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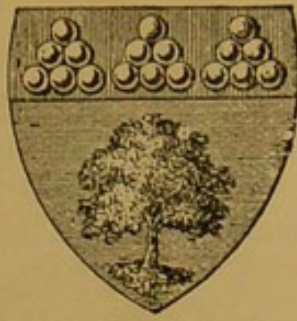
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Aldershot Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR

—❧— 1908 —❧—

BY

E. W. ROUTLEY, M.D., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

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**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE ALDERSHOT
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the health of your district for 1908.

Below is a statistical summary of the various rates for the year, compared with the rates for England and Wales during the same period :—

RATES CALCULATED PER THOUSAND OF POPULATION.
ALDERSHOT (TOWN ONLY).

	For 1908.	Average for years 1898—1908.	England and Wales, 1908.	76 Large Towns, 1908.	142 Smaller Towns.	Rural Districts of England and Wales.
Birth Rate	26·9	30·1	26·5	27·0	26·0	26·2
Death Rate	11·8	14·4	14·7	15·8	14·7	13·8
Infant Mortality (Rate per 1,000 Births).	110	139	121	128	124	110
Zymotic Death Rate ...	1·1	1·7	1·23	1·59	1·26	·99

I have again to thank you for your courtesy and assistance during the year.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. W. ROUTLEY.

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REPORT.

—:O:—

POPULATION of ALDERSHOT TOWN FOR 1908.—There are various methods of estimating the population of a district. The official method is by assuming that the population increases year by year in geometrical progression. By this method the average population for 1908 is computed to be 20,490, which means that we assume that the increase in numbers has continued at the same rate since the last census as it did in the previous decennial period. There are certain ways of checking this estimate: one is by finding out the number of inhabited houses, and multiplying this number by the number (5·6) which was found at the last census to represent the average number of persons in every house. The rate collectors' books show that the average number of assessments for the two half-year periods for 1908 was 4,025; the number of lock-up shops, stables, &c., was 316; the number of empty houses, not being exactly known, introduces a very disturbing factor into the problem, but I shall assume that on an average 100 houses were vacant at any one time throughout the year, and I have reasons for thinking that I am not far wrong in this calculation. This gives 3,609 as the average number of inhabited houses, and, multiplied by 5·6, the factor mentioned above, will give a population of 20,210.

The school attendance records are also of help in estimating a possible increase or decrease of the population. I find that in 1908 the number on the books stood at 3,196, an increase of 116 on the previous year, and, assuming that the number of children attending school was in the same proportion (viz., 15·8 per cent.) to the general population as it was in 1901, we arrive at a population of 20,227.

Both of these two methods mentioned above concur in placing the number of residents at about 200 less than

that obtained by the official method of calculation, and the difference is thus seen to be so trifling that I shall assume in my calculation that the population has reached the total of 20,490, as estimated by the official calculation, although it is possible that a slight over-estimate has taken place. The excess of births over deaths, while trustworthy in some towns as a means of checking an estimate, is of little use in Aldershot, where the population is constantly changing in character and fluctuating in number.

Population at the previous census of 1891 and 1901, together with the estimated population for 1908.—

1891.	1901.	Estimated July 1st, 1908.
Town 12,641	16,726	20,490
South Camp ... 12,954	14,248	14,530
Total 25,595	30,974	35,020

The population of the South Camp appears, from information courteously given me by the Principal Medical Officer, to be constituted as follows :—

Men	11,497
Women	1,112
Children	1,921
	14,530

OLD AGE PENSIONS.—One of the most important enactments of the year was the Old Age Pension Act, which confers on all persons over the age of 70, with certain qualifications, a weekly pension. At the census of 1901 there were 254 persons (men 112, women 142), over that age in Aldershot Town. Proceeding on the assumption that there is still the same proportion of persons over 70 in the population, it appears that in 1908 there were 311 persons who had reached that age. It is interesting to note that 160 (or 51 per cent.) applied for pensions, and that 136 (41 per cent.) were successful in their application. The Act comes into operation on January 1st, 1909.

RATEABLE VALUE : ALDERSHOT TOWN.—

1901	...	£77,840
1902	...	£80,827
1903	...	£83,946
1904	...	£87,064
1905	...	£89,406
1906	...	£91,453
1907	...	£92,776
1908	...	£93,000

The rateable value for the South Camp is £52,464; the total rateable value is therefore £145,464.

ACTS OF PARLIAMENT which have been adopted :—

Public Health Amendment Act, 1890 } Adopted
 Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890 } Feb. 1891.
 Private Streets Works Act, 1872, adopted July, 1907.
 Notification of Births Act, 1907. This Act has not
 been adopted in Aldershot.

BYE-LAWS.—Bye-laws with respect to the following are in force in Aldershot :—

Cleansing of Footways, Pavements, and Cesspools.
 Nuisances.
 Common Lodging Houses.
 Slaughter Houses.
 Hackney Carriages.
 Pleasure Grounds.
 New Streets and Buildings.
 Mortuary.
 Offensive Trades.
 Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.
 Houses let in Lodgings.
 Tents, Vans, and Sheds.

AREA.—The area of the Urban District extends over 4,178 acres, which may be divided thus .—

South Camp	...	...	...	2,746
Town	...	...	...	1,432

The density of the population of the South Camp is 5 persons, and that of the Town a little over 14 persons per acre.

GEOLOGICAL DATA.—The northern part of the district is situated on the lower middle and upper Bagshot sands,

while the southern part rests on the London clay. Along the banks of the small River Blackwater, which roughly forms the eastern boundary of the district, the soil is alluvium. At its highest point the town, which is mainly situated on a hill, reaches an altitude of 393 feet above Ordnance datum, while at the Sewage Works, where the lowest point is reached, the height is 231 feet.

BIRTHS.—1,027 births were registered belonging to the Urban District, separated thus:—

Civil ...	{	Town	542	{	Males ...	289
					Females	253
	{	Aldershot Residents in Farnham Workhouse	10	{	Males ...	2
					Females	8
Military ...	{	South Camp	475	{	Males ...	240
					Females	235
		Total	1027	{	Males ...	531
				{	Females	496

Twenty-one out of 552 civilian births were registered as illegitimate, a proportion of 3·8 per cent. All of the 10 births in the Workhouse were illegitimate.

STILL BIRTHS.—As Inspector of Midwives, I receive official notification of all still-births encountered by midwives in their practice. During 1908 I received 13 such notifications, out of a total number of 534 accouchements attended by them; in addition 12 still births took place in the Louise Margaret Hospital, out of a total number of 367 cases.

BIRTH RATES.—These rates are calculated per 1,000 of estimated population:—

	Whole district.	Town.	South Camp.	England & Wales
1904	29·0	31·4	26·0	27·9
1905	29·8	30·0	29·5	27·9
1906	32·8	30·6	35·8	27·0
1907	31·4	27·4	36·8	26·3
1908	29·3	26·9	32·6	26·5

BIRTH RATE FOR THE TOWN.—The average birth-rate for the Town for the past ten years has been 30·1 per 1,000,

so that the rate for 1908 shows a considerable decrease, in common with that for the country generally. It is possible, however, that the decrease is more apparent than real, because we are dealing with a small population and small figures, and a slight error in over-estimation of the population will lead to a marked error in the recorded birth or death rates. In the following paragraphs will be found reasons for believing that the birth rate is certainly not declining nearly so rapidly as the above figures would indicate.

BIRTH RATES FOR THE CAMP.—Here the apparently high recorded birth rate is due to the fact that at the Military Lying-in Hospital, a large number of soldiers' wives are brought in from neighbouring Camps, and thus a number of births, which in the ordinary way would be accredited to these out-lying districts, are registered as taking place in Aldershot.

The following is an analysis of the live births taking place in the above-named Institution, and I have to thank Major Green, R.A.M.C., the officer in charge of the hospital, for his courtesy in supplying me with the particulars:—

Total number of Live Births in the year 1908:—

To women living in Military Quarters	{	North Camp	... 33	}	204
		South Camp	... 149		
		Other Camps	... 22		
To women previously living in	{	Aldershot Town	... 94	}	151
		Farnborough	... 32		
		Other Districts	... 25		

South Camp, 149; Other Districts, 206; Total 355

The total number of registered births in the South Camp in 1908 was 475, so that if one deducts 206 (belonging to outside districts) the nett total is only 269, which gives a corrected birth rate of only 11·6 per 1,000 of estimated population. It will be seen also that 94 births really belong to the Town, and this number added to the 552 actually taking place in the Town will make a corrected birth rate for the Town of 31·1, which is probably much nearer the mark than the recorded one of 26·9. Thus, as far as Aldershot Town is concerned, the actual birth rate is far in excess of that of the average in the whole country.

DEATHS.—321 deaths occurred in Aldershot in 1908, of which 210 took place in the Town, and 111 in the South Camp.

In order that one may get an exact idea of the mortality however, certain corrections are necessary. Three deaths of non-residents in the Town, and 16 in the Camp, have to be deducted from the total, while the deaths (in Public Institutions elsewhere) of two residents in the Town, and two in the South Camp, have to be added to it. In addition 33 deaths of Aldershot residents took place in the Workhouse Infirmary at Farnham, and should be properly included in the Town mortality.

The corrected figures stand therefore thus:—

Aldershot Urban District 339 deaths.

