

**[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Feltham].**

**Contributors**

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
FEL 12

Urban District Council  
of  
Feltham  
Public Health Department

1949

Medical Officer of Health (part time) :

F. H. WOODS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Chief Sanitary Inspector : 

F. V. BELL, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

J. SMITH, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

R. C. ROGERS, M.S.I.A.

(Appointed 15.9.48, Resigned 20.6.49)

K. R. ENDERBY

(Appointed 10.10.49)



Council Offices,  
Feltham.

July, 1950

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitation of your District for the year 1949.

The District is divided into three Wards: Bedfont, Feltham and Hanworth, with a total acreage of 4.925.

The population as estimated by the Registrar General is: Civilian Population, 42,880; Total Population, 43,690. This is an increase compared with the 1948 figure of 41,940. The day population is increased by people working at the various factories and shops. A small number continue to work in agriculture.

The sum represented by a penny rate is

£1,189 17s. 9d.

All classes of inhabited houses	...	...	10,923
Working-class dwellings	...	...	9,000
New working-class dwellings erected	...	...	228
Total number of new houses erected	...	...	266

### Vital Statistics

Live Births—				Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	...	...	692	348	344
Illegitimate	...	...	...	34	23	11
Total	...	...	...	726	371	355

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population—  
16.93 (1948 20.10)

~~contaminated water 1.40~~ ~~dr B/R 23.70~~  
Still Births—

Legitimate	...	...	...	20	12	8
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	2	—
Total	...	...	...	22	14	8

Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)—29.41 (1948 19.76)

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population—0.513  
(1948 0.40)





Deaths—	Total	Male	Female
	333	176	157

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population—  
7.76 (1948 7.05)

*Comparability factor 1.40 Adj. D/Rate 10.8*

Deaths from Puerperal causes—

(Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List)

	Deaths	(live and still) births	Rate per 1,000 total
No. 29. Puerperal and Post- Abortion Sepsis ...	—	—	(1948 Nil)
No. 30. Other Maternal causes	—	—	(1948 Nil)
Total ... ..	—	—	(1948 Nil)

Death rates of Infants under one year of age—

All infants per 1,000 live births (21)	28.92	(1948 26.09)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legiti- mate live births (20) ... ..	28.90	(1948 23.09)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegiti- mate live births (1) ... ..	29.41	(1948 65.21)

	Total	Rate per 1,000 of estimated civilian population
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	70	1.63 (1948 1.09)
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	—	—

	Rate per 1,000 live births
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years) ... ..	—

Birth and Death rates for England and Wales, 1949:—

Birth rate ... ..	16.7
Still Birth rate ... ..	0.39
Death rate ... ..	11.7
Deaths under one year of age ... ..	32.0
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years of age) ... ..	3.0

Maternal Mortality—England and Wales, 1949:—

Abortion with Sepsis ... ..	0.11
Abortion without Sepsis ... ..	0.05
Puerperal infections ... ..	0.11
Other maternal causes ... ..	0.71

*98*

## Causes of Death in your Area

	Male	Female	Total
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers ... ..	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever ...	1	—	1
3. Scarlet fever ... ..	—	—	—
4. Whooping cough ...	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system ... ..	9	5	14
7. Other forms of tuberculosis ... ..	—	1	1
8. Syphilitic disease ...	2	—	2
9. Influenza ... ..	—	1	1
10. Measles ... ..	—	—	—
11. Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis ...	—	—	—
12. Acute infectious encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—
13. Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M) Uterus (F) ... ..	2	5	7
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	7	—	7
15. Cancer of breast ...	—	9	9
16. Cancer of all other sites	36	11	47
17. Diabetes ... ..	—	—	—
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions ... ..	16	23	39
19. Heart disease ... ..	37	42	79
20. Other diseases of the circulatory system ... ..	9	8	17
21. Bronchitis ... ..	14	8	22
22. Pneumonia ... ..	8	18	26
23. Other respiratory diseases	1	1	2
24. Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum ... ..	5	—	5
25. Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ... ..	—	—	—
26. Appendicitis ... ..	—	—	—
27. Other digestive diseases	4	—	4
28. Nephritis ... ..	2	5	7
29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis ... ..	—	—	—



