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Contributors

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ALTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

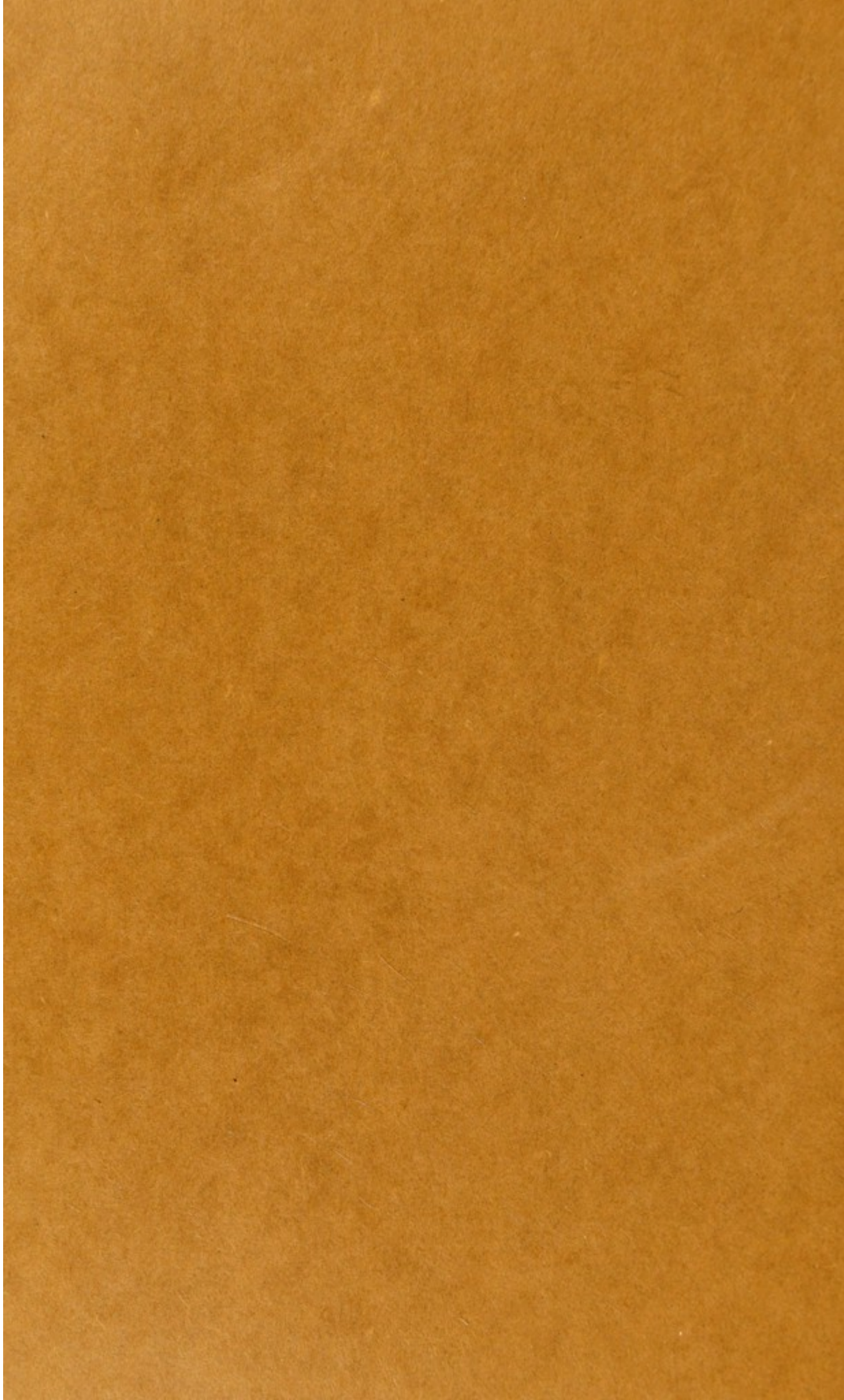
Chief Sanitary Inspector

and

Engineer and Surveyor

for the year

1954



ALTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of Council—

Councillor B. C. Scurr

Vice-Chairman of Council—

Councillor W. H. Shipley

Public Health Committee

Chairman—

Councillor F. C. Jenner

Members as at 31/12/54

Councillor A. N. Bissett

„ A. G. Finnimore

„ E. T. Hutley

„ Mrs. C. Kerridge

Councillor H. H. Mylward

„ B. C. Scurr

„ W. H. Shipley

Staff

Medical Officer of Health—

Randall Martin, M.B., Ch.B. (Aber.),
D.P.H. (Edin.)

