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**Contributors**

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ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
for the  
BASINGSTOKE RURAL DISTRICT  
for the year 1948.

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ASINGSTOKE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ROTHERWICK,

June 1949.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report for  
the year 1948.

STATISTICS.

Population - 15,970.

		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Live Births	Legitimate	245	126	119	Birth Rate - 16.2 (Eng. & Wales - 20.1)
	Illegitimate	14	10	4	
Still Births	.....	8			Rate per 1,000 total births - 30
Deaths	.....	132	68	64	Death rate - 8.2 (Eng. & Wales - 10.8)
Death Rate of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births - 19					(Eng. & Wales - 31)
There were	7	deaths due to suicide and violence.			
	1	death	"	"	Whooping Cough.
	26	deaths	"	"	Cancer.
	41	"	"	"	Heart and arterial diseases.
	4	"	"	"	Tuberculosis.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever	.....	15
Pneumonia	.....	8
Erysipelas	.....	4
Enteric Fever	.....	1
Measles	.....	102
Whooping Cough	.....	15
Tuberculosis	.....	14
Puerperal Pyrexia	.....	3
Poliomyelitis	.....	1

Diphtheria Immunisation was continued; 275 children under five years of age received this treatment.

The amount of infectious disease was small - one Scarlet Fever case was admitted to the Civil Isolation Hospital, Aldershot.





### WATER.

It is estimated that 45% of the dwelling houses in the district are connected to a water main.

The Council continued its schemes of extension of the Mid Wessex Water Company's mains, and it should not be long before the district is covered by piped supplies.

108 samples of well water were analysed, chiefly in the area where piped supplies are available.

The shortage of materials delays the connection of houses to mains.

### HOUSING.

The Rural Housing Survey was completed during the year.

#### Categories.

1.	Satisfactory in all respects .....	396
2.	Minor defects .....	411
3.	Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement..	1604
4.	Appropriate for reconditioning .....	470
5.	Beyond repair at reasonable expense .....	518

Valuable information for the future has been recorded in the course of this Survey. 37 Informal Notices have been served to remedy defects of an urgent nature, and satisfactory results achieved.

### SCAVENGING.

The Council possesses two 10 cubic yards Dennis refuse vehicles, and refuse and salvage collections are made fortnightly throughout the district, with the exception of a few small parishes receiving a monthly collection. All refuse is taken to a controlled tip at Old Basing which has been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

38 tons of waste paper were salvaged. The total value of the salvage collected was £582.

### FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION.

Cowsheds and Dairies - There are 181 registered premises in the district and regular inspections were carried out. 59 herds are Tuberculin Tested, and 39 Accredited.

Bakehouses - Periodical inspections of the 8 bakehouses were made.

Unsound Food - 566 lbs. were condemned as unfit.



MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Eight licences for camping sites were issued. The problem of the more or less permanent caravan or shed type of dwelling is one of real difficulty under present day conditions of housing shortage.

Yours faithfully,

M. AVENT,

Medical Officer of Health.