	Male	Female	Total
30. Other maternal causes ...	—	—	—
31. Premature birth ...	1	3	4
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease ... ..	5	6	11
33. Suicide ... ..	—	1	1
34. Road traffic accidents ...	—	—	—
35. Other violent causes ...	5	4	9
36. All other causes ...	12	6	18
	<hr/> 176	<hr/> 157	<hr/> 333

### Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis

Disease	Total Nos. Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	265	40	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	66	3	—
Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	26
Scarlet Fever ... ..	57	24	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	2	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	2	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis ... ..	4	2	—
Polioencephalitis ... ..	—	—	—
Enteric and Typhoid Fever	2	2	—
Malaria ... ..	—	—	—

Age Periods	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Encep- halitis	Puer. Py.	Ery- sipelas	Pneu- monia	Measles	Whoop- ing Cough	Cere- bro Spinal Fever	Ac. Polio
Under 1 yr.	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	8	—	—
1—3 years	4	—	—	—	—	—	71	15	—	—
3—5 „	14	—	—	—	—	—	87	20	—	2
5—10 „	31	—	—	—	—	—	99	23	1	2
10—15 „	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
15—25 „	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Over 25 „	2	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—
Total	57	—	—	2	1	—	265	66	1	4



### Ophthalmia Neonatorum

Notified	...	...	...	...	2
Cases treated at home	...	...	...	...	2
Cases treated in hospital	...	...	...	...	—
Vision unimpaired	...	...	...	...	2
Total blindness	...	...	...	...	—
Death	...	...	...	...	—

### Tuberculosis

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 yr.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 „	4	3	—	1	—	—	—	1
15—25 „	12	6	1	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 „	7	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45 „	2	4	—	—	—	2	—	—
45—65 „	7	3	—	—	1	1	—	—
Over 65 „	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	35	25	1	1	1	3	—	1

### Tuberculosis

Notifications of new cases of tuberculosis have decreased, the figures being 62 for 1949 and 86 for 1948, deaths from this cause also show a decrease, the figure being 5 as compared with 16. The overcrowded conditions under which many people are living, resulting from the shortage of houses, is almost certainly helping to keep the numbers of new notifications at a comparatively high figure, but it must also be remembered that a number of these cases are mild ones which have been detected at an early stage by the use of mass radiography. The adequate housing of persons suffering from active pulmonary tuberculosis and their families is essential if increases in new cases of this disease are to be prevented.

## Maternal Mortality

It is gratifying to report that there have been no cases of maternal mortality during the year. This is the third year during which there have been no maternal deaths.

## Housing

There are still very many families sharing accommodation or living in one or two rooms. These families are mostly young couples, living often with their parents and in many cases trying to raise a young family under most difficult and trying conditions. There were many instances of these mothers having their babies at home, because of shortage of maternity beds, under conditions of overcrowding which would once have been considered intolerable. The need for houses is still urgent, although the Housing Committee's programme of building had already provided 636 permanent houses and 150 temporary bungalows by the end of the year.

## Diphtheria Immunisation

Responsibility for carrying out diphtheria immunisation passed to the Middlesex County Council on the 5th July, 1948, in accordance with the provisions of the National Health Service Act. Since the end of 1948 all arrangements for immunisation have been carried out by the County Council.

## Water Analysis

1. The Bedfont and Feltham Wards of the District are supplied by the South West Suburban Water Co. and the Hanworth Ward by the Metropolitan Water Board. The water supplied to this area by the South West Suburban Water Co. is taken by that Company from the Metropolitan Water Board. The water supply has been satisfactory both as regards quantity and quality.

