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ANNUAL REPORTS

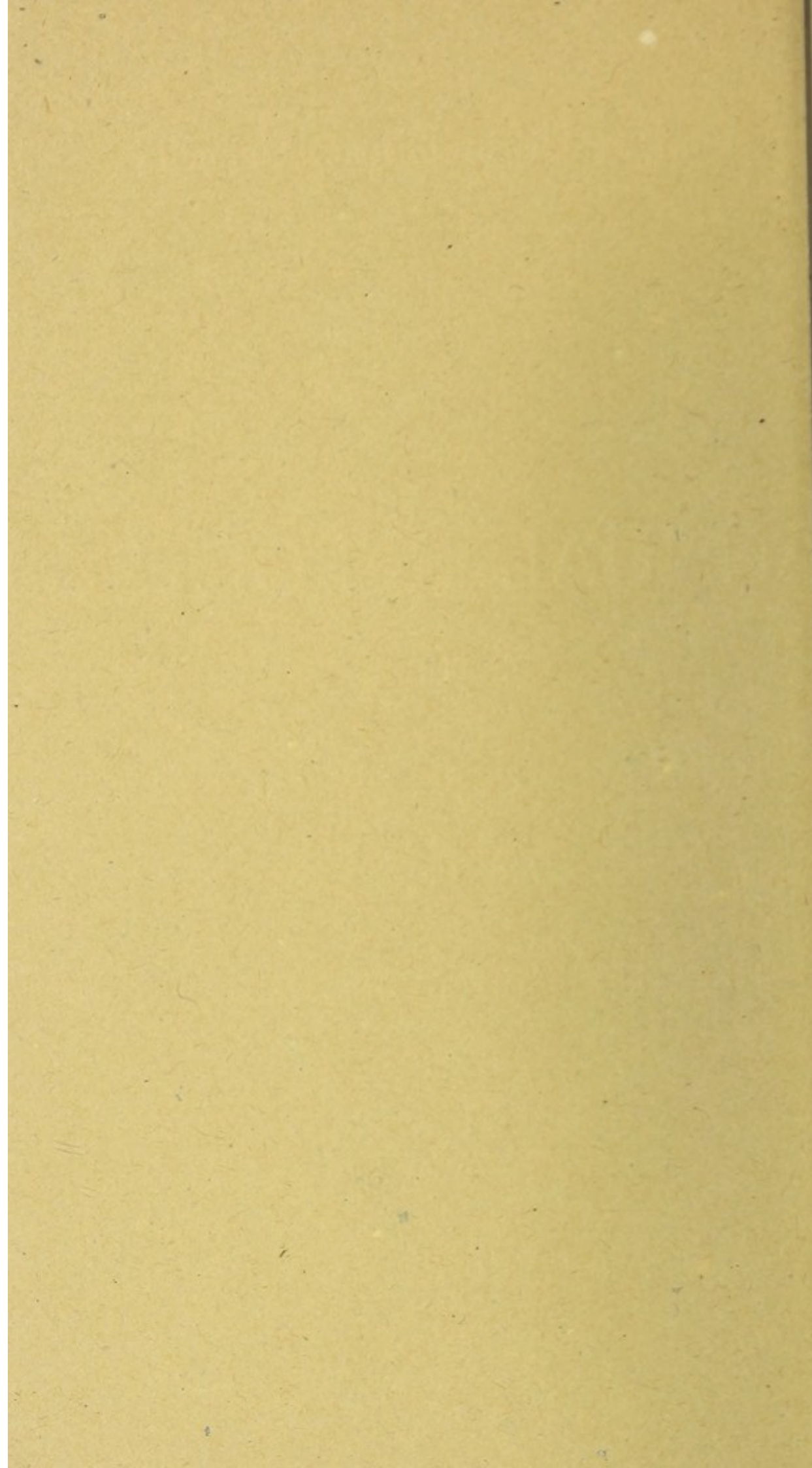
OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND OF

THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1946



Dorking Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND OF

THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1946

WEST HILL HOUSE,
WEST HILL,
EPSOM.
October, 1947.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Dorking Urban District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1946, which has been prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 13/47.

The vital statistics of the district for the year are satisfactory. The infant mortality rate is again very low, and there are falls in the incidence and death rates of tuberculosis.

Legislation which will make important changes in the public health work has been enacted during the year, and some of the effects which the National Health Service Act will produce on the functions of this authority can now be estimated. Under Part II of the Act, the Council will lose its responsibility in hospital administration, in that the Westcott Isolation Hospital will be transferred on the appointed day in 1947 to the charge of the Regional Hospital Board. Under Part III of the Act the duty to provide an Ambulance Service will fall on the County Council as the local health authority, as will the responsibility for securing immunisation against diphtheria and vaccination against smallpox. Other services mentioned in Part III of the Act, such as those dealing with the care of mothers and young children, midwifery, health visiting, home nursing, and the provision of domestic help, are in this district already under the administration of the County Council. Other legislation includes the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, which require the compulsory heat treatment of all ice-cream unless produced from what is known as a "complete cold mix powder." Shortage of equipment and practical difficulties in administrative control may prevent the regulations from being fully effective at once, but the ultimate result should be satisfactory.

For completeness of record and convenience in reference the Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector will be found under the same cover as my report. I hope that this innovation will meet with the approval of the Council.

I take this opportunity of recording my appreciation of the work of my own staff and of that of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. I am grateful for the co-operation which I have received from other officers of the Council. The support which I have received from the Council has been a great encouragement to me.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CYRUS IVE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Dorking Urban District Council

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

CYRUS IVE, M.B., B.S.(Lond.), M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.),
D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

*D. ALLAN, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

*N. G. TUBB, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Medical Officer of Health's Clerical Staff:

Senior Clerk: C. H. ARGENT.

Shorthand Typist: Miss L. DAVIES.

Senior Sanitary Inspector's Clerical Staff:

D. S. BATES.

The Medical Officer of Health and his Clerical Assistants act in a similar capacity for the Borough of Epsom and Ewell, the Urban District of Leatherhead and the Rural District of Dorking and Horley.)

* Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

TABLE I.—COMPARATIVE BIRTH-RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN THE YEAR 1946 :

	<i>England and Wales.</i>	<i>Dorking Urban District.</i>
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.		
BIRTHS—		
Live Births	19.1	18.3
Still Births	0.53	0.25
DEATHS—		
All Causes	11.5	11.3
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.00
Diphtheria	0.01	0.00
Influenza	0.15	0.15
Smallpox	0.00	0.00
Measles... ..	0.00	0.00
NOTIFICATIONS—		
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.02	0.00
Cerebro-spinal Fever	0.05	0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.38	0.66
Whooping Cough	2.28	0.51
Diphtheria	0.28	0.00
Erysipelas	0.22	0.05
Smallpox	0.00	0.00
Measles	3.92	0.76
Pneumonia	0.89	0.41
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.		
DEATHS under 1 year of age	43.00	16.6
DEATHS from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	4.4	2.8
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still).		
MATERNAL MORTALITY—		
Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	0.31	0.00
Other Maternal Causes	1.06	0.00
NOTIFICATIONS—		
Puerperal Pyrexia	8.50	16.39

Dorking Urban District Council

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1946

1.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	9,511
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	15,204
Population (estimated mid-year 1946)	...	...	...	...	...	19,780
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate						
Books at 31st December, 1946	...	...	...	...	...	4,965
Rateable value at 31st December, 1946	...	...	...	...	...	£196,067
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£787

