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**Contributors**

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4th July, 1949.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Padiham.  
Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my twenty third Annual Report dealing with the health of the inhabitants of Padiham during the year 1948.

Acting on the instructions of the Ministry of Health, this report will be an interim report confined to essential or urgent matters which have affected the Public Health during the year, outbreak of Infectious Diseases, etc.,

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population:- Estimated population in 1948 - 10,040.

No. of Live Births registered:-

	Total	Males	Females.
Legitimate:	160	81	79
Illegitimate:	8	4	4
Total:	168	85	83

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population - 16.7.

No. of Still Births:- 1 (Male) - Total 1. Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 5.

No. of deaths registered:- Males - 93. Females - 68. Total - 161.

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population - 16.0.

No. of deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:- Males (Leg.) 7.  
Females " 4. Total 11.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births - 65.  
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births - 68.  
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births - Nil.  
Deaths from Puerperal Causes - Nil.  
" " Cancer (all ages) - 19.  
" " Measles (all ages) - Nil.  
" " Whooping Cough (all ages) - 4.  
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) - 1.

	Mean of 5 years 1943/47	Year 1947	Year 1948	Increase or decrease on 5 years average.	Increase or decrease on previous year.
Live birth rate.	18.5	23.9	16.7	-1.8	-7.2
Crude death rate.	15.9	14.1	16.0	+0.1	+1.9
Death rate from tuberculosis of respiratory system.	0.40	0.20	0.39	-0.01	+0.19
Death rate from cancer.	1.99	1.73	1.89	-0.10	+0.16
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births.	2.82	Nil	Nil	-2.82	Nil
Per 1,000 total births.	2.78	Nil	Nil	-2.78	Nil
Rate of deaths under one year per 1,000 live births.	58	38	65	+7	+27

Causes of death:-

Whooping Cough	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4
Cancer and Malignant Disease	19
Diabetes	2
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	10



Causes of Death (cont.)

Heart Disease ... ..	68
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ... ..	5
Bronchitis .. ..	10
Pneumonia ... ..	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ... ..	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..	1
Other digestive diseases ... ..	5
Nephritis ... ..	2
Premature birth ... ..	2
Congenital Malformation, birth injuries, etc. ... ..	5
Suicide ... ..	1
All other causes ... ..	20

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Unemployment was more or less a negligent factor during the year.

Most of the Mills are running their own canteens and these should be encouraged and used more than they are by the workers. In addition, as mentioned in previous reports, special catering should be adopted for patients suffering from Diabetes, Duodenal Ulcer, Nephritis etc., and so reduce the absenteeism due to sickness from these diseases.

One Nursery under the control of the County Council is doing valuable work looking after the children (under school age) of women engaged in industrial employment, but several others are needed in the different works and it is to be hoped that these will shortly be forthcoming.

All the schools in the area provide dinners for the scholars and this also is to be highly commended.

The health of the inhabitants has been remarkably good during the year and so far as recreations are concerned full advantage was taken of all the facilities controlled by the Local Authority and the various Sunday Schools, etc.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Water Supply:- The water supply has been good both in quality and quantity. Bacteriologically and Chemically the water has been much better than in previous years.

The following are the results of the Bacteriological and Chemical Examinations carried out on 10th October, 1948.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS:-

Aerobic micro-organisms growing in yeastral agar.	No. of colonies per c.c. of water.
in 3 days at 22 C.	39
in 2 days at 37 C.	1
Probable number of coliform organisms per 100 c.c. of water - Nil.	

CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Colour - Normal.	Chlorides	..9
Oxygen absorbed .0576	Hardness, Temporary	1.4
(4 hours at 27 C)	(Clarke's Permanent	5.0
Free and Saline Ammonia .0100	method.) Total	6.4
Albuminoid Ammonia .0060	Reaction pH	7.5
Nitrous Oxygen Nil.	Action on lead (24 hrs.)	1.9
Nitric Nitrogen Nil.	Metals	Nil.



SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR.

Houses - Public Health Act	272
Houses - Housing Act	55
Complaints	208
Common Lodging Houses	21
Factories	44
Infectious Disease Cases	121
Rats and Mice Acts	31
Shops Acts	9
Revisits to property under notice	100
Bakehouses	15
Fried Fish Shops	3
Butchers Shops	10
Markets	52
Ice Cream Premises	10
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	13
Tinned Foods and other articles of food	43
Houses after disinfection	50
Houses after disinfection	14
Miscellaneous	1,194
Total:	2,262
No. of defects or nuisances discovered	785
No. of defects abated	856
Preliminary letters and notices sent out	408
Statutory notices served	38

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ORDER.

This order received special attention during the year.

