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Contributors

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Aldershot Urban District Council.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,
Annual School Report &
Report of the Inspector of
Nuisances :: *for* 1920.

BY

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

ALDERSHOT:
WM. MAY & Co., LTD.,
HIGH STREET—40077.

ALDERSHOT URBAN DISTRICT.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR 1920.

Latitude	...	...	...	...	...	51° 15' N.
Longitude	...	...	...	...	...	46' W.
Area of Urban District	...	...	...	...	...	4,178 acres.
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£160,621
Population at Census 1911 (Town)	...	...	...	...	...	19,464
„ „ „ „ (S. Camp)	...	...	...	...	...	15,711
Population estimated to July 1st, 1920 (Town)	...	...	...	...	...	22,000
Birth Rate, 1920 (Civilian)	...	...	...	...	...	27.8
Death Rate, 1920 (Civilian)	...	...	...	...	...	10.0
Infantile Mortality Rate (Civilian)	...	...	...	...	...	61.0
Rainfall, 1920	...	...	...	...	...	26.79 inches.
Mean Temperature for the year	...	...	...	...	...	49.4°

REPORT for 1920
TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ALDERSHOT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the district in 1920, and at the same time wish to thank you for your courtesy and assistance during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. W. ROUTLEY.

1920

ALDERSHOTT URBAN DISTRICT

TO THE TOWN AND VILLAGE OF

ALDERSHOTT

IN THE COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE

AND PARISH OF ALDERSHOTT

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AND PARISH OF ALDERSHOTT

REPORT *for* 1920.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

1. POPULATION.—Census 1911 :—

Town	...	19,464	{	Males	...	9,470
				Females	...	9,974
S. Camp	...	15,711	{	Males	...	13,256
				Females	...	2,455
		35,175				

The estimate of the Registrar-General for the civilian portion of the district for 1920 is 22,793, but I am inclined to believe that the number is somewhat over estimated, and that the figure is 22,000 approximately. The average population for the South Camp (the figures of which are kindly supplied to me by the Deputy Director of Medical Services in the Command) is as follows :—

Men	...	...	11,192
Women	...	...	1,176
Children	...	...	1,859
			14,227

The total population for the whole district is therefore estimated at 36,227.

2. AREA : DENSITY OF POPULATION.—Aldershot Urban District comprises 4,178 acres :—

Town	...	...	1,432	acres.
S. Camp	...	...	2,746	„
			4,178	„

Density of Population (civilian) 15.3 per acre.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.—This is in the hands of a Public Company, and derived from a number of artesian wells in the chalk underlying the London clay. The water is of exceptional quality, but somewhat hard. The supply is constant.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—One complaint was received of pollution of the Blackwater stream by outflow from a factory. The circumstances were fully investigated by me, and the nuisance was at once remedied.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—The Town Sewerage is dealt with mainly on the separate system, but in some directions on the combined plan. It flows by gravitation to the lowest part of the district, where the sewage is dealt with by sedimentation, filtration and irrigation over contact beds, covering an area altogether of about 30 acres. The effluent on the whole has been of a satisfactory standard during the year.

With the exception of eight cottages in outlying districts, in which part closet or cesspools are used, all the houses in the district are connected with the main drainage system, and have separate water closet accommodation.

POLLUTED WELLS.—I examined the water from a surface water well supplying three cottages in the Aldershot Park Estate, and found the water to be unsound; these cottages have since been connected with the public water supply.

SCAVENGING.—All the house refuse is removed twice weekly throughout the town.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS.

Number of visits to houses <i>re</i> infectious diseases	...	40
Complaints received	...	246
Overcrowding	...	46
Ordinary and Re-Inspections	...	590
Number of visits to Slaughterhouses	...	255
" " " Food Premises	...	527
" " " Bakehouses	...	8
" " " Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	...	43
" " " Common Lodging Houses	...	97
" " " Offensive Trades	...	6
" " " Works in progress	...	182
" " " Workshops	...	44
Number of applications of smoke test	...	20

DEFECTS OR NUISANCES DISCOVERED.

Defective drains	...	49
Choked drains	...	50
Broken W.C. pans	...	18

Foul W.C. pans	...	...	...	...	...	13
Defective flushing cisterns	...	...	...	...	...	81
Dilapidated W.C.s	...	...	...	...	...	36
Defective scullery sink wastepipes	...	...	...	...	...	17
Defective gully channels	...	...	...	...	...	12
Defective or insanitary scullery sinks	...	...	...	...	...	6
Defective or insufficient yard pavements	...	...	...	...	...	36
Defective or insufficient eaves, gutters and downpipes	...	...	...	...	...	69
Defective and leaky house roofs	...	...	...	...	...	62
Improper water supply	...	...	...	...	...	3
Damp house walls	...	...	...	...	...	73
Dirty and insanitary walls and ceilings	..	...	...	...	...	354
Overcrowded houses	...	...	...	...	...	19
Keeping of animals	...	...	...	...	...	20
Accumulation of offensive matter	...	...	...	...	...	31
Defective or unopenable windows	...	...	...	...	...	127
Defective house wall and ceiling plaster	...	...	...	...	...	105
Defective house floors	...	...	...	...	...	41
Defective scullery floors	...	...	...	...	...	24
Insufficient urinals	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective fire grates	...	...	...	...	...	46
Filthy bedding	...	...	...	...	...	7
Insanitary pigsties	...	...	...	...	...	7
Defective drain ventilating shafts	...	...	...	...	...	15
New manhole covers provided	...	...	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous	..	...	...	...	...	28

