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**Contributors**

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PADIHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Town Hall,  
PADIHAM.

15th July, 1947.

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

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my twenty-first Annual Report dealing with the health of the inhabitants of Padiham during the year 1946.

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 1946 - 9,650  
No. of Live Births registered :- Males - 100 (Leg. 97, Illeg. 3)  
Females - 95 (Leg. 90, Illeg. 5)  
Total - 195  
No. of Still Births :- Males - 3, Females - 2 Total - 5  
No. of Deaths registered :- Males - 92, Females - 64.  
Total - 156  
No. of deaths of Infants under one year of age :-  
Males - 8 (Leg. 8, Illeg. 0)  
Females - 5 (Leg. 5, Illeg. 0)  
Total - 13  
Birth Rate for 1000 estimated population :- 20.2  
Death Rate for 1000 estimated population :- 16.1  
Death Rate of infants under one year of age :-  
All infants per 1000 live births - 66  
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births - 69  
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births - Nil  
Deaths from Puerperal Causes - Nil  
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) - 18  
Deaths from Measles - Nil  
Deaths from Whooping Cough - Nil  
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) - Nil

	Mean of 5 years 1941-1945	Year 1945	Year 1946	Increase or decrease on 5 years average.	Increase or decrease on previous year.
Live birth-rate.	14.7	17.8	20.2	+ 5.5	+ 2.4
Crude death-rate.	16.2	17.5	16.1	- 0.1	- 1.4
Death-rate from tuberculosis of respiratory system.	0.48	0.34	0.51	+ 0.03	+ 0.17
Death-rate from cancer.	2.13	2.26	1.86	- 0.27	-0.40
Maternal mortality rate per 1000 live births.	4.35	Nil	Nil	- 4.35	Nil
per 1000 total births	4.26	Nil	Nil	- 4.26	Nil
Rate of deaths under one year per 1000 live births.	66	50	66	Nil	+ 16



Causes of death :-

Diphtheria . . . . .	2
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System . . .	5
Syphilitic Diseases . . . . .	2
Influenza . . . . .	3
Cancer and Malignant Diseases . . . . .	18
Diabetes . . . . .	1
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions . . . . .	17
Heart Disease . . . . .	50
Other Diseases of Circulatory System . . .	8
Bronchitis . . . . .	13
Pneumonia . . . . .	8
Other Respiratory Diseases . . . . .	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum . . . . .	3
Appendicitis . . . . .	1
Other Digestive Diseases . . . . .	2
Nephritis . . . . .	1
Premature Birth . . . . .	4
Congenital Malformation, birth injuries, etc.	3
Suicide . . . . .	2
Road Traffic Accident . . . . .	1
Other Violent Causes . . . . .	2
All other causes . . . . .	9

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Unemployment was more or less a negligent factor.

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 special catering should be adopted for patients suffering from Duodenal Ulcer, Diabetes, Nephritis, etc. 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 been much better than previous years.

The following are the results of the Bacteriological and Chemical Examinations carried out on 18th November, 1946.

BACTERIOLOGICAL.

Acrobic micro-organisms growing in	No. of colonies per
yeastral agar	c.c. of water.
in 3 days at 22°C.	7
in 2 days at 37°C.	1
Probable number of coliform organisms per 100 c.c. of water -	0

CHEMICAL.

Oxygen absorbed . . . . .	0.025	Hardness, Temporary	Nil
Free and Saline Ammonia . . . . .	0.0112	Permanent	5.0
Albuminoid Ammonia . . . . .	0.0054	Total . . . . .	5.0
Nitrous Oxygen . . . . .	Nil	Reaction, pH . . . . .	7.5
Nitric Nitrogen . . . . .	0.04	Action on Lead . . . . .	0.12
Chlorides . . . . .	1.3		



### SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR.

No. of premises visited ... ..	2,794
No. of defects or nuisances discovered ... ..	927
Visits to factories ... ..	8
Visits to cowsheds and dairies ... ..	13
Visits to Infectious Disease Cases ... ..	200
Visits to Common Lodging Houses ... ..	22
No. of rooms disinfected after Infectious Diseases ... ..	17
No. of rooms disinfected after Tuberculosis ... ..	16
No. of articles disinfected by steam ... ..	3
Preliminary letters and notices sent out ... ..	286
Statutory notices served ... ..	35
Whitewash brushes lent out ... ..	205

### RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ORDER.

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.

145 rats were caught during the year.

The treatment of sewers on the lines recommended by the Ministry of Food Infestation Department was continued during the year, the Ministry allowing a grant towards the cost of treatment. The work proceeded satisfactorily and with 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.

#### Bakehouses.

No. of Bakehouses on register December, 1946 : - 14  
Ten visits were paid to these during the year.  
Two contraventions were observed and attended to.

### MEAT REGULATIONS.

No contraventions were noted during the year.

### DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

13 Visits were paid to the Dairies and Cowsheds during the year.  
No contraventions were noted.

### FOODS AND DRUGS ACT, 1935.

The registrations up to the 31st December, 1946, are as follows :-

1). Cowkeepers in the Urban District retailing milk in the district	- 9
2). Cowkeepers outside the Urban District retailing milk in the district	- 32
3). Shopkeepers in the district retailing milk	- 48
4). Purveyors of milk	- 4
Total	- 93



### FACTORIES ACT.

8 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 at the end of the year: -

Factories with mechanical power	-	78
Factories without mechanical power	-	56
Total		<u>134</u>

The number of workplaces on the register at the end of the year was 22 .

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES, ETC.

1946 was more or less a normal year apart from a mild epidemic of Measles and Whooping Cough.

77 Cases of Measles were notified, the type in the main was mild and no deaths occurred.

39 Cases of Whooping Cough were reported. Here also the type was mild and no deaths occurred.

3 Cases of Diphtheria were reported during the year. In two of these the victims had not been immunised.

It is to be deplored that there are still a lot of parents in the district who refuse to take advantage of the almost 100% protection afforded to their children by immunisation against Diphtheria.

During the year 83 pre-school children and 61 school children were immunised by me. Of course a good many children were immunised by their own Medical Practitioners, but no actual figures are available.

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

Scarlet Fever	...	9
Diphtheria	...	3
Measles	...	77
Whooping Cough	...	39
Acute Pneumonia (Primary & Influenzal)	12	
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	1
Erysipelas	...	5
Chicken Pox	...	53

A very adequate supply of Diphtheria Anti-Toxin is available in the district for all Medical Practitioners, free of cost.

### TUBERCULOSIS

12 Cases of Tuberculosis were reported during the year, 10 Pulmonary and 2 Non-Pulmonary.

It is to be regretted that this dread disease is increasing in the district and probably it is an after-math of the last war with the rationing of foods especially fat-containing foods and the black-outs every evening, but with better times ahead and more abundant nourishing foods we can surely look for a reduction in these cases in the near future.

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

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. J. FORSYTHE.

Medical Officer of Health.

