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Contributors

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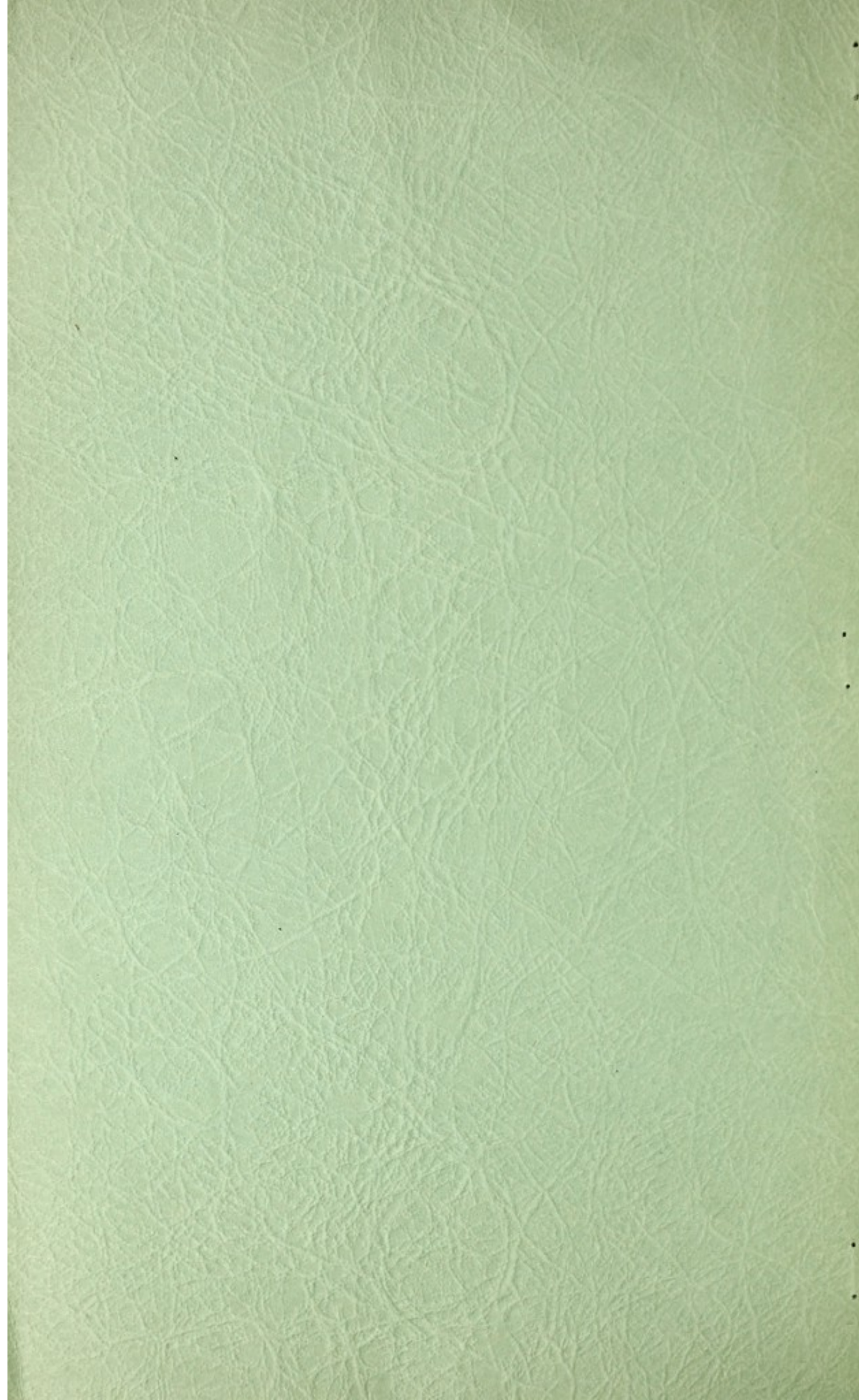


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ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR
for the
BASINGSTOKE RURAL DISTRICT
FOR THE YEAR 1954.





BASINGSTOKE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,
Eastlands,
London Road, Basingstoke.