*Chief Sanitary Inspector and
Meat and Food Inspector—*

C. L. Hunt, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,
C.S.I.B.

Engineer & Surveyor

F. T. Cornhill, A.M.I.Mun.E.,
M.R.S.I.

Clerk—

M. G. Worthington

ALTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
HIGH STREET, ALTON.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my annual report on the health and sanitary circumstances of your district for the year 1954. As shown by the statistics the health of the community is good, and the figures for Alton compare favourably with the national figures. There was a marked improvement in the percentage of children aged about 1 year who were immunised during the year (70% compared with 50%). There was also a marked improvement in the vaccinal state of infants in the district.

There were few infectious diseases notified, the year being an inter epidemic one as far as measles and whooping cough are concerned. There were no deaths from infectious diseases. Attention is again drawn to the recorded age at death of Altonians and the bearing this has on the social needs of the aged in the community.

With regard to the sanitary circumstances of the district the department has been very active during the year as will be seen from the section of the report dealing with this subject. The Government decontrolled meat and live stock in July and it became the responsibility of this authority to ensure adequate slaughtering accommodation for traders in the area. This was achieved by joint action with the Alton Rural District Council, a public slaughterhouse being provided and administered by a Joint Public Slaughterhouse Committee. A table in the report shows the amount of work involved in the important preventive measure of meat inspection.

Throughout the year I have had invaluable assistance from the staff. Mr. Cornhill is responsible for three basic and most important, public health functions of your authority, viz., Water supplies, Sewerage and Public cleansing. The services have a very direct bearing on the health and happiness of the community. These are also directly affected by the very important and multifarious duties of the Sanitary Inspector as is borne out by that section of the report. My personal thanks are due to them for their hard work and unfailing and loyal co-operation.

RANDALL MARTIN.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT

Area, in acres	4,085
Rateable Value, 1953-54	£65,031
Sum represented by a penny rate, 1953-54	£259
Population	8,660
Number of inhabited houses	2,764

Natural and Social Conditions of the Area

The Urban District consists of the market town of Alton with a small area of the adjacent countryside and includes the village of Holybourne on its Eastern boundary. The town serves the neighbouring country district and a Market is held every Tuesday.

The town has many buildings of historical note and retains the essential character of an English market town. The mainstay of the populace is the trading in relation to the neighbouring agricultural district. There are also two large breweries situated in the town, a battery making company, a manufacturer of prosthesis, an iron foundry and various other small engineering works, all of which give employment to residents.

The main communications in the district are the London-Southampton Road and Alton is the terminus for the electrified railway from Waterloo.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births.

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Live Births (Legitimate)	58	53	111
(Illegitimate)	2	4	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Births	60	57	117
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Live birth rate per thousand estimated population			13.5
Live birth rate per thousand estimated population, England and Wales			18.1
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Still Births (Legitimate)	0	4	4
(Illegitimate)	0	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	0	4	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The comparability factor for 1954 for Alton is 1.01, therefore the birth rate for this area when multiplied by this factor can then be compared with the rates for other areas and with the crude rate for England and Wales.

Deaths.

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
From all causes—	43	46	89
Death rate per thousand estimated population			12.7
Death rate per thousand estimated population, England and Wales			9.4

Infant Mortality.

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Deaths of infants under one year of age—			
(Legitimate)	1	0	1
(Illegitimate)	0	0	0
	—	—	—
Total	1	0	1
	—	—	—
Rate per thousand live births			8.5
Rate per thousand live births, England and Wales			25.5

Neo-Natal Mortality.

No deaths of infants under four weeks of age occurred during 1954.

Maternal Mortality.

There were no deaths of mothers arising from pregnancy, child birth or abortion during the year.

