

[Report 1966] / Medical Officer of Health, Aldershot Borough.

Contributors

Aldershot (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1966.

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BOROUGH OF ALDERSHOT



Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1966



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COMMITTEE CONCERNED WITH THE WORK OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1966.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor E. A. Hills, J.P.)
(ex officio Member of the Committee)

CHAIRMAN

Alderman S. N. Christmas

ALDERMEN: Mrs. R. Coe, E. G. Laslett.

COUNCILLORS: Mrs. B. E. Balchin C.C., P. R. Lillywhite, J. E. Lodge,
Mrs. V. L. Nevett, H. Parlane, Brigadier R.J. Niven, M.C.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS: Mrs. J. Christmas, J.P., C.C.,
Alderman T. Wickenden, C.C.

CO-OPTED MEMBERS (District Health Sub-Committee): Mrs. V. Hills,
(representing the Aldershot Voluntary Welfare Committee),
Mrs. S. Hopper (representing the St. Augustine's Child Welfare Centre),
Mrs. E. Cook (representing the Stanhope Lines Welfare Centre),
Mrs. E. Nash (representing the St. John Ambulance Brigade),
Mrs. R. Bryan (representing the British Red Cross Society),
Mrs. D. Newland (representing the Manor Park Child Welfare Centre),
Mrs. E. Woodley (representing the Women's Voluntary Service),
Mrs. B. Rundle and Dr. J. McNutt.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT AT 31st DECEMBER, 1966.

Medical Officer of Health:

Divisional School Medical Officer:

Physician Superintendent, Northfield Hospital:

J. CRAIG LINDSAY, T.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.,

Chief Public Health Inspector:

Meat and Food Inspector:

Shops Act Inspector:

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

Additional Public Health Inspectors:-

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

B. BERRY.

Chief Clerk:

A. C. AYLESBURY

Clerical Assistants:

Miss P. M. JORDAN Miss J. C. NIBLETT

Rodent Operator:

W. H. MCGOWAN

Public Health Department,

Town Hall,

Aldershot,

Hants.

Telephone No: ALDERSHOT 22441 Ex.21.

THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF ALDERSHOT

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to present this Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1966 for your consideration and acceptance. It is prepared along the lines suggested in the draft lay-out issued by the Ministry of Health, to whom it requires to be submitted.

When we study the vital statistics in the following pages we will notice that, as is not unusual in previous years, some very sharp fluctuations in levels can be seen. For example, the number of births last year we record as 962 while this year we record 788 when our population has increased slightly. I think I can say without fear of contradiction that this sudden decrease of 18 per cent has not been due to any violent pathological upheaval or epidemic but is more than likely due to some administrative calculation which has probably caught up on some miscalculation of previous years. It is symptomatic of the ludicrous position which becomes evident when we study the anomaly of our interdistrict authority boundaries which are now from a social service point of view at least, practically obsolete. The situation is further complicated by the presence of a large garrison area while the County boundary divides the Town from its overspill population. Nevertheless, such vital statistics are published each year and have to be reproduced.

To proceed to the other extreme of life, it is pleasing to record that the death rate for infants under one year fell from the high figure of 23.9 per 1,000 live births which I commented upon last year, to 17.8. The death rate in adults remains amazingly static throughout the years but unfortunately the causes of death do not do so. Coronary disease and with it other heart conditions including those associated with high blood pressure, figure predominantly as the largest single factor contributing 114 deaths out of a total of 315. Next comes malignant disease including leukaemia contributing 69. Cancer of the lung caused 21 deaths an increase from 17 last year. The next figure which strikes the eye is the 35 deaths caused by vascular lesions of nervous system or strokes which they are sometimes called. One cannot help reflecting on the vast change in the last few years in the causes of death in our population when such degenerative diseases which have been mentioned and which affect us in adult life, figure so prominently whereas the infections or infectious fevers have almost dropped out of the picture altogether - only one death from influenza is recorded amongst the various infectious diseases previously so prominent and so much feared in the years gone by.

A section is incorporated showing Hospital Services and their extent as it is customary to include this in my report. The hospital picture will change rapidly within the next few years with the advent of the new district hospital at Frimley. It is not necessary to record the various negotiations which took place and which finally decided on the present site. The only criticism which can be made here is that it is within a very short distance of the Surrey/Hampshire/Berkshire County boundaries. This hospital will probably incorporate many novel features such as a health centre and day hospital so much so that liaison with the Local Health Authority for community care is expected and will require to be particularly close. It seems a pity that it will have to deal with three main administrative units (Surrey/Hampshire/Berkshire) when a single unit would have been quite enough. Everyone is keen to know what effect the new district hospital will have when it opens, on the various peripheral hospitals in the Group, two of which are situated in the Borough - Aldershot General Hospital and Northfield Hospital. We do not know yet the size and composition of the new hospital but I think we must accept

the fact that some of these smaller hospitals will require to surrender their care of the acute sick and undergo a considerable change in their role, if not cessation of work as a hospital unit. I think it is the price we must pay however hard it will be to those local enthusiastic voluntary workers who have supported their local hospitals so valiantly in the past. It is the price we must pay for progress. Modern clinical medicine based on highly scientific methods is growing beyond the scope of the small hospital so well known in the past to us as the Cottage Hospital.