During the year, 528 Notices were served including 114 Statutory Notices. The latter may be classified as follows:—

Under Public Health Act 1875, Section 36	...	...	9
" " " " " " 94	...	...	20
" " " " " " 62	...	...	3
" " " " " " 49	...	...	5
" " " " " " 47	...	...	1
" " " " " " 23	...	...	1
Under Public Health Act's Amendment Act 1907, Sect. 49	...	...	3
" " " " " " 25	...	...	2
Under Housing Town Planning Act 1919, Sect. 28	...	...	55
Under Houses let in lodgings Bye-laws....	...	...	10
Under Bye-laws with respect to Nuisances	...	...	1
Under Offensive Trades Bye-laws ...	...	...	3
Under Towns Improvement Clauses Act 1847, Sect. 74	...	...	1
Total			114

At the end of the year there were 36 unabated nuisances on the register.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY
BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—15 Fish Fryers				
3 Rag and Bone Dealers				
1 Gut Scraper				
Houses let in lodgings	...	...	...	150
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	4
Cowsheds	...	...	...	4
Dairies	...	...	...	8
Milkshops	...	...	...	28
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	3

Legal proceedings were taken in three instances under the Byelaws with respect to houses let in lodgings for overcrowding. Fines were imposed in all three cases, on the condition that the penalties would not be put into operation if the overcrowding was abated within a specified period. Satisfactory arrangements were obtained in two cases, but the remaining instance is still under observation.

There are no underground sleeping rooms as defined by Section 17 (7) Housing, Town Planning Act 1909.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1920, for the District of Aldershot, on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND
HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES
including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or
Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises (1)				Number of			
				Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Prosecutions (4)	
Factories	...	...	...	5	2	...	—
(Including Factory Laundries)							
Workshops	...	...	...	44	20	...	—
(Including Workshop Laundries)							
Workplaces	...	...	...	—	—	...	—
(Other than Outworkers' Premises)							
Total				49	22	...	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of Prosecutions.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—*				
Want of cleanliness	12	12	—	—
Want of ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ...	5	5	—	—
Other nuisances	3	3	—	—
Sanitary accommodation:				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork)				
Total	22	22	—	—

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7, and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	Number.
(1)	(2)
Workshop Bakehouses	15
Dressmaking and Millinery	17
Boot Repairers	24
Tailors	16
Cycle Repairers	12
Other Workshops	32
Total number of Workshops on Register	116

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class (1)	Number. (2)
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix 'Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 133, 1901)	—
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 5, 1901)—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	3
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	3
Other	—
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at the end of the year	
	—

FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.—The milk supply of the district is controlled largely by one firm of dairymen, and excepting the milk produced at the four cowsheds within the district, the supply is an imported one. Special attention has been given during the year to small milk shops, particularly with regard to the provision of proper covers for milk vessels, cleanliness, and the presence of offensive and deleterious substances generally sold in milk-shops. The eight dairies situate within the district are kept clean and in a satisfactory condition, and in conformity with the byelaws. One of the four cowsheds, however, is not all that could be desired in regard to lighting and ventilation, and it is intended that action be taken with respect thereto in the near future.

MEAT.—Since the recent de-control of the sale of meat there has been a marked decrease in diseased conditions, which is accounted for by the butchers being privileged in buying better class animals than was the case during control.

Approximately, 80 per cent. of the meat sold in the district is imported. There is an understanding that the butchers give immediate intimation of suspected conditions in meat, and there is no reason to believe that this undertaking is not fully observed, as evidenced by the fact that not in one instance has it been necessary to seize meat or institute legal proceedings under Section 117, Public Health Act 1875.

Diseased or unsound conditions were notified on 61 occasions, resulting in the following being voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—

Five carcasses of beef, weight 4,218 lbs., tuberculosis.
 Parts of beef carcasses, weight 1,076 lbs., tuberculosis
 Two pig carcasses, weight 212 lbs., tuberculosis.
 Parts of pig carcasses, weight 96 lbs., tuberculosis.
 One calf carcase, weight 78 lbs., dropsy.
 Defrosted beef, weight 899 lbs., putrefaction.
 Defrosted mutton, weight 660 lbs., putrefaction.
 Three livers, cirrhosis.
 One liver, echinococcus.
 Three lungs, pneumonia.
 Five livers, distomatosis.
 Bacon, weight 48 lbs., putrefaction.
 Ham, weight 43 lbs., putrefaction.
 Fish, weight 542 lbs., putrefaction.
 Sausages, weight 105½ lbs., putrefaction.
 Butter, weight 9 lbs., unwholesome.
 Eggs, 166, unsound.
 Rabbits (defrosted), 78, putrefaction.
 Tinned food, 232 tins, putrefaction.

