Contributors

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THE RURAL DISTRICT OF ALTON

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Sanitary Inspector

for the year

1950



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THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ALTON.

Public Health, Sewerage and Water Committee, 1950.

Chairman—Major H. I. Powell Vice-Chairman—A. E. Guy

Members-

Lady Bradford The Hon. Mrs. T. Brand E. Barry Briggs W. Brock C. M. Hathaway W. H. Ings Capt. H. J. M. Holmes J. E. T. Kemsley R. E. B. Meade-King Major A. E. Mentzel, M.B.E. Col. H. O. Pargeter Mrs. M. A. Richards Col. J. B. Scott A. B. Wright

Members of the Health Department Staff.

Medical Officer of Health-

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor—

Assistant Sanitary Inspectors and Assistant Building SurveyorsH. Currer Williams, M.A., M.B., B. ch., (Cantab), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.).

- A. E. Bennett, C.R.S.I., A.M. Inst. B.E.
- G. C. Edgington, C R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
- J. H. Johnson, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

ALTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

BARTON END, LENTEN STREET, ALTON, HANTS.

August, 1951.

To the Chairman and Members of the Alton Rural District Council.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1950 on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District of Alton.

The year on the whole has been very free from infectious disease. There were more cases of whooping cough than measles.

The cases of scarlet fever were mild in character and scattered throughout the district. There was no serious outbreak.

Owing to extensive inoculation of children against diphtheria, there has been no case notified of this disease.

My thanks are due to Mr. A. E. Bennett for his cooperation in compiling this report and for his very valuable services during the year.

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(Signed) H. CURRER WILLIAMS, Medical Officer of Health. Alton Rural District Council.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

As at 31st December, 1950

Area, in acres				65,526
Estimated population (civilian)			20,000
Total estimated population (in	ncludi	ing mili	tary)	24,480
Number of inhabited houses				5,963
Rateable value				£,154,704
Product of a penny rate				£629

The district is situated in the extreme east of Hampshire and comprises 21 civil parishes.

On the east, it marches with the County boundary between Hampshire and Surrey and then, circling in round Bramshott, just touches the Sussex border in the south-east.

The River Wey rises from a considerable number of sources within the district and the River Rother begins its course below the hills in the extreme south.

Agriculture and the rural undertakings with which it is normally associated continue as the principal industries of the district.

The Parish of Whitehill includes the important military establishments of Bordon and Longmoor whilst the Parishes of Headley and Grayshott have become popular residential areas.

VITAL STATISTICS

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Live Births (Legitimate)	193	155	348
(Illegitimate)	20	19	39
Totals	213	174	387
Live birth rate per thousand total po	pulation		15.8
Live birth rate per thousand civil po			19.35
Average for England and Wales, per			
population			15.8
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Still Births (Legitimate)	3	0	3
(Illegitimate)	0	0	0
Totals	3	0	3
Still birth rate per thousand total po	nulation		0.12
Still birth rate per thousand civil po			0.15
Average for England and Wales	pulation	and total	0.15
Average for England and Wales,	per thou	sanu totai	0.37
population	••		0.57

Births.

Deaths.

From all causes—203 (of which 89 died outside the distric	t)
Death rate per thousand total population	8.3
Death rate per thousand civil population	10.15
Average for England and Wales, per thousand total	
population	11.6
Maternal Mortality.	
From Puerperal sepsis	Nil
From other Puerperal causes	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per thousand (live and still)	
births	Nil
Average for England and Wales	0.86
Infantile Mortality.	
Deaths under one year of age	15
Infantile mortality rate per thousand live births	38.7
Average for England and Wales	29.8
0 0	
Deaths from—	
MALE FEMALE	TOTAL
Cancer (all ages) 21 16	37
Measles (all ages) 0 0	0
Whooping Cough (all ages) 0 1	1
Diarrhoea (under two years) 0 1	1
Deaths over 70 years of age numbered 109; of these 48 we	re over
80 years and 11 were over 90 years of age.	
,	