The unknown factor in our midst is the role of the Cambridge Military and Louise Margaret Hospitals in the future as far as civilians are concerned for they have carried out a magnificent role in the past particularly in treating acute traumatic casualties and maternity cases - while Northfield Hospital has reciprocated by admitting military personnel with infectious diseases. This facet of the hospital work has still to be worked out and we hope a satisfactory solution will be arrived at.

I must acknowledge on behalf of myself and the staff of the Public Health Department, the confidence which has been placed in us by the Council and the co-operation we have received from all members of the Council and our colleagues in the other Departments. The year has been a fruitful and happy one which I am sure has reflected itself in the quality of the work both from the Council and the officials.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. CRAIG LINDSAY,

Medical Officer of Health.

A N N U A L R E P O R T
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1966.
V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

Estimated population for mid-year 1966 (including non-civilian) ... 36,590

Comparability Factor - Births ... 0.97

Deaths ... 1.43

LIVE BIRTHS						Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	398	346	744
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	27	17	44
Total						425	363	788

Birth rate per 1,000 population (live births)
(standardised) ... 20.85

Birth rate per 1,000 population (live births) (crude) ... 21.5
(National Rate per 1,000 population 17.7)

STILL BIRTHS						Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	8	4	12
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Total						10	5	15

Still birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still births) ... 18.5
(National Rate per 1,000 total 15.4)

TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS						Male	Female	Total
...						435	368	803

DEATHS						Male	Female	Total
Deaths from all causes	...	...	...	...	...	179	136	315
Death rate per 1,000 population (crude)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.6
Death rate per 1,000 population (standardised)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.3
National rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.7

Deaths of Infants under one year of age						Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	11	2	13
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
Total						12	2	14

Death Rate of Infants under one year

All infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	...	17.8
(National Rate 19.0)					
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	...	...	...	...	17.4
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	...	...	...	...	22.7

Deaths of Infants under four weeks					Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	8	-	8
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
Total					9	-	9

Death Rate of Infants under four week per 1,000 Live Births	...	11.4
(National Rate 12.9)		

Deaths of Infants under one week					Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	8	-	8
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
Total					8	-	8

Death Rate of Infants under one week per 1,000 Live Births	...	10.2
--	-----	------

Still Births and Deaths under one week combined per 1,000 Live and Still Births	...	28.6
---	-----	------

Illegitimate Live Births percentage of total Live Births	...	5.6%
--	-----	------

Maternal Deaths	...	Nil
-----------------	-----	-----

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	...	Nil
---	-----	-----

Number of domestic houses and flats at 31.3.67.	...	7,946
---	-----	-------

Number of Commercial Premises	...	992
-------------------------------	-----	-----

Number of licensed premises (excluding Off-Licences)	...	51
--	-----	----

Other Premises	...	214
----------------	-----	-----

Total Rateable Value (31st March, 1967)	...	£1,508,080
---	-----	------------

Acreege: Civil - 1,431.	S.Camp - 2,745.	Total - 4,176.
-------------------------	-----------------	----------------

CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSE OF DEATH ACCORDING TO DISEASE

Cause of Death							Males	Females	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitis disease	...	...	...	...	...	-	3	3
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
6.	Meníngococcal infection	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	...	...	...	...	3	3	6
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	21	-	21
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	...	-	4	4
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	...	-	6	6
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	...	...	...	...	18	13	31
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	-	1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	17	18	35
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	...	40	15	55
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	6
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	11	23	34
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	...	7	12	19
22.	Influenza	..	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	..	...	...	...	...	10	7	17
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	14	4	18
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	5
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	...	3	-	3
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	...	3	-	3
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	15	10	25
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	7	1	8
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	7
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	...	-	1	1
Total							179	136	315

INCIDENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

	1963	1964	1965	1966
Measles	268	118	271	123
Whooping Cough	2	14	9	4
Scarlet Fever	3	5	4	5
Malaria (Camp)... ..	-	-	1	1
Dysentery	38	2	10	6
Meningococcal Infection	-	2	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	2	6	3
Pneumonia	-	-	-	2
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	1	-
Acute Encephalitis - Infective	-	-	-	-
- Post-infectious	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis - Paralytic	-	-	-	-
- Non-paralytic	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	1	1
Erysipelas	-	2	2	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	18	10	10	9
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	2	1	-

HOSPITAL SERVICES

CIVIL:

Aldershot Hospital:

General 30 beds
 Maternity 24 beds
 Children 12 beds

Outpatients Department includes Surgical (including plastic and oral surgery), Medical, Gynaecological, Ante-natal, E.N.T., Pediatric, Ophthalmic, Dental, Special Treatment (V.D.), Psychiatric and Pathological facilities.

Northfield Hospital (admits military personnel):

Acute Medical Ward ... 14 beds (6 male, 8 female)
 Infectious Diseases ... 24 beds
 Chronic Sick Ward ... 16 beds (female)

Chest Clinic

Laundry and Disinfecting Station

MILITARY (admits civilian personnel):

Cambridge Hospital ... 350 beds
 Louise Margaret Hospital. 52 beds

TUBERCULOSIS

The table immediately below gives details of the numbers of cases of tuberculosis notified to the Department during the year and the figures for the preceding four years for comparative purposes.

			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			Males	Females	Males	Females
1962	...	...	7	3	-	-
1963	...	...	10	8	-	1
1964	...	...	9	1	1	1
1965	...	...	7	3	1	-
1966	...	...	8	1	-	-

The number of cases notified is approximately the same as in previous years but once again two notifications came from the military area of the Borough which makes liaison important between the Local Authority, the Cambridge Military Hospital and the Chest Clinic.

