

[Report 1956] / Medical Officer of Health, Aldershot Borough.

Contributors

Aldershot (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1956

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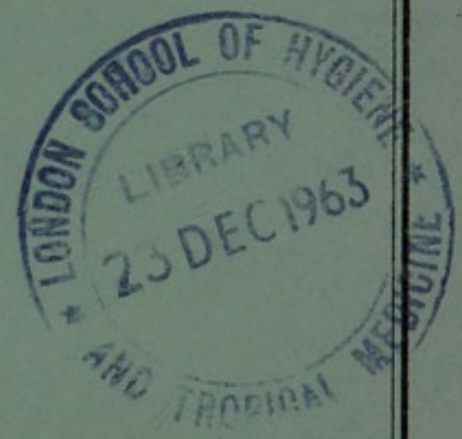
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BOROUGH OF ALDERSHOT



Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1956

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FOR THE YEAR 1956

INDEX

LIST OF COMMITTEE AND STAFF	...	...	...	...	3
INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH	...	...	...	...	4
VITAL STATISTICS	...	...	...	...	6
MATERNITY SERVICES SURVEY, 1956	...	...	...	...	10
INCIDENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE:—					
(a) INCIDENCE AND CONTROL	...	...	...	...	10
(b) HOSPITAL SERVICES	...	...	...	...	11
(c) TUBERCULOSIS	...	...	...	...	12
(d) IMMUNIZATION	...	...	...	...	13
(e) VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX	...	...	...	...	15
TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS	...	...	...	...	16
MORTUARY	...	...	...	...	18
FOOD HYGIENE	...	...	...	...	18
SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA:—					
(a) WATER SUPPLY	...	...	...	...	22
(b) HARDNESS OF WATER	...	...	...	...	22
(c) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE	...	...	...	...	23
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—SECTION 47	...	...	...	...	23
HOUSING:—					
(a) SLUM CLEARANCE	...	...	...	...	24
(b) HOUSES COMPLETED DURING 1956	...	...	...	...	24
(c) APPLICANTS ON WAITING LIST AT 31/12/56	...	...	...	...	25
INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948	...	...	...	...	26
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S SECTION	...	...	...	...	30

COMMITTEE CONCERNED WITH THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT, 1956

HEALTH COMMITTEE

His Worship the Mayor (ALDERMAN H. T. REEVES, J.P.)
(*ex officio Member of the Committee*)

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR MISS M. E. KEMP

ALDERMEN: MRS. N. P. BENNETT SNELL, W. G. EDDY, F. STAY, O.B.E.

COUNCILLORS: MRS. B. E. BALCHIN, S. N. CHRISMAS, L. W. GEORGE,
T. HODGSON, MISS S. R. JACKSON, MRS. M. R. PACKARD, MRS.
E. M. M. PARKER, COLONEL A. N. B. ODBERT, O.B.E.

CO-OPTED MEMBERS (District Health Sub-Committee): MRS. WARNER
BENNETT (representing the Aldershot Voluntary Welfare Association),
MRS. E. COOK (representing Stanhope and Wellington Lines Military
District Welfare Centres), MRS. P. RICHARDSON (representing British
Red Cross Society), MRS. F. W. TAYLOR (representing Aldershot Town
Maternal and Child Welfare Voluntary Committee), MRS. E. WHITE
(representing St. John Ambulance Brigade).

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT AT 31st DECEMBER, 1956

Medical Officer of Health:

Divisional School Medical Officer:

Physician Superintendent, Northfield Hospital:

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

Chief Public Health Inspector:

Meat and Food Inspector:

Shops Act Inspector:

Hackney Carriage Inspector:

W. E. ROBERTS, M.P.H.I.A.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

W. H. M. EDWARDS, M.P.H.I.A.

J. H. CROTTY, M.P.H.I.A.

Chief Clerk:

A. C. AYLESBURY

Clerical Assistants:

MISS G. LODGE, MRS. E. E. SHELLEY

Rodent Operator:

W. H. MCGOWAN

THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF ALDERSHOT

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I wish to present this Annual Report for your acceptance. It is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

It has been my practice to comment, in this introduction, on any special event or development affecting the public health of the town. The incidence of epidemic disease has been extremely low and thus the classic role of the Public Health Department was uncalled for although the degree of vigilance which requires to be maintained in accordance with modern standards is higher than ever.

The first feature which is worthy of comment is the increase in the infantile death rate from 25.1 to 31.6 per thousand live births. While it would be wrong to assume too much from such a small statistical return which is provided by the 603 live births—a figure which remains more or less constant throughout the years in this Borough—it is interesting to note and analyse the list of causes of death which contribute to this infant mortality rate which is higher than that of the country generally. The presence of two large maternity units in the town covering a wide area has no bearing on the figure as the infantile mortality rate has been corrected to apply only to mothers residing in the Borough at the time. It would also be true to say that many of these mothers have only passing residence in the town and furthermore, looking at the actual causes of death, none of them could in any way be attributed to factors arising from their stay in this Borough.

As has been known for a number of years, the main cause of death in these babies is prematurity or associated conditions which develop from factors arising before the time of confinement. A list of causes of infantile death is shown on page 9 which appears later in this Report and from it will be seen the fact that by far the majority died within a matter of days and sometimes hours of birth. In this connection, I am glad to be able to report that I attended, as a member of the Hospital Management Committee, a conference of Hospital and Local Authority representatives held at Northfield Hospital to study the adequate provision of ante-natal care related to the toxæmias of pregnancy and make recommendations. I am also concerned in the development of the hospital plan for maternity beds in the area and increased provision can be hoped for in the near future.

The table (I) at page 10 will show that the Public Health Department maintained interest in the maternity services of the area whether provided by the Regional Hospital Board or Local Authority and everything is done in this department to contribute to their smooth working and efficiency within their local limitations.