	Deaths.	Males.	Females.
Town ...	242	128	114
South Camp	97	57	90

The adjusted death rates therefore stand as follows:—

Whole District ...	9.6
Town ...	11.8
South Camp ...	6.6

The Death Rates for the last 5 years are as follows:—

	Whole District.	Town.	South Camp.	England & Wales.
1904	9.4	13.0	4.3	16.2
1905	7.8	11.7	3.5	15.2
1906	11.0	14.7	6.3	15.4
1907	9.6	12.2	5.8	15.0
1908	9.6	11.8	6.6	14.7

The causes of death, arranged in age periods, will be found in Tables IV., IV.A, and IV.B.

Eight of the deaths taking place in the Town were uncertified, that is to say there was no medical certificate as to the cause of death, the latter being stated by the Registrar on information supplied by the relatives or others in connection with the deceased persons. It will be seen that the proportion of uncertified deaths, namely 4 per cent., is unduly high, when it is remembered that in the country generally it averages year by year no more than 1.6 per cent.

Nineteen inquests were held, 13 in the Town, and six in the South Camp.

The death rate for the Town is almost the lowest on record, and is a very fair index of the excellent state of the Public Health during 1908.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—103 deaths of children under one year of age took place, 63 in the Town and 40 in the South Camp.

The Infantile Mortality rates (calculated per 1,000 births) stand therefore as follows:—

Whole District	...	100
Town	...	114
South Camp	...	84

The causes of death, stated in weekly and monthly periods of the past year, will be found in Table V., V.A, and V.B.

Premature Birth, a noticeable feature in the mortality, accounted for 31 deaths or practically 30 per cent. of the whole. The usual proportion in the country generally is only 15 per cent., so that it is obvious that this condition repeatedly shown, as it is year after year, to be so large a cause of mortality in Aldershot, must be one which has special primary causes of its own; and one cannot therefore resist the conclusion that the excessive mortality ascribed to premature birth is due to venereal disease in the parents, a disease which is probably—next to tuberculosis—the most virulent enemy to private and public health.

Seventeen deaths took place from diarrhoeal diseases, nearly all of them in July and August during a spell of very hot, dry weather. Practically all of the children were between the ages of three and twelve months, and the special incidence of this fatal diarrhoea in infants who are being brought up by hand instead of Nature's prescribed method, has been so frequently noted that it has become a truism.

On the whole, however, the infantile death rate is well below the previous ten years' average, and below that for the county generally. Three thousand stout cards, bearing instructions as to infant feeding, cleanliness, and the hygiene of the child, are at present being circulated to all the houses in Aldershot.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

176 Cases in the whole district were notified in 1908, 85 in the Town, 91 in the South Camp. The monthly incidence is shown below:—

1908.	Small Pox.	Enteric Fever.	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Totals.
January ...	...	...	3	1	...	2	6
February ...	...	...	4	1	...	1	6
March ...	...	...	9	7	...	1	17
April ...	...	1	2	9	...	...	12
May ...	...	...	5	1	1	2	9
June ...	...	...	2	5	1	1	9
July ...	...	...	4	2	...	1	7
August ..	...	...	2	2	...	1	5
September ...	...	...	1	2	...	...	3
October ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
November ...	...	...	3	4	...	...	7
December ...	...	...	...	3	...	...	3
Totals ...	...	1	35	38	2	9	85

Below is stated the number of cases occurring during the last five years in the Town:—

DISEASES.	1908.	1907.	1906.	1905.	1904.
Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria ...	35	34	46	39	59
Scarlet Fever ...	38	39	28	27	20
Enteric Fever ...	1	3	3	2	...
Puerperal Fever ...	2	...	3	2	...
Erysipelas ...	9	3	8	12	10
Total ...	85	79	88	82	89

The mortality from these diseases, as shown below, was very slight:—

		Town.	South Camp.
Diphtheria		2	1
Scarlet Fever		—	1
Enteric Fever		—	3
Puerperal Fever		1	—
Total		3	5

The Zymotic death rate for the Town (from the seven principal Zymotic diseases, namely, small pox, measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, whooping cough, "fever," and diarrhoea) was 1·1 per 1,000 of the population, an exceedingly low proportion.

DIPHTHERIA.—35 cases of Diphtheria were notified in the Town, and I am glad to be able to record that 33 of them were removed to the Isolation Hospital. In two of the cases removed to the hospital, bacteriological examination showed that they were not cases of true diphtheria, and after a short period of isolation they were conveyed home again. In the two cases that were notified as diphtheria and isolated at home, no bacteriological examination was made.

The 35 notified cases represented 31 infected houses, and were distributed as follows:—

Lower end of Town, comprising Ash Road,			
North Lane, etc.		...	10 houses.
Centre of Town		...	12 houses.
Holly Road and Mount Pleasant		...	3 houses.
West End District		...	6 houses.

The sanitary condition of these houses was as follows:—In no less than 12 out of the 31 houses, the drains were found to be grossly defective, as exemplified by application of the smoke test, while three were overcrowded, one was damp, and two were dirty and ill-kept.

The seasonal distribution of diphtheria showed the same curious incidence as in former years, namely, its occurrence mainly in the first six months of the year, the larger number of cases appearing about March. As I have pointed out in previous reports, this is somewhat different from the experience in most towns, where the prevalence is greatest in the late autumn and the beginning of winter. It is possible that the bleak winds in the spring have some modifying influence in this direction by disseminating disease germs

in the dust. The fact, again, that there are very large numbers of horses closely aggregated in the Camp and Town is of great importance in connection with the storage and collection of manure. The advent and increase in number of motor vehicles is greatly to be welcomed on general sanitary grounds, and the gradual but inevitable displacement of the horse will not be regretted by those who take an interest in the advancement of Public Health.

It is interesting in this connection to note the somewhat striking incidence of diphtheria in families connected in one way or another with occupations which are likely to be associated with unsanitary conditions, and which may point, to a large extent, to the manner in which the infection was conveyed. For example, out of the 35 notified cases, I find that in six cases the father's occupation was a carman; in two the fathers were cabdrivers; in one the father was a driver in the artillery; in one the father was a cowman; in one a hawker, and in one a rag and bone dealer. It will be noticed what a large number, comparatively, there are who are constantly engaged in the management and care of horses; and, knowing the occasional incidence of diphtheria in the horse, and the facility for conveying infection by dirt and manure, it is reasonable to suppose that the very condition likely to give rise to such a disease as diphtheria, may be often present in the homes of those who follow these occupations, and are careless as to the value of cleanliness and sanitation. In one instance, where a mother and child were both attacked at some interval by diphtheria, the evidence was very conclusive that the husband, who followed the occupation of cowman, was very careless in his habits with regard to his clothes, wearing them outside and also at home laden with filth and manure, and entirely ignoring any sensible precautions as to cleanliness in his house.

SCARLET FEVER.--Thirty-eight cases, of which 33 were removed to hospital, were notified in 1908; 24 were males, 14 females.

The close association of Town and Camp accounts in a great measure for the cases that are continually and sporadically cropping up in various quarters, while the common occurrence of mild unrecognised cases, handing on, or rather breathing on, the infection to fresh cases, keeps one

constantly on the alert with a disease so easily disseminated as scarlet fever. A large number of cases, probably nearly all of them, are certainly contracted in the Elementary Schools, where one too often finds that a child has had a sore throat and redness of skin, has been kept home a day or so, and on the disappearance of acute symptoms is at once sent back to school, frequently with disastrous results to his or her school companions.

In eight of the notified cases, the drains were found to have gross defects; overcrowding was present in one case, and three of the houses were kept in an extremely dirty condition.

In a great many of these cases one finds that the history of the child having had a rash over the body is not forthcoming, and this for several reasons. One very common reason is that in many cases the child goes to bed with its clothes on, and as the rash never appears above the neck, it is not discovered, and another reason undoubtedly is that when viewed by gas or candlelight, a slight rash is very difficult of detection. For the information of parents generally, I append the more prominent symptoms of scarlet fever:—

- (1) Sudden vomiting without any apparent cause for it.
- (2) Headache and shivering, followed by a sore throat, and flushed face.
- (3) On the following day, or within 36 hours of the first symptoms of illness, a fine red rash appears, first on the neck and chest, and then spreads over the arms and legs.
- (4) A typical feature of the disease is that while the face is heavily flushed, there is generally a ring of pallor around the mouth.
- (5) After six or seven days, the skin commences to peel on the neck and chest, consisting usually of a fine powdery character on the body, but coming away in large flakes on the hands and feet.

ERYSIPELAS.—Nine cases occurred, and the usual steps were taken with regard to cleansing and disinfection where indicated.

PUERPERAL SEPTICÆMIA.—Two cases, of which one proved fatal, were notified in the Town. In one case, some blame seemed to be attached to the midwife, who

was brought before the Midwives' Committee and censured. The fatal case presented some unusual features, which I brought forward in a special report to the Midwives' Committee. In neither of these cases was there any fault to find with the sanitary conditions.

ENTERIC FEVER.—One case occurred in April in a young man living in the Town, but engaged in the Camp in the employment of emptying the dustbins and receptacles; the drainage at his house was defective. He was removed to hospital and eventually recovered.

Careful inquiry seemed to show that in this case the infection did not arise in connection with food, and there were no grounds for attributing it to water. In the absence of any evidence in this direction, it was thought probable that the infection was conveyed by the inhalation in the form of dust in the course of his work, especially as one or two cases of the disease had been reported in the area where he was employed in scavenging.

SMALL POX.—A wooden structure erected some years ago is held in readiness for cases of this disease. There were no cases in the district during 1908, and indeed there has not been any necessity for its use since it was erected.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES (NOT NOTIFIABLE).

MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH, CHICKEN POX AND MUMPS.