A Public Abattoir, with its many advantages over private slaughterhouses, has not yet been established, although its establishment has been seriously considered from time to time for many years, but owing to the problems and difficulties that arise in connection with the disposal of the existing private slaughterhouses and the almost unanimous unwillingness of the butchers in making use of its facilities, no progress has been made in this direction. The existing arrangements for inspecting meat at the time of slaughter are unsatisfactory, as slaughtering is carried on at irregular periods necessitating irregular visits of inspection. The following tabular form gives the number of slaughterhouses in use in the district at the dates mentioned :—

		In 1914.	In Jan., 1920.	In Dec., 1920
Registered	...	1	1	1
Licensed	...	2	2	2
		—	—	—
Total		3	3	3

OTHER FOODS.—Particular attention is given to premises where food is in preparation or exposed for sale. No difficulty has been experienced, and every facility for inspection is always given.

The sanitary condition of the bakehouses are generally satisfactory. There are no underground bakehouses situate within the district. In two instances only was it found necessary to require limewashing of bakehouses.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1920—PREVALENCE AND CONTROL.

Notifications were received in the following instances:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	12
Diphtheria	...	...	...	22
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	21
Tuberculosis (other forms)	...	...	...	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	4
Measles	...	...	...	101
Erysipelas	...	...	...	4
Influenzal Pneumonia	...	...	...	2
Primary Pneumonia	...	...	...	2

SCARLET FEVER.—The cases notified were of a sporadic character, and dealt with by immediate removal to the Isolation Hospital, and disinfection of rooms and clothing. No return cases were noted.

DIPHTHERIA.—Twenty-two cases occurred, 14 of which were in the North Town and East End districts. In 13 houses affected the house drains were found to be badly defective. Contacts in all cases were examined and kept under observation.

MEASLES.—The Health Visitor paid immediate visits to the greater number of these cases.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—Immediate and repeated visits were paid in the three cases brought under notice. Three cases were mild conditions of the disease which rapidly improved under treatment. The remaining case, which was of a severe type, was, on my advice, immediately removed to the London Ophthalmic Hospital. Owing, however, to the departure of the parents from the district, further information as to the subsequent history of the case is not available.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.—Twenty-one cases were notified, 4 of them being notified only on admission to the Infirmary. Three of these cases were removed from Common Lodging Houses, where apparently they had been temporary visitors. Disinfection has been carried out in all cases of removal or death. Seventeen deaths (males 8, females 9) were recorded from this disease. There are indications of a decline in the local mortality from this malady, since in 1919 the deaths recorded numbered 26, and in 1918 the preceding year 35.

CIVIL ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

2. ACCOMMODATION, STAFF AND GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS.

These are fully described in the Report, 1919, page 19, and no changes having taken place, the particulars are not here repeated. 38 cases of diphtheria and 30 cases of scarlet fever

were admitted during 1920. Total 68; 35 of these were admitted at a fixed charge for maintenance from outside districts (Fleet, Farnborough, and Hartley Wintney).

Six deaths from diphtheria took place. Tracheotomy was performed on one occasion. The scarlet fever block was painted throughout and hot water laid on to the lavatories, also new wash basins fixed. The diphtheria block was painted outside and linoleum laid in kitchen. The Administration Block was painted outside. The nurses' sitting room, the kitchen and scullery were also re-painted, and a new lavatory built for the domestic staff. All outbuildings were re-painted outside.

SMALL POX.—A temporary building of corrugated iron supported on brick piers, is in readiness on a piece of land adjoining the Sewage Works. Gas and water supply are provided, and two earth closets represent the necessary lavatory accommodation. The building contains ten rooms, eight of which could be utilized, when necessary, for small pox patients. It is now under the authority of the County Council, by whom a yearly rent is paid to the District Council. It represents, therefore, a joint District Hospital, which would doubtless be used for all cases occurring in the north-eastern area of the county.

3. ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

Public Health Amendment Act	1890
Infectious Disease Prevention Act	1890
Private Street Works Act	1892
Public Health Amendment Act (Parts II., III., IV., V., VI., and certain sections of VII., IX., and X.) ...	1907

BYE-LAWS IN FORCE.