Another feature of public health work which was called into play under rather unusual circumstances arose from the sudden influx of Hungarian refugees into the town, which began on the 23rd November, 1956, and continued thereafter for some two to three months. This development, resulting from the international situation, called for a great effort on the part of the Public Health Department with their primary responsibility to guard against the importation of infectious and contagious disease. This responsibility was not lessened by reason of the fact that the only accommodation available in the first instance was old barrack accommodation which had not been used for some years. While the main brunt of the work fell on the British Red Cross Society with their voluntary helpers, the general responsibility remained with the Public Health Department and the satisfactory results proved that our joint efforts were eminently successful. Various crises were met and coped with on the medical, hygiene and sanitation aspects of the problem and I am glad to say that the whole operation was conducted by all concerned, in a highly satisfactory manner. The methods which were employed to deal with the various situations were a good example of the "pooling" of military and civil hygiene resources and provided many useful lessons for the future. Few areas in this country can have had much recent practical experience of the mass movement of civilian refugees, but the experience of the day-to-day problems which arose, will not be forgotten. When one thinks of the many agencies at work and the various voluntary bodies involved with no disciplined chain of command, it will be realised that out of what might well have been chaotic conditions, there emerged a working basis during which many thousands of refugees were received in various stages of fatigue and mental upset not to mention their physical injuries and disease. All were accommodated, fed, bathed and their clothing supplemented while their general morale was raised and there were few unpleasant incidents. All the refugees passed on to their reception areas in a reasonably fit standard of health and morale, except those admitted to hospital, who later rejoined their friends.

It would be wrong to conclude these few remarks on this incident without paying tribute to the close working association which exists in this Department with the Army Medical Services. Both worked as a joint team—a policy which I hope will always continue and which will pay handsome dividends in any abnormal circumstances which might arise in the future.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. CRAIG LINDSAY,

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1956

VITAL STATISTICS

Estimated population for mid-year 1956 (including non-civilian)	...	...	...	...	...	38,670
Comparability factor—Births	...	...	...	...	...	1.09
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	1.63

LIVE BIRTHS					Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	296	280	576
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	14	13	27
Total	...	...	...	...	310	293	603

STILLBIRTHS							
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	6	6	12
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total	...	...	...	...	6	6	12

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE							
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	10	7	17
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Total	...	...	...	...	12	7	19

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE							
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	9	7	16
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total	...	...	...	...	9	7	16

Crude Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	...	15.6
Birth Rate (corrected with Comparability Factor)	...	...	...	...	...	17.0
Crude Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	7.1
Death Rate (corrected with Comparability Factor)	...	...	...	...	...	11.6
Infantile Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	31.6

Number of domestic houses and flats at 31/3/57	...	6,740
Number of commercial premises	...	833
Number of licensed premises (excluding Off-Licences)	...	53
Rateable Value (March, 1957)	...	£595,114
Acreage: Civil, 1,431; S. Camp, 2,745; Total, 4,176.		

CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH
ACCORDING TO DISEASE

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	1	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	2	—	2
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	2	4	6
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	9	3	12
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	1	3	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	4	4
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	11	21
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	2	—	2
16. Diabetes	2	1	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	19	27
18. Coronary disease, angina	19	16	35
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	1	2
20. Other heart disease	21	26	47
21. Other circulatory disease	10	6	16
22. Influenza	1	2	3
23. Pneumonia	6	2	8
24. Bronchitis	12	9	21
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	1	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa ...	—	2	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	2	—	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	—	2	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	22	13	35
33. Motor vehicle accidents	6	2	8
34. All other accidents	2	1	3
35. Suicide	2	—	2
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—
Totals	143	130	273

EXTRACT FROM ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE
(Surrey, Croydon, N.E. Hampshire and N. Sussex Area) FOR 1956

Areas examined	Type of Survey (a)	Number of persons examined on miniature films			ABNORMALITIES							Number of cases awaiting diagnosis
		Males	Females	Total	Active P.T.		Incidence per 1,000 examinees	Inactive P.T.		Non-tuberculous		
					Males	Females		Males	Females	Males	Females	
Farnborough District ...	I	816	1,550	2,366	4	—	1.6	24	50	28	42	—
Farnham District	I	1,423	2,053	3,476	—	1	0.3	55	47	76	90	—
Woking District ...	I	2,379	2,969	5,348	6	3	1.7	67	79	118	80	—
ALDERSHOT DISTRICT ...	I	1,854	2,590	4,444	6	1	1.6	64	89	141	116	—

(a) Type of Survey: I—General Public, Factory Workers, Clerical Staff.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Age at Death</i>				<i>Total</i>
	<i>0-24 hours</i>	<i>1 day-1 week</i>	<i>1 week-1 month</i>	<i>1 month-6 months</i>	
Atelectasis, Prematurity, Anencephaly, Collapse of lungs	5	6	3	—	14
Bronchopneumonia... ..	1	1	—	1	3
Toxaemia	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumococcal Meningitis	—	1	—	—	1
TOTALS	6	8	3	2	19

TABLE I

**BOROUGH OF ALDERSHOT
MATERNITY SERVICES SURVEY, 1956**

Maternity Unit, Aldershot Hospital
(Number of maternity beds—14)

Home address—Aldershot
196

Home address—outside Aldershot
156

Louise Margaret Military Hospital, Aldershot
(Number of maternity beds—35)

Home address—Aldershot
247

Home address—outside Aldershot
525

Domiciliary confinements
Home address—Aldershot
99

INCIDENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

(a) Incidence.					1953	1954	1955	1956
Measles	...	...	...	...	497	3	518	163
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	63	81	54	6
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	55	22	13	11
Malaria (Camp)	...	...	...	...	25	17	7	2
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	23	27	12	16
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	6	—	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	6	3	3	9
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	3	—	2	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	2
Acute Encephalitis (infective)	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis—Paralytic	...	...	...	...	2	1	12	2
Non-Paralytic	...	...	...	...	1	—	6	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	—	—	2	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	—	1	4	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	—	1	3	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	35	25	18	29
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	3

From the point of view of the student of epidemiology, the return of notified infectious diseases for this year has been an extremely uninteresting one. These low figures, however, are indeed gratifying and do not reflect the intensive work which continues throughout the year in this field of public health. A higher degree of vigilance in the control and investigation of infectious disease is demanded by the general public and indeed one must say that they are entitled to it, although 100% security is not possible. By modern standards, the public demand a high degree of security and this requires the utmost effort on the part of everyone in the Public

Health Department. We hope that the low figures shown in the table indicate at least that our efforts have been successful in so far as it is humanly possible to control infectious diseases in these modern times.

(b) **Hospital Services.**

The elaboration of the hospital services in this area continues as a result of the easing of the financial stringency in this field of the National Health Service. No major developments took place in the Borough, but developments are pending in the Farnham Group which covers this Borough. We look forward to the modernisation of our existing major hospital, Farnham Hospital, together with developments in the Frimley area. The people of Aldershot will be entitled to take part in any improvements in the hospital services of these two towns.

Civil.