Although, as mentioned in the heading, these diseases are officially not notifiable, yet in the early part of 1908, I instituted a system of notification by the Head Teachers of Schools, which has been of very great benefit to the Health Department. As soon as the Head Teacher has reason to believe that any one of his or her scholars is suffering from either of the above, he sends me a notification form from a book supplied to him, with particulars as to name, address, and the school standard. Thus we are enabled to get very early information of the occurrence of these very infectious, and (to children) very fatal diseases. Early notification is the keystone to success in dealing with zymotic disease prevention, and in certain instances during the past year, the Infants' Departments of three of the Schools have been closed with notable success for a limited period, on the first occurrence of infectious cases; on the re-opening of these particular departments, it appeared, from the excellent attendances obtained, that the im-

portance of taking these early steps before any real headway had been made by the epidemic, was abundantly justified.

In all, 85 cases of Measles, and four of Chicken Pox were thus notified to me.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.—Seven deaths from measles, and one from whooping cough, occurred during the year, and all of them in children under five years of age; six of the deaths from measles occurred in the latter part of the year. I have in previous reports pointed out what, in my opinion, is the great unwisdom in admitting children under five years of age to the Elementary Schools. From a health point of view (which is the only really important consideration in children) it is unwise and dangerous to receive children at these early ages into large schools. The mortality may seem only a small one, but the future deterioration of health, and the permanent damage done in a very large number of cases by these diseases (and of which the mortality is only an index) makes the attempt at education at too early a period of life, a very questionable proceeding.

I am inclined to think also, that a great deal of mental as well as physical damage is caused by exciting the intellectual activity of the child in advance of its normal physiological requirements.

TUBERCULOUS DISEASES.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS (PHTHISIS or CONSUMPTION).—Twenty-eight deaths in the District were attributed to Tuberculosis of the Lungs, 20 occurring in the Town, and eight in the South Camp.

During the last five years the mortality in the Town from this disease was as follows:—

	1908.	1907.	1906.	1905.	1904.
Deaths from Phthisis	20	15	25	24	26
Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	·9	·7	1·2	1·1	1·1

The Death Rate for England and Wales was for the same period for this disease was 1·1.

Fifteen out of the 20 fatal cases occurred in individuals between the age of 25 and 65, and four of the deaths occurred in the Workhouse Infirmary.

By a regulation of the Local Government Board coming into force on Jan. 1st., 1909, notification of cases of Phthisis in Poor Law patients has been made compulsory, the main object being in the direction of sanitary supervision by the Local Authority of the homes and surroundings of those affected with the disease. The innovation promises to be of considerable value, as it brings within the reach of the Health Department many cases which can be directly supervised; while the distribution of pamphlets (which will be sent to every patient) dealing with the proper treatment and prevention of the disease, the investigation of the sanitary surroundings, and the subsequent disinfection of clothing, etc., will be of great practical benefit.

There is at present no local institution or sanatorium in which such patients can be received. A certain number are sent to the Workhouse Infirmary at Farnham, while others are either dealt with at home, or are sent for varying periods to sanatoria at a distance.

OTHER DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY ORGANS.

Thirty-seven deaths resulted from Pneumonia, Bronchitis and Pleurisy; 13 of these took place in children under five years of age, in many instances no doubt consequent on attacks of Measles or Whooping Cough, but not registered as directly due to these diseases.

CANCER—MALIGNANT DISEASE.

Eleven deaths resulted from Cancer, all of them, as is usually the case, occurring in the late periods of life.

INFLUENZA.

Three deaths from this disease were registered among persons at the higher ages. An epidemic of Influenza was present for about two months in the early part of the year, and was remarkable owing to the very large number of young persons and children who were attacked. A special report was made by me in connection with this, as the attendance at the West End Schools was largely interfered with. The disease was generally thought to have occurred in a somewhat mild form.

CIVIL ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

This institution is situated at North Town, on low-lying ground, in immediate proximity to the Town Cemetery. The staff consists of matron, nurse, cook, caretaker, and a maid.

The buildings comprise an Administrative Block, Scarlet Fever Block (12 beds), Diphtheria Block (12 beds), Observation Block (2 beds), Laundry Block, Discharge Block, Disinfecting Station and Coal House.

The cost of the Hospital for the year ending March 31st, 1908, was as follows.—

	£	s.	d.
Salaries	172	3	1
Fuel	63	14	11
Laundry Buildings and Machinery (Capital Outlay)	148	12	11
Rates and Taxes	13	14	7
Insurance	5	5	6
Food	175	0	4
Gas and Water	45	7	8
Drugs, &c.	39	16	2
Ambulance	28	11	0
Printing, &c.	5	17	3
Repairs	24	9	10
Renewals—Furniture and Utensils	32	4	1
Laundry and Maidservants ...	22	16	9
Other expenses	7	7	7
	785	1	8
Principal and Interest ...	236	0	0
	£1,021	1	8

The steam disinfector is a "modified" Washington-Lyon working at a pressure of 25 lbs. in the jacket, and 10 lbs. in the chamber. It has been used 96 times during the year; 1,967 articles (exclusive of those used in the Hospital) have been subjected to the process of steam disinfection.

The ambulance has been used 149 times, 107 of these being for the purpose of removal of patients and clothing, and the remainder for removing clothing, &c., for disinfection where no patient has been removed.

One hundred and seventeen houses have been visited, and 181 rooms disinfected. Certain of the schools have been disinfected on these occasions, mainly for the

prevention of measles or when an errant case of scarlet fever has been discovered at school. An equifex spray, with a solution of formalin (6 per cent.), is used on these occasions.

TABLE OF ADMISSIONS.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Observation Cases.
Number of patients admitted during 1908	31	29	3
Number of patients in Hospital on Dec. 31st, 1908	1	1	0

There were two deaths (both from diphtheria) in the Hospital during the year.

Two cases (one diphtheria and one scarlet fever) were admitted from Farnborough. Six cases under the care of the Guardians were also admitted during the year.

The diphtheria cases have, as a rule, been of a milder type than formerly, due, I believe, to the fact that more attention is now given by parents to early symptoms, and that those affected are removed to Hospital, where they can be treated, before it is too late.

Nasal diphtheria, in addition to the common form, was present in four cases; 26 out of the 29 diphtheria patients had albuminuria, usually very slight, at some time or other during the disease; 4 only suffered from paralytic symptoms, which eventually cleared up entirely during their stay in Hospital.

Among the 31 patients with scarlet fever 10 only contracted albuminuria, which in two cases was considerable, and represented serious disturbance in the kidneys; in the others it was slight and transient. Other complications were as follows:—Empyema (1 case), otitis (2 cases), and jaundice (1 case). In two cases I judged it advisable to remove the tonsils and adenoids before discharge from Hospital.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY.

The laboratory has been increasingly used during the year for the analysis of waters, sewage effluents, and food supplies when thought desirable. In addition bacteriological examinations have been made as follows:—

146	for suspected Diphtheria.
33	„ Tuberculosis.
3	„ Typhoid Fever (Widal).
3	„ Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.
11	„ Other infectious conditions.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water is supplied by the Aldershot Gas and Water Company, who have a series of ten artesian wells, sunk in the chalk below the London clay on the southern extremity of the district. The water is invariably pure and wholesome: it contains a considerable per-centage of saline constituents, which render it somewhat hard for domestic purposes. I have made several analyses of it during the year, and below will be found the general average results:

	Parts per 100,000.		Grains per Gallon.	
Total solids...	...	40'0	...	28
Volatile ...	...	12'0	...	8'4
Fixed ...	...	28'0	...	19'6
Chlorine ...	...	2'1	...	1'4
Free Ammonia ...	...	'000	...	'000
Organic Ammonia ...	...	'002	...	'001
Hardness ...	...	22'0	...	15'4
Temporary ...	...	16'0	...	11'2
Permanent ...	...	6'0	...	4'2
Nitrites ...	...	Nil.	...	Nil.
Nitrates ...	...	'5	...	'3
O ₂ absorbed in 4 hrs.				
at 37° C. ...	...	'01	...	'007
Phosphates ...	...	Traces.	...	Traces.

The nett consumption of water in Aldershot for the year 1908 was at the rate of 26'25 gallons per head, a slight increase on the previous year.

The number of new connections was 75, including two transfers from well supplies.

During the year the following extensions of water mains have been carried out:—

Hillside Road.
Southmead Road.

An additional service reservoir, capable of holding 1,500,000 gallons, has been completed during the year, and is now in use.

The rainfall for the year, as recorded at the Water Works, was 26'46 inches.

During the year three surface wells have been examined by me, the water directed to be discontinued in two cases, and the houses connected with the Town water supply.

The water supply to one building was discovered to be from a running stream, which analysis showed to be unfit for consumption. The house was thereupon connected with the Town supply.

THE DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE, AND THE SEWAGE WORKS.

The system of sewage disposal which is in use is for the greater part a separate system, but in some parts of the district is on the combined plan. The sewage flows by gravitation to the Sewage Works, which are situated at the eastern end of the district, and at its lowest level. On one occasion in the year the unsatisfactory nature of the effluent, as revealed by chemical analysis, provoked a complaint by the Thames Conservancy Board, and I was thereupon instructed by the Council to prepare a report on the condition of the Sewage Works generally. This inquiry involved a somewhat lengthy investigation and repeated analyses, and the conditions found, and the recommendations suggested by me are explained—I hope clearly and in full detail—in the report which I issued to the Council in December, 1908, and a copy of which I here append:—

“MEDICAL OFFICER’S REPORT TO HEALTH COMMITTEE CONCERNING THE CONDITION OF THE SEWAGE PURIFI- CATION BEDS.

“ December 1st, 1908.

