 1948

Number of visits paid :—

To Expectant Mothers	120
To children under 1 year	656
To children 1—5 years	792
	1,568

Child Welfare Statistics—January 1st to July 5th, 1948

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

Under 1 year of age	216
Over 1 year of age	7

Number of attendances between January 1st and July 5th, 1948 :—

Under 1 year of age	3,560
Over 1 year of age	1,215

Diphtheria Immunization

The following statistics show work done during 1948 :—

Children who were immunized while under 1 year	12
Children who were immunized between 1 to 5 years ..	388
Children who were immunized between 5 to 14 years ..	71
TOTAL ..	471

Number of " Refresher " doses given during 1948 :—

Children between 5 to 14 years	229

Attention is drawn to the fact that no case of Diphtheria was recorded during the year 1948.

Cleansing Centre

No change has been made in the arrangements for running the Cleansing Centre in Laburnum Road. The number of cases is as follows :—

Number of Scabies cases from Aldershot during 1948 ..	27
Number of Scabies cases from Outlying Districts—1948	5
Number of Verminous Head cases from Aldershot—1948	62
Number of Verminous Head cases from Outlying Districts	22

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS (at December 31st, 1948).

Description.	*Purpose.*	*Where held*	*Times.*	*By whom held*
Child Welfare Centres	Child Welfare	Manor Park House	Mondays, 2 p.m. Fridays, 2 p.m.	Hampshire County Council
Ante-Natal Clinics	Examination and supervision of Expectant Mothers	Manor Park House	Tuesdays, 2 p.m. (Dr. Dobbin) Thursdays 2 p.m. (Dr. Page)	Hampshire County Council
Diphtheria Immunization	Protection of children against Diphtheria	Manor Park House	1st Wednesday in month 2 p.m.	Hampshire County Council (Aldershot Borough Counci acting as agent).
Minor Ailments Clinic	Treatment of Minor Ailments	School Clinic	Every morning at 9.30 a.m.	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Dental Clinic	Dental Treatment of School Children	School Clinic	Morning and afternoon sessions—weekdays	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Ophthalmic Clinic	Examination of ophthalmic cases and prescription of spectacles	School Clinic	1st, and 3rd Friday in month	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Orthopædic Clinic	Examination and supervision of muscle joint defects	Alternate months at School Clinic and St. Mark's Church Rooms, Farnboro'	1st Tuesday in each month	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority
Remedial Exercises Clinic	Treatment of Orthopædic cases	Alternate months at School Clinic and St. Mark's Church Rooms, Farnboro'	Tuesdays and Fridays, 10 to 5 p.m.	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Child Guidance	Child Guidance	School Clinic	Wednesdays, 10 to 5 p.m.	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Speech Therapy	Correction of speech defects	School Clinic	Tuesdays, Thursdays 9.30 to 4.30 p.m.	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Scabies and Cleansing Centre	Treatment of Scabies and other verminous conditions	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
Venereal Disease Clinic	Treatment of Venereal Diseases	Manor Park House	*Males.* Mondays, 5—7 *Females.* Wednesdays, (Morning and afternoon sessions)	Hampshire County Council
Women's Welfare Clinic	Birth Control	Transferred temporarily to :— 6 Dapdune Crescent, Woodbridge Road, Guildford.	1st and 2nd Wednesdays in month 2—4.30 p.m.	

Incidence and Control over Infectious Diseases

Infectious Diseases notified during 1948 (Excluding South Camp) :—

Measles	438	Pneumonia ..	3
Scarlet Fever ..	19	Erysipelas ..	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	31	Whooping Cough ..	118
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	8	Puerperal Pyrexia	5
		Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3

The very great increase in the number of cases of Measles and Whooping Cough were the main features for comment in the Infectious Diseases rates for 1948. The peak of Measles cases occurred in the month of September but the complication rate was extremely low. Similarly with the cases of Whooping Cough where the complication rate was also extremely low although it was noteworthy that a number of cases of Whooping Cough occurred in children in the first year of life—a much lower age of onset than many people would appear to realize.