	Date made.
Cleansing of Footways, Pavements and Cesspools ...	1887
Common Lodging Houses	1887
Hackney Carriages	1887
Hackney Carriages (mechanically driven)	1910
Houses Let in Lodgings	1908
Mortuary	1888
New Streets and Buildings	1887
Nuisances	1887
Offensive Trades (Blood Boiler, Blood Drier, Bone Boiler)	1888
Pleasure Grounds	1888
Slaughter Houses	1887
Tents, Vans and Sheds	1907
REGULATIONS are in force in the district in respect to:—	
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	1900

4. CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY.

The following analysis and examinations have been made during 1920:—

Suspected Diphtheria	...	...	110
„ Tuberculosis	...	...	7
„ Venereal Disease	...	...	5
„ Enteric Fever	...	...	1
„ Malaria	...	...	1
„ Dysentery	...	...	1
„ Other Diseases	...	...	3

123

In addition 5 samples of effluent from the Sewage Works, 1 effluent from factory, 2 samples from polluted wells have been analysed and reported on.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

1. INSPECTION OF MIDWIVES.—There have been no changes in the personnel of the midwives during 1920. Seven midwives are practising in the district, and their case books and apparatus have been examined every quarter. There has been a considerable increase in their work during the past year owing to the rapid rise of the birth-rate; 471 births have been attended in the civil area contrasting with only 291 in 1919. At the close of each year I request them to furnish me with a detailed report of their cases: the following is a summary of the reports with which they have furnished me:—

Midwives.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total.
A. Total No. of Cases attended	46	118	115	98	48	19	27	471
B. Cases attended solely as Midwife	40	85	89	88	44	19	26	391
C. Cases attended solely as Nurse	6	33	26	10	4	...	1	80
D. Still Births	2	2	3	1	3	1	...	12
E. Twin Births	2	2	1	3	2	...	...	10
F. Breast fed Infants	44	115	110	95	44	17	27	452
G. Hand fed Infants	0	3	0	1	1	1	0	6

Forty-six records of sending for medical assistance were received by me during the year, and 4 notifications of cases of Ophthalmia, three of which were of a very mild type and rapidly recovered. The fourth case was removed to the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital within 24 hours of the Health Visitor's call. No cases of puerperal fever were reported.

2. NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.—The following were notified during 1920:—

Civil Area.	South Camp. (mainly in Louise Margaret Hospital)
501 living	269 living
16 still	— still
517	269
	Total 786

The number of registered births belonging to the urban district during 1920 was as follows:—

Total Births: Males	441 (Legitimate 421; Illegitimate 20)
Females	395 („ 375; „ 20)
Total	836
	796
	40

Fifty-one children under one year of age died during the year, of whom 3 were illegitimate. The Infant Mortality Rate was 61 per 1,000 of registered births. The following were the main stated causes of the infant mortality:—

Premature Birth and Congenital Debility	24
Pneumonia	8
Congenital Syphilis	2
Measles	3
Diarrhoea	2
Whooping Cough	1

The total visits paid to infants under one year by the Health Visitor numbered 2,610. The total visits to children under 5 years were 756. The total visits to children with measles were 100. Total visits 3,466. Primary visits to the newborn numbered 446, included in the above total.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT.—The following were notified in 1920:—(1) Live Births, 770; (2) Still Births, 17; total 787. (1) By Midwives, 421; (2) By Parents and Doctors, 366.

CHILD WELFARE CLINIC, Llantrissant, Church Lane, held Mondays, 2—4. This has been continued without break throughout the year, and has been largely attended as will be seen by the figures below:—

Number of individual children attending	344
Number of individual mothers attending	322
Number of individual children attending for treatment	33
Number of attendances of children at Clinic	1399
Number of attendances of mothers at Clinic	1363
Number of attendances of children for treatment	194
Total number of attendances of children	1593
Total number of attendances of mothers	1363
Average number of children attending	33
Number of cases reported to the Sanitary Inspector for further investigation	41
Number reported to the Inspector, R.S.P.C.C.	4

Dried milk is supplied at cost price in necessitous cases only; in a few cases it has been supplied free. Expectant and nursing mothers and others having the care of children under 5 years of age, have been supplied with daily milk gratis. 201 applications of this kind have been acceded to after appropriate examination of the actual necessities and incomings of the family. This number includes a large number of renewals for the same recipients.

Grateful thanks are due to Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Williams for their voluntary help at the clinic. They have attended regularly and have been of the greatest help in carrying on the heavy work of the Monday afternoons, and the success of the arrangements is largely due to their very kind and devoted assistance.

DAILY CRECHE, Llantrissant, Church Lane.—This has been carried on throughout the year, although the pressing need which existed during the war for assistance to working mothers has largely lapsed. The institution was closed for 2 weeks at Easter, 1920, owing to a number of cases of chicken pox, and also again for one week in December for thorough cleansing and disinfection following three cases of measles. 33 children were admitted during the year, the daily average being 10. One infant was permitted to remain entirely for five weeks owing to excessive malnutrition, with results that fully justified the measures taken. One baby also, for whom it was impossible to provide at home owing to its mother's removal to hospital for operation, was kept in for 5 weeks.