“ Gentlemen,

“ In accordance with your directions, I have the honour to lay before you the results of various analyses made by me during the last few months, together with the conclusions which I have formed respecting the general usefulness of the beds, and recommendations which may be usefully considered by the Committee as to their future treatment.

“ It may be as well, before commencing an examination of the subject, to give a brief history and outline of the Sewage Scheme as exemplified in its final stages, namely the Sewage Works,

"There are at present 25 Contact Beds, 15 of which are used in the Primary Series, and 10 as Secondary Beds. They are, for the most part, composed of gas residue and coke, clinkers from the Destructor also forming the matrix of the later beds. The two oldest beds were constructed in 1897, four more were laid down in 1898, four more in 1899, another four in 1900, three in 1901, three in 1902, three in 1903, one in 1904, and one in 1907. The dimensions, and therefore the cubic capacity, of these beds vary greatly; three of them measure 138' by 24' 6" by 5' 3"; two measure 105' by 85' by 1' 9"; ten others measure 57' by 35' by 4' 6"; eight measure 100' by 57' by 1' 9"; one measures 69' by 21' by 3', while another small one measures 35' by 14' 3" by 4' 6". A storm water filter measuring 142' by 56' by 3' was constructed in 1902.

"MEASUREMENT AND CUBIC CAPACITY OF EXISTING BEDS.—The actual total area of these beds, therefore, amounts to 10,610 square yards; the cubic capacity is 9,654 cubic yards, or 1,623,900 gallons; and 7,250 tons of material can be accommodated in them.

"METHOD OF WORKING.—The Primary beds are filled on the average three times a day; the length of time during which one charge of sewage is allowed to remain in the bed being on an average about 4 hours, sometimes less, sometimes more, the length of time generally depending on the flow. The Secondary beds are always running, and therefore presumably get no rest. The Detritus tank (10 feet deep) into which nearly all the sewage is first conducted before being allowed to enter the Primary beds, and in which therefore a large proportion of solid matter and the insoluble and heavier particles settle, is cleaned out about once every three months. The Primary beds get an entire rest, occasionally for a week; and all the beds periodically have their surfaces scraped with the object of removing the insoluble material, organic growths, débris, &c., which from time to time are collected upon it.

"The dry weather flow averages 600,000 gallons of sewage daily; a quantity increased to twice or three times that amount in rainy weather. The average daily flow of sewage for the year is 900,000 gallons.

"After the sewage has percolated through the Primary and Secondary beds, it is allowed to flow in long and

tortuous channels, about a quarter of a mile in length, over a portion of land which has a total area of 18 acres, the whole of which, however, is not at present devoted to this purpose. The effluent is discharged over a brick weir into the River Blackwater.

“From time to time I have collected and analysed samples of the sewage in the four principal stages of its progress, namely, the crude sewage, the effluent from the Primary beds, the effluent from the Secondary beds, and the final effluent as it is discharged into the river. Subjoined is a table showing a fair average of the comparative results obtained from the analyses of these samples:—

	Crude Sewage.	Primary.	Secondary.	Final.
Odour	Foul.	Disagreeable.	Nil.	Nil.
Sulphureted Hydrogen.	Present.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Suspended Matter.	Black, considerable.	Brownish, considerable.	Brownish, slight.	Brownish slight.
Appearance after Filtration.	Milky.	Slightly opalescent.	Clear.	Clear.
Chlorine	10·0	6·8	5·4	8·0
Oxygen reqd. 2 hrs. at 37° C.	3·4	1·5	·66	·6
Free or Saline NH ₃ .	4·7	1·5	·06	1·0
Organic NH ₃ .	·48	·2	·10	·11
Nitrites.	Nil.	Nil.	Present.	Present.
Nitrates	Nil.	·05	·16	1·6

“These figures show that a purification to the extent of 79 per cent. is effected.

“In considering the above results, however, considerable allowance must be made for the fact that sewage is a liquid varying constantly in its composition, and that therefore the analyses of the effluent in its later stages do not necessarily mean that the liquid is identical in original compo-

sition to the particular samples of crude sewage which have been examined.

"The land in which the effluent flows in a series of channels before its final discharge into the river is composed entirely of alluvium or clayey material, and is on that account almost altogether useless for the purposes of purification. In rainy weather the land is practically waterlogged in a short time, while in dry weather the impervious nature of the soil renders abortive any attempt at purification by means of irrigation and filtration. It does, however, serve one good purpose, namely, that of providing a sufficient area to permit of a long and winding course through which the effluent may flow and obtain what purification it can from the oxidizing action of the air. It is therefore necessary that no stagnation should be allowed in the stream, that the fungus which is apt to grow abundantly in the bed of its course should be periodically removed, and that means should be taken to provide occasional weirs here and there, so that the effluent may be aerated as much as possible. The absence of a sufficient fall, however, is at present a serious obstacle to such an experiment, but with the increased pumping power which it is proposed shortly to add to the Sewage Works, it may be possible to undertake something of this nature.

"Having dealt with the land and its channels, we now return to the Contact Beds. It used to be thought that Contact Beds, or Bacteria Beds, as they are sometimes called, would acquire in time a fairly constant capacity—in other words, that they would be practically self-cleansing, that the bacterial growth would feed on and destroy the organic matter brought to them by the sewage, and that a fairly even balance would be preserved as against sewage on the one hand and bacterial purification on the other. If this were so, the sewage problem would be solved once and for all. But it has to be acknowledged that the treatment of sewage is even now only in the experimental stage. The changes that take place in sewage as the result of bacterial action are extremely obscure and complex, and include the liquefaction of insoluble nitrogenous compounds with formation of gasses, ammonia, nitrites and nitrates: four processes can be stated roughly as constantly going on, namely, liquefaction, gasification, æration, and nitrification. If at any time the amount of sewage to be dealt

with in a given cubic space exceeds the amount which can be thoroughly acted on and altered by bacteria, or if the growth of the latter is deficient, unsuitable, or, on the other hand, too exuberant, one result only can happen, that the sewage will leave the beds imperfectly purified, and that a certain amount of solid material will be left behind to form a permanent clogging of the bed. The opinion has been lately gaining ground (and it is an opinion which personally I have always held) that these contact beds are not purely oxidation or purification beds, but to a certain, and indeed a large extent they are, and cannot help being, retention beds; in other words, a considerable portion of the organic matter is constantly being left behind in all the layers of the clinker, and more especially in the upper layers, as is naturally most to be expected. There can be no doubt that a portion of the organic matter is originally particulate material from the sewage, but there also can be little doubt that a great deal of it also arises from the exuberant action of bacteria which have themselves deposited in a solid form matter which had been previously in complete solution, so that a loss of capacity may be presumed to have taken place in these beds during this long period from (a) excessive growth of micro-organisms, (b) more organic matter entering the bed than it can digest, (c) breaking down of the filtering material and the presence of road grit and other insoluble matter. In order to ascertain if the above theory were correct, I have analysed numerous samples of the filtering material taken at different levels in one of the older Contact Beds.

“I obtained the following results:—

Top layer of Filter contained	2 per cent.	of moisture.
6 in. below surface contained	20	„ „
2 ft. below surface contained	11.4	„ „

“The percentage of moisture is not very important at the top levels, as it is obvious that it must be constantly varying in accordance with atmospheric conditions, but the reason that so small an amount of moisture was found in this particular bed at the top level I found to be due to the fact that the effluent is not allowed to flow over the centre of the bed, but only appears on the surface at the sides.

“Further analyses of the organic matter showed, how-

ever, some significant changes. The full analyses were as follows :—

Top layer of Filter I, constructed 1908.	COMPOSITION.		
	Dry Clinker ...	92·65	per cent.
	Moisture ...	2·0	„
	Organic matter	5·35	„
		100·00	„

Percentage loss of the dried Clinker on ignition, 5·5 „

6 in. below surface of Filter I.	Dry Clinker ...	65·7	per cent.
	Moisture ...	20·0	„
	Organic matter	14·3	„
		100·0	„

Percentage loss of the dried Clinker on ignition, 15·4 „

2 feet below surface of Filter I.	Dry Clinker ...	84·35	per cent.
	Moisture ...	11·40	„
	Organic matter	4·25	„
		100·00	„

Percentage loss of the dried Clinker on ignition, 4·8 „

“The whole mass in this particular filtering bed weighs roughly 170 tons, so that if one takes the upper half only of the bed and considers that the average amount of organic matter present is about 9 per cent., the experiment shows that there must be approximately *8 tons of solid filth* dispersed in the interstices of, and forming an organic coating on, the particles of filtering material in the upper half alone of this Contact Bed. What amount there is on the whole bed I have not determined, as the amount varies much at the lower level, but 12 tons would, in my opinion, be a very moderate estimate. There are, therefore, about 300 tons of organic sewage débris distributed throughout the entire Contact Filters.

“The presence of this enormous mass of solid organic material diffused intimately through the various Contact Beds (for there is no reason to suppose that there is much difference in the general condition from the particular one

examined), accounts to some extent for the occasional unsatisfactory nature of the final effluent in some of its analytical details, and probably is altogether responsible for the excessive growth of sewage fungus along the bed of the effluent channel, a condition which was noted by the Health Committee on their visit to the works in the summer.

‘The most important point that must be grasped is that there is a very considerable loss of capacity in these Contact Beds due to overwork and long continued use, the result being a huge collection of organic matter which the oxidizing power of the air, and the ærobic bacteria usually flourishing under such conditions, are powerless to deal with.

“The questions then naturally arise: Is the amount of sewage too great to be dealt with by the existing beds, or can the beds themselves be altered or reconstructed without addition to their number, so that the ordinary supply can be properly dealt with? and, if so, what are the methods which can be usefully employed? The total area of beds required to deal with a given quantity of sewage may be arrived at by the following formula:—

$$A = \frac{G}{D \times C}$$

Where

A = Area of beds in square yards.