Aldershot Hospital:—

General	...	...	...	...	29 beds
Maternity	...	...	...	...	14 beds
Children	...	...	...	...	13 beds

Outpatients Department includes Surgical, Medical, Gynæcological, E.N.T., Pediatrics, Ophthalmic, Psychiatric and Pathological facilities.

Northfield Hospital:—

Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	24 beds
General	...	...	...	...	14 beds

Outpatients Department includes Chest Clinic, Special (including V.D.) Clinic, Laundry and Disinfecting Station.

Military.

Cambridge Hospital	...	...	...	...	500 beds
Louise Margaret Hospital	...	...	...	...	85 beds

Reference has been made in the introduction to the "pooling" of the military and civil medical services and undoubtedly closer integration will be seen in the future. The old boundary of civil and military has gone, as far as the medical services are concerned, and with official approval from both sides integration is gradually developing. This is seen most obviously in the arrangements which have been made for dealing with a major incident such as one involving 50 or more casualties requiring admission to hospital. This area, with its Service installations involving flying, together with a large civil airport, is as great a risk as any as regards the possibility of a major incident and preparations are well ahead to cope with such a situation which will have as its main basis the complete integration of civil and military hospital and medical resources with the major role being played by the Cambridge Military Hospital. The Cambridge Hospital is always ready to admit civilian casualties or emergencies whenever asked to do so, and the Louise Margaret Hospital is admitting mothers from

civilian areas for their confinements. This, together with Northfield Hospital's admission of military infectious disease patients, has resulted in considerable economies both financial and in personnel to both parties.

(c) **Tuberculosis.**

The following figures indicate the incidence of new cases of Tuberculosis in the Borough during the years mentioned:—

				<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
1950	...	...	...	18	13	—	5
1951	...	...	...	19	13	2	1
1952	...	...	...	20	20	1	2
1953	...	...	...	10	25	—	1
1954	...	...	...	15	10	—	1
1955	...	...	...	9	9	—	—
1956	...	...	...	18	11	—	3

It will be seen that the incidence of new cases is higher than in 1955. While this must to some extent be accounted for by increased diagnostic facilities which search out early or arrested cases which would previously have escaped notice, it is a situation which must be carefully watched to ensure that all possible avenues are being fully exploited.

The Mass Radiography Unit of the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board visited Aldershot in June, 1956, and the following extract on page 8 from their Annual Report is given showing the details relating to a selection of adjoining areas for comparison.

A readily accessible chest X-ray service is vital in any community and I think an improvement in this area would be the establishment of a Miniature X-ray Unit stationed in the area with a service not only for in-patients and out-patients but also for schools and factories. The present visits of the travelling Unit are undoubtedly welcome but they are not frequent enough.

(d) **Immunization.**

Four immunizing methods of attack are now available to the general public, i.e. against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis. The figures for the first three are shown on tables II and III as for last year, while the numbers of Poliomyelitis injections were extremely limited owing to a shortage of vaccine but they will be given in full in later years when, let us hope, the special vaccine will be more plentiful.

(e) **Vaccination against Smallpox.**

The County Medical Officer has enabled me to give the figures shown at table IV showing the vaccinal state of the children in Aldershot. They seem very satisfactory but are, to some extent, due to the fact that the Service child is better vaccinated to-day than its Civil counterpart.

TABLE II.

IMMUNIZATION SCHEME

The following statistics show the work done during 1956 :—

Age at date of final primary injection (as regards Col. 2) or of booster injection (as regards Col. 3) (1)	Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunization during the year 1956 (2)	Number of children who received a secondary (Booster) injection during the year 1956 (3)
<i>Diphtheria Immunization alone—</i>		
Under 1	5	—
1 to 4	15	8
5 to 14	49	266
TOTAL	69	274
<i>Combined Immunization (Diphtheria/Whooping Cough)</i>		
Under 1	263	—
1 to 4	215	13
5 to 14	10	41
TOTAL	488	54
<i>Triple Immunization (Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus)—</i>		
Under 1	50	—
1 to 4	16	—
5 to 14	1	9
TOTAL	67	9
<i>Whooping Cough Immunization alone—</i>		
Under 1	1	—
1 to 4	3	—
5 to 14	3	2
TOTAL	7	2

TABLE III**IMMUNIZATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA IN RELATION
TO CHILD POPULATION**

Number of children in the district on 31st December, 1956, who have completed a course of diphtheria immunization at any time between 1st January, 1942, and 31st December, 1956.

<i>Age on 31/12/56 (i.e., born in year)</i>	<i>Under 1 1956</i>	<i>1-4 1952-1955</i>	<i>5-9 1947-1951</i>	<i>10-14 1942-1946</i>	<i>Under 15 Total</i>
Number of children who have completed course (primary or booster) in the period 1952-1956	106	1,437	1,835	410	3,788
Number of children who have completed course (primary or booster) in the period 1942-1951	—	—	744	1,012	1,756

VACCINATION STATISTICS FOR ALDERSHOT FOR THE YEAR 1956

		Vaccinations, 1956				Re-vaccinations, 1956				Grand Total
Under 1	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15+	Total	2-4 years	5-14 years	15+	Total	
415	19	45	40	44	563	31	115	204	350	913

TABLE V **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 St. Augustine's Church Hall	Mondays, 2 p.m. Wednesdays, 2 p.m. Thursdays, 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
Relaxation Classes	Supervision of expectant mothers	Manor Park House	Tuesdays and Thursdays, a.m.	Regional Hospital Board
Immunization Clinic	Protection of children against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.	School Clinic	1st Wednesday in month at 2 p.m.	Hampshire County Council (Aldershot Borough Council acting as agent)
School Health Clinic	Treatment of minor ailments and medical inspections	School Clinic	Every morning at 9.30 a.m. (Med. Officer's clinic Mondays and Thursdays at 9.30 a.m.)	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Dental Clinic	Dental treatment of school-children	School Clinic	Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Ophthalmic Clinic	Examination of ophthalmic cases and prescription of spectacles	Manor Park House	Every Thursday — by appointment only	Regional Hospital Board

TABLE V—continued TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS—continued

<i>Description</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Where held</i>	<i>Times</i>	<i>By whom held</i>
Audiometric Clinic	Hearing testing of school-children	School Clinic	1st Thursday in month at 10 a.m.	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Orthopædic Clinic	Examination and supervision of muscle joint defects	School Clinic	1st Tuesday in month—morning session	Regional Hospital Board
Remedial Exercises	Treatment of orthopædic cases	School Clinic	Tuesdays and Fridays—all day	Regional Hospital Board
Child Guidance Clinic	Child guidance	Manor Park House	Mondays and Wednesdays—all day	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Speech Therapy Clinic	Correction of speech defects	School Clinic	Tuesdays and Fridays—all day; Thursday p.m.	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Chest Clinic	Examination of definite and suspected cases of tuberculosis	Northfield Hospital	<i>Clinic:</i> Mondays, 9.30 a.m. Tuesdays, 9.30 a.m. Tuesdays, 1.30 p.m. <i>Refill Clinic:</i> Mondays, 2 p.m. <i>New patients:</i> Tuesdays, 11.15 a.m.	Regional Hospital Board
Special Clinic	Treatment of venereal diseases	Northfield Hospital	Monday afternoons:— 2-4 p.m. women only 5 p.m. men only	Regional Hospital Board
Family Planning Clinic	Birth Control	Manor Park House	1st, 2nd and 3rd Fridays in month, 2-4 p.m.	Women's Voluntary Organisation

Mortuary.