MEDICAL ANCILLARY SERVICES.—The Cottage Hospital is available for a limited number of cases; the Union Infirmary situated at Farnham is largely used for accommodation for the sick. In military cases women and children are admitted in appropriate cases to the Louise Margaret Hospital.

HOUSING.

I.—GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS.

1. Estimated total number, 3,950; 75 per cent. of which are occupied by the working classes.
2. (a) About 100 to 150 houses are needed.
(b) Arrangements were made in 1920 for erecting 112 houses for the working classes at Aldershot Park; on December 31st 30 of these were in course of erection, and during the first quarter of 1921, 18 of these were already occupied. In addition, during 1920, 5 other houses of a larger type were erected.
3. No important changes in population are anticipated.

II.—OVERCROWDING.

1. In a comparatively small number of cases there has been serious and aggravated overcrowding, particulars of which are

set down below. In a large number there is a certain amount of undesirable, and, at the present time, unavoidable crowding which, it is expected, the increased housing arrangements will do much to alleviate.

2. The causes are: (1) shortage of houses, (2) insufficient means in many cases.

3. *Measures taken or contemplated*—

(a) The erection of the new houses.

(b) Alternative accommodation where possible.

4. *Principal Cases of Overcrowding*.—The following are the chief instances recorded:—

(a) 3 adults, 1 child, 600 cubic feet, small back room combined.

(b) 2 adults and 3 children, combined small back room, 600 cubic feet.

(c) 5 adults and 5 children in two small bedrooms, 700 and 800 cubic feet respectively.

(d) 12 adults and 3 children, 5-roomed house (5 adults and 1 child in front room, combined, 900 cubic feet).

(e) 3 adults and 2 children, combined room, 890 cubic feet.

(f) 2 adults and 4 children, combined room, 850 cubic feet.

(g) 6 adults and 4 children, 4-roomed house.

(h) 6 adults and 2 children in 3 small rooms.

(i) 3 adults and 3 children, 1 room, 960 cubic feet.

(j) 3 adults and 2 children, 1 combined room, 800 cubic feet.

(k) 4 adults and 3 children, 1 combined room, 750 cubic feet.

(l) 8 adults and 6 children, 5 rooms (including 4 adults and 3 children, small bedroom, 500 cubic feet).

(m) 9 adults and 3 children, 5-roomed house.

(n) 4 adults, 1 small bedroom, 600 cubic feet.

Action taken.—Three prosecutions were instituted, and several members of a family in the majority of cases were removed to other quarters.

III.—FITNESS OF HOUSES.

1. (a) The general standard is good.

(b) The general character of defects relate to: (1) dampness arising from structural defects; (2) dirty walls and ceilings; (3) uncleanness of back yards.

(c) The last two defects are largely due to lack of supervision and care by the individual householder.

2. *General action taken*—

(a) Under the Public Health Acts.—Action was taken under various sections of the Public Health Acts.

(b) Action was taken in a number of cases under Sec. 28, Housing Act 1919.

3. The difficulties in remedying defects have somewhat decreased during 1920, owing to the improvement in labour conditions.

IV.—UNHEALTHY AREAS.—No representations have been made.

V.—1. The existing byelaws work very well.

2. There is no evidence of any necessity for revision of the existing byelaws

VI.—GENERAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

No further action has been taken beyond that described in detail under the various headings.

APPENDICES.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

STATISTICS. Year ended 31st December, 1920.

1.—GENERAL.

(1) Estimated population (civil area)	...	...	22,000
(2) General death-rate (civil area)	...	...	10.0
(3) Death-rate from tuberculosis	...	...	.7
(4) Infantile mortality	...	...	61
(5) Number of dwelling-houses of all classes	...	...	3,950
(6) Number of working-class dwelling-houses	...	...	3,000
(7) Number of new working-class houses erected	...	...	5

2.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

I.—INSPECTION.

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	218
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	...	...	...	95
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	nil.
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	295

II.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	...	...	225
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III.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. *Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	55
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—	
(a) by owners	43
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	nil.
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	nil.

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	44
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—	
(a) by owners	35
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	1

C. *Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.*

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	nil.
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ...	nil.
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	nil.
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	nil.

3.—UNHEALTHY AREAS.

Areas represented to the Local Authority with a view to Improvement Schemes under (a), Part I., or (b), Part II., of the Act of 1890:—

(1) Name of area	nil.
(2) Acreage	nil.
(3) Number of working-class houses in area ...	nil.
(4) Number of working-class persons to be displaced	nil.

4.—Number of houses not complying with the building byelaws erected with consent of Local Authority under section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919	nil.
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ANNUAL REPORT TO THE ALDERSHOT EDUCATION COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1920.

GENTLEMEN,

I herewith present my report for the year 1920 as School Medical Officer, concerning the Medical Inspection of Children in the Elementary Schools.