Details relating to the Chest Clinic which is located at Northfield Hospital, Aldershot, are shown under "Treatment Centres and Clinics" (Page 15).

During the year a Mobile Mass Radiography Unit of the S.W. Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board again made weekly visits to the Town on Mondays from 11.15 a.m. to 12.15 p.m. It is located in the Station Approach, Aldershot, where it is easily accessible to the general public. During the year 4,194 people visited the Unit.

The following table gives full details of the Unit in Aldershot during the year under review:-

	Number Examined			Significant Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Primary Lung Cancer	
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Males	Females
Referred by General Practitioner	877	733	1,610	4	2	12	2
General Public (includes arrangements made for personnel to visit from factories etc.)	1,280	1,304	2,584	1	-	2	-
			<u>4,194</u>				

The above table shows a considerable increase in the number of patients sent direct to the Mass Radiography Unit by General Practitioners in the district and the results emphasise the great value of the Unit for early diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis and lung cancer.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION PROCEDURES
DURING THE YEAR ENDING
31st DECEMBER, 1966

Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus Immunisation
and Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The following tables show the work carried out during the year.

COMPLETED PRIMARY COURSES

Type of Vaccine	Year of Birth					Others Under 16	TOTAL
	1966	1965	1964	1963	1959/62		
TRIPLE ANTIGEN	284	416	39	19	34	9	801
DIPH/TETANUS	-	1	-	-	5	2	8
POLIO.(ORAL)	210	648	84	35	59	18	1054

REINFORCING DOSES

Type of Vaccine	Year of Birth					Others Under 16	TOTAL
	1966	1965	1964	1963	1959/62		
TRIPLE ANTIGEN	1	75	192	75	526	103	972
DIPH/TETANUS	-	1	1	7	270	18	297
POLIO.(ORAL)	-	11	25	12	528	93	669

The above tables show that once again a satisfactory level of immunisation and vaccination was maintained in the Borough. The regular monthly clinic was continued at the School Clinic, St. George's Road East, Aldershot, and 12 clinics were also held at Infant Schools in the Borough mainly to give booster doses to children just entering school. Help given by the head teachers of the Schools concerned who have a busy programme was very much appreciated.

Reference to the table setting out the infectious diseases notified during the year shows that there was a low incidence of infectious diseases and once again no cases of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis or Diphtheria occurred in the Borough.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

The following statistics set out the number of primary and re-vaccinations against smallpox carried out during the year.

	M O N T H S				Y E A R S			TOTAL
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1 yr.	2-4	5-15	
Primary Vaccinations	3	3	7	17	389	135	38	592
Re-Vaccinations	-	-	-	-	-	69	167	236

General Practitioners	306
A.C.M.Os.	102
Army Doctors	<u>420</u>
TOTAL VACCINATIONS	<u>828</u>

The total number of smallpox vaccinations and revaccinations was again higher than in the previous year. Undoubtedly increased travel abroad has resulted in the public becoming more aware of the necessity for protection against smallpox. A large number of International Certificates of Vaccination were again authenticated by the Department.

MORTUARY

The following figures show the total number of subjects admitted to the Mortuary during the year.

Total number of subjects admitted to Mortuary	...	162
Cases admitted from the Borough of Aldershot	...	35
Cases admitted from outside the Borough	...	123
Number of Post Mortems held	...	158
Cases admitted no Post Mortems held	...	4

Much thought and discussion took place regarding mortuary arrangements in the Borough during the year. Aldershot is one of the few district authorities in Hampshire which provide mortuary facilities and the only one providing area facilities to cover four district authorities. It is becoming increasingly difficult to provide an up to date service which compares favourably with those adjoining areas who have the benefit of a large district hospital in their midst.

Modern pathology has an extremely important role to play in our social services to-day. It provides greater accuracy in diagnosis and is being called upon more and more to provide accuracy in the cause of death. Coupled with this is that we must face the fact that in our everyday lives, sudden and unexpected death whether

from injury or disease is becoming more common. Doctors are constantly being urged to achieve greater accuracy in certifying the cause of death for obvious reasons but also because much medical knowledge is based on the results derived therefrom.

It is only natural, therefore, that there should be more and more recourse to the Post Mortem Room, either by means of notifying the death to the Coroner or by arrangement with the relatives in order to achieve confirmation of the exact cause of death. This implies more and more use of Post Mortem Rooms. This service is undoubtedly best supplied in collaboration with a district hospital where there is a reservoir of skilled professional and technical assistance to do the work and, at the same time, do the work with a dignity and decorum which is so necessary especially from the point of view of the relatives.

It will be realised, therefore, that for Aldershot to continue to provide an up to date service to cover North East Hampshire with limited resources is a major task. It was the intention of the Council, it will be remembered that if and when the new district hospital was planned in the Town, this service would be handed over and operated in conjunction with the Hospital Authorities.