The district comprises a rectangular shaped area lying under the southern slopes of the North Downs, with an extension to the north which includes Box Hill and the valley of the River Mole as it passes through the Downs. The subsoil is chiefly sand, with chalk areas to the north and clay to the south, and with gravel and alluvial deposits in the river valley. There is a corresponding diversity of scenery and vegetation, downland merging into woodland and common. The town forms the natural centre for several villages and hamlets, and is situated on main road and railway line to London. It is a popular residential place, with agriculture, transport, brick-making, sand digging, and some light industry creating local employment.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
<i>Live Births:—</i>				
Total live births	361	176	185	} Birth Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population 18.3
Legitimate ...	328	161	167	
Illegitimate ...	33	15	18	
<i>Still Births:—</i>				
Total still births	5	3	2	} Rate per 1,000 live and still births ... 13.66
Legitimate ...	5	3	2	
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	
<i>Deaths (net)</i> ...	223	105	118	Crude death rate ... 11.3
<i>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:—</i>				
Total infant deaths	6	4	2	
Legitimate ...	5	4	1	
Illegitimate ...	1	—	1	

Death Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births	16.6
Death Rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	15.2
Death Rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	30.3

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis...	Nil	0.00
Other Maternal Causes	Nil	0.00

Deaths from:—

Measles (all ages)	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	1
Cancer (all ages)	42

In Table II are collected, for comparative purposes, the birth, death and infant mortality rates for the period 1931-1946. The corresponding figures for England and Wales are also shown.

TABLE II. COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES 1931—1946.

Period.	Average Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population. (Annual Rates 1940—1946)		Average Annual Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population. (Annual Rates 1940—1946)		Average Annual Death Rate of Children under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births. (Annual Rates 1940—1946)	
	England & Wales.	Dorking U.D.	England & Wales.	Dorking U.D.	England & Wales.	Dorking U.D.
1931—1940	14.9	14.4	12.2	12.2	68	31.0
1940	14.6	12.9	14.3	13.6	55	37.3
1941	14.2	13.0	12.9	13.0	59	34.9
1942	15.8	16.7	11.6	12.8	49	30.4
1943	16.5	16.7	12.1	13.5	49	44.6
1944	17.6	20.5	11.6	13.9	46	42.0
1945	16.1	15.0	11.4	12.4	46	17.6
1946	19.1	18.3	11.5	11.3	43	16.6

BIRTHS.

The total births accredited to the area by the Registrar General were 361, of which 176 were males and 185 females, representing a live birth rate of 18.3 per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population, compared with the rate of 19.1 for England and Wales. This represents an increase of 3.3 on the rate for the year 1945.

The still-birth rate is 0.25 per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population, compared with 0.53 for England and Wales.

DEATHS.

The deaths accredited to the area, after correction for the inward transfer of Dorking residents dying outside the district and the outward transfer of non-residents were 105 males and 118 females, a total of 223. This represents a crude death rate of 11.3 per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population, compared with the rate of 11.5 for England and Wales as a whole. The rate is 1.1 lower than in 1945.

The causes of death are set out in Table III.

TABLE III.—CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DORKING URBAN DISTRICT.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>					<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers				—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever				—	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever				—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough				—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria				—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System				3	1	4
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis				—	2	2
8.	Syphilitic Disease				1	—	1
9.	Influenza				1	2	3
10.	Measles				—	—	—
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis				—	—	—
12.	Acute Infectious Encephalitis				—	—	—
13.	Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (males)				1	—	1
13A.	Cancer of Uterus (females)				—	1	1
14.	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum				3	3	6
15.	Cancer of Breast				—	7	7
16.	Cancer of all other sites				15	12	27
17.	Diabetes				1	1	2
18.	Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions				14	17	31
19.	Heart Disease				30	35	65
20.	Other Diseases of the Circulatory System				3	3	6
21.	Bronchitis				4	4	8
22.	Pneumonia				3	4	7
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases				1	1	2
24.	Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum				1	—	1
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)				—	1	1
26.	Appendicitis				—	—	—
27.	Other Digestive Diseases				1	3	4
28.	Nephritis				3	5	8
29.	Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis				—	—	—
30.	Other Maternal Causes				—	—	—
31.	Premature Birth				1	—	1
32.	Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease				2	—	2
33.	Suicide				1	—	1
34.	Road Traffic Accidents				1	—	1
35.	Other Violent Causes				2	3	5
36.	All Other Causes				13	13	26
					105	118	223

INFANT MORTALITY.

The deaths of infants under one year of age numbered five. The infant mortality rate is 16.6 per 1,000 live births, compared with a rate of 43 for England and Wales. This low rate is particularly noteworthy in that it is the second year in succession that the figure has fallen below twenty.

2.—GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Specimens taken by medical practitioners for bacterial examination in connection with the diagnosis of infectious diseases are sent to Dr. L. P. Chamberlain, Pathologist to the East Surrey and the Dorking and District Hospitals.

During the year 1946 the number of examinations made was as follows :

For the diagnosis of Diphtheria	8
„ „ „ „ Haemolytic Streptococcal infections	13
„ „ „ „ Tuberculosis	7
	—
	28
	==

Laboratory examinations required to establish the diagnosis of suspected venereal disease in a communicable stage are arranged for under the Surrey County Council's Venereal Diseases Scheme.

Samples of milk, food and potable water are sent to the pathological department of the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford.

The Public Health Laboratory established by the Medical Research Council at Epsom on behalf of the Ministry of Health is available for any of the larger examinations or more specialised procedures which may be required in investigating the origin and spread of infectious disease.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(1) **INFECTIOUS DISEASE.**—Cases of infectious disease are moved in the ambulance maintained by the Council at the Isolation Hospital. (Westcott 19.)

(2) **NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES.**— There are three ambulances available for the moving of general and accident cases. Two are garaged at the Fire Station (Dorking 2222) one of which is owned and staffed by the Council; the second owned by the British Red Cross Society and staffed by the Council assisted by members of the Society. The third ambulance is owned and staffed by the members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. Tel. No.: Dorking 2155.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) GENERAL AND MATERNITY NURSING AND MIDWIFERY.—The Dorking Queen's District Nursing Association employs three nurse-midwives for general and maternity nursing and midwifery work in Dorking, North Holmwood, Westcott and Mickleham. Brockham is covered for both branches of nursing by the Brockham Nursing Association. Midwifery work is undertaken in this parish by the Betchworth and Leigh Nursing Association. Box Hill is included in the area of the Walton and Headley Nursing Association. There is one midwife in the district engaged in private practice.

(b) NURSING OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—There is no special provision for the home nursing of measles or other infectious diseases.

HOSPITALS.

(1) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The Council's Isolation Hospital is situated at Logmore Lane, Westcott. It provides 27 beds.

Accommodation for cases of smallpox is provided at the Surrey Smallpox Hospital, Clandon, which is maintained by the Surrey County Council.

The Surrey County Council is responsible for the provision of institutional treatment for persons suffering from tuberculosis.

(2) GENERAL AND MATERNITY.—The Dorking and District Hospital is a voluntary hospital, maintaining 32 beds and a children's ward. Medical and surgical cases are admitted, but not maternity cases.

The Dorking County Hospital, situated in Horsham Road, is maintained by the Surrey County Council, and with its annexe at Pixham End, has accommodation for 277 patients. There are acute and chronic medical wards, surgical wards, and a maternity block.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

(a) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.—The County Council is the responsible authority for these services. The County Council Health Centre is situated at Dene Street, Dorking.

(b) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.—Clinics for immunisation against diphtheria are held by the Council's Medical Officer of Health at the County Council Health Centre, and with the assistance of the County Council Health Visitors. Further information regarding diphtheria immunisation is given in the section of this report dealing with infectious diseases.

