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Contributors

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PADIHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Town Hall,
PADIHAM.

21st July, 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban
District Council of Padiham.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my nineteenth Annual Report dealing with the health of the inhabitants of Padiham during the year 1944.

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.

STATISTICS.

Population:- Estimated Population in 1944 - 8,903
No. of Live Births registered:-
Males - 65 (Leg. 64, Illeg. 1)
Females - 80 (Leg. 75, Illeg. 5)
Total - 145.
No. of Still Births:- Males - 0, Females - 1, Total - 1.
No. of Deaths of Infants under one year of age:-
Males - 7 (Leg. 7, Illeg. 0)
Females - 5 (Leg. 4, Illeg. 1)
Total - 12.
No. of Deaths registered:- Males - 78, Females - 68,
Total - 146.
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 live births:- 82.7
Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated population:- 16.11
Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated population:- 16.22

Causes of Death:-

Whooping Cough	1
Diphtheria	3
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	5
Syphilitic Diseases	1
Influenza	3
Measles	1
Cancer and Malignant Disease . . .	21
Diabetes	1
Intracranial Vascular Lesion . . .	13
Heart Disease	46
Other Diseases of Circulatory System .	4
Bronchitis	11
Pneumonia	5
Other Respiratory Diseases	1
Other Digestive Diseases	3

Nephritis	2
Other Maternal Causes	1
Congenital Malformations and Birth Injuries .	3
Premature Births	1
Suicide	1
Other violent causes	6
All other causes	12

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

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

A large number of the Firms and Mills doing essential work are running their own canteens and these should be encouraged and used more than they are by the Workers.

In addition special catering should be adopted for patients suffering from Duodenal Ulcer and Diabetes and so reduce the absenteeism due to sickness from these complaints.

All the Schools in the Area now 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 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water supply:- The water supply has been good both in quality and quantity. Bacteriologically the water has not been up to the standard one expects from Chlorination and steps were taken to minimise pollution by Fishing and Animals.

The following are the results of the Bacteriological and Chemical Examination carried out in August 1944.

Aerobic micro-organisms growing in	No. of colonies
yeastral agar	per c.c. of water.
in 3 days at 22° C.	550
in 2 days at 37° C.	44
Probable number of coliform organisms	
per 100 c.c. of water	- 35.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR.

No. of premises visited	3,489
No. of defects or nuisances discovered ...	1,189
Visits to Factories	12
Visits to Slaughterhouses	13
Visits to Cowsheds and Dairies	14
Visits to Infectious Diseases	251
No. of rooms disinfected after Infectious Diseases and Tuberculosis ..	76
No. of articles disinfected by steam ...	48
Letters of special requirements	419
Preliminary letters and notices sent out ..	370
Statutory Notices served	32
Whitewash brushes lent out	167

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ORDER, 1919.

This order received special attention during the year.

The premises suspected of being infested with Rats were visited by a workman with a dog and two ferrets. Rat Biscuits were used in places inaccessible to the dog and ferrets.

No. of Rats caught during the year - 390

DISINFESTATION.

the year. 14 houses were found to be infested with bugs during
obtained. 27 rooms were fumigated or sprayed and good results

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 DISEASES, ETC.

1944 was more or less a normal year apart from an outbreak of Chicken Pox and an unexpected increase in the number of Diphtheria cases notified, on previous years.

10 Cases of Diphtheria were reported. The type was severe and 3 deaths were recorded.

In spite of all the publicity concerning the dangers of Diphtheria and the almost 100% protection afforded by immunisation it is hard to believe that some Parents still refuse to take advantage of the Clinics even in cases where they have lost a child from the disease.

During 1944 70 children were immunised at the Clinic - 46 children under 5 and 24 children between 5 - 15 years of age.

43 Cases of Scarlet Fever were reported, the type was mild, no deaths being reported.

155 Cases of Chicken Pox were reported during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

13 Cases of Tuberculosis were reported, 7 Pulmonary and 6 Non-Pulmonary.

Once again I would like to voice my thanks to the Sanitary Inspector for his loyal co-operation and services rendered during the year.

I would also like to voice my appreciation of the Services rendered by the Officers and Members of the First Aid Post and the Rescue and Ambulance Services during the year.

The attendances at practice have been particularly good and the members have been exceptionally keen in carrying out their duties.

I feel sure that had any occasion arisen to demand their service the confidence I had in their abilities would not have been misplaced.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. J. FORSYTHE.

Medical Officer of Health.