2. Samples for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis are taken at least five times each week by the Metropolitan Water Board of the raw water and the treated water at all stages of purification, and weekly samples have been taken by the South West Suburban



Water Co. In addition seven samples were taken by my department. There is an arrangement between my Council and the Councils of the following districts :

Hayes and Harlington

Windsor

Egham

Bagshot

Easthampstead

by which the water supplied by the South West Suburban Water Company to the combined districts is sampled twenty-five times a year on a rota.

**Average Results of Analyses of Metropolitan Water Board Supply.** (Parts per million.) Water filtered and chlorinated at Hampton Works :

No of Samples	...	...	...	...	...	250
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	.015
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	.087
Oxidised Nitrogen (Nitrate)	...	...	...	...	...	4.3
Chlorides as Cl.	...	...	...	...	...	27.4
Oxygen abs. from Permanganate 3 hours at 80°F	...	...	...	...	...	1.13
Turbidity in terms of Silica	...	...	...	...	...	0.4
Colour m.m. brown 2 ft. tube Burgess's Tintometer	...	...	...	...	...	14
Hardness Total	...	...	...	...	...	244
Hardness (Permanent)	...	...	...	...	...	71
pH Value	...	...	...	...	...	7.7
Conductivity	...	...	...	...	...	450

**Bacteriological Results**

No. of Samples	...	...	...	...	...	980
Colony Count on agar at 37°C (20-24 hrs.)	...	...	...	...	...	7.5
<b>BACT. COLI TEST</b>						
Percentage of samples negative per 100 ml.	...	...	...	...	...	99.7
Bact. coli per 100 ml.	...	...	...	...	...	.006



**Typical Analysis of South West S.W. Co. Supply.**  
(Parts per million.)

**Chemical**

Appearance: Clear and bright.

Turbidity (Silica Scale)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Colour (Hazen) Faint yellow brown on the alkaline side	...	...	...	...	10
Odour	...	...	...	...	Nil
Reaction pH of neutrality	...	...	...	...	7.7
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	...	...	...	6
Electric Conductivity at 20°C	...	...	...	...	550
Total Solids, dried at 180°C	...	...	...	...	370
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	...	27
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	...	...	...	...	205
Hardness:					
Total 280 Carbonate (Temporary)	...	...	...	...	205
Non-carbonate (Permanent)	...	...	...	...	75
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	...	...	...	4.4
Nitrogen in Nitrites	...	...	...	...	Absent
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.016
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C	...	...	...	...	1.1
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.084
Residual Chlorine	...	...	...	...	Absent
Metals	...	...	...	...	Absent

**Bacteriological**

Number of  
Colonies de-  
veloping on

Agar per c.c. or ml. in ...	1 day at 37°C 4	2 days at 37°C 7	3 days at 20°C 2
Presumptive Coliform Reaction	...	Absent from 100 ml.	
Bact. coli.	...	Absent from 100 ml.	
Cl. welchii Reaction	Present in 100ml.	Absent from 10 ml.	

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals. The water is hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline con-

stituents in solution are not excessive. It is of satisfactory organic quality and of a high standard of bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a water which is pure and wholesome and character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

3. The water supplied has no plumbo-solvent action but samples are tested for presence of metals.

4. No action has been required in respect of contamination of the water. All water is chlorinated before distribution.

5. With the exception of a few outlying cottages, all the houses in the area are supplied from the public water mains. Only a very limited number of houses are supplied by standpipes common to two or more houses, the vast majority being supplied direct. Population in Feltham and Bedfont Wards supplied with water from standpipes approximately 220. The figure for Hanworth is not available.

### **Food Poisoning**

Three cases of food poisoning have been notified to me during the year.

### **Conclusion.**

In conclusion I should like to thank the members of the Committee for the support which they have given me during the year and also to thank Mr. Bell and the staff of the department for their able and willing assistance.

F. H. WOODS,

Medical Officer of Health.



**CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT**

Council Offices,  
Feltham,  
Middlesex

July, 1950

To. Dr. F. H. Woods, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
Medical Officer of Health,

Sir,

I beg to present a report upon the work of the department which I administer.