The comparability factor for this district is .89, therefore the adjusted death rate for this district is 11.3. Allowance thus being made for local differences in the sex and age distribution of the population, this figure is therefore the one used for comparison with England and Wales.

Attention is drawn to the fact that the rates given above, owing to the relatively small numbers involved, are not statistically significant and rate comparisons with other districts and earlier years may be misleading.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Diseases	Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	0	0
2	Tuberculosis, other	0	0	0
3	Syphilitic disease	0	0	0
4	Diphtheria	0	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	0	0	0
6	Meningococcal infections	0	0	0
7	Acute poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8	Measles	0	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	0	0	0
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	1	2	3
11	" " bronchus ..	1	0	1
12	" " breast	0	0	0
13	" " uterus	0	0	0
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	4	11
15	Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	0	0	0
16	Diabetes	0	1	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	3	11	14
18	Coronary disease, angina	8	8	16
19	Hypertension with heart disease ..	3	0	3
20	Other heart diseases	2	9	11
21	Other circulatory diseases	2	1	3
22	Influenza	0	0	0
23	Pneumonia	6	1	7
24	Bronchitis	1	2	3
25	Other diseases of respiratory system ..	1	0	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	1	1	2
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	0	0	0
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	0	1
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion ..	0	0	0
31	Congenital malformations	0	0	0
32	Other defined and ill-defined causes ..	4	4	8
33	Motor vehicle accidents	0	0	0
34	All other accidents	1	0	1
35	Suicide	0	1	1
36	Homicide and operations of war ..	0	0	0
All causes		43	46	89

From this table it is seen that the commonest cause of death was diseases of the heart and blood vessels (30), followed by malignant conditions (15), vascular lesions of the nervous system (14), diseases of the lungs (13). There were no deaths amongst the infectious diseases during the year. This group of diseases accounted for many children's deaths in the past. However, the infectious diseases (measles and whooping cough, etc.) should never be regarded lightly and early medical care and attention sought in such cases.

Recorded Age at Death.

Age group	Males	Females	Total
0—9 ..	1	0	1
10—19 ..	1	0	1
20—29 ..	0	0	0
30—39 ..	0	2	2
40—49 ..	3	0	3
50—59 ..	2	5	7
60—69 ..	14	5	19
70—79 ..	9	19	28
80—89 ..	11	14	25
90—99 ..	2	1	3
	43	46	89

An indication of the longevity of mankind and the efficiency of the medical services is borne out by the age at death—64% of the persons who died were over the age of 70 years. The recorded age at death of the oldest persons dying during the year was that of a man aged 98 and of a woman aged 92.

The problem of the ageing community is a national one as well as a local one and calls for special consideration. The onus of the younger generation to look after their ageing and aged parents is not always fully met. The shortage of housing accommodation generally emphasises this and the Council in their future housing policy must consider the provision of suitable small homes to accommodate the aged within the community. The alternative is accommodation in an old people's home at increased cost to the state and at variance with the wishes of these old people, who are often people of independence and character who wish to be associated with their own area towards the close of their lives. Assistance with meals, shopping and small household duties can be given to the aged in their own homes by the Home Help Service operative in the district, as well as giving scope to the voluntary agencies.

Prevalence of Infectious Diseases.

The following is an analysis of the infectious diseases notified during the year.

Disease	1952	1953	1954
Scarlet Fever	5	3	10
Whooping Cough	12	32	12
Measles	6	91	6
Acute Primary Pneumonia	18	10	9
Poliomyelitis (paralytic) ..	1	2	0
Puerperal pyrexia	0	2	1
Erysipelas	0	0	1
Totals	42	140	39

From the above table it will be seen that 1954 was an inter epidemic year as far as measles was concerned.

There was no case of food poisoning notified during the year and no case of ophthalmia neonatorum was intimated.

The Minister of Health has had under review the arrangements for co-operation between hospitals and M.O's.H. regarding outbreaks of communicable diseases in Hospital. To this end he has recommended that the hospital authorities set up control of infection committees. It is important that the M.O.H. be informed of all outbreaks if he is to be in a position to discharge his general responsibilities for the health of his area. This applies not only to the notifiable diseases but also to communicable diseases of epidemiological importance.

