

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

Contributors

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Urban District Council
of

FELTHAM



Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
for the year ending 31st December,
1950

Feltham, Middx.
October, 1951



Urban District Council

of

Feltham

Public Health Department

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.

K. R. ENDERBY

Council Offices,
Feltham.

October, 1951.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Williams and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitation of your District for the year 1950.

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

The Home population as estimated by the Registrar General is 43,730. This is an increase compared with the 1949 figure of 43,690. 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 £1,296 11s. 2d.

Rateable Value £322,718

Number of inhabited houses 11,190

Number of new houses erected 311

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

<i>Live Births—</i>				Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	...	...	654	342	312
Illegitimate	...	...	...	25	13	12
Total	...	...	...	679	355	324

Birth Rate

per 1,000 of the estimated home population—
15.52 (1949 16.93)

Comparability Factor 0.97

Still Births—

Legitimate	...	...	...	13	9	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	1	—
Total	...	...	...	14	10	4

Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)—20.20 (1949 29.41)

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated home population—
0.32 (1949 0.513)

Deaths

Total	Male	Female
312	162	150

Death Rate

per 1,000 of the estimated home population—7.11 (1949 7.76)
Comparability Factor 1.41

Maternal Mortality

(Heading 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List)

No.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	1	1.43 (1949 Nil)
Total	1	1.43 (1949 Nil)

INFANT MORTALITY

Death rates of Infants under one year of age—

All infants per 1,000 live births (17)	25.03	(1949 28.92)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births (16)	24.46	(1949 28.90)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births (1)	40.00	(1949 29.41)
	Rate per 1,000 live births	

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years) — — —

Birth and Death Rates for England and Wales, 1950 :—

Birth rate	15.8
Still Birth rate	0.37
Death rate	11.6
Deaths under one year of age	29.8
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years of age)	1.9

Maternal Mortality—England and Wales, 1950 :—

Abortion with Sepsis	0.09
Other Abortion	0.05
Complication of pregnancy and delivery ...	0.54
Sepsis of childbirth and the puerperium ...	0.03
Other complications of the puerperium ...	0.15

Causes of Death

	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis—Respiratory	4	5	9
2. „ —Other ...	1	1	2
3. Syphilitic disease ...	3	—	3
4. Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections...	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis ...	—	1	1
8. Measles ...	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	1	2	3
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	5	3	8
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	8	1	9
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	3	3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	13	16	29
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	1	1	2
16. Diabetes ...	—	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	12	25	37
18. Coronary disease, angina	22	14	36
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	3	1	4
20. Other heart disease ...	19	25	44
21. Other circulatory disease	6	6	12
22. Influenza ...	3	—	3
23. Pneumonia ...	7	10	17
24. Bronchitis ...	11	3	14
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	1	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	2	—	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	2	3
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	—	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	6	—	6
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion ...	—	1	1
31. Congenital malformations	6	2	8

32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	12	12	24
33. Motor vehicles accidents...	6	2	8
34. All other accidents ...	5	8	13
35. Suicide ...	4	1	5
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	—	1	1
	162	150	312

Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis

Disease	Total Nos. Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
Measles ...	460	46	—
Whooping Cough ...	83	2	—
Pneumonia ...	3	—	17
Scarlet Fever ...	35	16	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	2	2	—
Peurperal Pyrexia...	4	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)...	6	5	1
„ (Non-paralytic)	1	—	—
Polioencephalitis ...	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	1	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—

Age Periods	Scarlet Fever	Diph-theria	Encep-halitis	Peur. Py.	ry. sipelas	Pneu-monia	Measles	Whoop-ing Cough	Cere-bro-Spinal Fever	Ac. Para	Polio Non-Para
Under 1 yr.	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	3	1	—	—
1—3 years	2	—	—	—	—	—	87	19	1	—	—
3—5 „	5	—	—	—	—	—	141	31	—	2	—
5—10 „	22	—	—	—	—	—	219	29	—	2	—
10—15 „	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
15—25 „	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Over 25 „	—	—	—	4	1	2	—	1	—	—	1
Total	35	—	—	4	1	3	460	83	2	6	1

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

Notified	...	...	...	...	—
Cases treated at home	...	...	...	...	—
Cases treated in hospital	...	...	...	...	—
Vision unimpaired	...	...	...	...	—
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—5 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 „	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 „	17	8	—	2	1	1	—	—
25—35 „	7	8	—	1	1	2	—	—
35—45 „	6	6	—	1	—	2	—	—
45—65 „	4	2	—	—	2	—	—	1
Over 65 „	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Total	35	27	—	4	4	5	1	1

Tuberculosis

Notifications of new cases of tuberculosis have increased, the figures being 66 for 1950 and 62 for 1949, deaths from this cause also show an increase, the figure being 11 as compared with 5. 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

I regret to report that there has been one case of maternal mortality during the year. During the previous three years 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. The need for houses is still urgent, although the Housing Committee's programme of building has already provided 825 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 six samples were taken by my department.