The following statistics refer to the year under review:—

Total number of subjects admitted to mortuary	...	64
Cases admitted from Borough of Aldershot	...	28
Cases admitted from outside Borough	...	36
Number of post-mortems held	...	62

The centralised use of the town mortuary by adjoining areas has increased. This development is to be encouraged and I am glad to say that everything has been done during the past year to make this important work function smoothly and efficiently.

The usual statistics are given above and are practically similar to those for 1955.

FOOD HYGIENE

The importance of food hygiene, the rising incidence of food-borne incidents and the increasing complications and ramifications of the food and allied trades, have made it necessary to submit the following information under the headings given.

(i) Food premises in the area by type of business.

<i>Type of business</i>	<i>No.</i>
Dairies	1
Ice cream manufacturers	4
Baking	10
Restaurants, cafés and canteens	53
Butchers	23
Registered for manufacture of sausages, etc.	20
Wet fish	7
Fried fish	10
Clubs and licensed premises and places of entertainment	73
Grocery	115
Greengrocery	17
Confectionery	39

- (ii) Number of food premises, by type, registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, or under local Acts, and the number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-1954.

Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Manufacture of preserved foods (sausages)	...	20
Sale and storage of ice cream	...	104
Manufacture, sale and storage of ice cream	...	4
Storage of ice cream	...	2
Total	...	130

Number of dairies (which supply Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurised Milk)	1
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk:—	
Dealers' Licences	4
Pasteurised Milk:—	
Pasteuriser's Licence	1
Dealers' Licences	48
Sterilised Milk:—	
Dealers' Licences	38
Supplementary Licence	1

(iii) Number of inspections of registered premises.

During the year 1,439 visits were made and 188 improvements carried out to food premises.

Notices served	86
Notices complied with	69

(iv) **Educational activity.**

In 1948 the Aldershot Hygienic Food Traders' Guild was instituted and codes of practice for the various trades drawn up and circulated. In recent years, however, more stress has been placed on the personal visit from a member of the Health Department and close personal touch has been maintained with those engaged in the food trade. One cannot help being impressed when one calls at most food premises, at the welcoming smile which receives one and the ready ear which is given to advice and help. The old defensive attitude is disappearing from this town and while one cannot accept the present position as entirely satisfactory, one can accept that the food traders and food handlers are doing their best within the limitations of the situation. Every opportunity will be taken to give further impetus to the maintaining of interest in the importance of food hygiene.

(v) **Method of disposal of condemned food.**

Condemned meat is sent to a large reputable contractor for manufacture into fertiliser. Livers which are affected with distomatosis, angioma, cirrhosis, etc., are allowed to be used for mink feeding. The livers in question are obviously unsaleable for human consumption.

(vi) **Special examination of a stock or of a consignment of food.**

Swine fever, on two occasions during 1956, resulted in special examination of stock. The first instance followed the arrival of 5 pigs at the public abattoir for slaughtering. As a result of the follow-up it was found necessary to slaughter 86 contacts and this efficiently eliminated the outbreak. On the second occasion, this disease was identified on a farm when 60 pigs were slaughtered.

The total quantity condemned as unfit for food for human consumption was 24 pig carcasses, while the remainder was passed as fit.

(vii) **Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-52.**

There are four ice cream manufacturers in the town, two of whom produce by means of a cold mix. The total number of traders registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream has now reached 110; 4 additional premises being added during the year.

A satisfactory feature of these conditions, which I have no doubt will be noted, is that there are only 4 ice cream manufacturers in the town. Two use a hot mix and two a cold mix. Thus many of the potential sources of danger which were once the bugbear of the Public Health Department, have been removed and concentration of effort on these four premises simplifies the work and leads to greater efficiency. There is every reason to believe that the producers of the hot mix will revert to the more satisfactory cold mix method in the near future. By far the main portion of ice cream in this Borough is now sold prepared and packed by the leading firms and while one must regret the passing of the small trader in this connection, from the public health point of view the position is greatly simplified.

Some trouble was experienced in vehicles entering the town from outside the area selling ice cream by the roadside, but this situation has been remedied and the necessary surveillance is being maintained. The Chief Public Health Inspector also records that a firm who manufacture ice lollies is being kept under observation.

(viii) **Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955-56.**

I cannot do better than to quote a report which was submitted to me by the Chief Public Health Inspector on this subject with which I am in full agreement and which represents the present position.

At the time of the introduction of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, the overall standard of our food premises was reasonably satisfactory—only 3 were without constant hot and cold water; all open food on display was adequately protected; very few were without refrigerators; all had satisfactory sanitary accommodation; and 3 fishmongers were the only open-fronted shops.

The new regulations, therefore, were regarded not as a means of initiating a drastic campaign but as giving fresh impetus to the department's efforts over the past few years.

As to specific action resulting from the regulations, wash-hand basins (permanent) have been installed in restaurants,

canteens, butchers' shops, bakehouses and all grocers employing sufficiently large staffs. Sinks have been provided where equipment is used; unsatisfactory working surfaces have been covered with impervious material (usually of the "Formica" type); adequate clothing accommodation has been provided and smoking in food premises is rarely encountered.

The response by traders has been favourable. They had been circulated with details of the main provisions of the regulations before an inspection of their premises so that they would know what might be required. There have been instances of hostility, but these are invariably associated with the less progressive premises and eventually compliance is obtained without resort to formal action.

Two important improvements which have not yet been tackled are the abolition of the open-fronted shop and the storage of food for immediate consumption. In both cases we are awaiting a legal decision arising perhaps out of a test case. This we shall have to leave to a larger and more affluent authority.