Tuberculosis.

During the year 1954, six cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and two cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were added to the register.

The following table indicates the age and sex distribution :

Age group	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
Under 1	—	—	—	—
1—4	—	—	1	—
5—9	—	—	—	—
10—14.. ..	—	—	—	—
15—19.. ..	—	—	—	—
20—24.. ..	—	1	—	—
25—29.. ..	—	1	—	1
30—34.. ..	1	—	—	—
35—39.. ..	—	2	—	—
40 and over ..	—	1	—	—
Totals	1	5	1	1

There were no deaths from respiratory tuberculosis during the year.

No action was necessary relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The figures for the year are given in the following tables.

	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5—9	10—14	Total
Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation during the year ..	61	40	4	5	1	63	4	178
Number of children who received a reinforcing injection during the year	—	—	—	—	4	390	63	457

Number of children at 31st December, 1954, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1940).

Age at 31.12.54. i.e. born in year	Under 1 1954	1—4 1953—50	5—9 1949—45	10—14 1944—40	Date of Birth un- known	Total Under 15
Number Immunised between 1950-54	9	567	616	308	4	1504
between 1940-49	0	0	295	286	10	581

You will note from these figures that 101 children around a year old received the necessary protection against diphtheria. The estimated figure of babies who could have been immunised is 145, so you will see that the percentage of children protected at this age is 70%. The total number of children immunised however gives a better percentage, but some of these children have not been re-immunised for many years. To have full protection against diphtheria a baby should be immunised at about 6-9 months for the first time. The course consists then of two small injections with 4 weeks between. By the time the child is five and ready to go to school, one re-inforcing injection is required. This is followed by another re-inforcing injection at about 10 years old to carry it through the remainder of its school career. The injections may be given by the child's own doctor or the treatment may be given at the child welfare clinic or at school at specially arranged clinics.

No case of diphtheria was notified in the town during the year and there has not been a case of diphtheria in Alton now for seven years. But the germ which causes the disease is still with us ready to strike an unprotected community.

If no cases of diphtheria are to appear in Alton, every effort must be made by parents to have their children immunised and re-immunised at the appropriate times and everyone concerned with the public's health must use persuasion and unrelenting propaganda towards this end.

The national figures for diphtheria are given below where it will be noted new low figures are reported.

Year.	Deaths.	Corrected Notifications.
1944	934	23,199
1945	722	18,596
1946	472	11,986
1947	244	5,609
1948	156	3,575
1949	84	1,890
1950	49	962
1951	33	664
1952	32	376
1953	24	240
1954	9*	182*

*Provisional.

Vaccination.

District councils have no responsibilities in the matter of vaccination. It is a responsibility of the C.C. who keep the records, etc., and who make payment to G.P's. for the return of the vaccination forms.

However the vaccination state of the community is one of concern to all. The higher the state of immunity the less likelihood is there of an outbreak of smallpox. The babies vaccinated in Alton in 1954 under 12 months expressed as a percentage of babies born in 1954 has now risen to 60.6%. This is a much improved figure on previous years.

National Assistance Act, 1948 (S. 47).

No action was required under section 47 of this Act, regarding the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

PROVISIONS OF GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Devolution of Health Functions.

On the 1st April, 1953, there came into operation a scheme of devolution of Health functions to existing District Health Sub-Committees. In this area, the No. 7 (Alton) District Health Sub-Committee comprises the areas of the Alton Rural District Council and Urban District Council, to which sub-committee both Councils nominate members. Among the resolutions made were :

“ In order to make the fullest possible use of local knowledge and to widen interest there be devolved upon the District Health Sub-Committee as far as possible responsibility for the supervision of the Health Services in the area; in particular services operating under Section 22 (Care of Mothers and Young Children), Section 24 (Health Visiting), Section 26 (Vaccination) and Section 28 (Prevention of illness, care and aftercare, so far as that section does not relate to tuberculosis) of the National Health Service Act, 1946, as amended, provided that those functions are exercised in such a way as to conform with the existing scheme.”

Ambulance Facilities.