	Diseases	Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	0	2
	Tuberculosis, other	1	1 1	22
2 3 4 5	Syphilitic disease	Ō	0	õ
4	Diphtheria	Õ	0	Õ
5	Whooping Cough	0	1	1
6	Meningococcal infections	0	0	Ō
7	Acute poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8	Measles	0	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	0		1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1 2 0 3 3	5
11	,, lung, bronchus	11	Ō	11
12	,, ,, breast	0	3	3
13	", ", uterus	0	3	3
14	Other malignant and lymphatic	1000	1-1000	
	neoplasms	7	8	15
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	0	1	1
16	Diabetes	0	Ō	0
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	13	24
18	Coronary disease, angina	12	16	28
19	Hypertension with heart disease	0	2	2
20	Other heart diseases	24	15	39
21	Other circulatory disease	7	3	10
22	Influenza	2	2	4
23	Pneumonia	4	15 3 2 2 2	6
24	Bronchitis	3	2	5
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	Ō	ō	0
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	ī	0 2 2 1
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	Ō	1	1
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	0	Ō	0
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	0	0	0
31	Congenital malformations	2	2	4
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	16	11	27
33	Motor vehicle accidents	1	0	1
34	All other accidents	Ō	2	2
35	Suicide	2	0	2 2 0
36	Homicide and operations of war	20	0	0
	All causes	110	93	203

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Disease	(en)	1.13	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Deaths
Diphtheria			0	0	0
Enteric Fever			0	0 -	0
Measles			34	2	0
Para-typhoid			0	0	0
Pneumonia			9	6	6
Polioencephalitis			0	0	0
Puerperal pyrexia			0	0	0
Scarlet fever			29	17	0
Whooping cough			57	2	1
Poliomyelitis			6	5	0

The following is an analysis of cases of notifiable diseases which occurred during the year :---

Note : Only certain forms of pneumonia are notifiable.

Six cases of Poliomyelitis were notified but three were not confirmed after admission to hospital. The three cases which were confirmed (2 paralytic and 1 non-paralytic) were in the families of soldiers at Bordon and were removed to the Military Isolation Hospital.

Analysis of notified cases according to age groups :--

	Age g	group	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough
Under 1			 1	0	1
1-2			 2	1	6
2-3			 5	2	9
2-3 3-4 4-5			 7	7	9
4-5			 3	1	6
5-10			 12	14	22
10-15			 3	3	1
15-20			 1	0	0
20 and o	ver		 0	1	3
Tot	als		 34	29	57

Tuberculosis.

No action was necessary during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

			New	CASES		DEATHS			
Age Period		Respi M.	ratory F.		lon- ratory F.	Respir M.	ratory F.	No Respi M.	on- ratory F.
		-	_	_	_	_	-	-	_
E 1E	::	-	=	1	2		-	1	-1
15 25		3	3	1	_	_	_	_	_
25 25		4	1	_	_		-	_	-
35-45		1	3 2	1	-	1	-	-	-
		1	2		-	-	-	-	-
		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over		-	-	-	_	1	-	-	-
Totals		10	9	4	2	2	_	1	1

The following table indicates the incidence of the disease and deaths during the year from tuberculosis.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year, 714 immunisations against diphtheria were carried out as follows :---

	children who of primary in year	Total number of children who were given a secondary or rein- forcing injection (subsequent to complete full course) during	
Age at date of final in- jection. Tota		Total	the year.
Under 5	5—14		A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
214	20	234	480

The Ministry of Health recommend that all children be immunised against diphtheria before their first birthday, preferably at the age of seven or eight months. Also that they should be given a reinforcing injection just after entering school.

Lists of children who have attained the age of 12 months and who have not been immunised are regularly forwarded to the County Medical Officer of Health who arranges for a Health Visitor to call. This arrangement has proved very successful.

Prevention of Blindness.

During the year no cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified.

Scabies.

There were no cases of scabies during the year.

PROVISION OF GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Ambulance Facilities.

Ambulances for infectious diseases and other cases (noninfectious, accident and maternity) are stationed at Alton.

Child Welfare.

Centres for children under the age of 5 years are available as follows :---

CENTRE	ADDRESS	AVAILABILITY (per month)
Alton	Assembly Rooms	1st and 3rd Tuesdays
Bentley	Memorial Hall	3rd Thursday
Binsted	Institute	4th Wednesday
Grayshott	Village Hall	Every Friday
Headley	Hilland	2nd and 4th Fridays
Kingsley	Ockham House	3rd Friday
Selborne	Village Hall	2nd Wednesday
Whitehill	Men's Club	2nd and 4th Thursdays

All centres are held in the afternoons at 2 p.m. except at Grayshott which is held at 2.45 p.m.