The move of the new district hospital to Frimley, however, has raised another problem and I think we must visualise that a large centralised Mortuary in the new district hospital covering this area is the best arrangement for the area. However, we must do our best in the intervening years and as long as the law on the subject stands at present, with our limited facilities to give as good a service as possible and we must face additional expenditure in the Mortuary in Redan Road to cover this period.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

Description	Purpose	Where Held	Times	By Whom Held
Child Welfare Centres	Child Welfare	Manor Park House	2nd/4th Monday afternoons in each month 1st/3rd/(5th) Wednesday mornings in each month and Wednesday at 2 p.m.	Hampshire County Council
Ante-Natal Clinics	Examination and supervision of expectant mothers	St. Augustine's Church Hall	Thursdays 2 p.m.	Hampshire County Council
		Percy Illingworth	Mondays 2 p.m.	Hampshire County Council
		Wesley Hall	Fridays 2 p.m.	Hampshire County Council
		Manor Park House	Thursdays 2 p.m.	Hampshire County Council
Immunisation Clinic	Relaxation Classes	Manor Park House	Tuesdays 2 p.m.	Hampshire County Council
		School Clinic	1st Wednesday in month 2 - 3.30 p.m.	Hampshire County Council (Aldershot Borough Council acting as agent)
School Health Clinic	Treatment of minor ailments and medical inspection	School Clinic	Normally by appointment	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Dental Clinic	Dental treatment of children	School Clinic	Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.	Hampshire County Council
Ophthalmic Clinic	Examination of ophthalmic cases and prescription of spectacles	Aldershot Hospital	Every Friday afternoon. By appointment only.	Regional Hospital Board
Audiology Clinic	Investigation of hearing defects	School Clinic	2nd and 4th Friday mornings in month. By appointment only.	Part Hampshire County Council, Part South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS - continued

Description	Purpose	Where Held	Times	By Whom Held
Audiometric Clinic	Hearing testing of school children	School Clinic	Last Thursday in month at 9.30 a.m. By appointment only.	Hampshire County Council (Local Education Authority)
Hearing Test	Diagnosis of defective hearing in infants.	Manor Park House	By appointment only.	Hampshire County Council
Child Guidance Clinic	Child Guidance	Manor Park House	By appointment only.	Hampshire County Council
Speech Therapy Clinic	Correction of speech defects	School Clinic	Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday all day and Friday afternoon. By appointment only.	Hampshire County Council
Chest Clinic	Examination of suspected cases of tuberculosis	Northfield Hospital	Clinic:- Mondays 9.15 a.m. Tuesdays 2 p.m. Thursdays 9.15 a.m. New Patients:- Mondays 11 a.m. Emergencies:- Thursdays 11.30 a.m. Monthly - By appointment only.	Regional Hospital Board
Bronchitis Clinic	B.C.G.	Northfield Hospital	2nd Monday in month - 2 p.m.	Regional Hospital Board
Special Clinic	Treatment of cases of bronchitis	Northfield Hospital	By appointment only.	Regional Hospital Board
	Treatment of venereal disease	Aldershot General Hospital	Males:- Mondays 12 - 1 p.m. Wednesdays 4 - 6 p.m. Females: Mondays 11 - 12 noon Wednesdays 2 - 4 p.m.	Regional Hospital Board
Family Planning Clinic	Birth Control	Manor Park House	Every Friday all day. By appointment only.	Women's Voluntary Organisation
Cervical Cytology Clinic	Early detection of cancer of the neck of the womb.	Manor Park House	Every Monday morning. By appointment only.	Hampshire County Council

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(1) Water Supply.

The following information which was kindly supplied by the Chief Engineer, Mid-Wessex Water Company, Frimley Green, is set out in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 1/67.

- (a) Water is supplied by the Mid-Wessex Water Company and is obtained from wells at Boxalls Lane and Lasham. An adequate supply for all purposes without restrictions 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 part of the Aldershot area is a normal Chalk and lower greensand blended water, the remaining part being supplied by base-exchange softened chalk water, neither of which has any 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 8,287 connections in the Borough of Aldershot, supplying an estimated civilian population of about 36,900.
(ii) We believe there are no premises supplied by standpipe.

(2) Hardness of Water, 1966.

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

				Parts per million	
				<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>
January	...	...	...	204	178
February	...	...	...	224	164
March	...	...	...	326	218
April	...	...	...	246	218
May	...	...	...	220	212
June	...	...	...	196	222
July	...	...	...	-	154
August	...	...	...	210	184
September	...	...	...	-	230
October	...	...	...	172	196
November	...	...	...	164	238
December	...	...	...	168	312

(3) Aldershot Swimming Pool.

Samples were taken from the Aldershot Swimming Pool during the summer months and proved to be satisfactory.

The Borough Surveyor kindly supplied the following reports on:-

1. Drainage and Sewerage.

Sewage Disposal

Design work is proceeding in preparation of the next phase of the Sewage Works Reconstruction Programme to meet the new final effluent standards to be required by the Thames Conservancy.

A three-year contract is now being arranged with a specialist firm for the removal from time to time by tanker of the liquid digested sludge output from the Sewage Works. The firm concerned will then be disposing of the sludge collected to farmers for land treatment purposes.

Sewerage

The Blackwater Valley Relief Soil Sewer is now complete except for the short length under the railway embankment where thrust boring has been found necessary. It is anticipated that British Rail will give permission for this work to be carried out during this coming May.