The Ambulance Service is conducted by the County Council who supply monthly details of journeys to the Public Health Committee. The ambulances for the area are stationed at Alton.

Applications for the use of ambulances are made to :

The Aldershot Ambulance Station
(Telephone : Aldershot 2244).

Child Welfare.

A Child Welfare Clinic is held every Tuesday afternoon from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Assembly Rooms, Alton. This centre is for the attendance of mothers and babies, and children under five. Activities at the clinic, at which a doctor and nurse attend, include advice on feeding and child management, immunisation, weighing and the distribution of welfare foods and certain medicaments.

Consequent upon the closure of the Ministry of Food office, National Welfare Food Distribution Centres were established as follows—

	Centre	Times of Opening
Alton	W.V.S. Office, 25 High Street	Tuesday & Friday 10-12 & 2-4
	Child Welfare Centre, Assembly Rooms	Tuesday 2-4
Holybourne	Taylor's Stores	Shop hours

Health Visiting.

The Health Visitor for Alton is Mrs. J. E. Morrow, 13 Whitedown, Alton.

Day Nursery.

A Day Nursery was provided during the year at the Manor House, Alton, which provides accommodation for children aged $1\frac{1}{2}$ -5. The children are admitted to the nursery on priority grounds and throughout the year the nursery was well used.

Home Help Service.

A scheme of domestic help is available. The helpers are experienced women carefully chosen for their suitability for the work. They will run the home carefully, their job being to take over the housewife's work.

Home Helps are available for the following types of cases : when the housewife is sick or has to have an operation; when a new baby is expected; when several members of a household are ill at one time; and to give help to the elderly and infirm.

Application for a Home Help, accompanied by a medical certificate, should be made to the District Organiser. The charge depends on the hours worked and the income of the family after certain allowances have been made.

Division VI includes the Urban District of Alton and the Divisional Organiser now has her office at the Town Hall, Petersfield (Telephone: Petersfield 771/773), to whom application should be made for a Home Help.

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, Southampton.

Thanks are expressed to the Director of the Public Health Laboratory Service and the Public Analyst, Southampton, for their ready advice and assistance granted during the year.

Midwifery and Home Nursing.

These services are administered as follows :

DISTRICT SERVED	NURSE	SERVICE GIVEN
Alton	Miss D. R. HULL, S.C.M., GAS/AIR, 4 Edward Road, Alton.	Midwifery and general nursing
	Mrs. M. COOMBES, S.R.N., Hillcrest, Windmill Hill, Alton.	General nursing only

QUALIFICATIONS: S.R.N. State Registered Nurse; S.C.M. State Certified Midwife ; Gas/Air, Gas and Air Analgesia Certificate.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

A Clinic is held every Thursday at Alton General Hospital.
The Medical Officers attending the Alton Clinics at the end of the year :

1st Thursday ..	..	Dr. W. S. Larcombe
2nd Thursday ..	..	Dr. T. C. Wilson
3rd Thursday ..	..	Dr. H. E. Larcombe
4th Thursday ..	..	Mr. A. F. Goode

School Health Services.

Clinics are held as follows :

Orthopaedic	Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton.
Ear, nose and throat	Alton General Hospital.
Dental	At Schools.
Ophthalmic and orthoptic	Alton General Hospital.
Child guidance	Health Centre, Winchester.
Speech therapy	Leighton, High Street, Alton.

Tuberculosis.

Clinics are held at Aldershot, Basingstoke and Winchester, whilst sanatoria are available at Bishopstoke, Chandler's Ford, Liphook and Alton (Morland Hall [The Henry Gauvain Hospital]) and Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital).

Venereal Diseases.

Clinics are held at Aldershot and Winchester.

Area Welfare Officer.

The Area Welfare Officer is Mr. C. Hemsley, whose office is at Manor Park House, Aldershot (Telephone : Aldershot 2341). His assistant is Mr. P. H. Dean, County Council Health Centre, Bramblys Grange, Basingstoke (Telephone : Basingstoke 934).

ALTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year ended
31st December, 1954.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Meat and Other Food.