Civil Isolation Hospital

The record of work for 1948 is shown in the Table opposite.

Owing to the limitation of the admission of cases from prescribed areas and to notifiable Infectious Diseases only, the admissions were restricted. With the Hospital passing into the care of the South West Metropolitan Regional Board this restriction will no longer exist and the Hospital's new role will be one of supporting the other Hospitals in the area and admitting all cases in which there is an infective element whether notifiable or not. The Hospital, therefore, can look forward to playing an ever-increasing part in the in-patient treatment facilities of the area which will, undoubtedly, increase its work considerably.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water

The water supply of this area was fully described in my report 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.

I am indebted to the General Manager of the Mid-Southern Utility Company for the following information which is submitted on the lines set out in the Ministry of Health Circular 3/49 dated 17th January, 1949 :—

(*a*) The water supply of the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory in quality and quantity

Aldershot Civil Isolation Hospital—Record of Work—1948

Area	Scarlet Fever.	Erysipelas	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Measles.	Measles (complicated)	Whooping Cough	Whooping Cough (complicated)	Mumps	Gastro-Enteritis	Tonsillitis	Pemphigus	Septic Feet	Typhoid	Observation Cases (Diagnosis not confirmed)	Totals.
Aldershot	11	2	—	2	1	4	3	4	1	5	1	1	—	9	44
Farnborough	21	—	2	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	34
Fleet	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Frimley and Camberley ..	7	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	11
Basingstoke	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Hartley Wintney	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8
														Final Total	102

(*b*) Bacteriological examinations—Raw Water 23, District samples 23 were made. Only one of these which was a raw water sample on December 30th showed B. Coli present to the extent of 1/100 c.c. There was no case of B. Welchii being present. Routine chemical analyses made by this Company as apart from those made by Local Authorities were one of the chalk water and one of the L.G.S. water which showed no change in the characteristics of the water

(*c*) Waters supplied have no plumbo-solvent action

(*d*) No case of contamination arose

(*e*) The number of domestic premises connected at year ending December 31st last was 6,103 which is estimated to represent a population of approximately 31,515. According to our records there are no premises supplied by standpipe.

Hardness of Water

Regular analyses have been carried out in order to chart the hardness of water in the Borough. The following results have been obtained and are given in parts per 100,000 :—

JANUARY	24.8	JULY	25.2
FEBRUARY	24.6	AUGUST	24.4
MARCH	25.8	SEPTEMBER	25.2
APRIL	24.8	OCTOBER	25.4
MAY	23.2	NOVEMBER	23.8
JUNE	22.2	DECEMBER	23.8

There is a growing feeling in the Town that some attempt should be made to soften the water supply. From the medical point of view it has been stated that no health problem is involved in a town where the water supply does not exceed hardness such as that shown throughout the year in Aldershot. Economically and from a Trade point of view, no doubt, this problem is a real one and in this connection discussions took place with the Mid Southern Utility Company and the Army Authorities regarding the use of Sodium Hexametaphosphate in the bulk supply which is supplied to military lands with a view to reducing the scale deposit on pipes and tanks. A notification was made to the various Medical Officers of Health involved and the position was kept under observation. So far, no criticisms have been received which would lead to the view that the use of this substance affected health.

Drainage and Sewerage

This area being a small, compact Borough, has no drainage or sewerage problems. In fact there is every reason to believe that

an adjoining rural district may connect up with the Borough Council's Sewage Disposal Works and so improve the Drainage and Sewerage of the adjoining parts of the rural district concerned.

Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948

No instance arose during the year whereby action was required under this section of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

FOOD HYGIENE

Prior to 1948 the Aldershot Borough Council as advised by their Public Health Department fully appreciated the importance and necessity for a high standard of cleanliness and hygiene generally in regard to the production and handling of food for human consumption. In 1948 a Public Meeting was held which received the fullest support from the Borough Council and was much publicised amongst the Food Traders of the Area. As a result the Aldershot Hygienic Food Traders Guild was formed in 1948 with the specific task of promoting a high standard of hygiene amongst the Food Traders. The Guild, formed from amongst the Traders themselves with the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Sanitary Inspector as Joint Secretaries, received an enthusiastic send-off and financial support was given to the extent of £50 p.a. from the Borough Council to defray administration expenses. Meetings are held regularly in the Municipal Buildings which are well attended by the representatives of the various Food Traders concerned.