(c) SCABIES.—The treatment of this condition is undertaken in the Out-patients department of the Dorking County Hospital.

(d) TUBERCULOSIS.—The County Council is the authority responsible for the provision and supervision of treatment. The Tuberculosis Officer holds clinics at the Dene Street Health Centre.

(e) **VENEREAL DISEASES.**—The County Council is responsible for the provision of diagnostic and treatment centres. None are situated in this area, but those most convenient are noted in list of clinics.

A time-table of clinics available is set out below:—

<i>Ante-natal Clinic</i> ...	Dorking County Hospital.	Friday, 9.30 a.m.
<i>Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics</i>	(1) S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street, Dorking.	Monday and Tuesday afternoons, 2—4 p.m.
	(2) The Village Hall, Brockham.	1st and 3rd Fridays at 2 p.m.
	(Voluntary).	
	(3) The Reading Room, Westcott.	2nd and 4th Mondays at 2 p.m.
	(4) The Brodie Hall, Box Hill.	2nd and 4th Wednesday at 2 p.m.
<i>General School Medical Minor Ailments Clinics</i>	S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street, Dorking.	Tuesdays, 9.30—12 noon.
<i>Dental Clinic</i> ...	S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street, Dorking.	By Appointment.
<i>Eye Clinic</i> ...	S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street, Dorking.	By Appointment.
<i>Tuberculosis Dispensary</i>	S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street, Dorking.	1st and 3rd Thursdays at 10 a.m.
<i>Scabies Treatment Clinic</i>	Dorking County Hospital, Out-patients Department.	Monday and Thursday, 1.30 p.m.
<i>Venereal Diseases Clinics</i>	Royal Surrey County Hospital, Out-patients Department.	Males— Tuesday and Friday, 5—7 p.m. Saturdays, 9.30—11.30 a.m. Females— Monday, 2—7 p.m., and Thursday, 9.30—11 a.m.
	Redhill County Hospital, Earlswood Common.	Males— Wednesday, 5—7 p.m. Females— Mondays, 5—7 p.m.

(And at the Out-patient Departments of many London Hospitals.)

<i>Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics</i>	(1) S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street, Dorking.	1st Wednesday in each month at 10 a.m.
	(2) At Brockham, by application to Dr. J. H. Arthur, Noy's End, Brockham.	
	(3) At Westcott.	
	(a) At Infant Welfare Centre, The Reading Room, Westcott.	2nd and 4th Monday at 2 p.m.
	(b) By application to Dr. H. C. Billings, Westcott.	1st Tuesday in each month at 10 a.m.
	(4) The Brodie Hall, Box Hill.	2nd and 4th Monday at 2 p.m.

3.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

There are two companies which undertake the supply of water to the district. Mickleham, Box Hill and Brockham are supplied by the East Surrey Water Company, and the remainder of the area by the Dorking Water Company.

The bulk of the water supplied by the East Surrey Water Company is obtained from borings into chalk at Purley, Kenley and Leatherhead. Before distribution it is softened by the addition of lime, and chlorinated and dechlorinated after an adequate period of contact. The methods of purification in use are adequate to deal with any possible pollution which might occur.

The Dorking Water Company obtains its water from a series of fifteen wells situated a little to the south of the Pippbrook stream shortly before it reaches the western outskirts of Dorking. The boreholes extend to a depth of 130 feet into the Folkestone beds, from which the water is siphoned to a reservoir situated at the works. After chlorination it is pumped to covered service reservoirs.

Particulars of reports on typical samples of water are reproduced below.

DORKING WATER COMPANY.

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER 100,000.

Appearance: Bright with very few particles of mineral debris.	Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs at 27°C.	0.005
Turbidity: Less than 5 parts per million, Silica Scale.	Metals	Absent
Colour	" Free Chlorine reaction " ...	Absent
Reaction pH—On the acid side of neutrality	Odour	Nil
Electric Conductivity at 20°C.	Free Carbonic Acid	2.9
Chlorine in Chlorides... ..	Total Solids, dried at 180°C. ...	22.0
Hardness: Total	Alkalinity as Calcium	
Nitrogen in Nitrates... ..	Carbonate	10.0
Free Ammonia... ..	Temporary 8.0 Permanent ...	7.0
Albuminoid Ammonia	Nitrites	Absent
	Ammoniacal Nitrogen	—
	Albuminoid Nitrogen	—

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

Number of " Bacteria " growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in 1 day at 37°C. ...	0
" "	

EAST SURREY WATER COMPANY.

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER 100,000.

Appearance: Bright—very slight film deposit of mineral debris consisting of chalk particles.	Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C. ...	0.005
Turbidity: Less than 5 parts per million, Silica Scale.	Metals ...	Absent
Colour ...	" Free Chlorine reaction " ...	0.25
Reaction pH—Alkaline ...		part per million
Electric Conductivity at 20°C. ...	Odour ...	Nil
Chlorine in Chlorides ...	Free Carbonic Acid ...	Absent
Hardness: Total ...	Total Solids, dried at 180°C. ...	16.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates... ..	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate ...	4.5
Free Ammonia ...	Temporary 2.5 Permanent ...	6.0
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	Nitrogen in Nitrites ...	Absent
	Ammoniacal Nitrogen ...	—
	Albuminoid Nitrogen ...	—

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

(Bacteriological sample dechlorinated on collection).

Number of " Bacteria " growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in 1 day at 37°C. ...	0
" " " " " per c.c. or ml. in 2 days at 37°C....	0
" " " " " per c.c. or ml. in 3 days at 20°C....	0
Presumptive Coliform Reaction... ..	Present in — Absent in 100 c.c.
Bact. Coli	" " — " " 100 c.c.
Cl. Welchii Reaction	" " — " " 100 c.c.

As will be seen by the following figures, the great majority of houses are provided with a piped water supply delivered internally:—

Dwelling-houses supplied by wells	3
" " " " standpipes	22*
" " " " piped main supply	4,922
" " " " piped private supply	3
" " " " other means	3

* In addition there are several camp sites in the district where, owing to the housing shortage, temporary structures are being permanently occupied. The water supply in all these cases is from standpipes.

WELL WATER.

Four farm cottages, although supplied with main water to a standpipe, were found to have, in addition, an alternative supply from a well. A sample from this well was submitted for bacteriological examination, and the result was consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

WATER ACT, 1945.

A survey of the district revealed that 25 dwelling-houses, as reported in the Annual Report for 1945, had no separate water supply. In some cases, from two to four houses shared a standpipe, and in the case of two cottages, both at railway crossings, water had to be delivered in containers by rail, as in both instances the wells formerly used were sampled by the Department and found to be polluted, but the nearest main supply was too far distant to allow of a service pipe.

During the year, one of the 25 houses above-mentioned had separate indoor supply installed.

As and when circumstances permit, efforts will be made to have all the remaining premises, where the requirement is reasonable within the meaning of the Act, provided with a piped supply to the house.

In addition, there are several camp sites in the area where, owing to housing shortage, some residents are in permanent occupation. The facilities for water supply, sanitation, etc., on these sites are communal, and as their present use is one of expediency the requirement of a separate water supply to each permanently occupied dwelling is not justifiable. Similarly, the Council manage, on behalf of the Ministry of Health, a requisitioned ex-Army Camp, where 28 families are housed in Nissen huts. Main water is laid on to standpipes at convenient points for communal use.