G = Gallons of sewage treated per day.

D = Depth of bed in feet.

C = Constant.

= 56 for beds filled three times daily, followed by land treatment.

= 37 for beds filled twice daily, followed by land treatment.

= 28 for beds filled three times daily, artificial filtration only.

= 18.5 for beds filled twice daily, artificial filtration only.

"The gallons of sewage taken must be the maximum amount which it is proposed to treat, i.e., three times the dry weather flow on the combined system, or twice the dry weather flow on the separate system.

"According to this formula the area which is theoretically required amounts to 12,600 square yards, whereas the area which we have at present in working use amounts to 10,600 square yards. We have, therefore, a mathematical demonstration that the number of beds should (theoretically at all events) be at least greater by 20 per cent., and as this formula presupposes perfect conditions (*e.g.*, complete screening of the sewage, absence of defects in walls and floors, automatic rest for beds, &c.), it is probable that for the same amount of sewage a somewhat larger area is really necessary. It is therefore clear, in my opinion, that the number of beds should be gradually increased from time to time in order to deal with the increase in the supply of sewage.

"What methods, however, are available for dealing with the proved loss of capacity of the existing beds?

"I will endeavour briefly to indicate the different methods which suggest themselves to me as being entitled to consideration:—

- (1.) The whole of the material may be removed, incinerated, and replaced; or instead of burning may be washed portion by portion in specially prepared tanks, and then replaced.
- (2.) Each bed may, in turn, be thoroughly dug over constantly from day to day during a period of complete rest for several weeks, and a copious supply of pure water passed through at intervals in order to hasten and assist the oxidation and aëration of the organic portion of the sludge, and to thoroughly wash out the fine particles of inorganic matter in the bed.
- (3.) Four or more additional beds not more than 3 ft. in depth may be added to the existing number, while the older beds may have longer periods of rest, and be treated in the manner indicated above; or else be kept as far as possible in a fairly useful condition by constant forking up of the material and scraping the surfaces.

"The overflow water entering in times of rain should have more adequate treatment than is at present afforded. There is no question that the sudden access of unpurified sewage to the ordinary effluent channel has a deleterious effect on the character of the final effluent.

"An innovation which I should strongly like to see introduced would be the construction of a large bed composed entirely of fine sand through which the purified effluent may finally percolate.

"The Detritus or Grit Tank is much too small for the large volume of sewage with which we have to deal. In order to prevent choking of the filters, this preliminary sedimentation tank should be much extended in area, and should be cleaned out and the sludge removed at least once a week.

"Among the above suggestions, special attention might be usefully drawn to the advisability of thoroughly cleansing the existing beds by washing the material. This process, which, however, is no doubt an expensive one, would undoubtedly restore the former working capacity and make the beds as good and as useful as they were when originally laid down.

"In concluding this Report, I have to acknowledge with thanks my indebtedness to the energetic Manager of the Sewage Works, who has given me at all times his most ready assistance.

"I am, Gentlemen,

"Your obedient servant,

"E. W. ROUTLEY, M.D."

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

(Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875; Sale of Food and Drugs Amendment Act, 1879; the Margarine Act, 1887, and the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899.)

The administration of these measures is in the hands of the County Council, and the following account applies to the working of the Act in the Aldershot Urban District in 1908:—

DESCRIPTION AND NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN IN ALDERSHOT
DURING THE YEAR 1908.

Sample.	Genuine.	Adulterated.	Remarks or Result of Prosecution.
Arrowroot	... 1	...	
Brandy	... 1	...	
Butter	... 10	1	Fined 10/-, including costs.
„ Milk-blended	1	...	
Citric Acid	... 1	...	
Coffee	... 1	...	
Cream	... 2	...	
Cream of Tartar	... 1	...	
Demarara Sugar	... 1	...	
Ice Cream	... 2	...	
New Milk	... 17	{ 1 1 1	Fined £2 2s., including costs. Fined 10/6, costs remitted. No proceedings taken as change had occurred in constitution of article which might have interfered with analysis.
Pure Cane Sugar	... 1	...	
Skim Milk	... 1	...	
Sweets	... 1	...	
Tea	... 1	...	
Whiskey (Irish)	... 1	1	{ Case dismissed (without costs) on grounds that excess water was sufficiently disclosed.
„ (Scotch)	... 1	...	
	44	5	

Genuine, 44; Adulterated, 5; Total, 49.

NEW BUILDINGS AND THEIR SUPERVISION.

The supervision of new buildings is carried out by the Surveyor. Details as to buildings, etc., erected during the year will be found below :—

Dwelling Houses built and completed in 1908	33
Dwelling Houses in course of erection	12
Common Lodging House	1
Additions to Existing Buildings	11
Places of Worship	1
Brewery Stores and Office	1
Motor Garage (in course of erection)	1
Additions to Laundry	1

In addition to the above, sanitary improvements have been effected in the following directions: the Sewerage System has been extended from North Lane to Newport Road; works under the Private Street Works Improvements Act have been executed in Albert Street, Pembury Place, Alfred Road, and the roadway off Laburnum Road.

A portion of land has been purchased in Highfield Avenue as a site for a Secondary School, the building of which, it is to be hoped, will not be much longer postponed.

The Destructor Works have been enlarged and extended, and an up-to-date underground Sanitary convenience, with accommodation for both sexes, has been placed at the junction of High Street and Wellington Street; it fulfils a long felt public necessity, and the success of its working has abundantly justified its erection.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The collection of the house refuse is undertaken by the Council under direction of the Surveyor. It is carried out three times a week, the refuse being placed by the occupier in a receptacle of one kind or another outside the premises. It is rare to find a properly covered sanitary dust-bin used for this purpose, the majority consisting of old buckets and open boxes. I have in previous reports adverted to the insanitary conditions often induced by these methods of storing refuse, particularly in hot or in windy weather. The refuse is carried to the Destructor Works, where a Meldrum furnace, consisting of two cells, is constantly in operation; the power generated is used for pumping the sewage on to the contact beds.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES; FOOD INSPECTION.

There are four licensed slaughter houses in use in the Town; they have been frequently visited during the year, and are kept, as a rule, in a fair degree of cleanliness. Instructions have been issued from time to time for the necessary cleansing and limewashing, which, in those that are constantly being used, is required at frequent intervals. On requisition from the Military Authorities, I have paid 24 visits to the abattoirs in the South Camp for the purpose of inspecting carcasses affected with disease. Twenty-eight carcasses in all demanded attention, the disease mostly found being tuberculosis; the whole carcasses (or when

considered advisable the affected portions) were condemned, removed and destroyed at the Council's expense at the Destructor Works. During the year in the Town the following have been condemned and destroyed: 2 bushels of winkles, 60 lbs. hake, 5 boxes of haddocks, and 1 box of herrings.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There are four registered cowsheds, which have been periodically visited; one only is of recent and up-to-date construction. Notices have been issued in one or two cases to secure the statutory limewashing, which has to be carried out in the months of April and October in each year. In one case, concrete floors for the sheds have been provided. There are 51 milk-sellers registered in the district, and, as a general rule, the necessity for cleanly storage is well recognised.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS, BAKEHOUSES.

There are 51 Factories and 103 Workshops (including 15 Workshop-Bakehouses) on the register. The most important points to be borne in mind in connection with these establishments, are freedom from dust, cleanliness and ventilation. The last measure is the one most often found neglected, the workers generally preferring a close heat to fresh air; in certain shoemakers' and tailors' workshops the ventilators are frequently found stuffed with rags, etc. In one dress workshop, the sanitary accommodation was defective. In one workshop-laundry where persons were employed the floors were insufficiently drained.

With regard to the sanitary accommodation generally in Factories and Workshops, I have to state that they are all connected (with one exception mentioned later) with the main sewage system, and that the accommodation is sufficient and suitable. Section 22, Public Health Amendment Act, 1890, is in force in the district.

BAKEHOUSES.—These (19 in number) are constantly under inspection, and on the whole are kept reasonably clean. There are no underground bakehouses. Attention has occasionally to be called to dirty floors, and whitewashing has had to be directed in several instances. In one case the house yard adjoining the bakehouse was in a defective condition structurally, and therefore a constant source of insanitary condition; it has since been relaid with concrete.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are two "offensive trades" carried on in the Town: one is that of a tripe-boiler, and the other a gut-scrapers. Both businesses are very small ones. The gut-scraping business is carried on on an isolated piece of ground in the county at Aldershot Stubbs, where the drainage is by cesspool, and the water supply from a surface well; the workshop being more than a mile away from any drainage or water system, the methods adopted above are the only ones available. Four persons are usually employed in this business; as it is far away from other houses no nuisance is caused. Whitewashing has to be done four times a year, according to the Public Health Act, 1875, and it has been carried out in both instances.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are seven common lodging houses in the Town, namely—

Address.	Accommodation.	Name of Registered Keeper.
Trinity House, Albert Street	14	J. R. Webb.
Short Street	54	D. Rooney.
Little Wellington Street ...	26	Mrs. Greenwood.
Union Terrace	28	E. Doherty.
1, Sebastopol Road	26	H. Seavers.
7 and 9, Sebastopol Road ...	25	Pasque Tomasi.
209, High Street	25	W. Dean.

showing common lodging house accommodation for 198 persons. Another lodging house to accommodate 36 persons is being erected in Albert Street, West End. Two of the common lodging houses admit married couples.

