

[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

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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.

FRIERN BARNET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,
N.11.

16th. August. 1943.

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

Gentlemen,

This report covers the period from January 1st. 1942, to December 31st. 1942, inclusive, and will be much abbreviated in accordance with Circular 2604, of the 24th. March 1942, and no figures will be given from which the population of the district or its wards, can be inferred, and no data supplied by the Registrar General will be included.

The general health of the district was maintained at a high level, and the incidence of the notifiable diseases has been very satisfactory.

In common with other districts, the artificial immunisation against Diphtheria was continued, and 525 immunisations performed, but the public demand slackened towards the end of the year. However, about 40% of the known child population may be considered to have had this form of protection. This proportion is probably an estimate on the low side, as we have no means of knowing the number of children immunised by private arrangement, or the number immunised before coming to reside in this area. I have to express my best thanks for the good work carried out by the School Medical Officer, Dr. Stephen, in this connection.

The death rate this year is rather higher than usual, but it must be born in mind, that our young and virile members of the population are away on war work, and it is only the very young and past middle age, which make up the greater part of the death list. The infantile mortality rate, is the best yet recorded for this district, and reflects the high standard of motherhood necessary for such results. It is also a very striking illustration of the effectiveness of that part of the Food Office organisation which provided the accessory food factors in the form of oil, fruit juices and purees. The birth rate shows a slight upward tendency which is all to the good, for the average age of our population over the past decade has risen, due to the diminished number of births and longevity.

The housing situation is still acute, greater difficulties arose in getting repairs carried out promptly and efficiently than ever before, and is not likely to diminish until war's demands are satisfied.

Scabies has been very prevalent. The Clinic, staffed by the members of the local Red Cross, has done excellent work, and by the end of the year had treated 140 cases to a successful conclusion. A large proportion of

these cases were complicated by sepsis, pediculosis and dirt, no less than 421 individual treatments were carried out by the voluntary workers. The Clinic has in every way justified the Council's decision to establish it.

I attach the usual tables of statistics, which show an astonishing amount of good work, carried out by a very attenuated staff, under difficult, and at times, harassing conditions.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. Pennant Evans.

Medical Officer of Health.

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

(1), On Complaint.....	384
(2), On notification of infectious disease.....	55
(3), Re Tuberculosis.....	--
Visits to foodshops.....	43
" " Dairies and Milkshops.....	8
" " Slaughterhouses.....	--
" re Shops Act.....	1
" to Factories and Workshops.....	--
" re Petroleum Acts.....	16
" to Watercourses.....	1
" for Disinfection.....	41
" re Housing Act 1936.....	--
" re Disinfestation and to verminous premises.....	9
" re Rat infestation.....	9
Appointments and special visits.....	470
Re-inspections and visits to works in progress.....	394
Attendance at Court (Petty Sessions and County Court).....	--
	<u>1431</u>
Total visits and inspections for 1941.....	1684
" " " " " 1940.....	2726
" " " " " 1939.....	2344
" " " " " 1938.....	2753

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).... 216
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose..... 240
2. Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation..... 101

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 officers..... 96

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..... 0
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
 - (a) By owners..... 0
 - (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... 7
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:-
 - (a) By owners..... 7
 - (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.....	4
Fittings and services repaired.....	9

Drainage.

Drains cleared or repaired.....	14
Inspection chambers cleansed, repaired etc.,	4
Soil and vent pipes repaired.....	1
New sink waste pipes provided.....	1
Sink wastes repaired.....	1

W.C.

W.C. pans and traps fixed.....	4
W.C. pans and traps repaired.....	3
W.C. seats, doors, windows, floors, renewed or repaired.....	2
Walls cleansed and distempered.....	1
Ceilings cleansed and distempered.....	0
Flushing cisterns provided.....	0
Flushing cisterns repaired or regulated.....	7

Floors.

Floors repaired.....	3
----------------------	---

Roofs.

Stripped and renewed.....	1
Repaired.....	27
Gutters and downspouts renewed or repaired...	10

Cleansing.

Walls, repaired, cleansed, distempered or papered.....	6
Ceilings repaired or renewed.....	8
New ceilings.....	1

Windows.

Sashes and frames repaired or renewed.....	5
Cills repaired or renewed.....	4
Sashcords provided (number of houses).....	0

Brickwork.

Damp-proof courses provided.....	3
Brickwork repaired.....	1
Chimney stacks rebuilt or repaired.....	0
Dampness in walls remedied.....	5
Walls repointed or rendered.....	0

Refuse.

Dustbins provided.....	37
Accumulation of refuse removed.....	2

General.