General Summary of School Attendance during July, 1920.

SCHOOL.	No. of Teachers.	Accommodation.	1920				1919.			
			Number on Books.	Highest No. Present.	Average Attendance.	Percentage of Absentees	Number on Books.	Highest No. Present.	Average Attendance.	Percentage of Absentees.
WEST END.										
Boys ...	12	370	416	403	388	7	433	425	407	6
Girls ...	10	295	355	343	323	9	361	356	325	10
Infants ...	11	666	442	426	405	8	470	455	427	9
Total	33	1331	1213	1172	1116	8	1264	1236	1159	8
EAST END.										
Boys ...	11	317	395	386	373	6	396	386	371	7
Girls ...	9	342	328	320	305	7	353	344	324	7
Infants ...	6	216	187	180	173	7	203	196	187	8
Total	26	875	910	886	851	6	952	926	882	7
NEWPORT RD.										
Mixed ...	13	480	498	482	459	8	525	503	471	10
Infants ...	7	300	198	195	183	8	201	201	190	5
Total	20	780	696	677	642	8	726	704	661	9
C. OF E. SCHOOLS.										
Mixed ...	5	112	135	132	127	5	148	143	137	7
Infants ...	2	78	55	51	49	11	69	67	65	4
Total	7	190	190	183	176	7	217	210	202	7
ROMAN CATHOLIC										
Mixed ...	6	182	211	208	199	6	206	200	194	6
Infants ...	3	112	107	101	94	12	121	110	109	10
Total	9	294	318	309	293	8	327	310	303	7
Grand Totals	95	3482	3327	3227	3078	7	3486	3386	3207	8

SCHOOL CLINIC, Llantrissant, Church Lane.—Open daily at 9 a.m. for inspection and treatment of minor ailments. The Dentist attends Tuesday and Friday mornings for half-day session, an average of 14 cases being dealt with by him at every session. One afternoon a fortnight is reserved for eye cases. Operations for tonsils and adenoids are arranged once a month on the average.

STAFF.—Dr. E. W. Routley, S.M.O. and M.O.H.
Mrs. E. Shearwood, School Nurse.
Mr. H. Glover, Dental Surgeon.

Two beds are provided for operation cases where it is thought advisable, owing to the child's condition, to retain the patient overnight. One case only during 1920 was so retained for that night, not, however, in this particular case, on account of any complication arising from the operation on the throat, but for the reason that the child in question was also suffering from tuberculous disease of the hip joint. The results of the dental treatment have been most gratifying, in the direction of improved physical condition of the children, and, as pointed out in last year's report, there is ample scope for considerably more dental work to be done, if one could arrange for four sessions per week in place of two, as at present. The number of children attending for treatment for minor ailments (excluding dental disease) was 521: the number of attendances 5,011, and the number of tonsil and adenoid operation cases was 48.

Twenty-one houses were reported to the Sanitary Inspector for further detailed investigation as to the sanitary conditions observed by the Nurse at her visits.

Twenty-three cases of neglect in some form or another were reported to the Inspector of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY.—Three cases were reported to the Committee in children who are not able to obtain any advantage from attending the ordinary schools.

The Hampshire Voluntary Association for the mentally deficient have done excellent work in this connection, and have already placed certain of our school children in schools for training purposes.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS were taken in 2 cases under the School Attendance Bye-Laws.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE.—See Report, 1919, page 26.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.—Cf. Report, 1920, page 26.

TREATMENT OF UNCLEANLINESS.—The following is a short summary of the methods and treatment adopted in these cases:

(a) The average number of visits to each school made by the School Nurse is 40.

(b) The total number of examinations made of children by the School Nurse was 11,455.

(c) The number of individual children found unclean was 1,073. It must here be noted that we endeavour to maintain a very rigorous standard of cleanliness in this respect, and the apparently large number stated includes, so far as regards a large proportion, all children who have the slightest sign of nits in the hair.

TREATMENT OF ALL OTHER DEFECTS:—

(a) 637 children were referred for treatment.

(b) Cases are systematically followed up by the School Nurse, who has paid 319 visits to homes of scholars. Treatment is urged in all suitable cases, and personal interviews with the parents arranged where necessary. Those requiring to be kept under observation are sent by the Head Teacher at the times appointed for re-examination by the Medical Officer.

(c) 498 were treated under the scheme of the Education Committee at the School Clinic. 113 were treated at home by parents or under the direction of medical practitioners. 611 were remedied or improved. Eight remained with condition unchanged. Eighteen had left the district before treatment could be attempted or carried out completely.

