

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Friern Barnet].

Contributors

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FRIERN BARNET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L

R E P O R T

O F T H E

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

F O R T H E Y E A R

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G. PENNANT EVANS. M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



HOWCO ROTARY DUPLICATOR

1951

FRIERN BARNET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
N.11.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Friern Barnet Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

This report is prepared in accordance with instructions contained in Circular 2604 of the 24th. March 1942, and will differ from the general scheme of previous reports, inasmuch as no figures will be given from which an estimate of the population of the district or its wards can be inferred, and no data supplied by the Registrar General will be included.

There has not been anything detrimental to affect the general health of the district, during the year, and with the exception of a rise above our normal in the incidence of Diphtheria, which is the highest for some years past, the incidence of the usual notifiable diseases has been remarkably low.

Measles and Whooping Cough were prevalent throughout the winter, but did not reach epidemic proportions. There were not any deaths, and very few complications, only three cases requiring hospital treatment. Of 49 notified cases of Diphtheria, 48 were treated in hospital, and in addition 15 persons not showing clinical diphtheria were proved carriers of the infection, and were treated in hospital.

In accordance with the policy of the Ministry of Health, artificial immunisation of persons against Diphtheria was amplified by the establishment of a clinic in April 1941. The service was well advertised by press notices, pamphlets, and pictorial posters, and facilities provided for treatment at the Holly Park Clinic on the 1st. and 3rd. Fridays in the month. With the co-operation of the child welfare clinic and the assistance of the school teachers, the school children were supplied with pamphlets and consent forms for the parents. There was an outbreak of the disease amongst the scholars of the Hollickwood School, and Dr. Stephen the School Medical Officer, swabbed the throats of contacts and revealed a number of carriers.

A special clinic for Diphtheria Prophylaxis was arranged for at the school.

Fortunately, the disease was of a very mild type, only two deaths occurred, neither in persons of school age, one being a very young child, and the other an adult.

The total number of persons who received a complete course of treatment for immunisation was 456. Of the notified cases, five had received a complete course of immunisation, and two had received one injection of 0.3 cc. of A.P.T. Of the 15 carriers, two had received a complete course of immunisation, and two had received one injection of 0.3 cc. of A.P.T.

I have to acknowledge valuable co-operation and assistance from Dr. Stephen in the immunisation work.

Deaths.

The number is above the average, producing a rather high death rate, for this district. As usual heart disease and cancer were the principal causes of death, the former amongst the older age groups.

Births.

The full number of births amongst residents has not been received from the Registrar General, but judging from the number registered as taking place within the district, the birthrate of the last few years has been maintained. There has been one maternal death from puerperal sepsis, and only 15 deaths in infants under one year of age.

Sanitary Administration.

Your Sanitary Inspector has had to continue the general sanitary administration, with clerical assistance only. Routine inspections under the Housing Act have been impossible, owing to depletion of staff, and repairs to dwellings beyond those absolutely essential for the abatement of nuisances, difficult to carry out, owing to scarcity of proper building materials and skilled labour. The inspection of food premises and examinations of foodstuffs has taken considerable time, and required careful judgement, for the proper use of every available foodstuff.

One has to regret the gradual deterioration taking place in the structural condition of the older dwelling houses in the district, especially where they have been subjected to bomb blast. War damage repairs, even where they have been carried out at considerable expense, have not been sufficient to make these old houses comfortable in wintry weather, and it is doubtful whether these houses will ever again be in all respects fit for human habitation. In a considerable number of instances it is only the shortage of housing accommodation that is the cause of these houses having occupiers. Where houses become un-occupied they rapidly become unfit for human habitation due to the destruction of windows, doors and roofs, by the elder school children and adolescents, who apparently get a thrill by smashing up anything breakable.

I am, your obedient servant,

G. Pennant Evans.

Medical Officer of Health.

NO. OF DWELLING HOUSES INSPECTED (separate primary inspections only).

(1). On Complaint.....	420
(2). On notification of infectious disease.....	141
(3). Re Tuberculosis.....	--
Visits to foodshops.....	84
" " Dairies and Milkshops.....	8
" " Slaughterhouses.....	1
" re Shops Act.....	12
" to Factories and Workshops.....	7
" re Petroleum Acts.....	2
" to Watercourses.....	5
" for disinfection.....	83
" re Housing Act 1936.....	4
" re Disinfestation and to verminous premises.....	13
" re Rat Infestation.....	2
Appointments and special visits.....	310
Re-inspections and visits to works in progress.....	590
Attendance at Court (Petty Sessions and County Court)....	2
	<u>1684</u>
Total visits and inspections for 1940.....	2726
" " " " " 1939.....	2344
" " " " " 1938.....	2753
" " " " " 1937.....	3192

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year;-

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..... 205
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose..... 227
2. Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation..... 89

2. Remedy of defects without service of formal notice;-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their offices..... 82

3. Action under Statutory Powers;-

A.Proceedings under sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act 1936;-

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs..... 1
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices;-
 - (a) By owners..... 1
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners..... 0

B.Proceedings under Public Health Acts;-

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied..... 12
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice;-
 - (a) By owners..... 12
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners..... 0

The following is a summary of the sanitary improvements and defects remedied during the year:-

Water

Store cisterns provided, repaired, cleansed or covers provided.....	3
Fittings and services repaired.....	3

Drainage

Drains cleared or repaired.....	15
Inspection chambers cleansed, repaired etc.,.....	3
Soil and vent pipes repaired.....	2
New sink waste pipes provided.....	1
Sink wastes repaired.....	2

W.C.

W.C pans and traps fixed.....	7
W.C pans and traps repaired.....	2
W.C seats, doors, windows, floors renewed or repaired.....	1
Walls cleansed and distempered.....	0
Ceilings cleansed and distempered.....	1
Flushing cisterns provided.....	1
Flushing cisterns repaired or regulated.....	7

Floors.