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

No. of Samples	...	...	...	...	244
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	.016
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	.091
Oxidised Nitrogen (Nitrate)	...	...	...	...	4.1
Chlorides as Cl.	...	...	...	...	25.8
Oxygen abs. from Permanganate 3 hours at 80°F	...	...	...	...	1.18
Turbidity in terms of Silica	...	...	...	...	0.4
Colour m.m. brown 2ft. tube Burgess's Tintometer	...	...	...	...	16
Hardness Total	...	...	...	...	274
Hardness (Permanent)	...	...	...	...	83
pH Value	...	...	...	...	7.9
Conductivity	...	...	...	...	475

Bacteriological Results

No. of Samples	...	...	...	...	817
Colony Count on agar at 37°C (20-24 hours)	...	...	...	...	6.9
BACT. COLI TEST	...	...	...	...
Percentage of samples negative per 100 ml.	...	...	...	...	99.9
Bact. Coli per 100 ml.	...	...	...	...	.002

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 developing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in ...	1 day at 37°C	2 days at 37°C	3 days at 20°C
	4	7	2
Presumptive Coliform Reaction	...	Absent from 100 ml.	
Bact. coli.	...	Absent from 100 ml.	
Cl. welchii Reaction	Present in 100 ml.	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 constituents 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 in 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 supplied with water from standpipes is approximately 70.

Food Poisoning

No cases of food poisoning have been notified 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

Housing

The effects of the housing shortage continued to be a pre-occupation of the department and this shortage continued despite the substantial number of new houses which the Council have already provided. Many people living under unsatisfactory conditions solicited the aid of the department with a view to re-housing. Where it was considered that a useful purpose would be served reports were submitted for the consideration of the Housing Committee but cases did occur of people who needed re-housing but for one reason or another were not eligible for consideration under the Council's "points" scheme. In these cases there was little that could be done to assist. All housing applicants were visited by the sanitary inspectors before they were finally interviewed by the Housing Committee and I believe that these fact-finding inspections did help the Committee to assess those applicants with the greatest need.

In addition to the needs of those people without a house of their own there was the problem of the families housed in unsatisfactory and unfit dwellings. Following consideration by the Public Health Committee of reports which I submitted, it was decided that the Council would deal with thirty unfit dwellings a year including the re-housing of the occupants. Although this number was not large it did mean that a definite programme could be arranged for dealing with the worst of the known unfit dwellings and by the end of the year twenty-three demolition orders had been made, others were in the process of being considered and a start had been made on re-housing the occupants.

Efforts were made to thoroughly repair some of the older properties under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936, but there were great difficulties in the way. The increased cost of building repairs and the extensive works often necessary brought one up against the "reasonable expense" clause with the alternative of action under Section 11 and yet these houses cannot adequately be dealt with under the Public Health Act.

Milk

137 samples of graded milks were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service at Epsom. Of these only one sample of pasteurised (South Devon) milk failed the methylene blue test.

Ice Cream

79 samples of ice cream were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service at Epsom. These samples were graded at follows:—

Provisional Grades	1	1 & 2	3	4
Samples taken (Total 79) ..	50	67	9	3
% of total samples	63.29	84.80	11.39	3.79
No. in which Coliforms present in 1/10 ml.	3	9	6	2
% in which Coliforms present	6	13.43	66.66	66.66
No. in which Faecal B. Coli present	1	3	3	—
% in which Faecal B. Coli present	2	4.47	33.33	—

These results showed a marked improvement on those for the previous year and there are several factors contributing to this. A much larger proportion of the ice cream sold in the district was wrapped, partly due, I believe, to our activities in previous years, the increased supplies of ice cream by reputable companies whose names are well known and preferred by the public and thirdly, many of the less reliable manufacturers appear to have gone out of business or at least are not supplying ice cream to Feltham.