Limewashing, which has to be carried out in April and October of each year, has been regularly done in all instances. Two of these houses require constant supervision, otherwise sanitary precautions are neglected, and the houses are allowed to get in a very dirty state. The remaining five are kept exceedingly well, and give no trouble.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS OR OCCUPIED BY MEMBERS OF MORE THAN ONE FAMILY.—Bye-laws for the better regulation of lodging houses of low rental came into force in 1908, having been adopted by the Council in the previous year. Ten such houses have been added to the register, and have been periodically kept under supervision. In a large number of other cases, copies of the bye-laws have been forwarded

with directions for their observance, and in a number of instances the mere fact that such houses are liable to inspection at any time, has been of itself a great help in preventing the evils of overcrowding.

MIDWIVES' ACT, 1902.

Twenty-four midwives were in practice in Aldershot during 1908, three of whom reside in military quarters in the Camp. The midwives are under my sole supervision, and, generally speaking, are careful and clean, and observe faithfully the rules of the Central Midwives' Board. They are all visited by me at regular intervals. Full details will be found in the quarterly report to the Midwives' Committee.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION. HOUSE TO HOUSE INSPECTION. CLOSURE OF HOUSES UNFIT FOR HABITATION.

1. HOUSING ACCOMMODATION FOR THE WORKING CLASSES.—Speaking generally, the tendency in building houses for the working classes is in the direction of too large a number of rooms, with consequent diminished cubic space in each room. Rents being fairly high, the ordinary artisan is compelled to let off portions of his house in order to meet expenses. It is no exaggeration to say that the vast majority of working class families let their houses in lodgings. It is right to mention that there is an enormous demand for such lodgings in consequence of the very large number of soldiers married off the strength, and therefore being compelled to provide accommodation for their wives and families in the Town. Many such families (each family occupying one room only) are to be found within a single dwelling house, consequently the surroundings generally from such a system are not conducive to good health. Many of these soldiers' families are in a state of great poverty, and, in some cases, of degradation.

2. HOUSE TO HOUSE INSPECTIONS.—Systematic inspections have been made in the following streets or districts:—

Crimea Road	Trinity Cottages
Sebastopol Road	Edward Street
Redan Gardens	Garnet Place
Alfred Street	Arthur Street (portion)
Albert Street	King's Road (portion).

3. ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT.—Preliminary action was taken under Part II. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act with respect to two houses in Ayling Lane on the grounds of inefficient drainage and absence of proper sanitary accommodation. No proceedings were however necessary, as the houses were closed entirely on receipt of notice.

PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

The health in the schools has been on the whole in excellent condition through 1908. At the beginning of the year a mild but somewhat widespread epidemic of influenza disorganised the attendance at one or two of the schools, while in January and February an epidemic of chicken pox accounted for a good deal of the bad attendance. In March, at the first sign of measles in the Roman Catholic schools, I deemed it advisable to recommend the closing of the Infants' Department for one month from March 23rd, a procedure which had very satisfactory results in the prevention or postponement of an epidemic of that disease, the school re-opening with a full attendance and no sickness.

I advised similar action on account of measles in the Infants' Department of the Newport Schools in October, and the department was accordingly closed from October 9th to November 9th. The West End Infants' School was also closed, on my advice, from November 16th to the end of the term. Both procedures seem to have been well justified, as these schools re-opened with practically full attendance.

I lay the greatest importance on closing these departments at the very earliest sign. If a week or so is allowed to elapse, with the usual accompaniment of several successive cases of the disease, the closure of the school is not likely to be of much use in the prevention of disease.

The results of the statutory medical inspection of the scholars appear in a supplemental report, which will be issued later. A system of notification by the head teachers of all cases of absence due to infectious disease was instituted in the beginning of the year, and has proved most useful in the early recognition of epidemics.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURNS FOR 1908.

1908.	Mean Dry Bulb. 9 a.m.	Mean Wet Bulb. 9 a.m.	Mean Maximum Temperature.	Mean Minimum Temperature.	Highest Temperature Recorded.	Date.	Lowest Temperature Recorded.	Date.	Mean Temperature for Month.	Mean Range of Temperature.	Relative Humidity.	Total Rainfall in inches.	No. of Days on which Rain fell.
January ...	34.4	33.4	41.1	29.0	53.0	17th	16.0	12th	35.0	12.1	89	2.27	15
February ...	43.9	34.9	40.0	38.2	52.0	19th	24.1	13th	39.1	11.8	86	1.4	17
March ...	39.5	37.5	46.4	33.0	55.9	9th	23.0	20th	39.7	13.4	84	3.2	18
April ...	43.4	40.5	51.8	36.0	62.2	29th	26.1	9th	43.9	15.8	78	3.6	18
May ...	55.4	53.0	63.6	46.6	74.1	2nd	39.0	23rd	55.0	17.0	83	1.9	17
June ...	65.0	55.0	68.5	47.5	81.2	4th	35.0	7th	58.0	21.0	70	1.2	7
July ...	62.7	58.8	71.0	51.6	82.1	30th	45.0	20th	61.3	19.4	77	1.8	12
August ...	59.0	56.9	68.0	49.8	81.7	3rd	36.4	17th	58.5	19.0	82	3.8	15
September.	56.5	53.8	63.3	46.2	77.0	30th	30.5	13th	54.7	17.0	84	1.5	14
October ...	51.8	50.7	61.0	44.2	76.6	4th	29.7	25th	52.6	16.8	93	2.9	16
November.	44.6	43.6	51.2	38.3	59.5	12th	23.3	9th	44.7	12.9	92	1.09	14
December..	40.1	39.2	43.5	34.0	53.1	13th	2.0	30th	38.7	9.5	93	2.7	21
Means 1908	49.7	46.4	55.8	41.2	...	...	...	...	48.5	14.6	84	27.36	184
Means 1907	48.6	45.8	55.2	40.5	...	...	...	...	46.4	14.8	80.6	Total. 29	Total. 203

Notes to Tables I., Ia., and Ib.

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

† No records for these years.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere,

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 4,178.

Total population at all ages:—

Town	...	16,726	} At Census of 1901.
South Camp		14,248	
		30,974	
Number of inhabited houses	...	2,941	}
Average number of persons per house		5.6	

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.
Cottage Hospital. Military Hospital. Cambridge Hospital. Louise Margaret Hospital.	Farnham Union Infirmary.

The Union Workhouse is not within the District.

TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1908 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.						Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.						Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*						
								Number.	Rate.*				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
†1898	32359	728	22.4	124	170	479	14.7	†	2	38	515	15.9	
†1899	31088	766	24.6	101	131	372	11.9	†	3	39	408	13.1	
1900	28520	791	27.7	80	101	286	10.0	†	1	23	308	10.8	
1901	32869	937	28.5	89	94	304	8.9	†	4	35	335	10.8	
1902	33575	975	29.0	96	98	281	8.3	†	4	39	316	9.4	
1903	35943	1072	29.8	75	69	246	6.8	46	2	38	282	7.8	
1904	33975	1117	32.8	132	118	337	9.9	87	14	54	377	11.0	
1905	34207	1075	31.4	91	89	306	8.9	80	19	42	329	9.6	
Averages for years 1900-1907.	32817	932	28.2	98	105	326	9.9	—	6	38	358	10.9	
1908	35020	1027	29.3	104	112	321	9.1	84	19	37	339	9.6	

TABLE IA.—Vital Statistics of Aldershot Town during 1908 and previous years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.		
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.				Number.	Rate.*	
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1898	15376	481	31'2	87	180	239	15'5	6	0	†	239	15'5
1899	15850	487	30'7	89	182	259	16'3	17	2	†	257	16'2
1900	16261	472	29'0	92	194	274	16'8	10	2	38	310	18'4
1901	16840	512	30'3	79	154	267	15'8	10	3	39	303	17'9
1902	17318	523	30'1	57	109	184	10'6	11	1	23	206	11'8
1903	17813	540	30'3	53	98	206	11'5	13	4	35	237	13'3
1904	18320	577	31'4	65	112	204	11'1	6	4	39	239	13'0
1905	18830	566	30'0	59	104	185	9'8	6	0	36	221	11'7
1906	19375	594	30'6	89	149	233	12'0	10	2	54	285	14'7
1907	19925	547	27'4	60	109	208	10'4	15	2	39	245	12'2
Averages for Years 1898-1907.	17590	530	30'1	73	139	225	12'9	10	2	38	254	14'4
1908	20490	552	26'9	61	110	210	10'2	15	3	35	242	11'8

TABLE I. B.—Vital Statistics of South Camp during 1908 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1898	16098	256	15'9	33	128	205	12'7	†	†	†	205	12'7
1899	14248	254	17'8	18	70	105	7'3	†	†	†	105	7'3
1900	11202	268	23'9	23	85	102	9'1	†	†	†	102	9'1
1901	15056	397	26'3	36	90	98	6'5	†	†	†	98	6'5
1902	15255	398	26'0	31	77	77	5'0	†	†	†	77	5'0
1903	17113	506	29'5	16	31	61	3'5	40	2	2	61	3'5
1904	14600	523	34'8	43	82	104	7'1	77	12	0	92	6'3
1905	14282	528	36'8	31	58	98	6'8	65	17	3	84	5'8
Averages for Years 1900-1907.	14732	391	26'5	29	74	106	7'2	—	—	—	103	7'0
1908	14530	475	32'6	43	90'5	111	7'6	69	16	2	97	6'6

TABLE II.—Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1908 and previous years.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	ALDERSHOT U.D. (WHOLE DISTRICT.)				TOWN.				SOUTH CAMP.			
	Population esti- mated to Middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population esti- mated to Middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population esti- mated to Middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.
1898	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d
1899	...	...	...	...	15376	481	239	87	...	...	...	...
1900	...	...	...	...	15850	487	257	89	...	...	...	...
1901	32359	728	515	124	16261	472	310	92	16098	256	205	32
1902	31088	766	408	101	16840	512	303	79	14248	254	105	22
1903	28520	791	308	80	17318	523	206	57	11202	268	102	23
1904	32869	937	335	89	17813	540	237	53	15056	397	98	36
1905	33575	975	316	96	18320	577	239	65	15255	398	77	31
1906	35943	1072	282	75	18830	566	221	59	17113	506	61	16
1907	33975	1117	377	132	19375	594	285	89	14600	523	92	43
	34207	1075	329	91	19925	547	245	63	14282	528	84	28
Averages of Years 1898 to 1907.	32817	932	359	98	17590	530	254	73	14732	391	103	29
1908	35020	1027	339	103	20490	552	242	63	14530	475	97	40

NOTE.—Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the district are included in sub-columns c of this table, and those of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district excluded. (See note on Table I. as to meaning of terms "resident" and "non-resident.")