At the end of June the Ministry of Food discontinued slaughtering at the Slaughter-house in Amery Street and, the responsibility of ensuring that adequate slaughtering facilities were available in the district, was placed upon local authorities. It was thought that we could probably take over the Amery Street Slaughter-house on July 5th, and by uniting with the Alton Rural District Council provide facilities for both districts. This however, did not transpire and three weeks before that date we had found no solution to the problem. The sub-committees of the two Councils, at this point met, gave the matter their serious consideration and decided to investigate the possibility of a small private slaughter-house owned by Messrs. Kemp & Son, being adapted for use as an alternative to Amery Street Slaughter-house. To this end I prepared plans of suggested alterations, which were of a major character, and upon these being approved, Messrs. Kemp & Son were instructed to proceed with alterations. It was, I feel, a feat of some magnitude that in a little over a fortnight a slaughter-house was stripped of roof and fittings, enlarged, equipped and ready for use by July 5th, and I take this opportunity of recording my thanks and congratulations to Messrs. Kemp & Son for the admirable way in which they undertook and completed this job.

The slaughter-house, known as the Alton Joint Public Slaughter-house, has continued to work satisfactorily and has proved to be adequate for the needs of the local butchers and farmers.

During the year the Amery Street Slaughter-house was purchased by Messrs. Cotton Ltd., of Portsmouth and as we could not possibly undertake at the Public Slaughter-house the amount they would wish to put through, they were granted a licence to slaughter on their own premises.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	957	401	280	2407	3372
Number Inspected ..	957	401	280	2407	3372
All diseases except T.B. whole carcases condemned	2	11	6	8	44
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	299	197	10	250	620
Percentage of the number inspected infected with disease other than T.B. ..	31.45	51.87	0.57	10.72	19.69
Tuberculosis only, whole carcases condemned ..	2	2	1	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	85	56	—	—	17
Percentage of the number inspected infected with T.B.	9.09	14.46	0.36	—	0.53

Food Condemned other than at the Slaughter-house.

Canned Meat lbs. ozs.	Meat lbs. ozs.	Tinned Goods lbs. ozs.	Bottled Goods lbs. ozs.	Perishable Goods lbs. ozs.
234 8	193 6	254 12	—	456 8

Rodent Control.

During the year 790 surveys of properties were carried out, in addition to block controls of the Spitalhatch and Orchard Lane areas. The refuse tip was treated in June and July by the Army Hygiene Section under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the tip was also treated three times by the department with excellent results. First and second maintenance treatments of the sewers were carried out.

In the Urban District 4,904 poison baits were laid with good estimated kills and pick ups. We have continued the use of containers for difficult baiting positions with great success. The poisons in use during the year were Zinc Phospide, Arsenic, Warfarin and Antu.

Many pig-sties in the district were found to be rat infested and after disinfection many were required to be demolished. Generally the district is in a most satisfactory condition as regards rat infestations.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Number of Inspections made.

Complaints received	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Complaints investigated	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Complaints justified	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Inspections under the Housing Act, 1936 (Visits)	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Inspections under the Housing Act, 1936 (Revisits)	..	..	..	..	..	..	112
Inspections of requisitioned properties	..	..	..	..	..	..	46
Verminous Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Old Drains tested	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Tents, vans and sheds	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Factories (mechanical power)	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Factories (non-mechanical power)	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Butchers' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Other Food Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Cafés, Restaurants, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Ice Cream Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Bacteriological Milk Samples taken	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Piggeries (and other animals not domestic)	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Miscellaneous visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Interviews	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Diseases of Animals Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Drainage inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Marine Store Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Disinfection	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Welfare (National Assistance Act)	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Visits under Section 92 Public Health Act, 1936 (Premises)	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Revisits under Section 92 Public Health Act, 1936 (Premises)	..	..	..	..	..	..	64
Farms	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Water Supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	..	..	790
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