2. Housing (all types) completed during 1965.

				Council		Private	Enterprise
				Houses	Flats	Houses	Flats
January ...	...	...	...	6	6	-	-
February ..	...	...	...	5	6	7	-
March ...	...	...	...	4	6	-	-
April ...	...	...	...	4	-	3	-
May ...	...	...	...	8	5	1	-
June ...	...	...	...	7	1	2	-
July ...	...	...	...	13	1	8	-
August ...	...	...	...	14	-	2	-
September .	...	...	...	14	5	3	-
October ...	...	...	...	16	-	2	-
November ..	...	...	...	12	-	5	-
December ..	...	...	...	16	-	-	-
TOTALS				119	30	33	-

SECTION PREPARED BY
THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

INTRODUCTION

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty-first Annual Report on the work effected by this department. All matters relating to public health reported to me were dealt with as promptly as possible.

It was pleasing to see the rehousing of tenants in the Alexandra Road, Crimea Road and Sebastopol Road clearance areas and the demolition of these unfit houses. With the building programme now taking place at Tice's Meadow we can expect the rehousing of occupants from the North Lane and Church Street areas, as well as from other individual unfit properties.

We continued our unbroken one hundred per cent meat inspection at the Army Abattoir, and look forward to working at the new abattoir which will be completed in 1967, and where facilities will be available for killing pigs.

Constant supervision of food hygiene throughout the district was maintained, and the introduction of the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations will bring new problems to be tackled.

I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Council, members of the Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and the staff for their valuable co-operation and assistance during the year.

W. E. ROBERTS,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

GENERAL

The responsibility for ensuring that houses are fit for occupation is one of the most important functions of the Health Department. We are concerned with the carrying out of repairs and the closing and demolition of houses which cannot be rendered fit at a reasonable expense. Most of the complaints received in connection with housing defects are dealt with by informal action. Owners experience some difficulty in obtaining builders to carry out repairs to older properties and there is often unavoidable delay, but we have not had to use our powers to do work in default. It may be possible to carry out house to house inspection at some future date.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Despite every help and assistance given to owners there is a failure of make full use of this scheme. The majority of grants are still being made to owner/occupiers.

RENT ACT, 1957

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received, the provisions of this Act are not now being used.

SLUM CLEARANCE

The demand for houses is greater than ever, and at the end of the year there were 1,705 on the waiting list despite all efforts by the Corporation to provide additional houses. The rehousing of the Crimea Road, Sebastopol Road, Alexandra Road Clearance Areas was completed and it was pleasing to see the demolition of these properties. There still remains the Church Street and North Lane areas to be rehoused, and it is hoped that accommodation for these occupants will soon become available at the new housing estate on Tice's Meadow.

It was necessary to make five Closing Orders on houses; in two instances undertakings were accepted to carry out specified works, which will, in the opinion of the local authority, render the houses fit.

In the foreseeable future a new Housing Act containing a different standard of unfitness may be introduced.

HOUSING IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

Much good work has been done by indicating on the official search to intending purchasers of larger houses suitable for multiple lettings that a one direction notice under Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1961, will be served. This has usually brought assurances as to how the houses are intended to be occupied, thus preventing multiple letting at the outset.

Unsatisfactory conditions have been found and in these instances steps have been taken to reduce the number of families and provide additional facilities. It is most difficult to keep these houses under constant supervision as we know from experience that the change of occupancy is frequent.

LOCAL LAND CHARGES, ETC.

Information was supplied in respect of 656 properties upon a request for official search of the Land Charges Register.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

No action has been taken towards forming a smoke controlled area. The main source of air pollution in the district continued to be domestic, but a great number of houses are now turning to central heating. The Council's permission is sought for boiler installations.

NOISE NUISANCE

The general public are becoming more noise conscious. Nuisances have mostly arisen from factories and warehouses situated in close proximity to dwellings and managements have been most co-operative in these matters. The planning authority must be ever vigilant on this subject when giving approval to new industry.

DRAINAGE

In all cases of properties scheduled for demolition the old drainage systems were properly disconnected from the sewers. Obstructed drains were cleared at 106 premises. In four houses it was found necessary to carry out partial reconstruction.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1965

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1965

There are no premises within the Borough licensed under these Acts.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There is a large open air pool owned by the Council. A much needed amenity in the form of a new indoor swimming bath was provided during the year. Both are equipped with up-to-date filtration and chlorination plants. All samples of water taken proved satisfactory.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Two premises are licensed as pet shops in the district, they are kept under supervision and maintained in a satisfactory manner.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

This Act came into force on the 1st April, 1965. The number of registered premises is three.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

It was only necessary to draw the attention of shopkeepers to minor contraventions of this Act. One application under Section 1(4) was received, and an order made exempting this class of shop so that it could open six days a week with no half-day closing. There have now been three exemption orders made under this Act. Sunday trading and mobile shops still bring their problems and new legislation is badly needed.

SHOPS (EARLY CLOSING DAY) ACT, 1965

This Act enables shopkeepers to choose their own early closing day. This was welcomed by many small traders. The shopping centre has continued with mid-week closing, although some traders are now on a five day week. In adjoining districts where a six day

shopping week has been adopted some confusion has been caused to the shopping public by lack of uniformity among the traders.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Caravans attached to pleasure fairs and circuses visiting the town are subject to constant supervision.

The built up nature of the Borough avoids the problem of caravan sites encountered in many areas and no site licences were issued during the year.

The sites provided for military personnel and the caravans stationed on various building sites throughout the Camp are under the direct control of the Army Authority.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE

There is no registered Common Lodging House in the Borough.