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1908.
Aldershot District (including South Camp.)

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in Whole District.							Total Cases removed to Hospital.	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						Town.	Camp.
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	Over 65		
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	49	...	15	29	3	2	...	33	All cases removed.
Erysipelas	13	...	...	1	1	9	2	...	
Scarlet fever	87	...	15	43	24	5	...	33	
Typhus fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Enteric fever	25	...	1	...	18	6	...	1	
Relapsing fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Continued fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Puerperal fever	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Totals	176	...	31	73	47	23	2	67	91

Isolation Hospitals: Civil and Military Hospitals.

TABLE III.A

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1908.
Aldershot Town only.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in the Town.							Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	Over 65	
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	35	...	14	19	1	1	...	33
Erysipelas	9	...	...	1	1	5	2	...
Scarlet fever	38	...	7	23	6	2	...	33
Typhus fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Relapsing fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	85	...	21	43	9	10	2	67

Isolation Hospital: North Town, Aldershot.

TABLE III.B

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1908.
South Camp only.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in South Camp.							Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	Over 65	
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	14	...	1	10	2	1	...	...
Erysipelas	4	...	...	...	...	4	...	...
Scarlet fever	49	...	8	20	18	3	...	...
Typhus fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever	24	...	1	...	18	5	...	...
Relapsing fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	91	...	10	30	38	13	...	..

Isolation Hospital: Military Isolation Hospital, South Camp.

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1907.
Aldershot Urban District (including South Camp.

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.	
Measles ...	9	1	8	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Whooping cough ...	4	2	2	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	3	...	1	2	...	...	...	3
Enteric fever ...	3	...	...	...	2	1	...	3
Epidemic Influenza ...	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Diarrhœa ...	17	12	5	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis ...	16	16	...	...	...	...	...	8
Puerperal fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	28	...	1	2	2	20	3	6
Other tuberculous diseases ...	13	4	3	2	3	1	...	5
Cancer, malignant disease ...	13	...	...	...	...	10	3	1
Bronchitis ...	20	6	1	...	...	4	9	...
Pneumonia ...	31	7	8	1	3	9	3	10
Pleurisy ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other diseases of Respiratory organs ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of liver ...	3	...	...	...	...	1	2	...
Venereal diseases ...	5	1	...	...	...	3	1	...
Premature birth ...	31	31	...	...	...	...	...	8
Diseases and accidents of parturition	3	...	...	...	1	2	...	1
Heart diseases ...	27	...	...	...	1	18	8	4
Accidents ...	9	1	2	...	...	6	...	6
Suicides ...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Murder ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
All other causes ...	95	22	6	4	12	19	32	28
All causes ...	339	103	37	12	24	102	61	84

TABLE IV.A
Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1908.
Aldershot (Town only).

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.	
Measles	7	...	7	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping cough	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
Epidemic influenza	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Diarrhœa	14	10	4	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	20	...	...	1	1	15	3	...
Other tuberculous diseases	8	2	3	1	1	1	...	1
Cancer, malignant disease	11	...	...	...	...	8	3	...
Bronchitis	18	4	1	...	...	4	9	...
Pneumonia	18	4	4	1	...	6	3	1
Pleurisy	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of liver	3	...	...	...	...	1	2	...
Venereal diseases	4	1	...	...	...	2	1	...
Premature birth	19	19	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases and accidents of parturition	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Heart diseases	22	...	...	...	...	14	8	...
Accidents	7	...	2	...	...	5	...	5
Suicides	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Murder	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
All other causes	73	15	4	3	3	17	31	6
All causes	242	63	25	8	6	80	60	15

TABLE IV.B
Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1908.
South Camp.

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.	
Measles ...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Whooping cough ...	3	1	2	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Enteric fever ...	3	...	...	...	2	1	...	3
Diarrhœa ...	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis ...	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	8
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	8	...	1	1	1	5	...	6
Other tuberculous diseases ...	5	2	...	1	2	...	...	4
Cancer, malignant disease ...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	1
Bronchitis ...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	13	3	4	...	3	3	...	9
Venereal diseases ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Premature birth ...	12	12	...	...	...	...	...	8
Diseases and accidents of parturition ...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	1
Heart diseases ...	5	...	...	...	1	4	...	4
Accidents ...	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
Suicides ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
All other causes ...	22	7	2	1	9	2	1	22
All causes ...	97	40	12	4	18	22	1	69

TABLE V.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1908.
Aldershot Urban District (including the South Camp).

Cause of Death.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Mth.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes.	Certified ...	25	5	6	2	38	14	5	7	7	10	3	4	4	4	4	2	102
	Uncertified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Common Infectious Diseases—																		
Measles ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Whooping Cough ...		...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2
Diarrhœal Diseases—																		
Diarrhœa, all forms ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	2	1	1	1	...	1	1	12
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis ...		...	...	...	...	...	2	3	3	1	2	...	...	1	1	1	1	15
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wasting Diseases—																		
Premature Birth ...		20	2	4	...	26	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Congenital Defects ...		2	2	1	...	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...		1	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	6
Tuberculous Diseases—																		
Tuberculous Meningitis ...		...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Other Causes—																		
Syphilis ...		1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Convulsions ...		1	1	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bronchitis ...		...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	6
Pneumonia ...		...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	7
Suffocation, overlying ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Causes ...		...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	5
		25	5	6	2	38	14	5	7	7	11	3	4	4	4	4	2	103

Population.—Estimated to middle of 1908—35,020.

1,027 Births in the year—legitimate, 1,006; illegitimate, 21.

103 Deaths in the year of—legitimate infants, 100; illegitimate infants, 3.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 339.

TABLE V. A
 Infantile Mortality during the Year 1908.
 Aldershot Town only.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Mth.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes—																	
Certified	14	4	6	2	26	6	1	3	6	7	2	4	1	1	4	1	62
Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Common Infectious Diseases—																	
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Diarrhoeal Diseases—																	
Diarrhoea, all forms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	1	1	1	...	1	1	10
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	6
Wasting Diseases—																	
Premature Birth ...	11	2	4	...	17	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Congenital Defects...	1	1	1	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	5
Tuberculous Diseases—																	
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Causes—																	
Syphilis	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Convulsions	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	4
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	4
Other Causes	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3
	14	4	6	2	26	6	1	3	6	8	2	4	1	1	4	1	63

Population.—Estimated to middle of 1907—20,490.

552 Births in the year—legitimate, 531 ; illegitimate, 21.

63 Deaths in the year of—legitimate infants, 60 ; illegitimate infants, 3.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 242.

TABLE V. B
 Infantile Mortality during the Year 1908.
 South Camp only.

Cause of Death.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Mth.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes.	Certified ...	11	1	...	...	12	8	4	4	1	3	1	...	3	3	...	1	40
	Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Common Infectious Diseases—																		
Measles ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Whooping Cough ...		...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhoeal Diseases—																		
Diarrhoea, all forms		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Enteritis, Mucos-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis		...	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	1	9
Wasting Diseases—																		
Premature Birth ...		9	...	...	...	9	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Congenital Defects...		1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus		...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculous Diseases—																		
Tuberculous Meningitis		...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Causes—																		
Convulsions		1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis		...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	3
Suffocation, overlying		...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Causes		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	3
		11	1	...	...	12	8	4	4	1	3	1	...	3	3	...	1	40

Population.—Estimated to middle of 1908—14,530.

475 Births in the year—legitimate, 575; illegitimate, nil.

40 Deaths in year of—legitimate infants, 40; illegitimate, nil.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 97.

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries).	28	1	...
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries).	71	9	...
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report.)	31	7	...
Total	130	17	—

2.—Defects Found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	6	6		
Want of ventilation	2	2		
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors	1	1		
Other nuisances	9	9		
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes...	1	1		
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bake-houses (ss. 97 to 100)				
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report.)				
Total	19	19	—	—

3.—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK. A	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.												OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.				OUTWORK IN INFECTED PREMISES, SECTIONS 109, 110.		
	Lists received from Employers.				Addresses of Outworkers.				Prose-cutions.				Inspections of Out-workers' Premises.	Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.	Instances.	Orders made. (S. 110.)	Prosecutions. (Sections 109, 110.)
	Twice in the year.		Once in the year.		Forwarded to other Councils.		Received from other Councils.		Failing to keep or sending lists.		Failing to send lists.								
	Lists. B	Con- tractors.	Work- men.	Out- workers. B	Lists.	Con- tractors.	Work- men.	Out- workers.	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)							
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
Wearing apparel :—	12	8	40	2	...	3	3	8	4	...	...	37	1	1	...	1	...	...	
(1) making, &c.																			
(2) cleaning and washing.																			
Lace, lace curtains and nets																			
Artificial flowers																			
Nets, other than wire nets...																			
Tents																			
Sacks																			
Furniture and upholstery																			
Fur pulling																			
Feather sorting																			
Umbrellas, &c.																			
Carding, &c., of buttons, &c.																			
Paper bags and boxes																			
Basket making																			
Brush making																			
Racquet and tennis balls																			
Stuffed toys																			
File making																			
Electro-plate																			
Cables and chains																			
Anchor and grapnels																			
Cart gear																			
Locks, latches and keys																			
Pea picking																			
TOTAL,	12	11	40	2	...	3	3	8	4	...	...	37	1	1	...	1	...	...	

