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1939



REPORT

ON THE

PUBLIC HEALTH

OF THE

Urban District of Paignton

1939

AXWORTHYS TORBAY PRINTING WORKS, PALACE AVENUE
PAIGNTON



PAIGNTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1939

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

Medical Officer of Health

Medical Superintendent of Isolation Hospital

*† R. JULYAN GEORGE, M.D., M.S., D.P.H.

(Retired 30th November, 1939).

†† A. DICK, M.D., Ch. B., D.P.H.

From 1st December, 1939).

AND

Chief Sanitary Inspector

†† FREDK J. THICK F.S.I.A.

*Part-time.

†Whole-time.

†Salary contributed by Exchequer Grants.



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Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report for 1939

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PAIGNTON URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS,—

I have the honour to submit my Report for 1939. In accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health, the Report for this year is confined chiefly to statistical records.

A. DICK,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

1—

Area (acres)	5,177
Population—Census 1939 (Sept.)	22,510
Registrar-General's estimated resident population 1938...	21,910
Registrar-General's estimated resident population 1939...	23,130
Number of inhabited houses 1938, 7,246 ; 1939 ...	8,250
Rateable Value, 31st March, 1940	£245,025
Estimated sum represented by Penny Rate—1939/40 ...	£963 5s. 7d

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	Total.	M.	F.
Live Births	240	117	123
Legitimate	233	112	121
Illegitimate	7	5	2
Still Births	4	1	3
Legitimate	4	1	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population			10.39
			(E. & W. 15.0)
Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still births) ...			10.56
			(E. & W. 15.59)
	Total.	M.	F.
Deaths	350	153	197
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population			15.14
			(E. & W. 12.1)
Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth—			
From Sepsis			Nil
From other causes			1

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age—	
All Infants per 1,000 live births	20.83
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	21.46
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	0
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	0

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1939

	M.	F.
All causes	153	197
Typhoid and paratyphoid fever	0	1
Measles	0	0
Scarlet fever	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0
Diphtheria	0	1
Influenza	5	3
Encephalitis lethargica	0	0
Cerebro-spinal fever	0	1
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	9	4
Other tuberculosis	0	2
Syphilis	1	0
G.P.I., tables, etc.	0	0
Cancer	20	26
Diabetes	0	3
Cerebral hæmorrhage	8	21
Heart disease	44	59
Aneurysm	1	0
Other circulatory diseases	12	11
Bronchitis	5	9
Pneumonia (all forms)	6	6
Other respiratory diseases	0	2
Peptic ulcer	1	0
Diarrhœa under 2 years	0	0
Appendicitis	1	3
Cirrhosis of liver	2	0
Other liver diseases	0	1
Other digestive diseases	3	2
Acute and chronic nephritis	5	5
Puerperal sepsis	0	0
Other puerperal diseases	0	1
Congenital debility, premature birth, etc.	2	3
Senility	6	14
Suicide	1	0
Other violence	2	2

Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	18	16
Ill-defined or not known	...	...	...	...	...	0	1
Diarrhoea, 2 years and over	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age : Total	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS—NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1939.

Age Periods.			New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—5	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
6—10	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11—15	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20	...	...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—25	...	...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
26—35	...	...	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
36—45	...	...	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
46—55	...	...	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
56—65	...	...	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
66 upwards	...	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	...	...	15	11	—	2	4	—	—	—

DISEASES other than Tuberculosis NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

Disease.			Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Paignton Hospital.	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	...	10	8	—
Pneumonia	...	...	23	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	0	—	—
Erysipelas	...	...	4	1	—
Diphtheria	...	...	5	6	1
Dysentery	...	...	—	—	—

THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL

Total number of cases, 25 :—Males 7, Females 18.

DISEASE.	PAIGNTON.	BRIXHAM.	DARTMOUTH.	KINGSBRIDGE R.D.C.	6.
Scarlet Fever	1	—	1	6.
Diphtheria	2	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—
Others	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	...	4	—	1	—

DEATHS :—Diphtheria, 1 (Paignton).

I. FREEMAN, Matron.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

THE Maternity and Child Welfare Centre continues to be held at the Congregational Schoolrooms, Dartmouth Road, on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, Thursday afternoon being for Ante-Natal work.

The attendances for the year were as follows :—

Mothers	4332
Babies and Toddlers	5499

Five hundred and thirty-one babies and toddlers' names are on the Register. One hundred and twelve expectant mothers paid 323 visits to the Clinic.