	Work done by arrangement	Preliminary notices served	Statutory notices served	Work completed by owner	Work done in default by Council
1. Blocked drains (soil)	3	3	—	3	—
2. Repairs to drains (soil)	—	3	—	3	—
3. New W.Cs. provided	—	—	—	—	—
4. Defective pans and traps of W.Cs.	—	—	—	—	—
5. Defective W.C. cisterns or flush pipes	2	—	—	2	—
6. Defective waste pipes (Bath, lav. and sinks)	—	—	—	—	—
7. Defective sink waste channels ..	—	—	—	—	—
8. Absence of sinks	—	—	—	—	—
9. Defective sinks	—	—	—	—	—
10. Defective eaves, gutters or R.W. pipes	—	—	3	3	—
11. Defective house gullies	—	—	—	—	—
12. Stagnant water	—	—	—	—	—
13. Offensive accumulations	—	—	—	—	—
14. Animals, poultry, etc.	3	—	—	3	—
15. Verminous premises	2	—	—	—	—
16. Insufficient or defective water supply	2	—	—	2	—
17. Defective dustbins	—	—	—	—	—
18. Absence of dustbin	—	—	—	—	—
19. Defective yard paving	—	—	—	—	—
20. W.Cs. requiring cleansing	1	—	—	—	—
21. Defective chimney flues	—	—	—	—	—
22. Damp walls due to internal defects	—	—	—	—	—
23. Damp walls due to lack of or defective D.P.C.	—	4	2	6	—
24. Defective fireplaces or stoves ..	—	1	—	1	—
25. Defective coppers	—	—	—	—	—
26. Defective ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
27. Defective sub-floor ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
28. Defective windows and doors ..	—	4	1	5	—
29. Defective roofs	—	3	3	6	—
30. Defective brickwork or pointing ..	—	1	2	3	—
31. Defective floors	—	4	1	5	—
32. Defective plastering	—	4	—	4	—
33. Defective stairs	—	—	—	—	—
34. Absence of handrails to stairs ..	—	—	—	—	—
35. Absence of or insufficient Food Stor- age	—	—	—	—	—
36. Other matters	—	2	2	4	—

Factories and Workplaces.

	Work done by arrangement	Preliminary notices served	Statutory notices served	Work completed by owners	Work done by Council in default
Unregistered	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowded	—	—	—	—	—
Without Abstract or Blue Book ..	—	—	—	—	—
Absence of Thermometers in Workrooms	—	—	—	—	—
Absence of means of heating in work- rooms	—	—	—	—	—
Absence of suitable washing facilities ..	—	—	—	—	—
Absence of facilities for taking meals in factories	—	—	—	—	—
Requiring lime washing or cleansing ..	2	—	—	2	—
Requiring drains or drain alterations ..	—	—	—	—	—
Insufficient ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Insufficient Water Supply	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary accommodation :					
Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Having improper accommodation for refuse	—	—	—	—	—
Offensive accumulations	—	—	—	—	—
Outwork in unwholesome premises ..	—	—	—	—	—
Outwork in infected premises	—	—	—	—	—
New W.Cs. erected	—	—	—	—	—
Emissions of Smoke	1	—	—	1	—
General delapidations	—	—	—	—	—
Infestation by rats and mice	3	—	—	3	—
Contraventions of :					
Milk and Dairies Regulations ..	—	—	—	—	—
Milk (Special Designations) Regs.	—	—	—	—	—
Meat Regulations, 1924	—	—	—	—	—
Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Sec. 13	—	—	—	—	—
Ice cream Heat Treatment Regs.	—	—	—	—	—
Other matters	—	—	—	—	—

STATUTORY NOTICES

Number of Statutory Notices issued for abatement or abolition of nuisances.

	<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied With</i>
Statutory notices outstanding 31/12/53	—	—
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93 ..	3	3
Housing Act, 1936, Section 9	—	—
Food and Drugs Act, 1938	—	—
	3	3
	—	—

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

No legal proceedings were taken during the year.

DISINFECTIONS

Steam disinfection of bedding, clothing, etc., may still be carried out, by arrangement, at the Aldershot or Farmham Hospitals.

Number of premises disinfected after infectious disease in the Urban District 2

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES

<i>Reason for disinfection</i>	<i>Number of Premises</i>	<i>Number of Rooms</i>
Fleas	2	8
Cockroaches	—	—
Wasps	5	—
Ants	2	—
	9	8
	—	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Factories, Factories (no mechanical Power) and Workplaces.