The difficulties of maintaining a full complement of staff have not been so pressing as in recent years, but there was a vacancy for a sanitary inspector which remained unfilled for several months. With a small staff the loss of one inspector's services for a month or two can seriously upset the routine of the department, particularly as efforts are being made to expand the work of the department under Sections 9 and 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, and there are other branches of the department's work which call for more attention.

Problems arising from the housing shortage continue to occupy a predominant position despite the substantial number of new houses which the Council have already provided. Many people living under unsatisfactory conditions solicit the aid of the department with a view to being rehoused by the Council. These cases are investigated but unless they are already applicants to the Council and an investigation reveals conditions which may lead to an increase in the number of points allocated to them, there is little that can be done. Reports are submitted for consideration by the Housing Committee whenever it is thought they will serve a useful purpose. In many cases much inconvenience and unhappiness is caused by the occupation of a house by more than one family, but where there is no illegal



overcrowding or other circumstances which are not shared by very many of the Council's other applicants. All applicants for rehousing are visited by the sanitary inspector before interview by the Housing Committee and I am hopeful that these fact-finding inspections have helped the Committee to assess those applicants with the greatest need for rehousing.

The urgent need to house people who have no accommodation of their own has rather overshadowed the needs of persons occupying old, obsolescent and worn out houses, but as I mentioned in the Annual Report for 1948, demolition orders were made in respect of eight houses in that year and the occupants of these cottages have now all been rehoused and the cottages demolished and work has been commenced for dealing with a further thirty cottages in a similar manner. During the year a very limited survey was made of the houses likely to require Housing Act action and a report was made to the Public Health Committee with a view to obtaining a rough estimate of the position appertaining to the existing housing. The survey was however based principally on local knowledge and its usefulness is strictly limited. It was quite impossible to make a detailed survey with existing staff.

One hundred and twenty-five <sup>w</sup> samples of graded milks were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service at Epsom. Of these seventeen failed, although in respect of six samples taken on one occasion the laboratory advised that the results should not be taken too seriously in view of prevailing temperature. Of the seventeen failures, one was in respect of the phosphatase test, the others the methylene blue test.

The failures were distributed as follows :—

Pasteurised Milk 8. \*T.T. (Past.) Milk 3.

South Devon (Past.) Milk 6.

The six failures referred to in previous paragraph were all in respect of the methylene blue test and there were two each from each grade.

\*Tuberculin tested

The failure in respect of the phosphatase test was attributable to a plant failure. The methylene blue failures were isolated ones except for the six mentioned previously and for a series of four samples of South Devon Milk taken from one company. In this particular case the very hot weather being experienced at the time no doubt contributed to the failures. The milk was withdrawn from sale for a time, at any rate in this area.

One hundred and forty-one samples of ice cream were taken, and were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Epsom. Three were of a type which could not be graded as a methylene blue reading was impossible due to colouring matter in the ice cream, but they were negative in coliforms. The other one hundred and thirty-eight were graded as follows:—

#### PROVISIONAL GRADES

TOTAL	1	1 & 2	3	4
138      ...      ...      ...	50	78	37	23
Percentage of total samples	36.23	56.52	26.81	16.66
Number in which Coliforms present in 1/10 ml.      ...	16	31	32	20
Percentage in which Coliforms present      ...      ...      ...	32	39.74	86.48	86.95
Number in which faecal B. Coli present      ...      ...	1	4	12	3
Percentage in which faecal B. Coli. present      ...      ...	2	5.12	32.43	13.04

In addition nine samples of the water in which servers were kept were taken and of these four were satisfactory.

The results of the samples taken cannot be regarded as representative of the ice cream sold in the area, as there was a tendency to concentrate upon the sources of unsatisfactory ice cream and to omit on many occasions those ice creams which experience had shown to be reliable.