New ranges and grates provided.....	4
Ranges and grates repaired.....	3
Other defects (unclassified).....	6
Verminous rooms cleansed.....	1
	<u>228</u>

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk. The following licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936:-

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:-

119½ lbs. Tinned Pork Luncheon and Sausage Meat,	
5 Tins Stewed Steak.	
3 Tins Canned Rabbit.	
1 6lb. Tin Ox Tongue.	
20 Tins Evaporated & Condensed Milk.	
15 Tins Pineapple.	
3 Tins Apples.	
2 Tins Pears.	
1 Tin Loganberries.	
1 Tin Peaches.	
9 Tins Peas.	
3 Tins Baked Beans.	
4 Tins Tomatoes.	
4 Tins Herrings.	
1 Tin Pilchards.	
1 Box Dried Codlings.	
28 lbs. Dried Prunes.	
24 lb. Butter.	

TABLE 1.
ANALYSIS OF CASES OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR ENDING
31st. DECEMBER 1942.

Disease.	Number of cases notified.								Cases in each Ward.				No. removed Hospital to Hospital.
	All.	Un.1.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 & 0	North.	South	Central.	Friern Hospital.	
Scarlet Fever	32	-	5	23	2	1	1	-	15	12	5	-	23
Diphtheria	7	-	1	4	1	1	-	-	1	5	1	-	7
Pneumonia	27	-	7	2	1	6	9	2	4	7	6	10	1
Measles	196	4	64	124	3	1	-	-	93	37	66	-	-
Whooping Cough	39	2	18	17	-	2	-	-	24	6	9	-	-
Erysipelas	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	3
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Typhoid	6	-	-	-	1	3	1	1	-	-	-	6	-
Menengitis	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Chicken-pox	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Cerebro-spinal fever	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Laryngitis	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Pulm. Tuberculosis	26	-	-	2	9	13	1	1	13	6	5	2	-
Other Tuberculosis	6	-	1	2	1	2	-	-	1	4	1	-	-
TOTALS	352	6	98	177	20	34	13	4	157	82	94	19	40

TABLE 2.
ANALYSIS OF THE CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1942, FOR THE WHOLE DISTRICT.

Causes of Death.	No. Regd.	At ----- Ages.								Wards.				Out Tran.	In Tran.	M.	F.	Nett deaths
		0-1	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 & O.	N.	S.	C.	A.					
Accident.	6	-	-	-	-	1	3	4	5	2	2	5	4	4	7	6	7	9
Appendicitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-
Arterio-sclerosis	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	11	7	4	1	2	2	7	5	9	12
Bronchitis	13	-	-	-	-	-	2	8	9	1	7	6	5	5	6	11	8	14
Cancer	71	-	-	1	-	-	6	38	50	20	13	9	53	51	24	54	41	44
Cerebral Haemorrhage	33	-	-	-	-	-	1	12	30	8	8	11	16	16	10	15	29	27
Congenital debility	2	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	3	-	1	6	5	3	7
Diabetes	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	1	-	-	3	3	1	2	2	1
Diarrhoea	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	1	1	2
Dementia	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	2	-
Epilepsy	5	-	-	-	1	-	4	1	-	-	-	1	5	5	1	5	1	1
Heart disease	122	-	-	1	-	2	13	37	93	35	18	30	65	66	24	64	82	80
Influenza	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	2
Ill-defined diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	1
Menengitis	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	1	1	2	3	-	2
Nephritis	19	-	-	1	-	-	7	9	6	-	2	4	17	17	4	11	12	6
Other defined diseases	44	1	-	-	-	3	10	22	21	6	7	4	40	40	13	36	21	17
Other Tubercular diseases	6	1	-	-	1	1	2	2	-	1	-	-	6	6	1	4	3	1
Pneumonia	39	3	-	-	-	1	7	18	20	14	3	3	29	31	10	25	24	18
Senility	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	1	5	2	1	1	5	4	5	8
Suicide	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	2	-	-
Syphilis	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	2	1	-
Tuberculosis of Resp. system.	25	-	-	-	-	4	10	11	2	2	2	1	22	22	2	18	9	5
Typhoid Fever	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	2	-	-
Other Violence	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	2	1
TOTALS.	413	15	-	3	3	14	71	176	258	106	73	82	279	282	127	277	263	258

TABLE 3.
ANALYSIS OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING 1942 AND THE MORTALITY FROM THE SAME DISEASE
OVER THE SAME PERIOD.

AGE3	NEW CASES				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
10- 15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15- 20	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20- 25	2	2	-	1	1	-	-	-
25- 35	2	2	-	3	-	2	-	-
35- 45	5	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
45- 55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55- 65	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 & Over	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	20	6	2	5	4	2	-	-

TABLE 4

INFANTILE MORTALITY

NETT DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE 1942.

	Under 1 week.	1 - 2 weeks.	2 - 3 weeks.	3 - 4 weeks.	Total under 4 wks.	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.	6	1	1	1	6	2	3	3	1	15
Un-certified.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Congenital defects	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	3
Diarrhoea	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	3
Other defined diseases	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other Tubercular diseases	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
Pre-maturity	4	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4