

[Report 1940] / Medical Officer of Health, Padiham U.D.C.

Contributors

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PADIHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Town Hall,
PADIHAM.

28th July, 1941.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my fifteenth Annual Report, dealing with the year 1940.

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

STATISTICS.

Population:-	Estimated population in 1940 -	9,804
No. of Births registered:-	Males 58 (Leg.56, Illeg. 2) Females 58 (Leg.55, Illeg.3)	Total 116
No. of Still Births:-	Males - 3, Females - 1.	Total 4
Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated population -		10.6
No. of Deaths registered:-	Males 61, Females 86,	Total 147
Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated population -		14.1
Infantile Death Rate per 1000 live births -		45.1
No. of Deaths under one year of age -	Males 3, Females 2, Total	5

CAUSES OF DEATH:- Whooping Cough - 1, Tuberculosis of Respiratory System - 3, Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis - 1, Syphilitic Diseases - 1, Influenza - 4, Measles - 1, Cancer and Malignant Disease - 14, Diabetes - 3, Intra-Cranial and Vascular Lesions - 16, Heart Disease - 42, Other diseases of the Circulatory System - 8, Bronchitis - 13, Pneumonia - 3, Other Respiratory Diseases - 1, Digestive Diseases - 6, Nephritis - 4, Violent Causes - 5, All other causes - 21.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Unemployment showed a substantial decrease on the previous year, due of course to the transfer of men and women to occupations solely concerned with war activities.

The health of the inhabitants has been fairly good 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 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The Water Supply has been good both in quality and quantity. Bacteriologically the water has been up to the standard that we were accustomed to long years ago and we are certainly reaping the benefits brought about by the installation of the Chlorination Plant.

There is still some Plumbo-Solvency but this, I feel sure, will be tackled when hostilities cease.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR.

No. of premises visited - 3,431.
Defects or nuisances:- No. discovered - 1,034, No. abated - 985.
No. of notices served:- Informal - 329, Statutory - 28.

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.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

1940 was ushered in by an epidemic of Measles and this was particularly rife in the first quarter of the year. 387 cases were notified but the type was generally of the mild type and only one death occurred.

There was also an epidemic of Whooping Cough, 112 cases being notified. The type was mild and only one death resulted.

5 cases of Diphtheria cropped up during the year. No immunisation scheme was adopted during 1940 but it is hoped to inaugurate one early in 1941.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Twelve cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year, 4 pulmonary and 8 non-pulmonary.

In connection with my duties as Medical Officer in charge of the First Aid Post and First Aid Party Depot I would once again like to voice my appreciation of the valuable help which I have obtained from the officers and members of the Padiham St. John Ambulance and Nursing Brigade in the training of the First Aid Personnel. I would also like to thank all those members of the First Aid Post and First Aid Party Depot who are not members of the Ambulance Association for their prompt and punctual attendances.

The work done in the Sanitary Department has been well up to the usual average and has been conscientiously carried out.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. J. FORSYTHE.

Medical Officer of Health.