June 1955.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the annual report for the year ending 31st December 1954. To review those matters which appear to be worthy of special mention:-

The weather presented a very melancholy picture for the year. From May to November inclusive, rainfall was well above normal and dull skies were predominant.

There were no marked changes in the Vital Statistics for the year. For the second year in succession deaths are double the previous average figure. This is the result of a ruling since June 1953 that all deaths in the Park Prewett and Basing Road Hospitals are to be accorded to the Rural District. Road accidents show a rise in 1954 with 109 more accidents in the Basingstoke Police Division. Four fatal cases occurred in this district.

The infectious diseases notified were few - there was a moderate increase in Scarlet Fever cases and Whooping Cough persisted in a mild epidemic throughout the year. Respiratory illness, i.e. colds, tonsillitis and tracheitis were stated to be more prevalent throughout the year in general practice. Towards the end of the year there was a widespread but mild epidemic of influenza, probably of the "B" Virus.

Prevention of illness - there was a welcome increase in the number of primary immunisations for diphtheria. A scheme for the combined Whooping Cough/Diphtheria Immunisation is to start in 1955. Following a meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, sampling of milk for Tuberculosis etc., has been started. The problem is of some importance in this district, which is a large milk producing area.

In view of the increasing importance given to the problem of the care of the aged throughout the County, a review on the local aspects took place at the District Health Sub-Committee. There is need for wider publicity of the services available to the elderly and for effective liason from individual to the multiple authorities concerned. Voluntary service is still required in this field and former Welfare Sub-Committees were requested to review the work in their districts. The provision of suitable housing at low rents for the aged was emphasised in the Housing Survey and by the Senior Sanitary Inspector in his report last year.

At the end of the year a Tuberculosis After Care Committee was formed.

With regard to the Sanitary Circumstances of the district, much progress was made in the expansion of piped water supply and in the provision of other household amenities through Improvement Grants. Several sewerage schemes have received the consent of the Minister. New housing continued to progress, and although it makes no apparent decrease in the housing waiting list, it is exerting its influence in the settling of the floating population and in the demand for better houses and more amenities in rural houses and schools.

My thanks are due to the Public Health staff and other members of the rural district for their help and co-operation during the year and with this report.

Yours faithfully,

P.L. KARNEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

/A/

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	74,790 acres.
Population - Estimated mid year	17,070
Number of inhabited houses	4,465
Sum represented by a penny rate	£419.13s.6d.
Rateable Value	£108,625.

The district comprises 34 parishes and is mainly agricultural and residential. Expanding industries in Basingstoke town and the Aldermaston Atomic Station provide additional employment and a gradually increasing immigrant population. The Military Camp at Bramley continues to employ a fair proportion of the population in that area. Further statistics arising from the 1951 Census appear at the end of the report.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
Live Births	Legitimate	118	117	235	287	222
	Illegitimate	7	6	13	10	10
Live Birth Rate per thousand (corrected figure)				16.40	21.08	16.7
Average for England & Wales.				15.2	15.5	15.3

DEATHS.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
Deaths from all causes.	147	168	315	300	142
Death rate per thousand (corrected)			15.27	14.94	7.1
Average for England & Wales.			11.3	11.4	11.3

The cause of the majority of deaths registered is:-

Heart Disease	-	122
Cancer	-	40
Vascular diseases of brain	-	42

64% of deaths

The age distribution is:-

Under one year	-	6
1 - 19	-	1
20 - 44	-	6
45 - 64	-	65
65 - 74	-	90
75 - 89	-	133
90 plus	-	14

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

		<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
From Puerperal Sepsis	- Nil	Nil	Nil
From all other causes	- Nil	Nil	Nil

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
(Number of deaths under one year of age)	Legitimate	2	3	5	7	3
	Illegitimate	1	-	1	-	-

All but one of the above deaths occurred within the Neonatal Period (first four weeks of life) and the causes of death were:-

Congenital Malformations	-	4
Atelectasis with Prematurity	-	1
Vagal inhibition at birth	-	1

STILL BIRTHS.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
Legitimate	5	3	8	3	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-	2	-