Under the specific headings outlined in Ministry of Food Circular No. 12/49, the replies are as follows :—

1. Lectures or Classes for Food Traders or their Employees

Lectures have been given and will continue to be given by the Medical Officer of Health to the employees of Multiple Stores. So far it has only been possible to organise these lectures in such Multiple Stores where sufficient members can be collected to justify the lecture.

2. Exhibitions

A Clean Food Exhibition was held at the West End Schools, Aldershot, on the 25th January, 1949, in conjunction with a Public Meeting which was addressed by Sir William Savage, M.D. This Meeting received the most favourable mention in the Press and caused interesting discussion in the Town, and was unanimously claimed as a most successful affair which it is hoped to repeat in the near future. Much co-operation was received from the Army School of Hygiene,

Mytchett, near Aldershot, and the local Education Authority as well as many other interested bodies too numerous to mention. His Worship the Mayor attended and the Chair was taken by General Sir Robert Haining, K.C.B., D.S.O., Chairman, Farnham Group Hospital Management Committee, Chart House, Ash Vale, near Aldershot.

3. Lectures, etc., for the General Public including Local Women's Organisations

Lectures are given at regular intervals by the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Sanitary Inspector to the Women Citizens Organisations

4. Formation of Clean Food Guilds, etc.

The Aldershot Hygienic Food Traders Guild was formed early in 1948, as stated above, and is administered through an Advisory Committee consisting of 4 members of the Health Committee of the Borough Council and 14 Trade representatives. We are indebted to His Worship the Mayor of Aldershot for permission to use the Town Coat-of-Arms thereon.

5. Formulation of Local Codes of Practice

Codes of Practice have been formulated, as advised by the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Sanitary Inspector. These have been printed and circulated to all traders and have been commented on favourably by Sir William Savage during his visit here.

6. Any other Relevant Activities

Further lectures to Traders are contemplated and a further Public Meeting is arranged for the 22nd September, 1949 at which it is hoped that films and an address by a Speaker from the Central Council for Health Education as well as Health exhibits will be features of the programme.

It has been requested that some estimate of the relevant effectiveness of the above activities should be given. Apart from the personal observations and opinions based on contact with Traders and the General Public it would be difficult to justify or substantiate any statements. However, effectiveness can be claimed under two headings :—

1. Prevention of Physical Disease and
2. Maintenance of morale in the presence of an outbreak.

Under the first heading 3 cases of food poisoning have been investigated since 1948 and no secondary cases have occurred. While the Town experienced a fairly severe outbreak of food poisoning in 1947 there has been no instance of other than a few cases, which were soon brought under control, since that date.

In the course of our investigations we are impressed by the co-operation and appreciation shown for our efforts both by the Traders and the General Public.

Under the second heading it will be appreciated that considerable alarm is generated when an outbreak or even a rumour of food poisoning occurs. The existence of any active body whose work it is to combat such outbreaks must fulfil the very special purpose of steadying public morale in the presence of such an occurrence. To sum up, therefore, it is felt that the activities outlined above are fully justified and are considered well worth while in the present state of our knowledge and as legislation dealing with the control, handling and distribution of foodstuffs, at present, stands.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR MRS. N. P. BENNETT-SNELL, C.C.

Members of Council :

His Worship the MAYOR (ALDERMAN G. ROBERTS, J.P.).
COUNCILLOR W. G. EDDY.
COUNCILLOR R. L. HOPPER.