R O D E N T A N D P E S T C O N T R O L

One Rodent Operator is employed for this purpose, and a systematic inspection of the area is made for the presence of rats and mice. Regular inspection of the Council's tip, sewage works and building sites are made and the necessary disinfection work carried out. A free service is provided for domestic premises, and where business premises are affected the charges are based on actual costs. In a few instances we have a yearly contract. Warfarin continued to be used as the most effective poison, and in no instance has Warfarin resistance been discovered.

The sewers were test baited as required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

PEST CONTROL

During the year complaints were received of wasps, ants and flies which the department dealt with effectively.

Details of the work and materials used are summarised as follows.

Number of Properties inspected	770
Number of Properties found to be infested	173
Number of Dwelling Houses treated	167
Number of Business and Agricultural Premises treated	4
Total Number of visits, inspections, prebaiting and baiting	2,179

TOTAL QUANTITY OF MATERIAL USED

6 cwt. Pinhead Oatmeal	48 lbs. Castor Sugar
5 cwt. Cut Wheat	36 lbs. Lard
1 cwt. Stale Bread	10 gallons raw Linseed Oil
1,700 Polythene Bags	

TOTAL QUANTITY OF POISON USED

150 lbs. Warfarin 5	98 lbs. Cymag
1 lb. Paranitrophenol	30 lbs. Deldrin

The Council continued membership of the North Hants Pest Control Committee, which comprises eight local authorities and military representatives. The meetings are held quarterly in different districts, problems arising are discussed, films shown and technical lectures given by Ministry experts in the field of rodents and other pests.

A wide variety of insects, some harmless, invade our homes and we sometimes seek the help of the British Museum who offer a free identification service before we give help and advice to householders.

Sixty-four wasps nests were destroyed.

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES

Personal effects and premises of prospective Corporation tenants are inspected for vermin, and treatment arranged if necessary. Private houses are inspected and disinfested upon complaint of infestation from the owner or occupier, and treatment is carried out according to circumstances.

ASSISTED BURIALS, NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 50

In two cases action was necessary under this Section during 1966. The local authority is responsible for the burial or cremation of any person who has died in the district (other than in hospital) without known relatives of financial means or where no suitable funeral arrangements can be made by any other person.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Detailed inspection of premises registered under this Act will be completed in the new year without the employment of additional staff. The administration of the Act and Regulations has not presented any major problems to your inspectors, but extra responsibilities in dealing with accident prevention have arisen.

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection
Offices	5	95	77
Retail Shops	8	286	112
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	2	30	24
Catering Establishments open to the public	3	43	12
Fuel Storage Depots	1	5	3
TOTALS	19	459	228
TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT - 378			

ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

Section	No. of Contraventions found		Section	No. of Contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness	5	15	Eating facilities	-
5	Overcrowding	3	16	Floors, passages and stairs	11
6	Temperature	14	17	Fencing exposed parts of machinery	2
7	Ventilation	8	18	Protection of young persons working dangerous machinery	-
8	Lighting	9	19	Training of young persons working dangerous machinery	-
9	Sanitary con- veniences	12	23	Prohibition of heavy work	-
10	Washing facilities	25	24	First Aid general provisions	5
11	Supply of drinking water	1			
12	Clothing accommodation	2			
				TOTAL	98

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	947
Retail Shops	1,829
Wholesale departments, Warehouses	414
Catering establishments open to the public	223
Fuel Storage Depots	18
TOTAL	3,431
TOTAL MALES	1,541
TOTAL FEMALES	1,890

REPORTED ACCIDENTS

These occurred as follows:

Offices	1
Wholesale shops, warehouses	1
Retail shops	11
TOTAL	13

Each case was investigated and the necessary advice or formal warning given. It is apparent that there was a need for legislation to prevent accidents in non-industrial employment.

F A C T O R I E S

The following tables give details of the administration of the Factories Act, 1961, during the year.

INSPECTIONS

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories (non-mechanical)	8	3	-	-
Factories (mechanical)	129	37	-	-
Other Premises	3	3	-	-
TOTAL	140	43	-	-

The portion of the Act administered by local authority officers is so small that it could be incorporated with the duties of the Factory Inspector and would save duplication of visits by various officers.

NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions
Unsuitable sanitary conveniences	2	2	-	1	-

OUTWORKERS

Three notifications were received in respect of outworkers, all engaged in the making of wearing apparel. Home visits were made and no unsatisfactory conditions were found.

The following is a list of trades carried out at the registered factories.

Battery manufacturers	Firewood merchants
Book repairers	Glass cutter
Cardboard cartons	Joinery and timber products
Cycle repairers	Laundries
Dairy	Motor repairs
Electrical engineering	Manufacturing chemist
Opticians	French polisher
Printing	Hatter
Photographers	Knitwear
Sausage makers	Launderette
Sign makers	Medal maker
Tailors	Musical instrument maker
Tent makers	Plumbers
Weighing machine repairers	Polo stick manufacturers
Bakers	Marine store
Briar pipe makers	Radio and T.V. Repairers
Coffin makers	Sculptor (Monumental)
Concrete products	Sewing machine repairers
Dressmakers	Saddlers
Electric blanket makers	Typewriter repairers
Light engineering	Upholsterers
	Waste food by-products