1. Inspections for purpose of provisions as to Health made by Sanitary Inspector.

	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Notices	No. of occupiers Prosecuted
(a) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	9	3	—	—
(b) Factories not included in (a) to which Section 7 applies	42	9	—	—
(c) Other premises under the Act (excluding outworkers premises)	—	—	—	—
Totals	51	12	—	—

2. Cases in which defects were found.

	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness ..	2	2	—	1
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ..	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences:				
(a) Insufficient ..	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable and defective	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to home-work)	4	4	—	—
Totals	6	6	—	1

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

Milk Purveyors in the Urban District

Number of Producer Retailers	..	..	..	..	Nil
Number of Wholesale Retailers	..	..	..	..	Nil
Number of Retailers only	..	..	..	..	2
Number of Purveyors of Tuberculin Tested (Farm Bottled)	..	..	..	..	Nil
Number of Purveyors of Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	..	..	..	..	2
Number of Purveyors of Pasteurised Milk	..	..	..	..	2
Number of Purveyors of Ungraded Milk	..	..	..	..	1

Milk Purveyors from outside Urban District

Number of Purveyors of Pasteurised Milk	..	..	..	..	2
Number of Purveyors of Sterilised Milk	..	..	..	..	1

Milk (Special Designation) Act, 1949

Designated licences granted during 1954 :

Heat Treated Milk

Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised and Pasteurised Milk :

Producers' licences	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dealers' licences	..	..	..	..	..	1
Supplementary licences	..	..	..	..	..	3
Sterilised Milk :						
Supplementary licences	..	..	..	..	..	1

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK Analysis of Results, 1953

Type of Milk	METHYLENE BLUE R.T.				PHOSPHATASE TEST			
	Total No. samples submitted	Passed	Failed	% Passed	No. of samples submitted	Passed	Failed	% Passed
Pasteurised	19	18	1	94.74	19	19	—	100
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	14	14	—	100	14	14	—	100
Totals	33	32	1	96.97	33	33	—	100

MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE CREAM

No ice cream is now manufactured in the town. There are registered 32 retailers. No action in respect of contraventions of the Heat Treatment Regulations has been necessary during the year. There is one ice cream van plying in the town.

HOUSING STATISTICS

1.	i.	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	27
		(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	203
	ii.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Acts	7
		(b)	Number of inspections made for that purpose	112
	iii.		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..	Nil
	iv.		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	7
2.			Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal notices	
			Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority and their officers	4
3.			Action under Statutory Power during the year :	
	A.		Proceedings under Section 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
		i.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
		ii.	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
		(a)	By owners	Nil
		(b)	By Local Authority in default of owner	Nil
	B.		Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
		i.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	3
		ii.	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
		(a)	By owners	3
		(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
	C.		Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 : Closing orders under Local Government (Misc. Provisions) Act 1954	1
		i.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
		ii.	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
		iii.	Number of dwelling houses closed on undertaking from owners not to re-let for habitation	1
	D.		Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
		i.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
		ii.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

ALTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Water Supply, Sewerage, Sewage Disposal & Public Cleansing.

Water Supply.

During the year the quantity of water at the Well has been ample.

Monthly samples have been sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Winchester for Bacteriological Examination, and chemical analyses have been made by the Analyst of the County Borough of Southampton. All reports have been satisfactory.

Sewerage & Sewage Disposal.

The improvement scheme at the Outfall Works was completed during the year and the new system put into full operation. There now only remains the final completion of paths, etc., and cleaning up of the whole area generally.

The new system used is known as the Alternating Double Filtration System, and the works comprise grit chambers (2), sedimentation tanks (5), percolating filters (10), humus tanks (7), dosing chambers (2), outfalls (2), and sludge beds (3 acres), together with four pumps with their control gear in one pumping station.

Close contact has been maintained with the Thames Conservancy Board regarding the standard of effluent being discharged.

Public Cleansing.

The collection of house and trade refuse has continued satisfactorily during the year, the refuse being disposed of at the controlled tip which receives regular measures of fly and rodent control.

The cleansing of street gulleys, alleys and streets has received regular attention.

RANDALL MARTIN,

Medical Officer of Health.



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