Day Nursery.

A day nursery is available at the Manor House, Alton, providing accommodation for approximately 20 children between the ages of 2 and 5 years. The nursery is well used and there is a waiting list for accommodation.

Hospitals.

There are no hospitals in the district but the following are available :---

The General Hospital, Alton.

The Inwood Cottage Hospital, Alton.

The Isolation Hospital, Alton.

The Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester.

Home Help Service.

A scheme of domestic help is available in cases of emergency, the district coming under the Basingstoke District Organiser, at the Home Help Office, Market Chambers, Church Street, Basingstoke.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examinations of clinical matter (sputum, swabs, etc.) and of water, milk and foodstuffs are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester.

Chemical analyses of water, sewage, milk and other samples are carried out by arrangement with the Public Analyst, Portsmouth.

Midwifery and Home Nursing.

These services are administered as follows :---

DISTRICT SERVED	NURSE	SERVICE GIVEN
Alton Chawton Farringdon	MISS D. R. HULL, S.C.M., GAS/AIR, 4 Edward Road, Alton. MRS. M. COOMBES, S.R.N., Hillcrest, Windmill Hill, Alton.	Midwifery only General nursing only
Medstead Bentworth Shalden Lasham Four Marks Wield	MRS. G. M. KIMBER, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., GAS/AIR. 3 Green Stile, Medstead	Midwifery and general
Grayshott	MISS M. A. CUFF, S.C.M., GAS/AIR, Nurses Cottage, School Road, Grayshott	ditto
Blackmoor Whitehill Kingsley Belborne part MRS. D. U. C. DEDDES, S.C.M., GAS/AIR, Nurses Cottage, Blackmoor		ditto
Ropley West Tisted East Tisted	MISS J. A. JOHNSON, S.C.M., GAS/AIR, Kingsley, Church Lane, Ropley	ditto
Selborne part Hartley Mauditt West and East Worldhams Newton Valence	Mrs. R. Morgan, s.c.m., gas/air, Nurses Cottage, Selborne	ditto

DISTRICT SERVED	NURSE	SERVICE GIVEN
Headley Hollywater Standford	Miss J. E. Bramidge, s.c.m., GAS/AIR, 57 Church Fields, Headley	Midwifery and general
Bentley Froyle Binsted	MRS. M. P. SEDGWICK, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., 10 Babs Field, Bentley	ditto

Qualifications : s.R.N.—State Registered Nurse s.C.M.—State Certified Midwife q.N.—Queens Nurse GAS/AIR—Gas and air analgesia certificate

School Health Services.

Clinics are held as follows :

Verminous cleansing	General Hospital, Alton.
Scabies	Isolation Hospital, Alton.
Orthopaedic	Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton.
Ear, nose and throat	Royal Hants County Hospital, Winchester.
Dental	At Schools
Ophthalmic and orthoptic	Trafalgar House, Winchester.
Child guidance	Health Centre, Winchester.
Speech therapy	Health Centre, Winchester.

Tuberculosis.

Clinics are held at Aldershot, Basingstoke and Winchester, whilst sanatoria are available at Bishopstoke, Chandlers Ford, Liphook and Alton (Morland Hall and Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital).

Venereal Diseases.

Clinics are held at Aldershot, Basingstoke and Winchester.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND BUILDING SURVEYOR

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water.

Piped main supplies in the various parishes of the district are as follows :

Wey Valley Water Co.

Binsted	Chawton
Farringdon	Four Man
Grayshott	Headley
Newton Valence	Ropley
Whitehill	
	Farringdon Grayshott Newton Valence

Mid-Wessex Water Co.

Bentworth Shalden

Lasham Wield

Medstead

Marks

Private estate supply.

West Tisted

Extensions of main supplies were completed during the year in the Parishes of Newton Valence, Four Marks, Whitehill and Medstead, whilst work on the extension of mains in the parishes of Worldham and Whitehill were commenced.

The mains supplies in the area have been satisfactory, both in quality and quantity throughout the year. Samples are regularly taken for analysis by the Water Undertakers themselves.

Other domestic supplies in the district are from wells, springs and underground rain water storage tanks.