Trade Representatives :

COUNCILLOR F. STAY	Bakers
MR. H. VINSON	Butchers
MR. W. R. SMITH	Fishmongers
MR. J. GAUDERN	Multiple Traders
MR. W. J. JORDAN	Dairymen
MR. E. H. PIERCE	Grocers
MR. J. THOMPSON	Licensed Victuallers
MR. T. H. DAY	Caterers
MR. H. J. HUNT	Caterers
MR. G. SARGEANT	Chamber of Commerce
MR. FARRINGTON	Fish Fryers
COUNCILLOR H. T. REEVES ..	Fish Fryers and London and Home Counties Fish Fryers Association
MR. G. E. PLAYLE	Co-Operative Society Ltd.

Joint Hon. Secretaries :

DR. J. CRAIG LINDSAY	Medical Officer of Health
W. E. ROBERTS	Chief Sanitary Inspector

Health Education Propaganda.

The year's work was along the generally accepted lines, but space is becoming more and more available in the *Municipal Chronicle* for Health topics. This small and easily read journal is circulated by the Borough Council throughout the area free of charge and is a most favourable medium for the distribution of health information. It is proposed to increase the contributions on suitable subjects.

Day Nursery

The work was continued throughout the year. There are sixty places for children of suitable ages, and a Nursery Class for the 2—5 years age groups was carried on by arrangement and in conjunction with the Local Education Committee.

The following statistics are given :—

	Number.	*Number of approved places.*		*Number of children on the register at the end of the year.*	
		0—2 yrs.	*2—5 yrs.*	*0—2 yrs.*	*2—5 yrs.*
Nurseries maintained by the Council	1	16	44	16	43

Industrial Hygiene

No problems of any importance arose during the year in connection with this subject. The area is non-industrial, although, in accordance with the policy of the Council, to attract industry to the area, factories chiefly Messrs. Timothy Whites & Taylors Ltd., Manufacturing Chemists, and Messrs. Thomas Christie, Ladies' Cosmetics, H. Comoy Ltd., and Godalming Skins and Furs, will shortly be in full employment.

These buildings are, as one would expect, modern in design and lay-out. Thus from the environmental point of view, conditions are satisfactory. As far as the workers themselves are concerned, close liaison is maintained with the Certifying Factory Surgeon. The work of the Aldershot Hygienic Food Traders Guild has already been referred to, but in all trades, health education would fulfil a useful function and, it is considered, would influence the individual more if presented from the work angle. There is evidence that the more progressive firms are performing useful work in this respect and that the problem will be the small firm or trader.

The following statistics refer, and are taken from the return requested by the Minister of Labour & National Service, under the Factories Act, 1937 :—

1. **Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors) :—

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of Inspections (4)	Number of Written notices (5)	Number of Occupiers prosecuted (6)	M/c line No. (7)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	1	69	98	4	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	2	—	—	—	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—	—	3
TOTAL ..	6	69	98	4	—	6

2.—Cases in which **Defects** were found :—

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	2	2	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (*a*) insufficient ..	9	—	—	—	—	—	9
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective ..	10	2	2	—	—	—	10
(*c*) Not separate for sexes ..	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL ..	60	4	4	—	—	—	60

Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	M/c line No.	Section 110			Section 111			M/c line No.
		No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (*c*)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Wearing apparel— Making, etc.	13	4	—	—	—	—	—	13
Cleaning and washing	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Household linen ..	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
Lace, lace curtains and nets ..	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	16
Headings	17 to 44	NIL						17 to 44

HOUSING

The record of housing as follows is shown by courtesy of the Borough Surveyor's Department and the Borough Treasurer's Department :—

Houses etc., Completed during 1948

Month 1948	Houses completed by L.A.	Houses completed by private enterprise	Conversions or adaptions of properties to provide flats		Pre-Fab. Houses
			By L.A.	By P.E.	
January	18	—	—	11	—
February	10	2	—	—	—
March	—	5	—	3	—
April	29	4	—	—	—
May	16	5	—	—	—
June	14	1	—	—	—
July	22	1	—	—	—
August	14	—	—	—	—
September	14	—	—	—	—
October	14	2	—	—	—
November	12	—	—	—	—
December	14	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	177	20	Nil	14	Nil

Demand

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

Single Persons	23
Married persons with no children	341
Married persons with 1 child	467
Married persons with 2 children	240
Married persons with 3 children	67
Married persons with 4 children	27
Married persons with 5 children	26
Married persons with 6 children	8
Married persons with 7 children	3
Aged Couples	7
Widows	9
TOTAL ..	1,218

Policy

The liaison which exists between the Health and Housing Departments (the latter being a section of the Borough Treasurer's Department) remains close and co-operative. Every help is received from that Department and it is hoped every assistance is given towards solving some of the most difficult problems which have had to be faced by a Local Authority. These problems are rendered more difficult by reason of the fact that one is brought into such close contact with the amount of suffering, discomfort and frayed nerves amongst poeple who are living in such overcrowded conditions.