Analysis of Causes of Death.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	2	-	2
" Other	-	1	1
Syphilitic Disease	2	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	5	2	7
Lung & Bronchus ...	6	1	7
Breast	-	1	1
Uterus	-	2	2
Other Malignant & Lymphatic neoplasms	12	11	23
Diabetes	1	3	4
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	19	23	42
Coronary Disease - Angina	19	16	35
Hypertension with heart disease	6	6	12
Other heart disease	23	52	75
Other circulatory disease	10	8	18
Influenza	1	8	9
Pneumonia	9	11	20
Bronchitis	5	4	9
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	2	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	-	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	4	1	5
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Congenital Malformations	2	2	4
Other defined & ill defined diseases ...	9	16	25
Motor vehicle accidents	4	-	4
All other accidents.....	4	4	8
Suicide	1	-	1

/B/

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Notifiable Diseases.

Whooping Cough	41
Scarlet Fever	26
Measles	9
Pneumonia	4
Dysentery	2
Erysipelas	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
Poliomyelitis with Paralysis	1
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary ...	10
" Non-Pulmonary ...	2

The following table indicates the incidence of notifiable diseases during the year:-

	<u>Whooping Cough</u>	<u>Scarlet Fever</u>	<u>Measles</u>	<u>Pneumonia</u>
January.	4	-	-	-
February.	2	1	-	-
March.	-	4	-	-
April.	4	-	1	-
May.	14	5	1	-
June.	1	6	-	1
July.	1	1	-	1
August.	3	3	2	1
September.	-	2	5	-
October.	4	2	-	-
November.	5	2	-	-
December.	3	-	-	1

Tuberculosis.

There were 10 cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year. Two cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were reported. Both cases occurred in the families of farm workers on one farm. Bulk sampling of milk on this farm proved negative to tuberculosis biological tests.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year 233 Primary Courses and 100 Secondary or Booster courses were carried out.

Immunisation in relation to child population - number of children at 31st December who had completed a course of immunisation:-

<u>Last complete course of injection (whether primary or booster)</u>	<u>Under one yr.</u>	<u>1 - 4</u>	<u>5 - 9</u>	<u>10 - 14</u>	<u>Total under 15</u>
1950 - 1954	10	650	736	236	1,632
1949 or earlier	-	-	657	926	1,573

Vaccination

The percentage of children under one year successfully vaccinated during the year ending 31st December 1954 is:-

Basingstoke Rural District - 66% (percentage for 1953 was 41.4)

/C/ PROVISION OF GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD SERVICES.

Winchester Group Hospital Management Committee - The Ministry gave approval to the merger of the two hospitals at Hackwood Road and Basing Road and the re-naming of the hospitals as the Basingstoke District Hospital.

The ground floor wards at Basing Road have been re-constructed and re-equipped and are in use as accommodation for post-operative or medical cases. Work at the new Out-patient department at Hackwood Road also commenced.

LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES.

There are no changes in the details of clinics and other services provided and listed in the report last year.

Home Help Service.

The following is an extract from statistics for the year ended 31st December 1954:-

Summary of cases assisted -

Maternity	-	11.
General sickness	-	9.
Post Hospital	-	3.
Child Care	-	-
Chronic sickness	-	2.
Aged sick	-	4.
Aged infirm	-	12.
Tuberculosis	-	1.
Total		<u>42</u>

The number of cases of aged infirm assisted is low in comparison with neighbouring districts but the service is gradually increasing and proving useful.

Chiropody Clinic.

The Hampshire Council of Social Services have started a chiropody clinic for old people. The Clinic is held on the third Monday of each month at Bramblys Grange and has proved extremely popular and worthwhile.

Tuberculosis After Care Committee.

At the end of the year a Tuberculosis After Care Committee for the combined Borough and Rural Areas was formed.

FOOD SUPERVISION.

Milk. Under the Food and Drugs 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 responsibilities 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.

FOOD SUPERVISION. Milk, contd.