Particulars as to the number of properties and population served in each parish are as follows :---

	Area,	No. of		of hou upplied		Popula	pplied	
Parish	acres	houses	Direct	By stand pipe	Total	Direct	By stand pipe	Total
Bentley Bentworth Binsted Chawton East Tisted Farringdon Four Marks Froyle Grayshott Headley Kingsley Lasham Medstead Newton Valer Ropley Selborne Shalden West Tisted	 2483 3763 7799 2194 2621 2105 1502 4641 901 4771 1540 1797 2809 2069 3704 4830 2160 2356	229 191 520 148 64 160 409 196 451 847 127 53 436 75 412 372 108 54	$ \begin{array}{r} 199\\151\\302\\87\\-\\114\\146\\179\\432\\675\\74\\47\\182\\23\\124\\265\\84\end{array} $		$ \begin{array}{r} 199\\ 151\\ 302\\ 87\\ \\ 114\\ 146\\ 179\\ 432\\ 675\\ 74\\ 47\\ 182\\ 23\\ 124\\ 265\\ 84 \end{array} $	$716 \\ 544 \\ 1087 \\ 313 \\ \\ 410 \\ 526 \\ 644 \\ 1555 \\ 2430 \\ 266 \\ 169 \\ 655 \\ 83 \\ 446 \\ 954 \\ 302 \\ $		$716 \\ 544 \\ 1087 \\ 313 \\ \\ 410 \\ 526 \\ 644 \\ 1555 \\ 2430 \\ 266 \\ 169 \\ 655 \\ 83 \\ 446 \\ 954 \\ 302 \\ $
West Tisted Whitehill Wield Worldham	 2330 5509 2104 3868	817 67 127	494 57 48		494 57 48	1778 205 173		1778 205 173
Totals	 65526	5863	3683		3683	13256	_	13256

Sewerage.

Part of the Parish of Bentley is sewered, the effluent being treated by broad land irrigation.

A scheme of main drainage for the greater part of the Parish of Whitehill is proceeding under contract. Discharge is into existing treatment works at Lindford in the Parish.

The temporary housing site of 50 prefabricated bungalows at Lindford is served by a sewer laid to discharge into the abovementioned works.

Schemes for the sewering of the Parishes of Headley and Grayshott have been approved whilst schemes have been prepared for sewering areas of the following parishes :—Bentworth, Binsted (Rowledge, Bucks Horn Oak and Village), Chawton, East Tisted, Farringdon, Lasham, Medstead, Newton Valence, Ropley, Selborne (Village), Shalden, Whitehill (Greatham), and Wield ; also for further extensions in Bentley.

The larger Council Housing Estates, where sewers are not available, are being provided with estate treatment works.

Drainage.

There has been an increased tendency to instal domestic drainage systems, ie., cesspools and septic tanks, to serve individual houses and it is regretted that Building Licensing restrictions have checked this desirable form of improvement.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection.

A general scheme of full refuse collection throughout the district is in operation.

Weekly collections of refuse and salvage are made in the Parishes of Grayshott and Whitehill, the remainder of the district being served fortnightly.

Disposal is by means of controlled tipping.

During the year disposal of refuse from Bordon Camp commenced.

Salvage.

Collection of waste paper has been maintained and the quantity sold during the year amounted to 37 tons 11cwts. 3qtrs.

Cesspool Emptying.

Cesspools and septic tanks were emptied throughout the district upon application as follows :

Private properties			 906 loads
Council and requisitioned	proper	ties	 477 loads
Total		!	 1383 loads

Nightsoil Collection.

Nightsoil collections are made twice weekly in defined areas of the Parishes of Grayshott, Whitehill, Chawton, Farringdon, Selborne and Headley and once weekly in defined areas in the Parish of Binsted. A scheme to further extend this service, to be operated as soon as an appropriate vehicle could be acquired, was approved to serve additional areas in the District.

Note: All Public Cleansing work is carried out by the Council's own vehicles and staff.

RURAL HOUSING

The Housing Act, 1949, which received the Royal Assent on the 30th July, 1949, makes provision, inter alia, for Local Authorities to make grants to private owners for the improvement of private dwellings, provided that the dwellings after improvement comply with specified conditions and standard.

Two applications made by private owners under the provisions of the Act in respect of 3 dwellings were approved during the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

All home killed meat delivered to the shops in the district came from Government controlled slaughterhouses situated outside the district.