It is not proposed to stress these difficulties further because every member of the Council is acutely conscious, not only of the difficulties, but also of the pathetic procession of applicants who strive to put their case before official and Councillor alike.

As in previous years, the role of the Health Department is to endeavour to sort out those cases in which it is thought that there is an immediate danger to health—to take the short term view rather than the long term view which is the function of the Housing Department as the Housing Authority.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Number and Nature of Inspections :—

Dwelling houses

Inspections	1,407
Re-inspections	2,625

Number of Visits to :—

Complaints received	426
Overcrowding	79
Infectious Diseases	66
Scabies Contacts	17
Drainage Inspection and Tests	118
Tents, Vans and Sheds	4
Stables and Piggeries	2
Factories, Workplaces	98
Outworkers Rooms	3
Theatres, Cinemas, Etc.	6
Shops Acts	324
Vacant Land and Dumps	3
Common Yards and Passages	4
Interviews with Owners, Etc.	338
Verminous Premises or Rooms	157
Houses Disinfected	26
Houses Let in Lodgings	11
Bathing Pool	14
Works in Progress	387
Rats and Mice Infestation (Rats 185, Mice 316)	501
Housing Committee Visits	491
Food Poisoning Cases	1
Miscellaneous Visits	578
Slaughterhouses	386
Bakehouses	28
Licensed Premises	131
Butchers' Shops and Stalls	222
Fishmongers and Poulterers	64
Grocers and Other Shops	351
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	97
Fried Fish Shops	41
Dairies and Milkshops	34
Ice Cream Premises	300
Restaurant and Dining Rooms	181
Schools and School Kitchens	32
Public Market & Food Stalls	21
Street Hawkers and Vendors	28
Ice Cream Samples Taken	233
Milk Samples Taken	344
Water Samples Taken	41

Nuisances and Other Matters dealt with

Foul Drains, W.C.'s opened and cleared	61
Accumulations of Noxious Matters	6
Nuisances arising from Keeping of Animals	4
Verminous Houses	90
Dustbins Renewed	456
Smoke or Grit Nuisance	4
Pigeon Nuisance	1

Principal Structural Improvements carried out

Premises Installed with New Drainage	8
Drain Inspection Chambers Provided	4
Yards Paved or Repaired	4
New Water Supply Installed	3
New Sanitary Accommodation Provided	3
New W.C. Pans Fitted	35
W.C's. put in Order	55
New Sinks Fitted	11
Sink and Bath Wastepipes Repaired or Renewed	27
New Soil and Ventilating Shafts	4
Water Supply re-installed	7
New Gully Traps provided	2

Houses Improved

Roofs Repaired	135
Rainwater Downpipes Repaired or Renewed	25
Eaves Guttering Repaired or Renewed	48
New Windows Provided	2
Walls and Ceiling Plaster Renewed	274
Walls and Ceilings Cleansed (Rooms)	108
Scullery Floors Reformed	18
Other Floors Reformed	103
Skirting Boards Repaired	2
Firegrates Repaired or Renewed	34
Cooking Ranges Repaired or Renewed	37
Washing Coppers Repaired or Renewed	16
Hearths Repaired	5
Windows Repaired and made to Open	184
Window Sills Repaired	4
Doors Repaired	49
Door Steps Repaired	1
Stairs Retreaded	5
Handrails Provided	5
Walls Repointed	7
Damp Walls Remedied	99
Chimneys Repaired or Renewed	13