The remainder of the dwelling-houses in the district, apart from three with private piped supplies, are supplied by public water mains direct to the houses.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There are two sewage disposal works within the area, situated at Pixham Lane and at Brockham. The Pixham Lane works consist of settling tanks, filters and humus tanks, the effluent being discharged into the River Mole. Sludge is disposed of on the lower slopes of Box Hill, to which it is forced by compressed air through pipes from the works.

The Brockham works deal with sewage from Brockham, North Holmwood, and adjacent points of the Dorking and Horley Rural District. They consist of detritus tanks, settling tanks, percolating filters and humus tanks, the effluent being discharged into the River Mole. Sludge is dealt with in digestion tanks. Difficulty has been experienced at these works in consequence of a large amount of surface water entering the main outfall sewers from North Holmwood in wet weather.

Box Hill is the only inhabited area of any size which is not sewered.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Owing to shortage of labour and difficulties of transport, the former weekly collection over the whole area has had to be modified. Every effort is made to maintain a weekly collection of house refuse in the town area, and a fortnightly collection in the outlying villages.

Disposal continues to be partly by incineration at the Council's destructor, and partly by tipping at abandoned sewage works in Westcott and North Holmwood.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Full details of premises visited, defects or nuisances discovered, and the action and results of action taken under the appropriate legal provisions will be found in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

CAMP SITES AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS

The following licences were issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, during the year :

Licences to use land or a site for movable dwellings ...	11
Licences to erect or station and use a movable dwelling ...	6

Movable dwellings have been a problem for many years in this district. The present housing shortage has increased the difficulties, in that many families have been forced into permanent occupation through lack of other accommodation.

A summary of the results of a survey by the Sanitary Inspectors is contained in the Senior Inspector's Report.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No complaints of smoke nuisance were received, and no action was necessary.

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

During the year, 160 inspections of shops were made. The conditions found and action taken are shown in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report, which also contains details of the record, now complete, of all shops in the District.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

The only pools open to the public were two privately owned ones, both of which have modern chlorinating plants, capable of keeping the water in a satisfactory state of purity. The reports on routine samples of water taken showed that the owners of both pools paid careful attention to the purification, as is evidenced by the following copies of reports—both as the result of samples taken on a Monday morning following a particularly busy week-end.

POOL "A."

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	per c.c. or ml. in 1 day at 37°C.	...	0
" " "	" per c.c. or ml. in 2 days at 37°C.	...	0
" " "	" per c.c. or ml. in 3 days at 20°C.	...	1
Presumptive Coliform Reaction	...	*Present in 100 c.c.	Absent from 50 c.c.
Bact. Coli	...	" " —	Absent from 100 c.c.
Cl. Welchii Reaction	...	" " —	Absent from 100 c.c.

* False presumptive reaction.

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, having only a few particles of matter in suspension. It is of a high standard of bacterial purity.

The water is therefore considered suitable for swimming bath purposes.

POOL "B."

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	per c.c. or ml. in 1 day at 37°C.	...	0
" " "	" per c.c. or ml. in 2 days at 37°C.	...	0
" " "	" per c.c. or ml. in 3 days at 20°C.	...	0
Presumptive Coliform Reaction	...	*Present in 10 c.c.	Absent from 1 c.c.
Bact. Coli	...	" " —	Absent from 100 c.c.
Cl. Welchii Reaction	...	" " —	Absent from 100 c.c.

* False presumptive reaction.

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, having only a few particles of matter in suspension. It is of a high standard of bacterial purity.

The water is therefore considered suitable for swimming bath purposes.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 AND 1928.

During the year, routine inspections revealed six premises where rag flock was used for either upholstery, mattresses or the manufacture of soft toys.

Samples were taken and submitted for analysis, the reports in all cases being satisfactory.

SCHOOLS.

Following a complaint, investigations made into the sanitary accommodation available at an infants' school showed that owing to a considerable increase in the number of scholars the sanitary accommodation was inadequate.

Discussions with the Chairman of the School Managers revealed that the matter was already receiving attention.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The Council's Rodent Operator also deals with bed bugs and other insect pests, under the supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, who gives full details of the year's work.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

(1) Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to health, including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors :

Premises. (1)	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4)
Factories with mechanical power ...	41	—	—
Factories without mechanical power...	19	—	—
Other premises under the Act ... (including works of buildings and engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises).	—	—	—
<i>Total ...</i>	60	—	—

DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)—				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
Total	—	—	—	—

Although the return of defects found and remedied during 1946 is nil, this does not mean that no improvements were effected. During that year several small factories were turning over from wartime production, with overhaul of sanitary and other facilities, and the opportunity was taken when plans, etc., were submitted, of obtaining the co-operation of the firms concerned in bringing premises up to standard.

During 1947, by the time of writing, all factories in the area have been re-inspected, and full details of their classification and of any action taken will be included in my next Annual Report.

4.—HOUSING.

The year's statistics in connection with housing are set out below.

Although the house-to-house inspections carried out under the Housing Consolidated Regulations have not yet been resumed, the number of houses inspected is again increasing, as with the neglect of the war years property is deteriorating rapidly, and many tenants have good reason to complain.

The system of Building Licences also complicates the position, as some property owners appear to be under the impression that the restrictions absolve them from the need to carry out essential repairs.

When houses were inspected the Sanitary Inspectors had in mind the difficulties of labour and materials, and kept their requirements to the minimum, but the figures shown give some indication of the seriousness of the situation in 1946, and in all probability the current year may be worse.

It was necessary, in many cases, to serve statutory notices in order to ensure that some priority was given to these essential repairs, and towards the end of the year the Committee considered it wise to recommend, and the Council approved, the carrying out of work in default.

It will also be seen that 12 houses were found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.

Closing Orders were made in respect of two basement flats where, although they were already known and earmarked for future attention under the Housing Act, conditions suddenly became a matter of urgency owing to the complete blockage of the drainage system of the tenement, with the result that the basement was flooded with sewage and it was impossible to remedy the trouble except by reconstruction of drainage at a higher level.

An additional housing duty placed upon the Sanitary Inspectors during the year was the visiting of all applicants for Council houses who lived in the district, so that their housing need could be assessed, and points awarded under the points scheme for the allocation of houses.

The number of families visited and pointed amounted to 631, and the need for careful comparison of circumstances and accurate "pointing" threw an additional heavy responsibility on the Department.

I.—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	226
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1,385
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	150
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1,024
3.		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	12
4.		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	223

II.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	161
--	-----

III.—*Action under Statutory Powers during the year:*

A.—*Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	57
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	30
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	7

B.—*Proceedings under Public Health Acts:*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	15
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	10
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	4

C.—*Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil.

D.—*Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil.

IV.—*Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding:*

As has been stated in previous years, no complete details are available, but it is known that a large amount exists.

From the 631 cases of applicants mentioned earlier as having been visited for "pointing," the following information was obtained:

	Part Houses, Rooms, etc.	Whole House
Overcrowded by $\frac{1}{2}$ unit	86	16
" " 1 unit	31	16
" " $1\frac{1}{2}$ units	13	1
" " 2 units	6	3
" " $2\frac{1}{2}$ units	—	3
" " 3 units	1	3
" " $4\frac{1}{2}$ units	1	—
	138	42

Of the 42 whole houses, 27 were straightforward cases of overcrowding without any part being let, while in the other 15 both part and whole accommodation were overcrowded.

No doubt these may be the worst instances found, but fresh cases are constantly arising, and it seems unlikely that a substantial reduction in overcrowding can be achieved for several years.

REHOUSING.