The Voluntary Members of the Welfare Sub-Committee at the Centre again continued their excellent work throughout the year.

VACCINATION OFFICER'S REPORT

Births registered	253
Vaccinated	57
Exempted	146
Insusceptible	—
Postponed	1
Left District	8
Died unvaccinated	4
Not yet dealt with	37

F. REVELL, Vaccination Officer.

WATER SUPPLY

Several samples were taken during the year, the chemical and bacteriological results of all proving satisfactory.

Chief Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report for 1939.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PAIGNTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—

I submit herewith my Annual Report for the year ending 31st of December, 1939 :—

Owing to the abnormal conditions existing, this Report has been considerably curtailed, and is chiefly a statistical record of work carried out.

DRAINAGE

Old Houses.—The drainage of 87 houses was tested. Eighty-three were found defective, of which 18 were re-laid and 63 repaired.

The septic tanks or cesspools from 4 houses were abolished and the drainage connected to the main sewer.

New Houses.—The drainage systems and sanitary fittings of 236 houses erected during the year were inspected and tested.

Six hundred and eighteen visits were paid in connection therewith, and 402 tests applied.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION

Infectious Diseases.—Twenty-two notifiable cases were investigated during the year and enquiries made as to possible source of infection.

Nineteen cases were removed to the Council's Isolation Hospital from Paignton and 6 from other Districts.

Disinfections.—Ninety-two houses were disinfected for the following reasons :—

Notifiable diseases	...	...	...	...	...	19
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	14
Other infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	12
Verminous conditions	...	...	...	...	...	21
Other cases	...	...	...	...	...	26

Details of articles passed through the Steam Disinfector :—

	MATTRESSES.	PILLOWS.	BLANKETS.	OTHER ARTICLES.
From Paignton ...	109	178	254	72
From Districts outside Paignton	7	25	20	3

INSPECTION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

Slaughterhouses.—There are two Slaughterhouses in the District—one Private (Registered), situated at Crown and Anchor Arch, and one Public, at Luscombe Road.

Meat Inspection.—The number of carcasses inspected at both Slaughterhouses was as follows :—

	CATTLE	COWS	PIGS	CALVES	SHEEP & LAMBS
Registered Slaughterhouse ...	764	24	573	468	3214
Public Slaughterhouse ...	372	124	1091	87	1691
TOTAL ...	1136	148	1664	555	4905

Carcasses imported into the District have all been inspected at Butchers' shops.

UN SOUND FOOD

Statement of meat and other foods condemned and destroyed as unfit for human consumption.

Carcasses Inspected and Destroyed :—

	CATTLE (excl'dg. Cows)	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS
Number killed ...	1136	148	555	4905	1664
Number inspected ...	1136	148	555	4905	1664
All diseases except Tuberculosis :—					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	0	0	3	0

Carcases Inspected and Destroyed—continued.

	CATTLE (excl'dg. Cows)	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	25	6	0	18	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	2.29	4.05	0	0.43	0.36
Tuberculosis only :—					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	3	0	0	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	25	1	1	0	69
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	2.38	2.70	0.18	0	4.15

	TUBERCULOSIS.	OTHER DISEASES AND CONDITIONS.	TOTAL.
Beef	3,264 lbs.	500 lbs.	3,764lbs.
Pork	746	0	746
Mutton... ..	0	195	195
Veal	0	40	40
Offals	1,130	436½	1,566½
TOTALS	5,140 lbs.	1,221½ lbs.	6,311½lbs.

OTHER UNSOUND FOOD DESTROYED

3½ Stones Herring (49lbs.)

13lbs. Pressed Pork.

6lbs. Pressed Tongue.

9 boxes W. Australian Apples (252lbs.)

Box of Haddocks (37lbs.)

1 Case of Oranges (31lbs.)

Total 388lbs.

The total amount of foods condemned and destroyed as unfit for human consumption was :—

2 tons 19 cwts. 3 qrs. 7½ lbs.

BAKEHOUSES

There are 10 Bakehouses on the Register. All have been periodically inspected and found in a clean condition.

MILK SUPPLY

Number of Cowkeepers or Dairymen on Register at end of year	...	...	...	...	...	...	76
Number registered as Producer-Retailer	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Number registered as Producer-Wholesaler	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Number registered as Producer-Retailer Wholesaler	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number registered as Retailers only	...	...	...	...	...	...	59

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

One hundred and eighteen samples of milk (106 for cleanliness and 12 for Tuberculosis) were taken for Bacteriological Examination and were examined by the County Bacteriologist. The results for cleanliness are as follows:—

Passed ... 71. Failed ... 35

From Local Producers		From Local Retailers obtaining Milk from Local Producers		From Local Retailers obtaining Milk from Outside Producers		From Retailers outside the District	
Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
50	26	3	0	14	8	4	1

All the samples taken for Tuberculosis were negative.