In all cases notification of the results of sampling was given to the authority in whose district the ice cream was manufactured.

There are no large manufacturers of ice cream in the area, the majority of retailers purchase their ice cream from outside sources and only a very small number make their own.

A great deal of work is required in connection with premises where food is prepared, stored, etc., and as much time as possible is devoted to this work, but it is, of necessity, limited by the number of inspectors available and the calls upon their time by the many other activities of the department. There is close co-operation with the Food Executive Officer of the Ministry of Food with regard to food premises in respect of which applications for new licences are under consideration.

By arrangement with the Engineer and Surveyor to the Council, deposited plans of new works have been perused so that there has been an opportunity of making recommendations for the improvement of proposed new food premises.

Rodent destruction, in accordance with the methods advocated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, has been continued. The Council's house refuse tip has been kept under observation and small infestations have been dealt with as they occurred. Following the slight infestation of the Hanworth sewers in 1948, further testing was carried out and the sewers were declared to be free from rodent infestation.

The activities of street traders and hawkers of foodstuffs have received a good deal of attention and in this connection the Council resolved that Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, should apply to all foodstuffs sold in the area from stalls, vehicles, etc.

In concluding I should like to thank you, Sir, for the consideration you have shown me, and the members of the staff for their support in carrying out the work of the department.

FRANCIS V. BELL,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.



## Summary of Sanitary Work and Improvements

### Eradication of Bed Bugs

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| (1) The number of Council Houses infested ... | 14 |
| The number of Council houses disinfested      | 14 |
| The number of other houses infested ...       | 14 |
| The number of other houses disinfested ...    | 14 |
| The number of other premises disinfested      | —  |
- (2) The methods of disinfection employed are the spraying with contact insecticides incorporating D.D.T., mainly "Pyagra" or "Zaldecide."
- (3) The furniture, etc., of prospective Council house tenants is inspected before removal to the Council's houses and if necessary is treated for the eradication of bugs.
- (4) The work of disinfection is carried out by the local authority.

### Infectious Disease

The following number of premises have been disinfected after cases (or suspected cases) of infectious disease :—

Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	22
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	45
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	2
Total	...	...	...	...	69

### Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936—46

The number of persons licensed in the district to sell or bottle graded milks is as follows :—

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	4
Accredited	...	...	...	—
Pasteurised	...	...	...	4
Sterilised	...	...	...	4

### Supplementary Licences :—

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	6
Accredited	...	...	...	—
Pasteurised	...	...	...	7
Sterilised	...	...	...	5

## Inspection and Supervision of Food

### Carcases examined at Slaughter-houses

	Beasts	Calves	Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Donkeys	Goats	Kids
No. killed ...	—	—	—	97	530	—	—	2
No. Inspected	—	—	—	97	530	—	—	2

### Diseases excluding Tuberculosis

	Beasts	Calves	Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Donkeys	Goats
Whole carcase condemned ...	—	—	—	5	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned ...	—	—	—	10	239	—	—
Percentage affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	15.46	45.09	—	—

### Tuberculosis only

Whole carcase condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned ...	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Percentage affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	3.09	—	—	—

### Meat Inspected at Butcher's Shops

A number of carcasses, quarters, parts of carcasses and organs have been examined.

The following has been declared unfit for human consumption:—

#### Whole Carcasses—

	Beasts	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—
Other Disease	—	—	1	—

#### Part Carcasses and Organs—

Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—
Other Disease	5 cwt. 12 lbs.	—	1 cwt. 20 lbs.	—

In addition, the following amount of canned meat was found to be unfit for human consumption :—

1 cwt. 32 lbs.



# Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in Respect of the year 1949 on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937

## Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors) :

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	6	1	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	124	38	2	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	9	1	—	—
Total ...	139	40	2	—

2. Cases in which defects were found :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	2	2	—	1
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient ...	1	1	—	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	10	10	—	1
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ...	3	3	—	—
Total ...	16	16	—	3

## Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (sections 110 and 111), nil.