Twenty-one houses were completed during 1946 :

(a) Permanent :

(1)	By the Council	...	...	...	4
(2)	By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	17

—

21

(b) Temporary Nil

The Council has made emergency accommodation available for 49 families as follows :

In hutments	...	...	...	...	27
In requisitioned premises converted into flats	...	...	...	...	22
					—
					49

5.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector's report contains particulars of the number of cowkeepers and dairymen registered, and of the retailers supplying milk from premises within the area and into the area from premises outside the Urban District boundaries.

Three producers are licensed by the Surrey County Council for the production of "Tuberculin Tested" milk and eight for "Accredited" milk.

The County Sampling Officers sample these supplies at source. During the year eight reports were unsatisfactory and were followed up by the county officials.

There is no licensed pasteurising plant in the district, but pasteurised milk supplies are available from three sources outside the boundaries.

MILK SAMPLES.

During the year 88 samples were taken of milk supplied in the Urban District, and the following summary of results is given :

(1) *Undesignated Milk.*

No. of Samples	Methylene Blue Test		Coliform Test		Within Accredited Standard	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	No.	%
15	12	3	12	3	12	80%

(2) *Pasteurised milk.*

No. of Samples	Methylene Blue Reductase Test		Phosphatase Test	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
72	65	7	69	3 (Grade 2)

(3) *Biological Examination.*

No. of Samples	Tubercle Bacilli found	Tubercle Bacilli not found
16	Nil	16

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

The following licences for the sale of designated milks, granted by the Dorking Urban District Council, were in operation during the year :

Dealer's Licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk, bottled by the Dealer	1
Dealer's Licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk, obtained by the Dealer in bottles	1
Dealer's Licence to sell "Pasteurised" milk	1
Supplementary Licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk	3
Supplementary Licence to sell "Pasteurised" milk	3

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There is no Ministry of Food slaughterhouse in the area, but the Senior Sanitary Inspector's report contains information regarding the inspection of animals inspected after emergency slaughter, and details of unsound foods surrendered and destroyed.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

The County Council is the administrative authority for the section of the Food and Drugs Act dealing with adulterations. Information has been received that during the year 67 samples were taken for analysis, of which 33 were of milk, three of butter, three of lard, and the remainder of miscellaneous articles of foodstuff. Two samples of milk, one of cod liver oil compound, and one of doughnuts were found to be adulterated or deteriorated, but no legal proceedings were undertaken.

6.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Table IV shows the total of the various infectious diseases notified during 1946, classified according to age and sex, together with the number of cases removed to hospital and the total deaths, if any, from each disease.

SMALLPOX.—No case of smallpox was notified during the year. No primary vaccination or re-vaccination was performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

SCARLET FEVER.—Thirteen notifications were received during the year, compared with 12 in 1945. The case-rate was 0.66 per 1,000 civilian population, compared with 1.38 for England and Wales. All but one of the patients were admitted to hospital for treatment.

DIPHTHERIA.—No case of diphtheria was notified. The case-rate for England and Wales was 0.28.

The downward tendency of diphtheria incidence and mortality rates will be noticed on reference to Table V, in which are tabulated the yearly figures since 1934. In my opinion this satisfactory feature is the result of several factors, of which I consider the more important to be the improved general care of children's health, both in the home and at school; the speedy and effective steps taken in co-operation by medical practitioners, the school medical authority and the local public health department in detecting and isolating suspected sources of infection; and, particularly in the last few years, in the controlled production of immunisation by appropriate treatment.

TABLE IV.

Disease	Cases Notified.																Total all ages both sexes	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Deaths
	Under 1 yr.		1 to 3		3 to 5		5 to 10		10 to 15		15 to 25		25 and over		All ages				
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
Fever ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	4	1	5	—	—	—	—	4	9	13	12	—
tonia ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	4	1	6	2	8	—	7
las ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
ing Cough ...	1	2	2	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	10	1	—
... ..	—	1	2	1	2	4	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	10	15	2	—
al Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	2	—	6	6	—	—
lmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—
velitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—
Totals ...	2	4	6	3	3	4	5	9	2	6	—	4	5	4	23	34	57	15	7

TABLE V.—INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN DORKING
URBAN DISTRICT, 1934-46.

Year.	No. of Cases Notified.	Incidence Rate per 1,000 Population.	No. of Deaths.	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Population.
1934	1	0.06	—	0.00
1935	4	0.24	1	0.06
1936	19	1.14	2	0.12
1937	4	0.24	—	0.00
1938	2	0.12	1	0.06
1939	4	0.22	2	0.11
1940	3	0.15	—	0.00
1941	3	0.14	—	0.00
1942	1	0.05	—	0.00
1943	1	0.05	—	0.00
1944	—	0.00	—	0.00
1945	1	0.05	—	0.00
1946	—	0.00	—	0.00

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

The Council's scheme to promote active immunisation against diphtheria has been in operation since 1935. Clinics are held in collaboration with the Surrey County Council at the Health Centre in Dene Street, Dorking. For Box Hill residents treatment can be obtained locally at the Infant Welfare Centre held at regular intervals in the Brodie Hall. Brockham and Westcott residents can obtain treatment locally at the Council's expense, by application to Dr. J. H. Arthur, of Brockham, and Dr. H. C. Billings, of Westcott. At Westcott facilities are also available at the Infant Welfare Centre which is now held regularly in the village.

Some parents may prefer their children to be treated by their own doctors. In such cases the immunising material can be supplied free of charge, the fee for the treatment being a matter for private arrangement between the parents and the practitioner.

During the year, 235 children are known to have received treatment. One hundred and ninety-two were aged one to two years, representing 67.6% of the 284 births accredited to the district in 1945.

At the end of 1946, 875 children under the age of five years, and 2,033 aged five to 15 years, are recorded as having completed treatment equivalent to percentages of 58.3 and 84.7 respectively of the estimated total child population of the corresponding age groups.

The ideal is for every child to receive a primary treatment of two injections at about the age of one year, with further single injections at five and ten years. It is not claimed even with such treatment that absolute immunisation will be attained by every child, but there is clear evidence that the risk of an untreated child contracting diphtheria is four times as great as that of a treated child, and that the risk of death from the disease is nearly thirty times as great.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

Six notifications of puerperal pyrexia were received, giving a case-rate of 16.39 per 1,000 live and still births, compared with 8.50 for England and Wales.

All were from the maternity department of the Dorking County hospital. Five related to patients who were normally resident outside of the Dorking Urban District.

The Surrey County Council is the authority for Maternity and Child Welfare and in its scheme provides for any necessary institutional treatment, for the obtaining of consultant's opinion, and for any bacteriological examinations required in the investigation and treatment of puerperal infections.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Twenty-two names were added to the tuberculosis register during the year. They include 11 of persons already domiciled in the district, 11 of persons who came to live here from other areas in which they had already been notified. Sixteen of the notifications related to the pulmonary form of the disease and six to non-pulmonary. Four deaths occurred from pulmonary tuberculosis, representing an annual death rate of 0.20 per 1,000 population, and two deaths were caused by non-pulmonary tuberculosis, with a death rate of 0.10, giving a total tuberculosis death rate of 0.30, compared with a rate of 0.54 for England and Wales.

An analysis into types of disease and age groups is to be found in Table VI.

TABLE VI.