I N S P E C T I O N A N D S U P E R V I S I O N O F F O O D

INSPECTION OF MEAT

A one hundred per cent inspection of all animals killed at the Military slaughterhouse was maintained and the charges as laid down in the regulations were made by this Authority. Although the quality of the animals killed varies considerably there has been a large decrease in the amount of meat it has been found necessary to condemn. Tuberculosis, once most prevalent, is now almost non-existent. The building of the new abattoir is progressing favourably and the Military Authorities hope to commence operating about the middle of the year. The facilities for training purposes will be greatly improved and pig killing will be incorporated. There is only one wholesale meat depot in the town and the majority of butchers obtain their supplies from other districts. Careful checks are kept on meat vehicles entering the town.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Sheep and Lambs
Number killed	1,254	65	1,843
Number inspected	1,254	65	1,843
<u>All diseases except T.B. and Cysticerci</u>			
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-
Parts	645	35	247
Percentage	51.4%	53.8%	1.3%
<u>Cysticercosis</u>			
Parts	5	-	-
Carcases treated by refrigeration	5	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-

THE WEIGHT OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OFFAL AMOUNTED TO: 4 tons 10 cwts. 13 lbs.

OTHER FOOD CONDEMNED

Meat and Meat Products

71 lbs. ox kidneys
12 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. ox liver
1,117 lbs. meat
18 lbs. bacon
9 lbs. leg of mutton

Canned Goods

321 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. tinned meat
1,117 lbs. tinned miscellaneous foodstuffs
203 lbs. frozen foodstuffs

Fish

126 lbs. herrings
28 lbs. rock salmon
28 lbs. cod roe
4 lbs. scampi
10 lbs. cockles
10 lbs. mussels
84 lbs. skate

Groceries, Fruit, etc.

70 lbs. black grapes
965 lbs. melons
112 lbs. potatoes
1,230 lbs. pears

THE WEIGHT OF OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED AMOUNTED TO: 2 tons 9 cwts. 1 qtr. 23 lbs.

TOTAL WEIGHT OF ALL FOOD, INCLUDING DISEASED MEAT, ETC., CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR:

6 tons 19 cwts. 2 qtrs. 8 lbs.

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

Five cases of Cysticercus Bovis were found, one less than the previous year. These carcasses are suitably labelled and placed into cold stores for the requisite period, and when consigned to other districts for cold storage treatment are supervised and released under direction from that Authority's inspector.

POULTRY INSPECTION

There is one poultry processing plant in the district which is one of the largest in the country, having an annual throughput of over 7 million birds. This company has complete control, keeping their own breeding stock, hatcheries and broiler houses and processing their own food supplies, which is all under strict control. Due to this, finding a diseased bird is extremely rare, and birds rejected during processing are usually condemned because of bruising, malformations, etc.

A "spotter" system is employed in the factory. The staff, who rapidly become used to the system, draw the attention of the supervisors to any apparent abnormality. The standard set is a high one. Seventy-one visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year.

I am indebted to the management for supplying the following figures.

Total number of birds processed during the year:

(a) Broilers	6,995,066
(b) Hens and cockerels	81,242
	<hr/>
	7,076,308

Percentage of birds rejected as unfit:

(a) Dead on arrival	0.196
(b) Rejected during process	0.059
	<u>0.255</u>

Weight of poultry condemned: 70,400 lbs.

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OTHER FOOD

A condemnation certificate is issued for all meat and other foods condemned. At the slaughterhouse the meat and offal is stained prior to removal for processing into fertiliser. Other foods are taken to the Corporation tip and disposed of under supervision.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

Two slaughtermen were licensed by the Corporation during the year.

BAKEHOUSES

Another small bakery closed during the year, leaving only six in the Borough, none of which is of modern design or construction. A considerable amount of bread and confectionery is manufactured outside the district and retailed from delivery vans or retail premises in the town.

THE LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1963

There are no premises in the Borough coming within the provisions of these Regulations.

COMPLAINTS OF FOREIGN BODIES AND SUBSTANCES IN FOOD

One of the disturbing features of modern food manufacture is the frequency with which consumers discover foreign bodies in their food. These complaints appear to be increasing and there is clearly too much carelessness in manufacturing and packaging, to which firms must give their urgent attention. All complaints receive a thorough investigation which is time consuming but necessary before the complete facts are placed before the Committee for their decision. In many instances a severe warning is given to the person or firm concerned, and in other instances it is necessary to prosecute. Legal proceedings were instituted in two cases with the following results.

Under Section 2, Food and Drugs Act, 1955

1. Fish and Chips containing a Cigarette End - Firm fined £20 with £5 5s. costs
2. Almonds containing Maggots - Firm fined £40 with £5 5s. costs.

ICE CREAM

The majority of shops and cafes selling ice cream are supplied by the large manufacturers, but at six premises a cold mix is manufactured.

Constant vigilance is necessary on mobile vehicles retailing ice cream in the district. Some difficulty is experienced in finding these vehicles at a time convenient for obtaining samples and for taking them to the Public Health Laboratory at Guildford for examination.

Fifteen samples were taken and submitted to the methylene blue test, thirteen indicating a satisfactory standard and two being below standard, but in the latter case follow-up samples were satisfactory.

MILK SUPPLY

There is one H.T.S.T. Plant in the Borough, the remainder of the milk sold is processed and bottled in plants outside the district and brought in for distribution from local depots.

All milk in distribution is sampled regularly and subjected to the methylene blue and phosphatase tests. It is pleasing to report that 142 samples were taken and they all proved satisfactory.

Small quantities of Sterilised Milk are sold locally but Ultra Heat Treated Milk has not yet been sold in this area.