Food Premises Improved

Floors Relaid	7
Floors Repaired	4
Wall Plaster Repaired	9
Ceiling Plaster Repaired	5
Roofs Underlined	3
Windows, Doors, etc. Repaired or Renewed	1
Rooms Redecorated	59
Refrigerators Redecorated	2
Yards Relaid or Repaired	3
Extra Natural Light Provided	3
Extra Ventilation Provided	3
Other Structural Repairs	10
Sinks Fitted or Renewed	11
Constant Supply of Hot Water Provided	16
W.C.'s Repaired	3
W.C.'s Redecorated	4
Intervening Ventilated Space Provided to W.C.'s	1
Drains laid	1

Number of Notices served during the Year

Informal	942
Statutory Public Health Act, 1936, Section 75	15
" " " " " " 93	6

ADMINISTRATION OF THE ACTS AND BYELAWS RELATING TO HOUSING

Unhealthy Areas

(1) Clearance Areas	—
(2) Improvement Areas	—

Number of Houses owned by Local Authority

(1) Under the Housing Act, 1936	639
(2) Other Powers	411

Number of Houses Erected during the Year

(1) By Local Authority	182
(2) By Other Bodies or Persons	20

HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Inspection of Dwelling houses during the Year

(1) (*a*) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	286
(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose	758
(2) (*a*) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected under the Housing Acts	—
(*b*) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	—

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 4

(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 286

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 256

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

(*a*) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .. .. —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice .. .. ..

(*a*) By Owners .. .. —

(*b*) By Local Authority in default of Owners .. —

(*b*) Proceedings under Public Health Act :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. 21

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(*a*) By Owners 21

(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners .. —

(*c*) Proceedings under Section 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses of which demolition orders were given 4

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders 4

(*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 .. —

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenant or room having been rendered fit .. —

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 25

Number of cases where bedding was subjected to Steam Disinfection and Disinfestation 118

VERMIN INFESTATION CONTROL

(a) Rodent Destruction

Rodent destruction was again actively carried out and the good work has been maintained by the Council's Operator. A few major infestations occurred but the majority of new infestations were of a minor character and treatments carried out by methods laid down by the Ministry were highly successful. Advice is freely given to poultry-keepers on the rat-proofing of runs and buildings. Corporation Refuse Tips and Salvage Sheds were subjected to periodical treatment.

The following table is a summary of action taken :—

Complaints received were	501
Premises found to be infested	210
Visits for baiting and extermination	2,119
Premises cleared of infestation	1,773
Amount charged in respect of disinfestation work	£19. 6s. 0d.

Rodent Treatment of the Sewers

Two additional labourers assisted the Rodent Operator during the period of sewer disinfestation. The district was divided into 7 areas, 306 manholes were inspected and baited on the first treatment. Further inspection revealed that 123 manholes required a second treatment.

North east Hants Workable Area for Rodent Control

The area comprises of Aldershot, Farnborough, Hartley Wintney and Fleet District in conjunction with the local Army and Air Force Authorities. Each district is represented by a member of a Local Authority and Sanitary Inspector. Quarterly meetings are held in the respective districts, when technical matters and problems arising in various districts are discussed.

(b) Disinfestation of Premises

During the year 97 complaints of verminous premises were received and 97 premises comprising 198 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.

Swimming Baths.

Regular and frequent samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination during the open season, from the Town Swimming Pool and Kiddies' Paddling Pool, and the results were extremely satisfactory.

Schools.

A detailed inspection and report was submitted of all Sanitary Accommodation, Washing Facilities and kitchens of schools within the Borough.

Common Lodging Houses.

There is one Common Lodging House in the District and regular visits have been paid throughout the year.

Smoke Abatement.

Nuisances have been caused by grit emission from two Laundries in the district. This was due to the burning of coke-breeze and the necessary representations were made to the Ministry of Fuel, which resulted in the allocation of suitable boiler fuel to the firms concerned.