31 inspections were made to premises alleged to be infested and each case was dealt with by the Rodent Operator, sausage rusk to which is added Zinc Phosphide was used for bait purpose.

85 dead rats were retrieved.

The treatment of sewers on the lines recommended by the Ministry of Food Infestation Department was continued during the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

All the activities associated with the inspection and supervision of food have been closely watched by the Sanitary Inspector during the year.

BAKEHOUSES.

Number of bakehouses on register December, 1948 - 14.  
15 visits were paid to these during the year. No contraventions were observed.

MEAT REGULATIONS.

One meat transporter was warned of a contravention and due observance was promised.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

13 visits were made to cowsheds. No contraventions were noted. Two supplementary licenses were issued for the sale of "Tuberculin Tested" and "Pasturised" Milk.



FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1935.

i. Cowkeepers in the Urban District retailing milk in the district.	9.
ii. Cowkeepers outside the Urban District retailing milk in the district.	32.
iii. Shopkeepers in the Urban District retailing milk.	48.
iv. Purveyors of Milk.	<u>4.</u>
Total	<u>93.</u>

Three additional premises were registered for the sale only of ice-cream and one for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream whilst 4 additional premises were registered for the manufacture or sale of preserved meat.

All the premises have been maintained in a satisfactory state.

FACTORIES ACT.

44 visits were paid to the Factories in the district and they were found to be in a satisfactory condition generally.

The following is the number of factories on the register:-

Factories with mechanical power	-	84.
" without " "	-	<u>53.</u>
Total.		<u>137.</u>

The number of workplaces on the register at the end of the year was 21.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

In the district these are confined to Tripe Boilers run by three separate firms, and one rag and bone dealer.

These were regularly inspected during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is one common lodging house in the district and 21 visits of inspection were paid to it during the year.

On each visit special attention is given to the general conduct of the inmates.

SMOKE OBSERVATION.

No serious smoke nuisances were observed during the year.

HOUSING.

(1) Number of new houses erected during the year:-	28.
(2) Number of houses erected under the various Acts:-	
(a) Housing Act, 1919	31)
(b) Housing Act, 1923/24	170)
(c) Housing Act, 1930/36	228)
Total:	429.

OVERCROWDING.

(1) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year:	19.
(2) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year:	7.
(3) Number of persons concerned in such cases:	123.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ETC.

1948 was more or less a normal year apart from a mild epidemic of Scarlet Fever, Measles, Chicken Pox and Whooping Cough.

44 cases of Scarlet Fever were reported during the year. The type was generally mild and no deaths were recorded.

21 cases of Measles were reported and the type was generally mild.

26 cases of Whooping Cough were notified and 3 deaths were recorded.

Chicken Pox accounted for 85 cases and these were also mild in type.

No cases of Diphtheria were reported during the year, a very gratifying feature of this report, and thanks must surely be given to the Medical Practitioners for their co-operation and help in the one sure protection, namely immunisation.

Special clinics were held fortnightly at the Town Hall and the number of children who received artificial immunisation at the Clinic during the period 1st January, 1948 - 4th July, 1948 was as follows:

(1) Pre-school children	87.
(2) School children	15.

It will be interesting to note the future progress of the immunisation now that all practitioners are responsible for the project.

The following cases of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) were notified during the year:-

Scarlet Fever	44.
Measles	21.
Whooping Cough	26.
Pneumonia (primary & influenzal)	4.
Dysentery	2.
Erysipelas	1.
Chicken Pox	85.

TUBERCULOSIS.

10 cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year, 9 Pulmonary and 1 Non-Pulmonary.

In conclusion I would like to render thanks to the Sanitary Inspector for his loyal co-operation and services rendered during the year.

I am,

Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant

J.W.J. FORSYTHE.

Medical Officer of Health.



1940 was a year in which a number of epidemics of bacterial fever, chicken pox and whooping cough, and other diseases were reported during the year. The number of cases of bacterial fever was reported to be 1,000, and the number of cases of chicken pox was reported to be 1,000.

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(1) Bacterial fever  
(2) Chicken pox

It will be interesting to note the future progress of the epidemic, and the number of cases reported during the year.

The following table shows the number of cases reported during the year.

Bacterial fever	1,000
Chicken pox	1,000
Whooping cough	1,000
Other diseases	1,000
Total	4,000

The number of cases of bacterial fever was reported to be 1,000, and the number of cases of chicken pox was reported to be 1,000. The number of cases of whooping cough was reported to be 1,000, and the number of cases of other diseases was reported to be 1,000.

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Your obedient servant,  
J. J. J. J.

JOHN J. J. J.  
Commissioner of Health