Regular inspections of food shops and stores were carried out during the year and the following foodstuffs were surrendered for condemnation :—

Home killed m	eat	 96	lbs.
Chickens		 3	
Ducks		 5	
Sausages		 10	lbs.
Fish	· · ·	 571	lbs.
Brawn		 11	
Flour		 15	lbs.
Cheese		 121	lbs.
Dried fruit			lbs.
Shell eggs		 863	
Fats		 601	lbs.
Meat		 55	
Milk		 88	tins
Vegetables		 35	tins
Fish		 16	tins
Fruit		 33	tins
Preserves		 10	tins
Cereals		 21	pkts.
Sundry foods			ars., etc
Bacon		 $116\frac{3}{4}$	

c.

Milk and Dairies.

Under the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1949, regulations were made by the Ministries of Health, Agriculture and Fisheries and Food whereby the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries became responsible for the registration of dairy farms and dairy farmers and for the execution and enforcement of the regulations on same, whilst local authorities retained responsibility for the provisions applicable outside of dairy farms, for the provisions relating to diseases communicable to man and for the registration of dairies other than dairy farms and of dairymen other than dairy farmers. Regulations were also made regarding designated milk. The County Council is the responsible authority as regards producers but have delegated to the District Council their powers as regards pasteurising and sterilising establishments of which however there are at present none in the district. Local authorities under these regulations are responsible for the provisions covering premises other than those at which milk is produced.

Ice Cream.

There is one wholesale manufacturer in the district and 41 samples were taken for analysis during the year with the following results :

Methylene Blue Test.

Provisional grade	Ι	II	III	IV
No. of samples	 33	8	0	0

The provisional grades are based on the time taken to reduce the colour of a standard methylene blue solution. The results of examination of many samples suggest that the methylene blue reduction test is a good indicator of general bacterial contamination and a fairly good indicator of excretal contamination. The use of this test and the definition of the grades should be regarded as provisional only, subject to a trial.

It is suggested that it would be unwise to pay too much attention to the result of any one sample, but that throughout the year samples should be expected to fall into provisional grades as follows : Grade I, 50%; Grades I and II, 80%; Grade III, not more than 20%; Grade IV, nil.

The samples taken during the year show the following percentages :

Provisional grade	Ι	I and II	III	IV
Percentage of total	80.5%	100%	_	

It will be seen that samples within Grades I—II are well above the standard suggested.

Food Poisoning.

There were no cases of food poisoning during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47

(Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention).

During the year the Council did not find it necessary to take action under the above Section.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

During the year 17 licences were issued for moveable dwellings, making a total number of 60 licenses in force at the end of the year.

Visits and inspections were made of all dwellings and sites to ensure maintenance in a sanitary condition.

HOP PICKERS ACCOMMODATION

Special attention was given during the year to this type of accommodation.

The Council continued a system of refuse collection from the encampments in cases where growers provided proper receptacles.

There are in all 16 hop growers in 5 different parishes, providing 22 separate hutted encampments with, in addition, 7 tented encampments for travellers. These were all inspected both before and during occupation, involving a total of 126 camp visits.

BUILDING BYE LAWS & PLANNING

The total number of plans deposited with the Council during the year was 255 as follows :

	240						
1.	New dwellings						19
2.	Alterations and ad	ditions	to exis	sting d	welling	s	35
3.	Conversions and ad	daptatio	ons to	form d	welling	s	16
4.	Domestic garages						22
	Domestic drainage						91
6.	Farm and other bu	ildings					25
7.	Sheds and stores						13
.8.	Planning only						69
	here address sends of	Total					290

BUILDING LICENSING

Building licences were issued during the year as follows :---

No. of licences	Nature of Works	Cost of Works
9	New dwellings	£,12,541
13	Conversions and adaptations to form additional dwellings	£ 6,454
8	Alterations and improvements to dwellings	
29	Maintenance repairs to dwellings	£ 7,361
36	Domestic drainage	£ 2,938 £ 7,361 £ 9,409
95		£38,703

Inspection of work under Building Licensing involved 41 visits in addition to any visits necessary under the Council's Building Bye Laws.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

The following particulars are those prescribed on the administration of the above Act.

 Premises	Number on register	Number of inspections	Number of written notices
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	27	6	Nil
which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	12	8	Nil
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	12	12	Nil

Inspections for purposes as to health :---

Cases in which defects were found :--Nil.

H. CURRER WILLIAMS, Medical Officer of Health, Alton Rural District Council.