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Factories, Factories (No Mechanical Power) and Workplaces

No. of Factories on Register	69
No. of Factories on Register (no mechanical power) ..	10
No. of Factories, Factories (no mechanical power) and workplaces inspected during the year	98
No. of Outworkers Premises visited	4
No. inspected and found satisfactory	65
No. inspected and found unsatisfactory	4

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

Milk and Dairies Acts and Order, etc.

Registered Purveyors	47
Registered Cowkeepers	1

With the exception of a small quantity, all milk sold in this area is subjected to heat-treatment.

All schools are supplied with "Pasteurised Milk" which is sampled weekly.

During the year 223 samples of "Pasteurised" milk were obtained and submitted for examination.

218, Satisfactory. 5, Unsatisfactory.

121 samples of "Heat-Treated" milk were taken and submitted for examination, of which 15 were unsatisfactory, the remainder passing the prescribed test.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936—1946

The following table shows the number of designated milk licences granted during the year :—

Tuberculin Tested Milk :—

Supplementary Licences	2
Bottling Licences	1

Pasteurised Milk :—

Dealers' Licences	1
Supplementary Licences	2

MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE CREAM

During the year, the premises at which Ice Cream was manufactured and sold, have been kept under rigid supervision, 298 visits being paid to this class of premises and 233 samples submitted for examination.

The number of Premises on the Register :—

Manufacturers ..	4
Vendors	43

Summary of Results

	Grade			
Samples Taken ..	*1*	*2*	*3*	*4*
233	182	30	10	11

BAKEHOUSES

There are 11 Bakehouses on the Register, to which visits were paid during the year.

FOOD PREPARING AND DISTRIBUTING PREMISES.

Food Hygiene.—It was felt that in the town there was a need for stimulating the interests of the trader and public alike on Food Hygiene. Wholesale food could be produced if food handlers were taught to realize the importance of their work and observe clean habits. The nearest approach to solving the problem of food contamination was to concentrate efforts upon the question of health education, and secondly, the formation of a Hygienic Food Traders Guild, to encourage food traders and employees to improve the hygienic standard of foodstuffs sold, and to secure the co-operation of the general public as enthusiastic collaborators in this scheme.

A Food Traders Guild sponsored by the Council has been formed and an Advisory Committee appointed. Codes of Practice for various traders and employees have been decided upon, and each trader has been circulated with a booklet containing full particulars of the scheme, and details of what work would be required on his premises to qualify for membership, and employees given appropriate codes for employee membership.

The whole scheme is based upon the fullest co-operation between the Council and the trader, the employee and the public, and it is hoped that better results will be achieved by willing co-operation between the people concerned, than by statutory proceedings.

Although the scheme had not officially commenced at the end of the year, considerable interest was being displayed and many traders had effected extensive improvements to their premises in anticipation of becoming members of the Guild from the date of commencement.

SUPERVISION AND INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

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.

A regular system of meat inspection is carried out in accordance with the recommendations laid down in Memo. 62 (Food) and 386 visits were made during the year for this purpose. In common with many slaughterhouses throughout the country, there is lack of sufficient hanging and cooling space.

Much concern is felt with regard to the handling of unprotected meat during delivery, and the Ministries should take appropriate action in removing this grave cause of anxiety to the consuming public. In my opinion, the only satisfactory manner in which freshly-killed unwrapped meat can be transported, is by suspension upon rails in the transporting vehicles.

Particulars of diseased and unsound food condemned and disposed of during the year is as follows :—

Tuberculosis

Bovines

Carcases complete with offal	22
Forequarters ..	13
Livers	66
Lungs	271
Mesenteries	79
Heads and Tongues ..	223
Tripes	3
Hearts	5
Skirts	5
Spleens	6
Kidneys	5
Rumps	2
Caulfat	1
60 galls. Blood	

Pigs

Carcase complete with offal	1
Head	1
Plucks	2
Hearts	2
Lungs	1
Runners and Fat ..	1

Weight—13 tons, 4 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lb.