To summarise then, the regulations are being applied with gratifying results. On the whole the trade regards them as necessary and is doing its best to comply. Definite rulings on some of the many debateable articles will be most welcome.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(a) Water Supply.

I am indebted to the Chief Engineer, Mid Wessex Water Company, Frimley Green, for the following information which is submitted on the lines set out in the Ministry of Health circular 2/50 dated 25th January, 1950:—

- (a) Water is supplied by the Mid Wessex Water Company and is obtained from wells at Boxall's Lane. An adequate supply for all purposes without restriction was maintained throughout the year.
- (b) Samples of water were taken regularly and frequently by the Company before and after treatment at the works and in supply. They were examined chemically and bacteriologically by their resident Chemists and Bacteriologists and in addition samples were submitted to an independent specialist for report at regular intervals. The reports during the year on all samples of treated water at the works and in supply have shown a consistently high standard of organic and bacterial purity. Precautionary chlorination treatment is applied continuously at all sources.
- (c) The water distributed in this area is a normal chalk and lower greensand blended water and has no plumbo-solvent action.
- (d) No action was necessary, so far as the Company was concerned, to deal with any form of contamination.
- (e) (i) There are approximately 6,723 connections in the Borough of Aldershot, supplying a population of about 40,190.
(ii) We believe there are no premises supplied by standpipe.

(b) Hardness of Water, 1956.

Regular analyses have been carried out in order to chart the total hardness of water in the Borough. The following results have been obtained:—

				<i>Parts per 100,000</i>	
				<i>1955</i>	<i>1956</i>
January	...	...	...	21.0	16.1
February	...	...	...	21.5	16.1
March	...	...	...	25.0	15.7
April	...	...	...	23.0	16.1
May	...	...	...	21.0	16.1
June	...	...	...	23.5	15.7
July	...	...	...	25.0	16.1

August	...	...	...	24.5	16.1
September	...	...	...	23.5	17.5
October	...	...	...	23.5	16.4
November	...	...	...	23.0	15.7
December	...	...	...	22.5	6.3

(c) Drainage and Sewerage.

I am indebted to the Borough Surveyor for the following report on drainage and sewerage for this area:—

The disposal of sewage is still being satisfactorily dealt with by the existing Works which, unfortunately, have to continue duty as the Reconstruction Scheme has not yet materialised.

As I reported last year, the work on the design was then held up owing to staffing difficulties in the Borough Engineer's Department. These have now been overcome and it is hoped that before my next report a contract will have been let for this work.

The fact that the existing Works have produced an effluent satisfactory to the Thames Conservancy Board again reflects credit on the Sewage Works manager.

The Flood Relief Scheme for the prevention of flooding in the Crossways area has been completed.

SECTION 47 OF THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

I have to report that no case occurred during the year where action was required to be taken under this Section. Various home visits were made, however, and by local adjustment which usually meant consultation with the General Practitioner, Area Welfare Officer and others, the drastic step of compulsory removal of the elderly person from home was avoided.

Interest in the elderly was maintained by means of the "S O S" card scheme. Visits by the Health Visitors and Public Health Inspectors were encouraged whereby ascertainment of difficulties and defects in housing were remedied. These visits were instrumental in having a number of the aged sick brought under medical care and others had their homes and living conditions improved.

Every effort is being made to foster interest in the problems of these unfortunate elderly people and all members of the Health Department are keenly interested and anxious to help in every way possible.

HOUSING

(a) **Slum Clearance.**

Four houses in Windmill Road were represented and later defined as the Windmill Road Clearance Area, 1956. Confirmation of this area was received from the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 12th July, 1956.

Thirty-nine houses were also dealt with and defined as the North Town Clearance Area. This was the subject of a Ministry enquiry held in May, 1956. In October the Minister confirmed without modification this area, but he directed that a payment under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1936, be made in respect of one house. This area, together with a further 20 houses in the vicinity, is being compulsorily purchased and will be subject to redevelopment by the Corporation.

Nine individual unfit houses were demolished or closed during the year.

The records of housing which follow are shown by courtesy of the Borough Surveyor's Department and the Borough Treasurer's Department.

(b) **Houses, etc., completed during 1956.**

	<i>Houses</i>		<i>Flats</i>		<i>Adapt's</i>	
	<i>Private</i>	<i>Council</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>Council</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>Enterprise</i>
January ...	—	—	—	6	—	—
February ...	2	—	—	—	—	—
March ...	3	—	—	—	—	—
April ...	9	—	—	—	—	—
May ...	2	—	—	6	—	—
June ...	4	—	—	6	—	—
July ...	7	—	—	—	—	—
August ...	2	—	—	12	6	—
September ...	4	—	—	6	2	—
October ...	5	—	—	6	2	—
November ...	—	—	2	12	—	—
December ...	3	14	2	6	—	—
TOTALS ...	41	14	4	60	10	—

(c) Summary of Housing Applications as at 31st December, 1956.

CIVILIAN															
Year	Single	Married Couples	Children										Aged Couples	Widows	Total
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
1938	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1944	...	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
1945	...	1	7	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
1946	...	—	3	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
1947	...	—	4	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
1948	...	—	10	7	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	23
1949	...	—	8	4	2	3	2	—	1	1	—	—	1	3	25
1950	...	2	8	5	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	26
1951	...	1	12	13	8	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	40
1952	...	—	19	18	18	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	63
1953	...	1	25	11	21	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	72
1954	...	2	16	29	17	11	1	4	—	2	—	—	1	7	90
1955	...	4	26	31	16	11	3	—	—	—	—	—	5	11	107
1956	...	3	47	50	27	12	5	2	—	—	—	—	8	10	164
Total	...	14	186	174	121	51	18	6	1	1	2	—	27	43	644

SERVICES															
Year	Single	Married Couples	Children										Aged Couples	Widows	Total
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
1944	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1945	...	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
1948	...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
1949	...	—	2	1	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
1950	...	—	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
1951	...	—	—	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
1952	...	—	1	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
1953	...	—	1	2	6	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16
1954	...	—	1	8	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
1955	...	—	4	10	12	6	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	38
1956	...	—	5	11	10	4	3	3	—	1	—	1	—	—	35
Total	...	—	17	39	48	17	6	4	1	2	—	1	1	—	138

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE (FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948)

The following details are shown:—

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			M/c line No. (7)
			Insp't's (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities†	1	10	10	—	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	112	123	—	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority‡ (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—	—	3
TOTAL		122	133	—	—	

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

If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases".)