Seventy-one Dealers (Prepacked Milk) Licences have been issued and one Dealers (Pasteurisers) Licence.

Dairymen make every endeavour to see that milk is delivered in clean bottles, but their task is made most difficult by the misuse of bottles by the general public before return to the dairy. Perhaps in the near future we shall see glass bottles replaced completely by disposable cartons.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT AND ORDERS

It has been found necessary from time to time to remind shopkeepers of their responsibilities under the provisions of this Act and Orders made thereunder.

FOOD HYGIENE

Most of this work is of an advisory nature and persuasion is widely used to remedy unsatisfactory conditions. Inspectors are continually endeavouring to maintain satisfactory standards of cleanliness in all food premises. The food trade in general is not attracting a high quality staff, and both occupiers and staff are continually reminded of their responsibilities on routine visits.

The 'No Smoking' rule introduced by one store has become generally accepted by the public and I see no reason why this should not be acceptable throughout all food premises, but the initiative must come from the shopkeepers.

The importance of stock rotation in frozen cabinets is most important, and we encourage shopkeepers to introduce their own coding on foodstuffs with a limited shelf life.

The following table classifies food premises subject to the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960.

Type of Premises	Number	No. fitted to comply with Reg. 16 (W.H. basin and H and C)	No. to which Regulation 19 applies (sinks)	No. fitted to comply with Regulation 19
Butchers	18	18	18	18
Bakehouses	5	5	5	5
Bakers confectioners	11	11	11	11
Food markets	5	5	5	5
Confectioners	34	34	34	34
Cafes & Restaurants	32	32	32	32
Grocers	68	68	68	68
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	18	18	18	18
Fishmongers	4	4	4	4
Fish fryers	8	8	8	8
Public Houses, Hotels and other Licensed Premises	53	53	53	53
Factory and School Canteens	17	17	17	17
Milk Pasteurising	1	1	1	1
Ice Cream Manufacturers	6	6	6	6

The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966 came into force on the 1st January, 1967, but amending regulations were issued prior to their coming into operation.

The principal requirements of these regulations relate to the cleanliness of stalls and delivery vehicles; the hygienic handling of foods; the cleanliness of persons engaged in the handling of food; and the provision of a water supply and washing facilities.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

During the year ended 31st March, 1967, one hundred and ten samples were obtained under the Food and Drugs Act 1955 and examined by our Public Analyst. These were classified as follows:

Drugs	38	Meat Products	6
Milk	12	Tinned Meat Products	7
Cream	1	Miscellaneous Foods	38
Sausages (Beef and Pork)	8		

There was an increased proportion in the number of drugs sampled and I appreciate the co-operation received from managers of chemists shops. It was necessary only for informal samples to be taken as the standards were extremely high and when dangerous drugs are taken it avoids a third portion being kept in the department whilst awaiting the Analyst's report. In five instances it was necessary for manufacturers to amend labelling of their products in order to comply with the Labelling of Food Order.

The help and assistance received from Mr. D. D. Moir and Mr. J. Palgrave, our Public Analysts, is very much appreciated.

PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN FOODSTUFFS

In view of the increasing public concern regarding the contamination of foodstuffs by pesticide residues, this authority welcomed an opportunity of co-operating with other authorities in carrying out a systematic survey. This survey is intended to indicate whether foodstuffs in common use are in fact being contaminated, and the extent of any contamination. Samples of bread, carrots and apples have so far been submitted for examination.

INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following classified table shows details of the nature and number of inspections made during the year and the number of notices served.

(a) Number and nature of inspections

Houses inspected under the Public Health Acts and Housing Acts	..	..	987
Drainage and drain testing	..	..	412
Water supply and sampling	..	..	12
Infectious diseases	..	..	117
Vacant lands and dumps	..	..	42
Watercourses and ditches	..	..	39
Moveable dwellings	..	..	1
Keeping of animals	..	..	15
Shops inspected under Shops Act, 1950	..	..	16
Pet shops	..	..	27
Council houses prior to vacation and prospective tenants for			
Council houses	..	..	568
Houses in multiple occupation	..	..	19
Chicken factory	..	..	71
Smoke nuisances	..	..	9
Noise abatement	..	..	29
Mortgage investigations (overcrowding)	..	..	247
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	..	..	378
Slaughterhouse	..	..	144
Butchers	..	..	53
Fishmongers and poulterers	..	..	33
Greengrocers and fruiterers	..	..	45
Grocers	..	..	59
Fried fish shops	..	..	8
Dairies	..	..	4
Ice cream premises	..	..	19
Restaurants	..	..	129
Food stalls	..	..	46
Bakehouses	..	..	14
Other food premises	..	..	9
Vehicles and stalls	..	..	14
Food and Drugs sampling	..	..	113
Milk sampling	..	..	142

216 complaints were received and investigated during the year.

(b) Number of notices served

Preliminary notices	81
Preliminary notices complied with	53
Statutory notices served	3
Statutory notices complied with	3

HOUSES IMPROVED

Roofs repaired	26
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed	13
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	10
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired or renewed	16
Floors repaired or renewed	11
Windows repaired and made to open	21
Doors repaired or renewed	1
Stairs repaired	1
Damp walls remedied	27
Brickwork and rendering repaired or renewed	7
W.C.'s repaired or renewed	10
Water heaters provided or repaired	4
Chimneys repaired	2
Water pipes renewed	3
Waste pipes renewed	2