	Primary Notifications Relating to Persons Resident in the Dorking Urban District.				Secondary Notifications of Persons Already Notified in Other Districts and Now Resident in The Dorking Urban District.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
to 5... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
to 10... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
to 15... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
to 20... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
to 25... ..	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
to 35... ..	—	1	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	1
to 45... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
to 55... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
to 65... ..	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
years and over ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	4	4	—	3	4	4	2	1	3	1	—	2

For comparative purposes, figures relating to the notification of and mortality from tuberculosis between the years 1938-46 are set out in Table VII, the notification figures being those for persons domiciled in the district at the time of diagnosis of the disease. The figures show a deterioration from 1940 onwards to 1945, with a considerable improvement in 1946.

TABLE VII.—TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY,
1938-1946.

Year.	Population.	Total Primary Notifications.	Rate per 1,000 Population.	Total Deaths.	Death Rate per 1,000 Population.
1938	17,110	15	0.88	5	0.29
1939	17,320	10	0.58	5	0.27
1940	20,510	19	0.92	8	0.39
1941	21,420	19	0.88	8	0.38
1942	19,170	15	0.78	8	0.40
1943	18,800	19	1.01	4	0.21
1944	18,600	20	1.08	7	0.38
1945	18,920	19	1.00	13	0.69
1946	19,780	10	0.51	6	0.30

DORKING AND DISTRICT TUBERCULOSIS CARE
COMMITTEE.

I am indebted to the Secretary of the Care Committee for the following particulars of the work of the Committee during the year:

Officers : Chairman, Mrs. Elithorn (resigned June), Rev. A. Starey (July onwards); Vice-Chairman : Mrs. Banbury; Joint Secretaries : Mr. A. Paterson and Miss A. Topley (Care Almoner); Treasurer : Mr. A. R. Priese (Barclay's Bank); Medical Adviser : Dr. A. H. Campbell (Chest Physician).

The Dorking and District Tuberculosis Care Committee is affiliated to the Standing Conference of Surrey Tuberculosis Care Committees and through them to the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. It meets regularly at the Dene Street Chest Clinic, and plays an active part in the social welfare of local patients.

An annual meeting was held in June, 1946, with the Medical Officer of Health in the Chair, and films were shown on Mass X-Ray and on Rehabilitation.

The Committee's income for the year was £254, against an expenditure of £164. The balance in the bank on 31st December, 1946, was £175.

The scope of care work was continued and increased during 1946. In April, 1946, the Surrey County Council took over financial responsibility for free milk for cases recommended by the Care Committee. This left the Committee free to expand its care work in other fields, and expenditure on items other than milk was increased from £54 in 1945 to £92 in 1946. Besides regular help with items such as pocket-money, clothing, bedding, nourishment, fares for visits to sanatoria, home comforts, etc., active help was also given towards patients' careers, etc.

URBAN DISTRICT OF DORKING

Annual Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector for the year 1946

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
PIPPBROOK,
DORKING.

*to the Chairman and Members of the
Dorking Urban District Council.*

R. CHAIRMAN,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

As Dr. Ive, the Medical Officer of Health, has asked me to deal separately with those matters which are mainly the concern of your Sanitary Inspectors, I submit herewith my Annual Report on the work of our Inspectors.

With the return from the Forces in February, 1946, of both the additional Sanitary Inspector, N. L. G. Tubb, and my clerk, D. S. Bates, became possible to deal with arrears of complaints and routine matters requiring attention which had been accumulating during the previous months, and to keep reasonably up to date with the ever-increasing number of new complaints from the public, who during years of war had lived under gradually worsening conditions, but had, in most cases, borne with those conditions as a necessary evil of the times, but now that the war was over expected some effort to be made to alleviate them.

In addition, the inspection of food and food premises, to ensure that such food as was available was sound and stored and prepared under conditions to keep it fit for consumption, had to be maintained, while the supervision of rat and mice destruction, increasingly stressed by the Ministry of Food as a most important need, necessitated an appreciable amount of administrative work in the office.

Two other sections of the year's work, I think, merit special mention.

One is the survey of the camp sites and movable dwellings in the district, which provided a basis on which future attempts at development can be watched and control achieved.

The other is the visiting of all applicants for Council houses who reside in the Urban District. This work continues as new applications are received. By our knowledge of their present housing conditions we are able to assess fairly, in my opinion, the comparative needs of all these applicants so far as this particular aspect is concerned.

In conclusion, I wish to record my thanks to my colleagues for their willing co-operation, to Dr. Ive for his help, advice and support, and to Committee members for their interest in the problems which I put before them.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. ALLAN,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

INSPECTIONS AND RE-INSPECTIONS.

The number of visits and inspections carried out during the year is summarised below :

GENERAL SANITATION.

Water supply	82
Drainage	184
Stables and Piggeries	17
Fried Fish Shops	7
Common Lodging-houses	2
Camp Sites	56
Tents, Vans and Sheds	1,495
Factories with mechanical power	41
Factories without mechanical power	19
Outworkers	1
Bakehouses	62
Refuse collection	753
Refuse disposal	13
Rats and Mice	2,269
Shops	160
Swimming Pools	16
Wasp Nests	70
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	147

HOUSING.

Under Public Health Acts :	
No. of houses inspected	76
Re-inspections	361
Under Housing Acts :	
No. of houses inspected	150
Re-inspections	1,024
Overcrowding :	
No. of houses inspected	4
Re-inspections	2
Verminous Premises :	
No. of premises inspected	28
Re-inspections	63
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	930

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Inquiries in cases of Infectious Diseases	16
Visits re Disinfection	11
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	66

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Inspection of Meat :	
Visits to Slaughterhouses	7
Visits to Shops and Stalls	98
Visits to other premises	1
Visits to :	
Butchers	124
Fishmongers and Poulterers	22
Grocers	124
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	24
Cowsheds	6
Dairies and Milkshops	41
Ice-Cream Premises	42
Food Preparing Premises	322
Market Stalls	2
Restaurants	81
Street Vendors	51

Visits in connection with Sampling :

Milk (bacteriological)	88
Milk (tubercle bacilli)	15
Ice-Cream (bacteriological)	10
Water	7
Rag Flock	4
Miscellaneous Food Visits	30
Total ...	9,224

NOTICES ISSUED AND ACTION TAKEN.

The notices served and the results of such action are given in their respective categories, but the totals for the year are as follows :

Preliminary :

Outstanding on 1st January, 1946	171
Issued during the year	456
Complied with during the year	395
Statutory Action necessary	108
Outstanding on 31st December, 1946... ..	124

Statutory :

Outstanding on 1st January, 1946	Nil
Issued during year	198
Complied with during year	54
Action in default taken	12
Outstanding on 31st December, 1946	42

COMPLAINTS.

Three hundred and fifteen complaints (apart from those in connection with rodent infestation) were received from the public, as follows :

Insanitary condition of premises	130
Drainage—houses	20
Drainage—other premises	5
Defective cesspools	5
Overflowing cesspools	4
Inadequate cesspools	2
Private sewage treatment plants	3
Overcrowding	3
Defective ashbins	115
House refuse	3
Trade refuse	1
Kitchen waste street bins	1
Unsound food	2
Vermineous premises	18
Miscellaneous	3
Total ...	315

EFFECTS FOUND AND REMEDIED, NUISANCES ABATED, ETC.

