[Report 1947] / Medical Officer of Health, Burnham-on-Crouch U.D.C.

Contributors

Burnham-on-Crouch (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1947

Persistent URL

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/ys6jfh9r

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.

Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
https://wellcomecollection.org

LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1947.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Burnham-on-Crouch Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1947, in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health. The Report includes the usual statistical tables, the main features of which are:-

Birth Rate. - Slight decline to 14.84.

Death Rate. - Decline to 12.19.

Infectious Diseases - A substantial decrease on the previous year, namely 40 of which 29 were Whooping Cough.

Diphtheria Immunisation.- Approx. 95 % of the child population have been immunised against diphtheria.

The general health of the District continues to be very satisfactory and calls for no special comment.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

It is with pleasure that I record my thanks to Mr. H. Snelling, Clerk to the Council, and to the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, for their very helpful co-operation throughout the year.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L.H.B. LIGHT,

Medical Officer of Health.

Extracts from vital statistics of the year.

		Total.	Male.	Female.	
Live Births.	Legitimate ...	56	32	24	Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population = 14.84.
	Illegitimate...	0	0	0	
Stillbirths.		1	0	1	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births = 15.11.
Deaths.		44	24	20	Crude Death Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population = 12.19.

Death from puerperal causes:-

From Puerperal Sepsis	0
Other Puerperal Causes...	0
Total.	0

Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age ... 0
Males 0 (illegitimate 0) Females 0 (illegitimate 0)
Total

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age, per 1000 live births. 0

Death from Cancer (all ages)	7
" " Measles (all ages)...	0
" " Whooping Cough	0
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0

The following is a tabular statement of the deaths classified according to ages:-

Age.	Number of Deaths.
Under 1 year	0
1 and under 2	0
2 " " 5	0
5 " " 15	2
15 " " 25	0
25 " " 35	0
35 " " 45	2
45 " " 55	2
55 " " 65	7
65 " " 75	13
75 and over	18
	44

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING 1947.

	Smallpox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
Number of Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified.	0	2	0	0	0

Erysipelas.	Pneumonia.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.
2	1	5	29

Poliomyelitis (Acute)
1

Tuberculosis.- During the year there was one death due to Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1947.

New cases.				Deaths.			
Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.	
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0

TABULAR STATEMENT OF THE CAUSES OF DEATH.

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System.	1	0	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases.	0	1	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease.	1	6	7
Diabetes.	0	1	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	12	4	16
Heart Disease.	4	1	5
Other Circulatory Diseases.	0	1	1
Bronchitis.	1	0	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	0	1	1
Senility.	3	4	7
Other defined Diseases.	2	1	3
	24	20	44

Report of Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1947.

Council Offices,
Burnham-on-Crouch,

To the Chairman and Members
of the Burnham-on-Crouch Urban District Council.

The following matters were dealt with in my capacity as Sanitary Inspector during the Year 1947.

Housing.

Informal notices were issued requesting repairs to 8 dwellings, and they were complied with in respect to 5 of those. The owners of 4 houses in Mill Road were also requested to convert pail closets to W.C.'s arranged to drain into a cesspool but this has not yet been carried out.

Water Supply.

The mains supply was maintained satisfactorily during the year despite major breakdowns to machinery. 9 samples of water produced were examined bacteriologically, 7 of which were of a high standard, whilst 2 were slightly below the normal standard for a public supply. An extension of 334 lineal yards of 2 inch main was laid to Mangapps Chase. The hard winter caused the burst of 3 mains and many house services.

Food Inspection.

The following foodstuff was examined and found to be unfit for human consumption, and was condemned:-

37 lbs. beef - bonetaint
265 lbs. beef (putrefaction)
2 lbs. liver haggis (food poisoning)
15 lbs. sausages. (Trichinosis)
22 lbs. bacon (decomposition)
16 stone of cod (putrefaction)
13 stone of lemon soles "
1 stone plaice "
1 stone whiting "
10 stone kippers "
15 lbs. butter (taint)
28 lbs. Icing sugar (contaminated)
52 lbs. Sugar (contaminated)
13 tins milk; 2 tins Irish stew; 2 tins of plums.
1 jar marmalade; 1 macaroni and cheese; 1 salmon.

3 cases of Trichinosis were notified, the cause of which was suspected to be due to the consumption of sausage meat derived from a pig slaughtered locally under permit.

I obtained samples from one side of a pig which had been placed in brine for bacon, and sent them to the Laboratory for examination, but no evidence of Trichinosis was discovered.

A minor outbreak of food poisoning also occurred on 14th and 15th May, persons affected having consumed portions of liver haggis to which the trouble was traced. 8 cases of poisoning in all were notified. The remains of the haggis was withdrawn from the shops, and the firm who supplied it dealt similarly with all their

customers in other areas. A report from the Public Health Laboratory Service upon a sample submitted to them for examination stated as follows:-

"Cultures showed large numbers of Staph. aureus (coagulase - positive) together with Staph. albus.

Note.

This sample appears to be part of a large consignment of liver sausage, the outer gelatine-fat covering of which is heavily infected with Staph. aureus (coagulase-positive) Serological type III(c), bacteriophage type 6/47. This organism is probably the cause of a wide-spread outbreak of acute gastro-enteritis due to staphylococcal enterotoxin.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

No sewerage extensions were made during the year. The effluent from the Disposal Works was unsatisfactory, but a Report was called for and made by Consultants with a view to the preparation of a Scheme for new purification works.

Rat Destruction.

An operator was engaged to inspect for and destroy rat infestations throughout the District, with satisfactory results.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

E.J. HEAD,

Sanitary Inspector.