TABLE I.—NUMBER OF CHILDREN INSPECTED

1st JANUARY, 1920, to 31st DECEMBER, 1920.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Age ...	Entrants,				Other Ages.	Total.
	3.	4.	5.	6.		
Boys ...	—	—	137	37	10	184
Girls ...	—	—	126	46	30	202
Totals ...	—	—	263	83	40	386

Age ...	Inter- mediate Group.	Leavers.			Other Ages.	Total.	Grand Total.
		8	12	13			
Boys ...	145	169	29	2	—	345	529
Girls ...	158	149	15	2	—	324	526
Totals ...	303	318	44	4	—	669	1055

B.—SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.

Age.			Special Cases.	Re-Examinations (i.e. No. of Children Re-Examined.
Boys ...	...	...	395	149
Girls ...	...	...	763	477
Totals ...	...	...	1158	626

C.—TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN INSPECTED BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER, WHETHER AS ROUTINE OR SPECIAL CASES (no Child being counted more than once in one year).

No. of Individual Children Inspected.	
2213	

TABLE II.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND IN THE
COURSE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION IN 1920.

Defect or Disease.					Routine Inspections.		Specials.	
					Number referred for Treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observations, but not referred for Treatment.	Number referred for Treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observations, but not referred for Treatment.
(1)					(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin.	Malnutrition	...	...	...	2	5	2	2
	Uncleanliness :							
	Head	...	...	...	33	...	367	...
	Body	...	...	...	7	...	4	...
	Ringworm :							
	Head	...	...	...	...	...	65	...
	Body	...	...	...	...	...	31	...
	Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	19	...
	Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	94	...
	Other diseases (non-Tubercular)	...	...	...	...	...	32	...
Eye.	Blepharitis	...	...	...	...	...	17	...
	Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	...	...	14	...
	Keratitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Corneal Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
	Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Defective Vision	...	...	...	37	5	30	2
Ear.	Squint	...	...	...	1	...	7	...
	Other Conditions	...	...	...	1	...	3	8
	Defective Hearing	...	...	...	15	...	24	...
	Otitis Media	...	...	...	...	...	9	...
Nose and Throat.	Other Ear Diseases	...	...	...	2	...	10	...
	Enlarged Tonsils	...	...	...	15	2	15	6
	Adenoids	...	...	...	...	4	6	2
	Enlarged Tonsils & Adenoids	...	...	...	6	1	5	...
	Other Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heart and Circulation.	Enlarged Cervical Glands (non-Tubercular)	...	...	...	...	11	5	3
	Defective Speech	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Teeth—Dental Diseases (see above)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Heart Disease :							
	Organic	...	...	...	...	6	...	...
	Functional	...	...	...	...	7	...	...
	Anæmia	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Lungs.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
	Other Non-Tubercular Diseases	...	...	...	1	...	1	...

TABLE II.—CONTINUED.

Defect or Disease.				Routine Inspections.		Specials.	
				Number referred for Treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observations, but not referred for Treatment.	Number referred for Treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observations, but not referred for Treatment.
(1)				(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Tuber- culosis.	{	Pulmonary :					
		Definite		...	...	...	...
		Suspended		...	...	...	1
		Non-Pulmonary :					
		Glands		...	...	1	...
		Spine		...	...	...	...
		Hip		...	...	...	...
		Other Bones & Joints ...		...	...	1	...
Nervous System.	{	Skin		...	...	...	...
		Other Forms		...	...	...	...
		Epilepsy		...	...	...	...
		Chorea		...	...	1	...
Deformi- ties.	{	Other Conditions		...	...	...	...
		Rickets		...	...	...	...
		Spinal Curvature		...	...	1	...
		Other Forms		...	...	...	...
Other Defects and Diseases ...				2	...	200	...
Number of Individual Children having defects which required Treatment or to be kept under Observation,							

TABLE III.—NUMERICAL RETURN OF ALL
EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA
IN 1920.

			Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Blind (including partially blind), within the meaning of the Elementary Education (Blind and Deaf Children) Act, 1893.		Attending Public Elementary Schools	...	...	...
		Attending Certified Schools for the Blind	2	...	2
		Not at School	...	...	...
Deaf and Dumb (including partially deaf), within the meaning of the Elementary Education (Blind and Deaf Children) Act, 1893.		Attending Public Elementary Schools	1	...	1
		Attending Certified Schools for the Deaf	2	5	7
		Not at School	...	...	...
Mentally Deficient.	Feeble Minded.	Attending Public Elementary Schools	6	1	7
		Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children	1	3	4
		Notified to the Local Control Authority by Local Education Authority during the year	...	...	...
		Not at School	1	3	4
	Imbeciles.	At School. Institution	...	1	2
		Not at School	1	1	2
	Idiots.				
Epileptics.		Attending Public Elementary Schools	1	1	2
		Attending Certified Schools for Epileptics	...	...	...
		In Institutions other than Certified Schools	...	...	...
		Not at School	...	1	1
	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Attending Public Elementary Schools	...	...	...
		Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children	...	...	...
		In Institutions other than Certified Schools	...	...	...
		Not at School	...	...	...

TABLE III.—CONTINUED.

			Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Physically Defective.	Crippling due to Tuberculosis.	Attending Public Elementary Schools	1	2	3
		Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children	1	...	1
		In Institutions other than Certified Schools	...	...	...
		Not at School	...	...	...
	Crippling due to causes other than Tuberculosis, i.e., Paralysis, Rickets, Traumatism	Attending Public Elementary Schools	1	4	5
		Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children	...	...	...
		In Institutions other than Certified Schools	...	...	...
		Not at School	...	2	2
	Other Physical Defectives e.g., delicate and other children suitable for admission Open Air Schools; children suffering from severe heart disease.	Attending Public Elementary Schools	...	...	...
		Attending Open Air Schools	...	...	...
		Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children, other than Open Air Schools	...	...	...
		Not at School	...	...	...
Dull or Backward.		Retarded 2 years	41	23	64
		Retarded 3 years	31	14	45

TABLE IV.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF
CHILDREN DURING 1920.

A.—TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS.

Disease or Defect.	Number of Children.			
	Referred for Treatment.	Treated.		
		Under Local Education Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
Skin :				
Ringworm—Head	65	44	19	63
Ringworm—Body	51	29	1	30
Scabies	19	12	6	18
Impetigo	94	91	3	94
Minor Injuries	9	8	1	9
Other Skin Disease	32	20	12	32
Ear Disease	21	20	...	20
Eye Disease (external and other)	37	35	2	37
Miscellaneous	191	128	53	181

B.—TREATMENT OF VISUAL DEFECT.

Number of Children.									
Referred for Refraction.	Submitted to Refraction.				For whom Glasses were Prescribed.	For whom Glasses were Provided.	Recommended for treat- ment other than by Glasses.	Received other forms of treatment.	For whom no treatment was considered necessary.
	Under Local Education Authority's Scheme, Clinic or Hospital.	By Private Practitioner or Hospital.	Otherwise.	Total.					
76	63	4	—	67	67	26	1	—	3

C.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Referred for Treatment.	Number of Children.			
	Received Operative Treatment.			Received other forms of treatment.
	Under Local Education Authority's Scheme, Clinic or Hospital.	By Private Practitioner or Hospital.	Total.	
62	48	4	52	7

D.—TREATMENT OF DENTAL DEFECTS.

1. Number of Children dealt with.

	Age Groups.										"Specials"	Total.
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
(a) Inspected by Dentist, including re-inspection	—	209	234	217	188	85	7	—	—	—	388	1278
(b) Referred for treatment	423										338	761
(c) Actually treated	598										—	598
(d) Re-treated (result of periodical examination)	—										—	—

2. Particulars of Time given and of Operations undertaken.

No. of half days devoted to inspections.	No. of half days devoted to Treatment.	Total No. of Attendances made by the children at the Clinic.	No. of Permanent Teeth.		No. of Temporary Teeth.		Total No. of Fillings.	No. of Administrations of General Anæsthetics included in 4 and 6.	No. of Other Operations.	
			Extracted.	Filled.	Extracted.	Filled.			Permanent Teeth.	Temporary Teeth.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
8	76	1188	131	191	1844	212	343	—	—	—

TABLE V.—SUMMARY OF TREATMENT OF DEFECTS AS SHOWN IN TABLE IV. (A, B, C, D, AND F, BUT EXCLUDING E.)

Disease or Defect.	Number of Children.			
	Referred for Treatment.	Treated.		
		Under Local Education Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
Major Ailments	308	259	44	303
Visual Defects	76	63	5	68
Defects of Nose and Throat	62	48	11	59
Dental Defects	761	592	6	598
Other Defects	191	128	53	181
Total	1398	1090	119	1209

TABLE VI.—SUMMARY RELATING TO CHILDREN
MEDICALLY INSPECTED AT THE ROUTINE
INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1920.

(1) The total number of children medically inspected at the routine inspections	1055
(2) The number of children in (1) suffering from Defects (other than uncleanness or defective clothing or footgear) who require to be kept under observation (but not referred for treatment)	41
(3) The number of children in (1) suffering from :—	
Malnutrition	7
Skin Disease	...
Defective Vision (including Squint)	43
Eye Disease	1
Defective Hearing	15
Ear Disease	2
Noses and Throat Disease	28
Enlarged Cervical Glands (non-tubercular)	11
Defective Speech	...
Dental Disease	175
Heart Disease :	
Organic	6
Functional	7
Anæmia	1
Lung Disease (non-tubercular)	2
Tuberculosis :	
Pulmonary :	
Definite	...
Suspected	...
Non-Pulmonary	...
Disease of the Nervous System	...
Deformities	...
Other Defects and Diseases	2
(4) The number of children in (1) who were referred for treatment (excluding uncleanness, defective clothing, etc.)	203
(5) The number of children in (4) who received treatment for one or more defects (excluding uncleanness, defective clothing, etc.)	309