Additional Milk Sampling Scheme.—Seven hundred and thirty-seven samples were taken under this Scheme in conjunction with the Local Dairymen's Association; with the following results:—

Passed ... 543 Failed ... 194

FACTORIES ACT

Number inspected 62

Notices served for :—

Sanitary accommodation 2

Absence of heating 1

Insufficient ventilation 3

Dirty walls 2

Washing accommodation 1

All the Notices were complied with.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Five thousand four hundred and five loads (approximating 7210.02 tons) of refuse were collected.

Refuse Disposal.—During the year 5,056 loads were obtained from Brown's Field and 2,773 loads from other outside sources.

Disposal is by means of controlled tipping in Goodrington Valley. The covering material is obtained from Brown's Field.

Cost in connection with Collection and Disposal :—

							£	s.	d.
Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	4022	19	11
Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	2850	18	1
								s.	d.
Collection—cost per ton	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	2	
Disposal—cost per ton	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	10	

Waste Paper.—Ten tons, 5 cwts. 1 qr. 14 lbs. of waste paper was collected.

HOUSING

One hundred and forty-six houses were inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts, and 110 of these were found not to be in a reasonable state of repair.

Thirty-five of the 146 inspected were recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations.

Overcrowding.—No cases of overcrowding were found to exist.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

		INFESTED.	DISINFESTED.
(1)	(a) Council houses ...	6	6
	(b) Other houses ...	5	5

(2) The methods employed are (a) by spraying with insecticide (Zaldecide) in mild cases, and (b) "Cimex" blocks in severe cases.

In all cases the wood work (skirtings, picture rails, and architraves) have been removed, also floor-boards eased in order to allow complete penetration.

Success has been obtained with these methods. Where considered necessary, bedding is also removed for steam disinfection.

(3) The methods previously mentioned are also employed, if necessary, to ensure that the belongings of the tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses.

(4) Disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority.

(5) Frequent visits are paid, and advice given.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT

The administration of this Act has been delegated to the Local Authority by the County Council.

As in previous years, the Council employ a man practically all the year dealing with this pest, and satisfactory results have been obtained.

SHOPS ACT, 1934

The Council are now responsible for carrying out all the provisions of Section 10 in this Act, powers having been delegated from the County Council.

Ninety-two shops have been inspected and Notices served in respect of:—

Washing accommodation...	...	...	...	5
Heating ... ..	...	...	...	1

All have been complied with.

FREDK. J. THICK, F.S.I.A., etc.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Meat and Food Inspector.

SUMMARY

House roofs repaired and made water-tight	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Damp walls remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
External walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Internal plastering repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ceilings and walls cleansed...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Floors repaired and made good	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Scullery floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Doors, window frames and sills renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sashcords provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drinking water cisterns cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Drinking water cisterns provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Kitchen ranges repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Additional ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Larders provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Yards repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
R.W.P.'s repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
New shuting provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
New waste pipes to sinks, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
New W.C.'s built	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
New W.C. pans fitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Flushing cisterns repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
New urinals provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
New lavatory basins	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
New bath provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Inspection chambers constructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Interceptors fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
New soil pipes fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
New vent shafts	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
F.A.I.'s provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Septic tanks or cesspools abolished and drainage connected to main sewer	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Drains of new houses or buildings passed	...	...	...	...	...	...	236
New manhole covers provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Drains to old houses re-laid	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Drains to old houses repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
Drain tests applied to old houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	204
Drain tests applied to new houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	402
Drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
New dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	37

1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	146
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	341

(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	35
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	83
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation)	110

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without the service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or of their Officers	106
--	-----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a)—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2)—Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices :—	
(a) By Owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	0

(b)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notice :—	
(a) By Owners	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	0

(c)—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2)—Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0

(d)—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)—Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing Orders were made	0
(2)—Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

4.—Housing Act, 1936, Part 4, Overcrowding.

(a)	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	0
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	0
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	0
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	...	0
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	...	0
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	...	0
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	0
(e)		Any other particulars with respect of overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	...	...	...	...	...	None