Other Diseases

Bovines

Carcase complete with offal	1
Forequarter	1
Hindquarter ..	1
Livers	806
Lungs	126
Heads and Tongues ..	12
Udders	43
Kidneys	15
Topsides	5
Thick Flanks ..	2
Silverside	1
Head	1
Hearts	4
Rumps	2
Leg	1
Aitchbone	1
Rand	1
Spleens	2
Shanks	1
Loins	11
Ribs and Flank ..	2
Part Livers	21
Trimmings	43 lb.

Calves

Carcases complete with offal	3
Head and Tongue	1
Feet	4

Sheep

Carcases complete with offal	3
Leg	1
Livers	210
Lungs	1
Plucks	14
Heads	3
Shanks	2
Guts	1
Middles	4
Necks	4

Pigs

Lungs	2
Hearts	2
Liver	1
Guts	6
Udder	1
Kidneys	2
Runners and Fat ..	2

Weight—7 tons, 5 cwt. 2 qrs. 5 lb.

Unsound Foodstuffs

Tins Foodstuffs (Misc.)	1,130	Biscuits	3 lb.
Tins Milk	1,021	Cake	28 lb.
Jars Foodstuffs (Misc.)	141	Chocolate	9 lb.
Jars Mixed Pickles ..	38	Mixed Sweets ..	55 lb.
Bottle Foodstuff (Misc.)	1	Sugar	244 lb.
Pkts. Foodstuffs (Misc.)	41	Cheese	6 lb.
Eggs	2,251	Pressed Beef ..	16 lb.
Haricot Beans ..	80 lb.	Scallops	3 lb.
Peas	92 lb.	Fish	853 lb.
Pears	552 lb.	Prawns	14 lb.
Prunes	30 lb.	Kippers	1,100 lb.
Apricots	21 lb.	Mussels	30 lb.
Mixed Cereals ..	145 lb.	Oysters	13 lb.
Crumpets	136 lb.		

Weight—2 tons, 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 3 lb.

NUMBER OF CARCASES

Class	*Slaughtered*	*Inspected*
Cattle	1,638	1,638
Calves ..	1,285	1,285
Sheep	2,656	2,656
Pigs	83	83

SUMMARY WEIGHT OF CONDEMNED FOOD

Beef	Tuberculosis Other Causes	29,504 lb. 15,211 lb.
Pigs	Tuberculosis Other Causes	174 lb. 350 lb.
Sheep	Tuberculosis Other Causes	— 595 lb.
Calves ..	Tuberculosis Other Causes	— lb. 145 lb.
TOTALS	Tuberculosis Other Causes	29,678 lb. 16,301 lb.

	lbs. or	*Tons.*	*Cwts.*	*Qrs.*	*lbs.*
Tuberculosis ..	29,678	13	4	3	26
Other Causes ..	16,301	7	5	2	5
Unsound Foodstuffs	6,471	2	17	3	3
GRAND TOTAL ..	52,450	23	8	1	6

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1938

The number of Slaughtermen on the register on 31st December, 1948, was 12

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

From information supplied by :—Mr. C. O. Perry, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures ; the following samples were taken within the Borough of Aldershot, during the year ending 31st March, 1949 :—

80 Samples of Milk.
10 Samples of Spirits.
33 Samples of Other Foods & Drugs.

The 80 samples of milk proved to contain an average of 3.64% Milk Fat, and 8.68% Non-Fatty Solids, and no sample was found to be adulterated.

Included in the 33 other samples mentioned, was a sample of sausage which was certified to contain only 25% of meat, this being 50% deficient of a standard laid down by the Ministry of Food. The matter was reported to the Ministry, who prosecuted, and the defendant was fined a total of £40 plus £8. 4s. 6d. Costs in connection with this offence.

SANITARY CONDITION OF PUBLIC HOUSES.

During the year 131 inspections were made concerning the sanitary condition of all licensed premises in the Borough, and a special report was submitted to the Health Committee. Improvements have been and are being carried out with regard to provision of sinks and water supply behind bars, alterations to existing W.C.'s and provision of additional conveniences for customers, etc.

The Local Authority in some instances undertake the maintenance of cleanliness of sanitary conveniences attached to licensed premises, where these are available to members of the public.

13th May, 1949.

John Drew
(Ptrs.) Ltd.
47794