In this district there are about 175 dairy farmers who are producers of milk - 29 of them only produce non-designated milks. Many of these are producer-retailers. Following the meeting at Winchester between representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and Medical Officers, sampling of milk for tuberculosis has been started. It is hoped that the district will be nominated a specified area during 1955. In that event, all milk sold will have to be designated (either T.T or Pasteurised). Details of samples taken are in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

/D/ SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

HOUSING - Number of dwellings completed since 1945:-

	<u>Total</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>
Private	277	76	42
Council	419	47	73

Buildings completed this year are on Church Meadow, Bradley; Hartley Wespall; Gravel Close, Brown Candover; Burney Bit, Pamber Heath; and Little Hoddington, Upton Grey.

Private building has largely concentrated on the Brake Estate at Old Basing.

WATER.

The Council's approved water scheme for the district is now nearing completion. The Steventon-Deane-Newfound, and the Crown Lane, Newnham mains have been completed. The Soke Road, Mortimer West End, and Charter Alley mains are to begin early in 1955. Installation of piped supplies in the cottages in Stratfieldsaye area is now complete. The Manydown Estate Water Undertaking has now amalgamated with the Mid Wessex Water Company (Statutory Water Supply Undertakers to the Rural District).

Samples of water are regularly taken during the year both by the Department and the Water Company and have proved satisfactory. Details of samples taken from wells in the district are in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SEWERAGE.

The Minister has given consent in principle to schemes for the sewerage of Sherfield on Loddon, North Waltham, Sherborne St. John, and Basing. The scheme at Sherfield commenced early in 1955 and the others are in stages of preparation. The Sherfield on Loddon work is proceeding on a modified scheme covering the proposed housing estate and existing houses west of the common. The scheme as submitted included the Village School and a proposed private development. Permission for the whole scheme has been requested.

North Waltham - Permission to proceed to tender has been obtained - this scheme will cover the whole village and include the school.

Sherborne St. John - Plans are in preparation and will include the village school and the Council's housing estate and Park Prewett.

Basing - Plans are in preparation and will include part of the old village and pick up the two Council housing estates and will make it possible to extend development in the Belle Vue Estate. The scheme is modified to the one submitted.

In addition to the above, the housing estates at Moat Close, Bramley, Burney Bit, Pamber and East Oakley Site are sewered.

HAMPSHIRE CENSUS 1951.

Basingstoke Rural District - Total Population - 16,978.

Population in Private Households - 13,735

No. of Private Households - 4,145

No. of structurally separate dwellings occupied - 4,066

Population by Parishes.

Basing.	2017 (1791)	Oakley.	347
Bradley.	51	Pamber.	1144
Bramley.	1510 (709)	Popham.	65
Candovers.	254	Preston Candover.	359
Cliddesden.	310	Sherborne St. John.	2788 (1123)
Deane.	109	Sherfield.	1127 (755)
Dummer & Kempshott.	358	Silchester.	421
Ellisfield.	263	Steventon.	217
Farleigh Wallop.	217	Stratfieldsaye.	374
Hartley Wespall.	161	Stratfield Turgis.	151
Herriard.	300	Tunworth.	114
Mapledurwell & Up Nately.	344	Upton Grey.	410
Monk Sherborne.	389	Weston Corbett.	40
Mortimer West End.	437	Weston Patrick.	80
Newnham.	358	Winslade.	125
North Waltham.	379	Woodmancote.	48
Nutley.	122	Wootton St. Lawrence.	1589

Population increases from the 1931 figures correspond to the new building programmes and tends to concentrate in parishes closer to the town. A fall in population is noted at Deane, Popham, Steventon, Stratfieldsaye, Stratfield Turgis and Herriard, with small decreases in Dummer, Silchester and Winslade. In Bradley, Ellisfield, Monk Sherborne, Newnham and Preston Candover, no marked change is noted. Most other parishes show a 20% increase. Bramley and Sherfield show marked changes no doubt due to the increase in the Military establishment.

Housing.