A If an occupier gives out work of more than one of the classes specified in column 1, and subdivides his list in such a way as to show the number of workers in each class of work, the list should be included among those in column 2 (or 5 as the case may be) against the principal class ONLY, but the outworkers should be assigned in columns 3 and 4 (or 6 and 7) into their respective classes.

B The figures required in columns 2, 3 and 4 are the total number of lists (received from employers who sent them both in February and August as required by the Act) and of the entries of names of outworkers in those lists. They will, therefore, usually be double of the number of such employers and (approximately) double of the number of individual workers whose names are given, since in the February and August lists of the same employer the same outworker's name will often be repeated.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.		Number.
(1)		(2)
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses may be enumerated here.	Workshop Bakehouses	15
	Other Workshops	88
	Total number of workshops on Register ...	103

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
(1)	(2)
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5).	Notified by H.M. Inspector 3
	Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector... 2
Other	
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year	Nil.
In use at the end of the year	Nil.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

—:O:—

**To the Chairman and Members of the Aldershot Urban
District Council.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my Fifth Annual Report, in which is recorded the work done during the year ending December 31st, 1908, in connection with the various branches of sanitation under my supervision, and beg to thank you for your kindness and consideration during the year.

INSPECTIONS.—Periodical and systematic inspections of the district have been made, as required by Section 92 of the Public Health Act, 1875, and the General Orders of the Local Government Board, in order to ascertain what nuisances exist, and under what conditions food was stored as to endanger its wholesomeness.

In all cases where infringements of the Bye-Laws and Public Health Acts were found to exist, the necessary action was immediately taken: verbal and written notices were given to remedy the defects forthwith. In various instances where nuisances existed the circumstances were such that I considered it necessary to interview the responsible persons rather than send a notice or explanatory letter.

During the year I have visited 426 houses, made 71 visits to workshops, 7 to offensive trades, 101 to slaughter houses, 49 to dairies, 22 to farms, and 90 to common lodging houses.

NUISANCES.—In the course of inspection 366 nuisances were found to exist, which necessitated 173 preliminary written notices being issued in addition to 53 verbal. 363 nuisances have been abated, and the work carried out to my satisfaction; 2 are at present being remedied; and 1 is under notice.

In all cases where nuisances have been found to exist verbal and written intimation of their existence have been given, as stated above, and all have been complied with, except in 5 cases, when it was necessary to ask for statutory notices in order to get same abated. It has not been necessary to advert to legal proceedings to enforce the abatement of any nuisances.

I have applied the smoke test to the drains of 61 houses, this number being in excess of last year. In 31 cases the drains were found to be defective in connection with ventilating shafts, soil pipes, w.c., and yard drains. In each case the defects have been remedied or amended, as required. In 5 instances it has been necessary to have the houses entirely redrained, and sanitary fittings of an improved and up-to-date type installed.

Nuisances in connection with rain-water gutters, down-spouts, and sink pipes have been attended to in 18 cases; 5 of the rain-water down-spouts were acting as ventilating shafts to house drains.

Whenever it has been possible, the hydraulic or smoke test has been applied during the progress of drainage work, and at completion.

Fifteen back-yards have been cemented or paved during the year, and from a sanitary point of view is of great value, leaving no excuse for tenants who allow their yards to get in an insanitary condition.

COMPLAINTS.—30 complaints as to nuisances have been received during the year, which were immediately enquired into, and the nuisances suppressed as early as possible. In 4 cases no nuisance injurious to health existed. Of the *bona-fide* complaints 8 related to choked drains in connection with house property. On investigation the main sewer was found to be choked, thereby causing chokages in the drains of four houses.

STATUTORY NOTICES.—Of the five statutory notices served two were under Section 94 of the Public Health Act, 1875, which have been complied with, and three under Sections 23 and 36 of the Public Health Act, 1875, to provide drains sufficient for effective drainage, and to provide sufficient

water-closet accommodation for two houses, also under Section 94 of the same Act to remedy various other defects. In preference to complying with the notices the owners have voluntarily closed the houses.

HOUSE REFUSE RECEPTACLES.—No improvement has been made in this matter during the year. In most cases wooden boxes are still to the fore, which are very difficult to keep clean, and after being in use for some time are bound to become offensive, and occasionally must, especially in summer, become injurious to health. I would again suggest the necessity of every new house being supplied with a galvanised iron receptacle before being occupied. It is not improbable that owners and tenants of existing property, realising the benefit and appearance of iron receptacles, would gradually follow suit in this direction.

The following table shows the amount of general sanitary work carried out during the year:—

1908.				
Complaints received	...	...	...	30
Houses inspected	...	...	...	442
Nuisances detected	...	...	...	366
Nuisances abated	...	...	...	363
Nuisances in hand	...	...	...	362
Nuisance under notice	...	...	...	1
Houses whitewashed and cleansed throughout	...	...	...	12
Rooms whitewashed	...	...	...	63
W.C. pans cleansed	...	...	...	12
W.C. washdown pans fixed	...	...	...	16
W.C.'s provided with flushing cisterns	...	...	...	24
New W.C. doors fixed	...	...	...	2
W.C. flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	17
Defective bell traps taken out	...	...	...	3
Damp walls remedied	...	...	...	5
Bed mattresses destroyed	...	...	...	8
Glazed earthenware gullies fixed	...	...	...	6
Ventilating shafts erected and repaired	...	...	...	21
Inspection chambers constructed with traps	...	...	...	7
Rainwater gutters and spouts repaired and fixed	...	...	...	18
Sink pipes disconnected from drains	...	...	...	3
Sink pipes repaired	...	...	...	2

Dairy floor reconstructed	...	...	...	...	1
Houses closed as unfit for habitation	...	...	...	...	2
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Nuisances from keeping animals and poultry abated	...	...	...	...	8
Accumulations of manure and offensive matter removed	...	...	...	...	23
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	2
Houses provided with stoneware sinks	...	...	...	...	6
Manure pits constructed and repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Yards of drainage laid or relaid	...	...	...	...	61
Back yards repaired and cemented	...	...	...	...	15
Houses redrained	...	...	...	...	5
Birds' nests, etc., removed from ventilating shafts	...	...	...	...	6
Drain chokages removed	...	...	...	...	27
New inspection chamber covers provided	...	...	...	...	7
W.C. flush pipe joints repaired	...	...	...	...	16
Ditches filled in	...	...	...	...	1
Scullery floors repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Repairs to drains	...	...	...	...	10
Summonses for chimney firing	...	...	...	...	14
Convictions	...	...	...	...	13

During the time the above work was in progress 942 inspections were made, so as to ensure good work being done and carried out satisfactorily.

WORKSHOPS.

There are 103 Workshops on the register, being seven less than last year.

- 14 Bootmakers.
- 13 Dressmakers and Milliners.
- 8 Tailors.
- 13 Builders and Joiners.
- 4 Cabinet Makers.
- 2 Saddlers.
- 2 Coach Builders.
- 8 Cycle Makers.
- 6 Watch and Clock Makers.
- 5 Picture Framers.
- 15 Bakers.
- 2 Farriers.
- 2 Offensive Trades.
- 4 Photographers.
- 4 Laundries.
- 1 Musical Instrument Maker.

FACTORIES.

Number of Factories on the register, 51, one more than last year.

- 8 Builders and Joiners.
- 7 Printers.
- 1 Laundry.
- 7 Mineral Water Manufacturers, etc.
- 3 Bootmakers.
- 4 Sawmills.
- 7 Cycle and Motor Works.
- 4 Bakers.
- 1 Musical Instrument Maker.
- 3 Sausage Factories.
- 1 Electric Light Station.
- 1 Gas Works.
- 1 Cap Factory.
- 3 Corn Dealers.

PLACES UNDER INSPECTION.

- 51 Milkshops.
- 4 Slaughter Houses
- 5 Public Urinals.
- 2 Offensive Trades.
- 5 Cowsheds and Dairies.
- 103 Workshops and Workplaces.
- 51 Factories.

Seven Common Lodging Houses are registered within the district. These contain 59 registered sleeping rooms, having beds for 198 adults.

HACKNEY CARRIAGES.

During the year 61 Hackney Carriages have been licensed, 50 being horse drawn vehicles, 4 motor 'buses, 6 taxi motor cabs, and 1 motor cab.

Eighty-four drivers' and conductors' licenses have been issued, of which 17 were taxi-cab drivers, 7 motor 'bus drivers, 8 conductors, and 52 drivers of horse vehicles.

		£	s.	d.
Fees collected up to date	...	19	9	0
Special licences	...	17	9	6
		£36	18	6

There are 4 hackney carriage ranks within the district, including the Station rank, one at the Grove, one in High Street, and one against the East Cavalry Barracks, which are registered for 6, 1, 26 and 14 respectively.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

LEVI CONNOR, Assoc. Roy. San. Inst.,

Sanitary Inspector.