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecut's were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Insp. (5)	By H.M. Insp. (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	1	1	—	—	—	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	3	3	—	—	—	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) (d)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of working unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Wearing apparel—								
Making, etc.	13	4	—	—	—	—	—	13
Cleaning & washing	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Household linen ...	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
Lace, lace curtains & nets ...	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	16
Curtains and furniture hangings...	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	17
Furniture & upholstery	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	18
Electro-plate	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	19
File making	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	20
Brass and brass articles ...	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	21
Fur pulling	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	22
Iron and steel cables and chains ...	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	23
Iron and steel anchors & grapnels ...	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
Cart gear ...	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	25
Locks, latches and keys	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	26
Umbrellas, etc. ...	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	27
Artificial flowers ...	28	—	—	—	—	—	—	28
Nets, other than wire nets ...	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	29

Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)—continued.

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) (d)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of working unwholly on some premises	Notices served	Prosecutions	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Tents	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	30
Sacks	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	31
Racquet and tennis balls	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	32
Paper bags...	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	33
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper ...	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	34
Brush making	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	35
Pea picking	36	—	—	—	—	—	—	36
Feather sorting ...	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	37
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.	38	—	—	—	—	—	—	38
Stuffed Toys	39	—	—	—	—	—	—	39
Basket making ...	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	40
Chocolates & sweetmeats	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	41
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	42
Textile weaving ...	43	—	—	—	—	—	—	43
Lampshades	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	44
TOTAL ...	70	4	—	—	—	—	—	70

*SECTION PREPARED
BY THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR*

**SECTION PREPARED BY THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

INTRODUCTION

I have pleasure in submitting to you my section of the Annual Report dealing with the sanitary circumstances of the Borough.

Environmental hygiene involves much routine and systematic work, rarely spectacular; but nevertheless steady progress was maintained throughout the year.

Slum Clearance and Individual Unfit Houses received much time and energy; two Clearance Areas being confirmed, one of which involved 39 houses and was subject to a Ministry Enquiry.

Food supervision has been actively continued and a 100% meat inspection maintained. The enforcement of the Food Hygiene Regulations has done much to improve condition in food premises.

Work under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act continued and a satisfactory measure of control has now been obtained throughout the district.

I again express my appreciation to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and staff for their co-operation during the year.

W. E. ROBERTS,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

During the year 1956 the following inspections and visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors in respect of:—

Drainage	646
Water Supply and Sampling	18
Nuisances arising from the Keeping of Animals	3
Offensive Accumulations and Noxious Matters	13
Disinfection of Houses and Infectious Diseases	197
Council Houses Prior to vacation and Prospective Tenants for	
Council Houses	392
Overcrowding	44
Verminous Premises	63
Other Vermin	139
Common Lodging House	18
Houses Let in Lodgings	11
Factories with Mechanical Power and without Mechanical Power	133
Outworkers Rooms	4
Shops Act	41
Vacant Land and Dumps	59
Watercourses	22
Interviews with Owners, etc.	283
Swimming Pool	4
Works in Progress	467
Tents, Vans and Sheds	6
Rats and Mice Infestation	2,313
Theatres and Cinemas	1
Public Conveniences	27
Schools	22

Number of Notices Served.

To secure the abatement of nuisances and the removal of conditions dangerous to health, the following action was taken:—

Number of Informal Notices served	228
Number of Informal Notices complied with	155
Number of Statutory Notices served:—	
Housing Act, Section 9	1
Public Health Act, Section 93	8
Number of Statutory Notices complied with:—	
Public Health Act, Section 93	7

Nuisances and Other Matters dealt with.

During the year the following complaints were received and dealt with:—

Defective cisterns and pipes	32
Choked and defective drains	154
Premises infested with vermin	14
Insect Pests	6
Wasp Nests	69
Dangerous Structures	1
Water Supply Reinstated	1
Obstructed flues cleared	8
Offensive Accumulations and Noxious Matters	13
Keeping of Animals	3

Outwork.

Lists received in accordance with requirements of the Act contained names and addresses of four Outworkers. No instances were found of homework being carried out in unwholesome premises.

Bakehouses.

There are 10 Bakehouses in the district varying in size from the small family business to a large confectionery bakery employing approximately 85 persons.

Structural works were required in one bakehouse which has subsequently closed. As for the remainder, wash-hand basins together with an adequate supply of hot and cold water are being insisted upon; washable finishes to walls and ceilings are required when redecoration becomes due; and where working surfaces become worn or otherwise unsuitable for use, an impervious surface is requested. In this connection it is interesting to note that although there was opposition at first to such non-traditional materials as laminated plastics and sheet metal, the baker has very quickly adapted his technique and is now quite accustomed to them. Insect infestations are rare and no bakehouse was treated during 1956.

The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, are proving to be of real assistance in improving our bakehouses and their gradual but firm application is doing much in this direction.

Smoke Abatement.

It was not necessary to take any action in respect of Smoke Abatement in the Borough during the year.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

One additional Licence was issued under this Act, making a total of 5 licenced premises. Close liaison is maintained with the R.S.P.C.A. in connection with these premises.

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

There are no premises registered under the Rag Flock and Other Fillings Materials Act, 1951.

Rodent and Insect Control.

Excellent results were obtained during the year by the one Rodent Operator employed on this work, details of which are summarized below.

Premises Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	771
Premises Treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	252
Visits for Baiting and Extermination	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,189
Total quantity of material used:—							
1 cwt. Wheat, 3 cwt. Coarse Oatmeal, 1 cwt. Bread,							
$\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. Sausage Rusk, 20 lb. Caster Sugar, 12 lb. Lard,							
10 lb. Linseed Oil	...	...	...	...	...	...	658 lb.

Total quantity of Poison used:—

5 lb. Arsenious Oxide, 4 lb. Zinc Phosphide,	
42 lb. Warfarin	51 lb.
Number of Rats Killed (estimated minimum)	309
Number of Mice Killed (bodies found)	410
Amount charged in respect of Disinfestation work	£4 12 0

All Council properties were kept under regular supervision and control. Co-operation is maintained with the Army Authorities who are responsible for Rodent Control work on War Department property.

A charge is made for work carried out at business premises, no charge being made for private dwelling houses.

Two hospitals and one large store have a yearly contract for the eradication of rodents and insects.

In only 4 instances were rats discovered in buildings, the remainder having them in chicken houses, sheds, compost heaps, banks, ditches and broken drains.