The inspection of dwelling-houses and consequent action resulted in the following conditions being found and remedied :

	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>
Houses requiring decorations	47	32
Houses requiring plastering	64	53
Dampness in walls	75	54
Defective roofs	85	83
Defective eavesgutters	52	34
Defective downspouts	27	17
Defective chimneystacks	33	14
Defective windowsills	—	6
Defective brickwork	55	36
Defective windowframes	34	22
Defective sashcords and fasteners	3	10
Defective floors	59	46
Defective doors	18	13
Defective fireplaces	20	16
Defective kitchen ranges and ovens	23	22
Defective washboilers	15	12
Defective water storage cisterns	—	1
Defective sinks and waste pipes	14	12
Defective sink waste pipes	12	5
Defective water supply pipes	14	13
Defective w.c. cisterns	35	30
Defective w.c. pedestals	37	34
Defective drains	39	36
Defective w.c. seats	7	9
Defective taps	1	—
Houses with inadequate force of water	3	3
Houses with insufficient light	3	—
Houses with inadequate ventilation	1	1
Houses in a filthy and unwholesome condition	3	3
Defective well covers	6	6
Defective cesspools	5	3
Overflowing cesspools	4	4
Defective private sewage treatment plants	3	3
Defective pail closets	1	3 (1*)
Defective vent. to soil pipes	—	1
Defective earth closets	1	1 (1*)
Defective banisters	1	2
Defective stairtreads and risers	4	2
Defective yard surfaces and passages	13	12
Defective yard fences	—	1
Accumulations of refuse	13	14
Defective ashbins	178	191
Cesspools of inadequate size	2	—
Houses without separate water supply	25	1

NOTE.—*Conversion to water carriage system.

NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH DURING THE YEAR,
AND NOTICES OUTSTANDING AT 31st DECEMBER, 1946.

(1) HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Number of Preliminary Notices served	146
Number of Preliminary Notices complied with	92
Number of Statutory Notices served	57
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	30
Number of houses where work in default carried	7
Number of Preliminary Notices still outstanding	48
Number of Statutory Notices still outstanding	20

(2) PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

	Houses.	Other Premises.	Ashbins.
Number of Preliminary Notices served ...	77	19	178
Number of Preliminary Notices complied with ...	69	19	198
Number of Statutory Notices served ...	15	2	31
Number of Statutory Notices complied with ...	10	1	13
Work in default carried out ...	4	1	—
Number of Preliminary Notices outstanding ...	22	2	38
Number of Statutory Notices outstanding ...	1	—	18

(3) WATER ACT, 1945, SECTION 30.

Number of Preliminary Notices served ...	4	—	—
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INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

(a) MEAT INSPECTED AT TIME OF SLAUGHTER.—At the premises formerly used by the Ministry of Food as a central slaughter-house, the following animals, all of which were for "casualty" slaughter, were killed and inspected.

Heifers.

1.

Swine.

10.

Found to be diseased:

Entire carcase and organs of heifer ...	276 lbs. (Tuberculosis)
Entire carcase and organs of pig ...	200 lbs. (")
One pluck and parts of two pairs of pigs' lungs ...	8 lbs. (")

Total ... 484 lbs.

(b) MEAT (INSPECTED IN SHOPS) AND OTHER FOODS.—Examinations revealed that the following foodstuffs were unfit for human consumption, and were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:

Commodity	Nos.	Pkts.	Tins	Jars	Weight				
					Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	ozs.
Beef...	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	15	12
Pork ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	18	—
Lamb ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	9
Liver ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	2
Sausages and sausage meat	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	16	4
Bacon ...	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	13	10
Fish...	—	—	—	—	—	12	2	7	8
Fishcakes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—
Canned Meat ...	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	4
Canned Vegetables ...	—	—	779	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canned Milk ...	—	—	1,616	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canned Fish ...	—	—	355	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canned Soup ...	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canned Fruit ...	—	—	86	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dried Fruit ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	8	12
Cheese ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	13	—
Flour ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	18	—
Cereals ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—
Biscuits ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Pickles ...	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Preserves ...	—	—	1,323	31	—	—	—	—	—
Savouries ...	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—
Eggs ...	281	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gravy salt ...	—	96	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bread (loaves) ...	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	304	96	4,170	45	1	12	1	21	13

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The register of food premises now includes the following, which are listed under trade headings and show classes of food sold. In some cases one business may be allocated under two headings :

Catering establishments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Confectioners (cakes, pastries, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Retail Grocers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Wholesale Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Fishmongers and Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Bacon Smoking Factory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sausage Factory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

OTHER VENDORS OF FOOD.—There are in the district four fish-vendors who carry on their business from vans or other vehicles, and one who sets up a temporary stall on market days.

Three fruiterers and greengrocers are mobile vendors.

PREMISES IN RESPECT OF WHICH NOTICES WERE SERVED AND
COMPLIED WITH UNDER SECTION 13 OF THE ACT :

a) PRELIMINARY NOTICES.

<i>Class of Premises.</i>	<i>Served.</i>	<i>Complied with.</i>
Restaurant kitchens	8	4
Bakehouses	7	6
Butchers	2	1
Sausage Preparation Rooms	1	1
Grocers	2	2
Fish Friers	1	—
Fishmongers	2	1
Ice-Cream Premises	1	1

b) STATUTORY NOTICES.

Restaurant Kitchens	1	—
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CONDITIONS FOUND TO REQUIRE SERVICE OF NOTICES AND THE
RESULTS OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER SECTION 13 OF THE ACT :

	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>
Sanitary conveniences communicating directly with the room	2	2
Drain into drain communicating with the room	4	2
Walls, ceilings, floors, windows and doors not kept in proper state of repair	14	7
Repainting required	19	12
Insufficient ventilation	6	3
Accumulations of solid and liquid refuse	7	7
Tables, benches, floors, etc., inadequately cleansed	6	6
Utensils kept in dirty condition	5	5
Hot and cold water supply required	7	4
Lack of towels	5	2
Insufficient washbasins	4	2

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

During the year 160 visits were made. The register of shops now totals 305 premises (including licensed premises) set out below. Each of these is classified under the main heading of goods sold.

Tobacco and Confectionery (Sweets, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	17
Confectionery (Cakes, pastries, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	15
Chemists	...	...	...	...	...	9
Newsagents and Stationers	...	...	...	...	...	13
Outfitters, Tailors, Milliners and Drapers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	31
Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	...	12
Dyers and Cleaners	...	...	...	...	...	6
Electrical and Radio	...	...	...	...	...	6
Furnishers	...	...	...	...	...	9
Boots and Shoes	...	...	...	...	...	17
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	46
Jewellers	...	...	...	...	...	3
Opticians	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ironmonger and Hardware Stores	...	...	...	...	...	8
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	47
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	10
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	16
Fishmongers and Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	29
Vacant shops	...	...	...	...	...	3
Total						305

The following conditions were found to require the service of notices

<i>Defect.</i>	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied</i>
Premises without w.c. accommodation	5	0*
Premises with insufficient w.c. accommodation	2	1*
Premises with inadequate ventilation	1	—
	<i>W.C.s.</i>	<i>Vent.</i>
Number of Preliminary Notices served	7	1
Number of Preliminary Notices complied with	1	—
Certificates of Exemption issued	2*	—
Number of Statutory Notices served	2	—

MILK AND DAIRIES.

The number of cowkeepers, retail purveyors, etc., in the district as follows :

Cowkeepers	...	...	...	...	...	18
Dairymen and Retail Purveyors with premises in the district	...	...	...	...	...	7
Retail Purveyors, with premises outside the district	...	...	...	...	...	5
Retail Purveyors—bottled milk only—sold in general shops	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	30
Dairies (including four milkshops)	...	...	...	...	...	11

ICE-CREAM.