Floors repaired.....	2
----------------------	---

Roofs.

Stripped and renewed.....	1
Repaired.....	20
Gutters and downspouts renewed or repaired.....	14

Cleansing

Walls repaired, cleansed, distempered or papered.....	7
Ceilings repaired or renewed.....	11
New ceilings.....	0

Windows

Sashes and frames repaired or renewed.....	4
Cills repaired or renewed.....	3
Sashcords provided (number of houses).....	1

Brickwork

Damp-proof courses provided	2
Brickwork repaired.....	2
Chimney stacks rebuilt or repaired.....	4
Dampness in walls remedied.....	2
Walls repointed or rendered.....	2

Refuse

Dustbins provided.....	11
Accumulation of refuse removed.....	1

General

New ranges and grates provided.....	3
Ranges and grates repaired.....	2
Other defects (unclassified).....	5
Verminous rooms cleansed.....	1

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INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk The following licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order 1933:-

Pasteurised.....	6
Accredited.....	1
Grade A (Tuberculin Tested)....	6
Pasteuriser's.....	1

Meat and other foods.

The following foodstuffs were surrendered as unfit for human consumption;-

360 eggs.
6 ozs. Ox Tongue (tinned).
12 ozs. Mor Pork Meat (tinned).
46 lbs. Beef Milts.
10 lbs. Beef Liver.
23 lbs. Offals.
83 lbs. Top Beef.
298 lbs. Rump Beef.
32 Tins Evaporated and Condensed Milk.

Infectious and Other Diseases.

Particulars of the number of notifiable diseases are to be found in Table 1.

TABLE 1.

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR ENDING
31st. DECEMBER 1941.

Disease.	Number of cases notified								Cases in each Ward.				No. removed to Hospital.
	All.	Un.	1-4	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 & 0	North.	South	Central	Friern Hospital	
Scarlet Fever	33	-	3	26	3	1	-	-	18	7	7	1	25
Diphtheria	49	-	12	17	12	8	-	-	10	30	9	1	48
Pneumonia	27	1	2	1	4	7	9	3	2	2	15	8	-
Measles	165	10	59	90	6	-	-	-	106	31	28	-	-
Whooping Cough	154	13	78	59	1	2	1	-	64	32	58	-	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Erysipelas	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	4	-
Dysentery	3	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	3	-
Cerebro-spinal- fever	4	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	1	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Menigitis	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Polio-encephalitis	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Typhoid	14	-	-	2	1	9	2	-	-	-	2	12	2
Polio-myelitis	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Chicken-pox	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pulm. Tuberculosis	29	-	-	1	6	17	5	-	13	4	9	3	-
Other Tuberculosis	6	-	-	1	3	-	2	-	3	-	2	1	-
TOTALS	495	26	156	200	37	48	23	5	219	109	131	36	85

TABLE 2

ANALYSIS OF THE CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1941 FOR THE WHOLE DISTRICT.

Causes of Death	No. Regd.													Out Tran.	In Tran.	M.	F.	Nett deaths.
		C-I	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 & O	N.	S.	C.	H.					
Appendicitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	1	1	2
Bronchitis	15	2	-	-	-	-	-	7	8	4	3	5	5	2	2	12	5	12
Cancer	57	-	-	-	-	-	7	42	30	15	18	6	40	40	22	45	34	39
Cerebral Haemorrhage	10	-	-	-	1	-	-	6	11	6	5	4	3	3	9	8	10	15
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-
Congenital debility etc.	4	9	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	3	3	3	6	4	6	7
Diarrhoea	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	1
Diabetes	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	1	-	1	1	2	-	3	2
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	2
General Paralysis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	2	1	2	-	3	2
Heart Disease	82	-	-	-	-	2	8	24	76	27	14	24	45	43	23	43	67	67
Influenza	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Nephritis	18	-	-	-	-	-	2	13	5	3	1	2	14	14	2	12	8	6
Other circulatory diseases	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	14	5	1	2	18	18	2	13	13	8
Other defined diseases	47	-	2	-	3	1	15	21	20	7	4	9	42	42	15	37	25	20
Other digestive diseases	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	1	1	-
Other Tubercular diseases	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	-	3	2	1	3
Other Violence	13	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	12	1	2	6	9	9	5	7	11	9
Peptic Ulcer	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pneumonia	41	3	3	-	-	-	9	26	25	8	14	10	34	35	25	41	25	31
Puerperal Sepsis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Senility	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	5	-	1	2	2	3	2	6	6
Suicide	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	2
Syphilis	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	2	1	-
Tuberculosis of Resp. System	13	-	-	-	-	2	6	6	-	-	1	1	12	12	1	5	9	2
War Operations.	6	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	1	-	-	1	6	6	1	2	5	1
TOTALS	347	15	5	1	6	10	55	174	214	90	69	79	242	240	133	243	237	240

TABLE 3

ANALYSIS OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING 1941 AND THE MORTALITY FROM THE SAME DISEASE
OVER THE SAME PERIOD.

Ages.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
5 - 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10- 15	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15- 20	2	2	-	-	-	1	1	-
20- 25	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	-
25- 35	7	3	-	1	-	2	-	-
35- 45	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
45- 55	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
55- 65	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL3	20	8	4	3	1	3	1	1

TABLE 4

INFANTILE MORTALITY

NETT DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE 1941.

	UNDER 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total under 1 year.	
All causes;- Certified un-certified	7 -	1 -	1 -	1 -	3 -	1 -	3 -	2 -	1 -	15 -	
Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	
Congenital defect	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
Diarrhoea	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
Malformation	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	
Pemphigus Neonatorum	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3	
Prematurity	6	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	6	

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