Various experiments have been carried out mixing certain oils and fats with Warfarin, when it was found that lard had the greater binding power. One part Warfarin No. 5 to 16 parts base bait gave a quicker kill than the recognised 20 parts to 1.

Owners and occupiers co-operated by carrying out proofing work and giving attention to drainage defects.

The facilities now provided are becoming greatly appreciated by the general public and every effort is made to give the necessary technical advice and assistance in ridding premises of infestation. It is satisfying to note that very few infestations are now occurring in business premises.

Rodent Treatment of Sewers.

The destruction measures carried out in the Borough sewers were in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry.

The two maintenance treatments showed a marked decrease in the number of takes as compared with previous years.

North Hants Rodent Control Committee.

The Council is a constituent member of the above Committee, which comprises the Boroughs of Aldershot and Basingstoke, the Urban District Councils of Farnborough and Fleet and the Rural District Councils of Alton, Basingstoke and Hartley Wintney. The representatives on this Committee comprised one member of the local authority together with the Chief Public Health Inspector of the district. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Aldershot Military District and Hampshire Agricultural Executive Committee send representatives.

Meetings of the Committee were held quarterly in the different districts, they served a very useful purpose in solving problems

arising and enabling Local Authorities to obtain Ministry guidance on various points and issues.

Insect Pests.

The work under this heading continued and it would appear that the public are becoming increasingly insect conscious.

In addition to the destruction of rats and mice, 139 visits were made to deal with various pests.

Sixty-nine wasp infestations were eradicated during the year, the Local Authority giving a free service in this connection.

As far as possible, ponds, ditches and watercourses in the district were kept under observation with regard to mosquito control.

A number of food premises were treated with residual insecticide on a rechargeable basis.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

No formal action was necessary under this Act, all work being done by informal action. Eleven informal notices were served in this respect.

Swimming Pools.

Four samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination during the open season from the Town Swimming Pool and Children's Paddling Pool and the results were satisfactory. In addition, chlorine tests were carried out by the Superintendent.

Common Lodging House.

There is one Common Lodging House in the district which is kept under regular surveillance.

Houses Let in Lodgings.

There are no registered houses let in lodgings in the district.

Shops Act, 1950.

Forty-one visits were made under this Act and verbal warnings were given regarding minor infringements. In one instance it was necessary to serve notice requiring attention to the unreasonable working temperature, which was subsequently rectified.

Moveable Dwellings.

One Licence was granted to station a caravan adjoining a new factory for a period of six months.

HOUSING

There were 780 families still remaining on the Council's Waiting List at the end of the year. The Council are securing several sites inside and also outside the Borough which will provide

for the erection of a number of houses within the next few years.

The following is a summary of progress made towards the provision of new houses:—

1. Permanent houses and flats provided by the Council
during the year 74
2. Houses erected by private enterprise during the year 55

Two hundred and twenty-four complaints in respect of housing defects were investigated. Every effort is made to encourage owners to carry out essential repairs and the majority comply with the informal notices served upon them; in only 9 instances was it necessary to serve formal notices.

Certificates of Disrepair.

No Certificates of Disrepair were applied for, but one application for the revocation of a certificate after completion of repairs was granted early in 1956.

Slum Clearance. See page 24

Houses Repaired.

Roofs Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	109
Roof Flashings Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Skylights Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Eavesgutters Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Rainwater Downpipes Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Wall and Ceiling Plasterwork Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Walls and Ceilings Cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Scullery Floors Reformed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Other Floors Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Skirting Boards Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Firegrates Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Ranges Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Hearths Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Mantel Shelves Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Firejambs Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Washing Coppers Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Windows Repaired and made to open	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	95
Window Sills Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Doors Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Doorsteps Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Stairs Retreaded	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Stair Handrails Repaired or Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Walls Repointed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Damp Walls Remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
New Air Bricks Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Chimneys Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
New Foodstores Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Yards Paved or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
New Sinks Fitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Sink and Bath Wastepipes Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
New Soil Ventilating Shafts Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
New W.C. Pans Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
New Drain Inspection Chamber Covers Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

Drainage.

It was found necessary to completely relay the drainage in connection with 20 houses. In a further 14 houses partial reconstruction was required.

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES

During the year 14 premises were found to be verminous and 14 premises comprising 32 rooms were disinfested.

There is a notable decrease in the number of houses now found to be infested with vermin; this is probably due to health propaganda and the use of various new insecticides available.

In all instances where families are moved to Council houses or Requisitioned property within the Borough, an inspection is made of all furniture and bedding to be removed and of the premises to which the family is moving. Any vermin infestations thus discovered are dealt with before removal takes place.

The treatment consists of spraying with liquid insecticide containing D.D.T. and removal of bedding to the Isolation Hospital for Steam Disinfestation.

DISINFECTIONS

Number of Rooms Disinfected after infectious, contagious and other Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	6
Number of cases where bedding was subjected to steam disinfection and disinfestation	...	...	...	...	...	14 loads
	comprising					
Mattresses	...	...	...	...	...	36
Blankets	...	...	...	...	...	108
Pillows	...	...	...	...	...	72

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply.

All milk sold in the Aldershot district is designated, being either Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised.

There is one dairy in the Borough in which milk is pasteurised. Weekly sampling to test the efficiency of the process is maintained. This plant is supervised by your Council on behalf of the County Council.

During the year 355 samples were taken and submitted for examination, of which four failed to pass the Phosphatase Test.

Monthly Returns of all samples taken are now forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Milk Division, Thames Ditton.

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-1954. See page 18

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-52. See page 20

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Meat Inspection.

It is understood that the Government are preparing regulations on the basis of existing powers prescribing minimum standards for the construction, layout and equipment of slaughterhouses, and these will probably be issued in 1957.

There was a sharp increase in the total number of animals slaughtered, 8,284 as compared with 5,108 in 1955. This was in the main due to killing for outside areas and it is now customary for loads of pig carcasses to be sent to the London district.

In addition, at the beginning and end of the year a considerable quantity of lower quality animals were slaughtered for manufacturing purposes. This meat was sent to large manufacturing firms outside the immediate neighbourhood.

This rise in the number of animals slaughtered meant a considerable increase in the amount of overtime during evenings, weekends and Bank Holidays which was necessary to maintain 100% meat inspection. It is surprising how many people take all public services (including safe meat) for granted and never give a thought as to how this is achieved.

Cysticercus Bovis.

