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PADIHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Town Hall,  
PADIHAM.

18th June, 1954.

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

I have the honour to present my twenty eighth Annual Report dealing with the health of the inhabitants of Padiham during 1953.

Acting on the instructions of the Ministry of Health this will be an interim report, confined to essential or urgent matters which have affected the Public Health during the year, such as, overcrowding, sanitation, distribution of clean food and outbreaks of infectious diseases etc.

Reference will also be made as to the methods adopted for following up cases of Tuberculosis.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population:- Estimated population in 1953 - 10,040.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
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Number of live births registered:-

Legitimate	158	75	83
Illegitimate	5	4	1
	<u>163</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>84</u>

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	Crude	16.2
	Adjusted	16.9

Number of stillbirths (legitimate)	4	2	2
(illegitimate)	-	-	-
	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 24.0

Number of deaths registered:- 62 Males. 67 Females. Total 129

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	Crude	12.8
	Adjusted	11.4

Pro-Natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	6
Respiratory T.B. Rate	Nil
Death rate from Malignant neoplasms	2.79
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total births	5.79

Infant Deaths:-

Deaths under 1 year of age:- Males 1 - Females 3 Total 4

Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births 18



Causes of death:-

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Nil
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Nil
Malignant disease of stomach	3
Malignant disease of lungs	4
Malignant disease of breast	5
Malignant disease of uterus	2
Other malignant diseases	14
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	18
Coronary diseases, Angina etc.	15
Other heart diseases	25
Other circulatory diseases	7
Bronchitis	14
Nephritis	1
Prostatic disease	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion etc.	1
Congenital malformations, etc.	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11
Motor vehicle accident	1
All other accidents	2
Suicide	2

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The unemployment which occurred during 1952 and which was more or less confined to Cotton Operatives eased off a lot during 1953.

Most of the mills in Padiham are running their own Canteens and these should be encouraged and used more than they are, by the workers.

A lot of absenteeism could be wiped out if special catering could be adopted for people suffering from Diabetes, Duodenal Ulcer and Nephritis.

The County Council has control of three Nurseries in the area, where children under school age of woman engaged in industry are looked after.

In times of epidemics, stricter supervision of the children attending these nurseries is essential; and the provision of an observation room in each nursery would help to reduce the risk of spreading infection.

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

In connection with the welfare of the old people, a voluntary association has been set up and is doing valuable work, such as letter writing, doing shopping where necessary, giving advice, and arranging for domestic helps in cases of sickness.

On the whole the health of the inhabitants has been 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..



SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.WATER SUPPLY:-

The water supply has been good both in quantity and quality. Chemically and bacteriologically the water has been excellent.

The following is a result of a bacteriological examination carried out on one of the many occasions in 1953:-

Bacteriological examinations-No. 4. Results-B.coli per 100 c.c.  
0 in 3 samples. 1 in 1 sample.

For Chemical examination see back page.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR.

Houses-Public Health Act.....	154
Houses - Housing Act.....	29
Complaints investigated.....	391
Common Lodging Houses.....	10
Infectious Disease Cases.....	31
Rodent Control.....	154
Revisits to property under notice.....	168
Factories.....	73
Workshops.....	23
Shops Acts.....	566
Smoke observations.....	25
Bakehouses.....	27
Fish and Chip Shops.....	15
Butchers Shops.....	33
Ice Cream premises.....	54
Markets.....	54
Milk sampling.....	20
Ice cream sampling.....	23
Tinned and other foods.....	18
Houses disinfected.....	18
Houses disinfested.....	4
Domestic refuse collection.....	62
Trade refuse collection.....	49
Refuse Disposal (Tips).....	211
Salvage.....	210
Miscellaneous.....	426

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2,848

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DERATISATION AND DISINFESTATION.(a) RODENT CONTROL:-

154 properties were inspected for alleged rodent infestation and 64 properties were treated by the Rodent Operator. Sausage rusk bait and Zinc Phosphido poison were used and also when necessary bread mash bait and Arsenic oxide poison.

(b) DISINFESTATION:-

4 premises were dealt with for vermin. 1 for bugs. 2 for cockroaches and 1 for fleas.

The Refuse Tip at Lumb Wood was periodically dusted with D.D.T. powder to ensure cockroach and cricket control..

THE HISTORY OF THE

1771

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COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is one common lodging house in the area and this has been inspected on 10 occasions during the year. It is as satisfactory as one can expect of such a building.

SMOKE OBSERVATION.

No serious smoke nuisances were observed during the year.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

(a)	By the Local Authority	40
(b)	By other bodies or persons	3

Number of houses erected under the various acts:-

1.	Housing Act, 1919	31
2.	Housing Act, 1923/24	170
3.	Housing Act, 1936/36	228
4.	Housing Act, 1936/40	21
5.	Housing Act, 1946/51	166
Total		<u>616</u>

OVERCROWDING.

No overcrowding as set down in the Housing Act, was observed during the year, although 11 cases of complaints by tenants were submitted to the Committee.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Preliminary surveys show that 63 houses are at present suitable for consideration as individually unfit houses, and that 246 will fall under the same category after 10 years.

To give some indication of the extent of the shortage of houses it is only necessary to state that there are over 130 families in lodgings, 59 without children and the rest with 1, 2 or 3 or 4 children.

There are over 100 aged persons seeking one bedroom bungalows.

Housing schemes are in progress to try and alleviate these conditions.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

1953 was more or less a normal year, and nothing alarming was noted apart from an increase in the number of cases of Measles or Chicken Pox.

Diphtheria was again conspicuous by its absence.



6.

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

Scarlet Fever	18
Measles	192
Whooping Cough	67
Chicken Pox	189
Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Dysentery	1
Total	<u>475</u>

TUBERCULOSIS.

14 cases of Tuberculosis, 8 Pulmonary and 6 Non Pulmonary were notified during the year.

It is to be noted that there is a marked increase in the number of cases notified and this needs a lot of explaining away when one reckons the marked improvements in Sanitation, Housing, Supervision of Food and Provision of Clean Milk which has taken place in the area in the last four years.

All new cases are thoroughly investigated and followed up and immediate contacts have been X-rayed and examined by the Chest Physicians.

The Mass Radiographic Unit is coming to Padiham early on in 1954, and I hope the inhabitants of Padiham will take advantage of its short stay and present themselves for X-ray. It is only by such means that early cases can be detected and thus prevent the spread of this scourge.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Clerk of the Council and the Sanitary Inspector for their loyal co-operation during the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J.W.J. FORSYTHE,

Medical Officer of Health.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION:-

Colour	None	Hardness: Temporary	8
Appearance	Clear & Bright	Permanent	21
Taste	None	Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours	0.1
Odour	None	Alkalinity as $\text{CaCO}_3$	8
Free Carbon Dioxide	0.05	Total Solids	85
Nitrogen: Free & Saline	0.04		
	Albuminoid		
		0.05	
	Nitrous	0.001	
	Nitric	0.8	