† Households by size and rooms occupied -

	Private Households	Household by size given as %				
		1	2	3	4 & 5	6 or 6
Basing.	568	8.6	30.4	25.3	28.7	6.8
Bramley.	198	4	28	23.5	32.3	12.6
Pamber.	355	10.4	25.6	27.6	26.5	9.8
Sherborne St. John.	350	5.1	31.4	29.6	26.9	8.3
Sherfield.	218	4.6	28	28	30.7	10.0
Wootton St. Lawrence.	269	7.9	28	24	30.0	10.4

Hampshire C.C.	10.7	28.7	24.6	28.3	7.7
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	Private Households	Households by rooms occ. given as %				
		1	2	3	4 & 5	6 or 6
Basing.	568	0.7	8.5	15.1	68.	10.3
Bramley.	198	2.0	5.6	12.5	64	16.4
Pamber.	355	2.0	9.8	14.6	58.6	14.5
Sherborne St. John.	350	2.2	3.1	17.6	62.8	13.4
Sherfield.	218	3.2	1.2	11	68	22
Wootton St. Lawrence.	269	0.6	8.3	9.7	64	16.1

Hampshire C.C.	2.9	6.6	11.7	57.6	21.2
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† Figures given here are worked out in % from figures in the Census table so as to provide easy comparison.

HAMPSHIRE CENSUS 1951 - Housing, contd..

	Households	Dwellings	No. of persons living in more than two per rm.
Basing.	568	548	16
Bramley.	198	197	6
Pamber.	355	342	42
Sherborne St. John.	350	344	11
Sherfield.	218	217	3
Wootton St. Lawrence.	469	451	31

	Households	Without piped water	Without use of W.C.	No fixed bath	Without bath, stove or sink
Basing.	568	91	315	244	139
Bramley.	198	34	108	113	38
Pamber.	355	166	273	248	142
Sherborne St. John.	350	42	148	134	66
Sherfield.	218	53	162	151	50
Wootton St. Lawrence.	469	108	246	220	112

Other areas where density of occupation (persons living in more than two per room) is comparatively high, (given as number of persons involved) -

Upton Grey	- 20	Silchester	- 8
Mapledurwell	- 19	Steventon	- 8
Ellisfield	- 15	Farleigh Wallop	- 8
Preston Candover	- 14	Candovers	- 8

Figures for the amenities, or rather, lack of them, are high and are among the highest in the County.

BASINGSTOKE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT OF SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1954.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the following report concerning work carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors during the past year:-

Number and Nature of Visits and Inspections.

Houses under Public Health Acts.	172
Houses under Housing Acts.	718
Houses under Housing Acts 1949 - 1954.	368
Overcrowded houses.	7
re Disinfection of Premises.	24
re Water Supply.	204
Petroleum Installations.	26
Moveable Dwellings and Camping Sites.	144
Premises for the Preparation, Storage and Sale of Food.	141
Registered Ice Cream Premises.	35
Dairies and Milk Distributors.	85
Factories.	11
Schools.	6
Refuse Collection and Disposal.	313
Rodent Control.	176
Cesspool Emptying Service.	37
Revisits following service of notices.	158
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits.	61
Complaints received and investigated.	49

NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH.

Outstanding December 1953		Served 1954		Complied with 1954		Outstanding December 1954	
Statutory	Informal	Statutory	Informal	Statutory	Informal	Statutory	Informal
37	77	7	46	40	68	4	55

WATER SUPPLIES.

Regular samples of main water supplies continued to be taken for chemical and bacteriological analysis throughout the year - all were satisfactory.

General use of the Stratfieldsaye River Supply ceased when the Estate complied with statutory notices requiring the provision of mains water into 44 properties in the village. Only a few isolated houses now rely upon this supply, no other being available.

During the year 104 samples of water were analysed with the following results:-

	<u>CHEMICAL</u>		<u>BACTERIOLOGICAL</u>	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
PRIVATE	1	--	21	43
PUBLIC	18	--	21	--

REFUSE AND SALVAGE.

Regular fortnightly collections were maintained throughout the year and the three vehicles covered 20,301 miles in removing 1,070 loads to the controlled tip at Sherborne St. John. The oldest of these vehicles was purchased in September 1944 and its replacement will call for the Council's consideration at an early date. The provision of better garage accommodation remains a real need. The present building is wind and weatherproof but these are its only attributes. Space is very restricted, no facilities are available for general maintenance of vehicles by the Council's employees and adequate supervision is difficult.