Seventeen cases of cysticercus bovis were found during the year, this representing 2% of the total cattle slaughtered. In one case (a poor quality cow carcass) the owner preferred to have the carcass condemned rather than put into cold store. Other carcasses affected were placed into cold store for the requisite period of at least 21 days to ensure the death of any cysts which may have been in the meat. This is the procedure recommended in Memo 3 (Meat).

Food Unfit for Human Consumption.

Condemned meat is sent to a large reputable contractor for manufacture into fertiliser.

Livers which are affected with distomatosis, angioma, cirrhosis, etc., are allowed to be used for mink feeding. The livers in question are obviously unsaleable for human consumption.

General Observations.

On the whole animals which were slaughtered for local consumption were again of good quality. The following were found to be unfit for human consumption:—

Bovines

Tuberculosis

18 Carcases
 18 complete sets of offal
 2 Hindquarters
 1 Forequarter
 4 Briskets
 36 Heads and Tongues
 116 Lungs
 5 Hearts
 13 Livers
 17 Mesenteries
 6 Tripes
 2 Kidneys
 7 Spleens

Other Diseases

3 Carcases
 3 complete sets of offal
 1 Trimmings
 2 Flanks
 13 Heads and Tongues
 39 Lungs
 10 Hearts
 345 Livers
 113 Part Livers
 7 Kidneys
 6 Spleens
 1 Skirt

Pigs

Tuberculosis

123 Heads
 4 Plucks

Other Diseases

30 Carcases
 30 complete sets of offal
 1 Shoulder
 1 Hock and Trimmings
 9 Kidneys
 5 Heads
 925 Lungs
 56 Plucks
 108 Hearts
 136 Livers

Sheep

Other Diseases

6 Plucks
 30 Livers
 5 Lungs

Calves

Other Diseases

Carcase of Calf
 1 complete Offal

Carcase Meat Condemned	...	10,207 lbs. or	4 tons	11 cwts.	0 qtrs.	15 lbs.
Offal Condemned	...	14,220 lbs. or	6 tons	6 cwts.	3 qtrs.	24 lbs.
Total	...	24,427 lbs. or	10 tons	18 cwts.	0 qtrs.	11 lbs.

OTHER FOODS

The following quantities of other foods were condemned following inspection at food shops and food preparing premises:—

(a) Meat Products:—

336 lb. Beef	2 Legs Lamb
2½ lb. Corned Beef	236 lb. Beef (bone taint)
24 lb. Ham	30½ lb. Bacon
112 lb. Ox Kidney	13 lb. Chicken
2 lb. Pressed Beef	

(b) Groceries and Confectionery:—

896 lb. Liquid Egg	28 lb. Raisins
8 lb. Grapes	15 cases Seville Oranges

(c) Canned and Bottled Goods:—

737 tins Foodstuffs (Misc.)	82 tins Milk
43 pkts. Foodstuffs (Misc.)	6 jars Foodstuffs (Misc.)

(d) Fish:—

24 lb. Prawns

Total of Other Foods Condemned: 4,015 lbs. or 1 ton, 15 cwts., 3 qtrs, 11 lbs.

GRAND TOTAL OF ALL FOOD, INCLUDING

DISEASED MEAT, ETC., CONDEMNED

DURING THE YEAR 28,442 lbs. or

12 tons 13 cwts. 3 qtrs. 22 lbs.

Table Showing Animals Inspected and Meat Condemned at Slaughterhouse

	<i>Cattle Excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number Killed ...	510	341	345	571	6,487
Number Inspect'd	510	341	345	571	6,487
<i>All Diseases except T.B. and Cysticerci</i> Whole Carcases Condemned ...	—	2	1	—	30**
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	264	197	—	39	1,139
Percentage of the number inspec- ted affected with Diseases other than T.B. and Cysticerci ...	51.8%	58.3%	0.29%	6.8%	18%
<i>Tuberculosis only</i> Whole Carcases Condemned ...	9	9	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	22	96	—	—	119
Percentage of the number inspec- ted affected with T.B.	6.1%	30.8%	—	—	1.7%
<i>Cysticercosis</i> Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	12	5	—	—	—
Carcases submit- ted to treat- ment by Re- frigeration ...	12	4	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condem- ned	—	—	—	—	—
Not generalised but condemna- tion preferred to refrigeration	—	1	—	—	—

**Swine Fever Contacts (24).

Improvements to Food Premises.

Floor Covering Provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
Floors Relaid	...	...	...	...	...	2
Floors Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Walls Resurfaced	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ceilings Resurfaced	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rooms Redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	48
Yards Relaid	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Structural Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	3
Artificial Lighting Improved	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sinks Fitted or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	12
Wash-hand Basins Fitted	...	...	...	...	...	36
Hot Water Provided	...	...	...	...	...	24
W.C's Redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	2
Clothing Accommodation Provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
First Aid Equipment Provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Counters, Tables, etc., Covered	...	...	...	...	...	31
Protection Provided for Open Food Stalls (Fairground)	...	...	...	...	...	3
Wash-hand Basins Provided	...	...	...	...	...	5
Hot Water Provided	...	...	...	...	...	5
Protection for Open Food	...	...	...	...	...	1

Visits to Food Premises.

Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	212
Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	...	...	...	...	30
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	...	...	...	55
Grocers and Other Shops	...	...	...	...	...	308
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	15
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	12
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	30
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	426
Food Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	54
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	93
Other Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	36
Vehicles and Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	44
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	31
Visits re Unsound Food	...	...	...	...	...	83

Food Preparing.

The general standard of hygiene and equipment in School Canteens is high and only minor improvements (apart from the provision of wash-hand basins) were required during 1956.

Of the 6 canteens, 3 are housed in semi-permanent huts of wood and asbestos construction. There is the problem here of dust, insects and even birds gaining entrance. The County Council has been approached and ways and means of avoiding this trouble is being investigated.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

The number of licences issued to Slaughtermen during 1956 were 8, which are renewable yearly.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Adulteration.

Food and Drugs sampling under this Act is carried out in the Borough by the County Council and I am indebted to Mr. C. O. Perry, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures, for the following information which he has supplied.

<i>Article</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	
	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Butter and Other Fats ...	6	—
Drugs	3	—
Milk, Channel Islands ...	23	—
Milk	80	—
Sausage, Meat and Fish Products	10	—
Spirits	8	—
Other Foods	14	—
	144	—

The 23 Channel Islands milk samples proved to contain an average of 4.83% Fat and 8.91% Non-Fatty Solids and the 80 milk samples an average of 3.63% Fat and 8.65% Non-Fatty Solids.





T. A. WALLER & SONS
ALDERSHOT