In all cases notification of the results of sampling was given to the manufacturer, the retailer and the Authority in whose district the ice cream was manufactured, and it was found that many manufacturers appreciated receiving good results as well as unsatisfactory ones.

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

Food Premises

During the year the Council made byelaws with regard to the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and the sale of food in the open air, and towards the end of the year a start was made towards the regular periodical visiting of all food premises including the food stores of hawkers of foodstuffs. A circular letter was sent to all the food traders with regard to the coming into operation of the new food byelaws and their co-operation was sought to improve their premises where necessary and to give effect to the new byelaws, but much remains to be done and I am convinced that if the department can maintain regular visits to these premises the best and most lasting results will be obtained.

Rodent Control

Rodent destruction in accordance with the methods advocated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was continued. The annual test baiting of the Council's sewers showed slight infestation in small areas and this was dealt with. The Council refuse tip is kept under observation and any signs of rat activity dealt with immediately.

Dustbins

Increasing opposition was displayed by owners who received notices requiring them to supply new dustbins and in one case a large property-owning company took an appeal against a notice from the Council to the Court of Quarter Sessions where the appeal was upheld and the Council involved in heavy legal expenses. After a good deal of consideration the Public Health Committee recommended and the Council adopted a scheme to supply all residential properties in the district with dustbins free of charge, the cost of the scheme to be included in the general rate.

Staff

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking Dr. Woods for the consideration he has 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

No. of premises inspected on complaint ... 686

No. of primary inspections ... 725

No. of Inspections made:

Housing Insp. (Hsg. Regs.) ... 64

Housing Re-inspections ... 118

Other re-inspections ... 3476

Infectious Dis. ... 26

Council Houses ... 96

Moveable Dwellings ... 85

Bakehouses ... 9

Slaughterhouses (excl. re. Slaughtering)... 5

Knackers Yards ... 4

Dairies and Milkshops ... 15

Offensive Trades ... 1

Shops (Shops Acts) ... 33

Hawkers of Foodstuffs Premises ... 87

Ice Cream Premises ... 203

Food Preparing Premises (excl. Catering Establishments) ... 25

Catering Establishments ... 28

Butchers Shops ... 19

Other Food Shops ... 2

Power Factories ... 32

Non-Power Factories ... 7

Other Factories ... 2

Piggeries ... 11

San. Accom. at Licensed or Public Premises ... 33

Hairdressers and Barbers Establishments 10

Rodent Control ... 938

Defence Regulations ... 101

Housing Applications ... 311

Measurements under Housing Act ... 30

Smoke Observation ... 2

Food Inspection—Meat ... 255

„ „ —Fish ... 7

„ „ —Other commodities ... 42

Milk Sampling ... 74

Water	...	...	...	...	...	6
Street Trading	...	...	...	...	...	17
Tipping of refuse	...	...	...	...	...	44
Total						6117

Eradication of Bed Bugs

- (1) The number of Council houses infested ... 10
 The number of Council houses disinfested... 10
 The number of other houses infested ... 12
 The number of other houses disinfested ... 12
 The number of other premises disinfested... 1
- (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 numbers of premises have been disinfected after cases (or suspected cases) of infectious disease :—

Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	9
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	32
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	7
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total						49

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936—46

The number of licences granted to sell graded milks is as follows :—

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	8
Accredited	...	...	...	...	...	—
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	8
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	14

Supplementary Licences :—

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	17
Accredited	...	...	...	...	—
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	19
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	24

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Carcases examined at Slaughter-houses

	Beasts	Calves	Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Goats
No. killed
No. Inspected

Diseases excluding Tuberculosis

	Beasts	Calves	Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Goats
Whole carcase condemned	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	1	—	—	5	101	—
Percentage affected with disease other than tuberculosis	100	—	—	7.93	26.95	—

Tuberculosis only

	Beasts	Calves	Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Goats
Whole carcase condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	1	—	—	4	—	—
Percentage affected with tuberculosis	50	—	—	6.34	—	—

Meat Inspected at Butchers' Shops

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

The following has been declared unfit for human consumption :—

Whole Carcases—

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

Part Carcasses and Organs—

Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—
Other Disease	9 cwt. 7 lbs.	—	—	—

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

2 cwt. 38 lbs.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in Respect of the year 1950 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	7	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	124	32	2	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	9	2	—	—
Total ...	139	41	2	—

2. Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Number of cases in which defects were found Referred	
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	4	—	—
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	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	5	5	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	10	10	—	—

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (sections 110 and 111), nil.