Ten samples of ice-cream and two of ice-cream powder were submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows :

ICE-CREAM :

Sample No.	Count	Coliform Test			Culture
		.1	.01	.001	
	320,000	+	+	—	No pathogenic organisms isolated Blood Agar plates—profuse growth of organisms as under :— 1. Streptococcus haemolyticus 2. B. Protens 3. B. Coli
	274,000	+	+	+	
	12,600	—	—	—	
	12,300	Absent in 3 tubes of .01			" " " "
	44,000	Present in 2 tubes ; Absent in 1 of .01			" " " "
	13,400	—	—	—	" " " "
	112,000	+	—	—	" " " "
	48,600	+	—	—	" " " "
	18,200	—	—	—	" " " "
	724,000	+	+	+	" " " "

POWDER :

4,800 per gram.	Present in 1 tube ; Absent in 2 tubes of .01	Sporing aerobic organisms found
280,000	—	No pathogenic organisms isolated

In addition, a sample of the mix from Powder No. 1 was taken before freezing, the result being :

324,000. Present in 1 tube, absent in 2 of .01. No pathogenic organisms isolated.

The authorities in the London District where the Ice-Cream Powder No. 1 was produced were notified of the results in this case.

Ice-Cream Samples Nos. 2 and 3 were also submitted for examination to ascertain the constituents, the reports being as follows :

	Sample No. 2.	Sample No. 3.
Fat	2.4 per cent.	0.6 per cent.
Protein	4.0 per cent.	4.1 per cent.
Carbohydrate	12.9 per cent.	14.7 per cent.
Water	79.7 per cent.	79.6 per cent.

ANALYST'S REMARKS :

" Sample No. 2 contains about 10 per cent of skimmed milk powder, a little added fat, and about 7 or 8 per cent of added sugar, farina, stabiliser and flavouring.

" Sample No. 3 contains about 10 per cent skimmed milk powder with 10 per cent of other substances, mainly added sugar, but including small proportions of farina, stabiliser and flavouring.

" Having regard to the conditions governing the manufacture of ice-cream at the present time, and to the definition of ice-cream in the Use of Milk (Restriction) Order, 1945, I am of opinion that the composition of these articles is satisfactory."

On the 28th May, 1946, the Dorking Urban District Council passed the following resolution :

" That the Minister of Health be requested to prescribe standards as to the composition of mixtures sold as ' ice-cream,' and that a communication be addressed to the Urban District Councils' Association, requesting support for this resolution."

CAMP SITES AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

A survey of the Urban District carried out in July and August, 1946, revealed that the following types of dwellings existed :

				<i>Licensed</i>		<i>Unlicensed</i>	<i>Total.</i>
				<i>Sites.</i>	<i>Exempted.</i>	<i>Sites.</i>	
Trailer Caravans	...	...	...	163	31	11	205
Tents	...	...	...	13	15	1	29
Old Bus Bodies	...	...	...	25	—	14	39
Converted Pantechicons	...	...	...	28	—	9	37
Old Tram Bodies	...	...	...	2	—	—	2
Wood or Asbestos Huts	...	...	...	87	—	44	131
Converted Delivery Van	...	...	...	1	—	—	1
Gipsy Type Caravans	...	...	...	3	1	1	5
Metal Huts	...	...	...	6	—	—	6
Converted Ambulance	...	...	...	1	—	—	1
Road Haulage Caravan	...	...	...	1	—	—	1
Totals				330	47	80	457

A full report on the survey was presented to the Council, and this can be used as a basis for future control. At the same time plans and schedules were made in respect of licensed sites, so that alterations can be noted.

The number of old converted bus bodies is being reduced steadily, though the greatest difficulty is encountered when these, and some of the huts which have been on many of the sites since before the district was enlarged in 1933, are housing families who have no other home, often as the result of being bombed out of London during the war.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSE.

The common lodging-house, containing beds for 32 persons (all males), was not maintained in very satisfactory condition, largely owing to the ill state of health of the Keeper.

When the question of renewal of the Keeper's registration arises, this matter will no doubt have to receive careful consideration.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

During the year 16 visits of enquiry were carried out in respect of infectious diseases.

The notification by Port Health Authorities of persons disembarking from ships on which smallpox cases had occurred resulted in 66 visits being made to keep such persons under surveillance.

The following treatments were carried out in the Council's Steam Disinfectors :

	<i>Bedding</i>				<i>Furnishings</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>Beds</i>	<i>Mattresses</i>	<i>Bolsters & Pillows</i>	<i>Blankets etc.</i>	<i>Cushions</i>	
Notifiable Diseases	2	2	11	6	3	24
Other Diseases ...	6	11	12	—	—	29
Minor ...	—	3	—	—	—	3
Totals ...	8	16	23	6	3	56

In addition, five rooms were disinfected after the removal of T.B. patients, and two after non-notifiable diseases.

RODENT AND INSECT PESTS.

(1) RODENT CONTROL.

The summary of the year's work is given below. In addition, the keeping of full records, apportionment of costs, and preparation of reports to the Divisional Rodent Officer of the Ministry of Food, took up a considerable amount of time.

Number of complaints received from public: Rats ...	95
Mice ...	13
Number of inspections and re-inspections by Rodent Operator ...	2,269
Number of premises where treatment was still in hand 31/12/45 ...	7
Number of premises where treatment was completed by Rodent Operator during the year ...	129
Number of premises where maintenance treatment was carried out at regular intervals (e.g., refuse tips, sewage disposal works, etc.)...	8
Number of premises where treatment was carried out by occupier under advice ...	3
Number of premises referred to other bodies (e.g. Surrey War Agricultural Executive Committee and Southern Railway) ...	4
Number of premises where treatment was still in hand 31/12/46 ...	8
Estimated number of rats killed by poison baiting (using Ministry of Food formula) ...	1,552

The premises treated may be classified under the following headings :

Dwelling-houses ...	67
Restaurants, Hotels, Canteens, etc. ...	9
Shops: Butchers ...	1
Grocers ...	3
Warehouses ...	2
Contractors Yards ...	2
Offices ...	2
Council's Destructor ...	1
Refuse Tips ...	3
Banks of streams and ditches ...	4
Nursing Home ...	1
Sewage Disposal Works ...	1
Church ...	1
Allotments ...	2
Isolation Hospital ...	1
Hutted Camp ...	1

Maintenance treatment of one infested sewer section was carried out during the year, and a test on the whole system was started at the end of the year, but had to be postponed owing to weather conditions.

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(2) VERMINOUS.

As a result of complaints and inspections ten fresh premises (none of which were Council houses) were found to be verminous, and disinfestations were successfully carried out in all cases :

(a) BED BUGS.

Number of houses—6 (total of 15 rooms). Retreatments carried out in 7 rooms.
Number of hotels—2 (total of 7 rooms). Retreatments carried out in 1 room.

Treatments :

With Kerosene and D.D.T.	...	...	...	...	13 rooms
With Zaldecide and D.D.T.	...	...	...	...	9 rooms

(b) FLEAS.

Number of houses—1 (total of 4 rooms). Retreatments carried out twice.
Number of other premises—1 (total of 1 room).

Treatments :

With 4-cide powder in all cases.

(c) LICE.

At the request of the Medical Officer of Health, who had received a complaint about body lice, 46 agricultural workers, housed in a hostel, were treated with D.D.T. powder. All bedding and bedrooms were also treated.

(3) NON-VERMINOUS.

(a) COCKROACHES.

Disinfestation by means of 4-cide powder was carried out at eight houses (total of 19 rooms), and all treatments were successful.

(b) WASP NESTS.

As result of complaints and inspections, 64 wasp nests were treated and destroyed.

(c) MOTHS.

One room was treated.

(d) FURNITURE BEETLES.

Four premises with infestations of furniture beetles were treated successfully.

In addition to the above, periodical treatments were carried out for cockroaches and flies at the British Restaurant.