Since October when a Bristol "22" Angledozer was purchased, conditions at the disposal tip have improved considerably. All refuse is now consolidated in shallow layers and covered with soil. The land reclaimed will serve a useful purpose when the whole area has been filled.

Staff employed on this service was reduced by one when mechanical plant was introduced. Although refuse is now collected from an additional 700 post-war houses (an increase of over 15%), less labour is engaged for this work than in 1947. It remains difficult to replace staff on this type of work, as younger men suited to heavy lifting of bins prefer more congenial employment.

During the year the following materials were salvaged and sold:-

		Quantity				Value		
		Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs.	£	s	d
Paper	-	50	1	2	3	312	5	8
Rags	-	1	7	0	0	35	0	0
Metals	-	4	8	2	5	19	1	7
Tins	-	17	12	3	0	35	5	6
						<u>£ 401 12 9</u>		

Comparative figures with former years are:-

1950	-	£328
1951	-	£995
1952	-	£803
1953	-	£394

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SCHEME.

This service continues self-supporting. Demands made upon it again increased during the year and overtime frequently became necessary to cope with work undertaken. Despite several rises in wages and general increases in cost of fuel, repairs and renewals, charges to ratepayers have remained constant since 1952.

During 1954 the vehicle covered 11,652 miles and 2,088 loads were removed.

FACTORIES ACT 1947 and SHOPS ACT 1934.

No action was found necessary.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938.

During the year 318 lbs. of food was surrendered and condemned as unfit for human consumption. 52 samples of heat treated and raw milk were tested.

Sampling of raw milk from farms was commenced to ascertain that no milk infected by Tubercle and Brucella Abortus organism was being produced and all samples proved satisfactory during 1954.

When the Ministry of Food relinquished control of slaughtering and meat distribution in July no slaughterhouses were re-opened in the area as all butchers made arrangements for supplies from other districts.

Detailed inspections of food premises were continued during the year and advice was given to occupiers on the clean handling of food. Notices were served where premises were unsatisfactory, but in general improvements were effected as a result of verbal intimation.

Firms of national repute now supply most of the ice cream sold in the district, resulting in a reduction of the sampling necessary as a uniform standard is generally maintained by these producers.

HOUSING ACTS.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act came into force on the 31st August and required Local Authorities to submit details of unfit properties to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government within one year.

Your inspectors are engaged upon a re-survey of sub-standard houses. At an early date the Council will receive a report and be requested to formulate future re-housing programmes.

Improvement Grants.

During the year Improvement Grants for a further 51 properties were approved by the Council. Of these, 26 are tenanted cottages and the remainder owner/occupied. Since 1949 a considerable advancement in general housing standards throughout the district has resulted from the Council's policy of making these grants available to owners of property.

HOUSING ACTS, contd..

Unfit Houses.

During 1954, six unfit houses were demolished by their owners and two formal undertakings that such properties would not be relet in their present condition were accepted by the Council.

Certificates of Disrepair.

It appears that few landlords have increased rents under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 and only six applications for Certificates of Disrepair have been received.

Repairs.

47 defective houses were rendered fit as a result of informal action under Public Health and Housing Acts and a further 39 following the service of statutory notices.

Overcrowding.

The number of overcrowded houses in the area is not known. Several such families were re-housed during 1954 and a few new cases came to light.

LICENCES IN FORCE.

Petroleum	-	87
Slaughtermen	-	6
Slaughterhouses	-	1
Game Dealers	-	1
Moveable Dwellings	-	45
Milk Distributors	-	14
Premises registered for sale of ice cream	-	33

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council's Agricultural Contract Service experienced its first complete operational year and was generally commended by farmers with whom contracts had been undertaken. It is unfortunate that a section of farmers in the area are reluctant to incur anything but the least expenditure in the destruction of rats - whilst such conditions appertain, the ideal method of dealing with large areas by block treatments is limited to certain parts of the district.

During the year 1,742 dwelling houses were surveyed and 521 properties treated for infestation by rats or mice.

The Ministries of Agriculture and Fisheries and Food continue to defray 50% of the cost of rodent treatment on such premises.

Yours obediently,

P.C. BOX,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

