

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Ealing].

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Borough of Ealing.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

School Medical Officer

1940

THOMAS ORR, M.D., D.Sc.,

Of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-Law,
Medical Officer of Health,
School Medical Officer and
Medical Superintendent of the
Isolation and Maternity Hospitals.

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HEALTH SERVICES.

This Annual Report has of necessity to be merely a summary of the main features of the vital statistics and of the health Services of the Borough for 1940. Most notable has been the resumption during the year of the whole of the Maternity and Child Welfare and of the School Medical Services.

The general death rate is higher than in the previous nine years, due mainly to the effects of enemy air raids. As a set-off, so to speak, against this high rate, the infant mortality has been remarkably low, 43 per thousand births, in fact, the lowest in the history of the Borough, while the birth-rate has remained steady, 14.7 compared with 14.8 for 1939 and 14.9 for 1938.

Maternal Mortality, though not the lowest recorded is the next lowest, 1.74 compared with the lowest 0.93 in 1936.

Only 33 cases of diphtheria and 116 cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year, easily the lowest number of each of these diseases for ten years.

There has been no evidence during the year of any adverse effects, either on the physical or mental state of the children, of war conditions. The nutritional state of the children, as ascertained on routine school medical inspection, has been found to be not different from pre-war years. Uncleanliness, or verminous condition, has not increased, in fact, the percentage of unclean children, 3.0, is the same as the average for the previous 4 years. This means that 97 per cent. of the children in the Ealing Schools can be said to be free from vermin, a most satisfactory result of medical supervision.

Scabies, which began to be more prevalent in 1937, has been encouraged in its spread by the family conditions associated with the war and has shown an increased prevalence amongst school children and the community in general. In fact, its control is one of the present day public health problems.

The work of the whole of the public health staff, varied as it has been by the imposition of new and onerous duties associated with the war, has been uniformly carried out with such devotion as to deserve sincere and grateful acknowledgement.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in Acres)	...	...	...	...	...	8,739
Population (Census, 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	117,707
Population (Estimated Middle of 1940)	...	...	...	...	...	156,490
Number of Structurally Separate Dwellings (Census, 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	26,717
Number of Families or separate Occupiers (Census, 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	31,412
Number of Houses according to Rate Books (1st April, 1940)	...	...	...	...	...	48,120
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1940	...	...	...	...	...	£1,859,854
Net Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£7,088

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births (for calculating Birth-Rates) :—

Legitimate Males, 1,173 Females, 1,040 Total, 2,213

Illegitimate Males, 48 Females, 32 Total, 80—2,293

Birth-Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population ... 14.7

Live Births (for calculating Infant Mortality Rates) :—

Legitimate Males, 1,125 Females, 995 Total, 2,120

Illegitimate Males, 47 Females, 32 Total, 79—2,199

Still-Births :—

Males, 36 Females, 26 ... Total 62

Rate per 1,000 total Births (Live and Still-Births) ... 26

Deaths : Males, 917 Females, 1,017 ... Total 1,934

Death-Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population ... 12.4

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—

Legitimate Males, 51 Females, 38 ... Total, 89

Illegitimate Males, 2 Females, 4 ... Total, 6—95

Death-Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	41
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births...				40
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births				75
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Childbirth :—				

From Sepsis ...	...	1	Death-Rate per 1,000	
			Total Births	...
				0.44
From other Causes	...	3	" "	...
				1.30
		—		—
Total	...	4	" "	...
				1.74
		—		—

	Total Deaths	Death-Rate per 1,000 Population
Measles	0	0.00
Whooping Cough	2	0.01
Diphtheria	4	0.03
Scarlet Fever	0	0.00
Influenza	34	0.20
Tuberculosis of Lungs	99	0.63
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	12	0.08

	Death-Rate per 1,000 Live-Births
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	10 4.36

Causes of Death, 1940.

Cause of Death.	Deaths, 1940		
	Male	Female	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	2	2
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	2	2
Diphtheria	—	4	4
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	59	40	99
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	10	2	12
Syphilitic Diseases	5	1	6
Influenza	18	16	34
Measles	—	—	—
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	2	2	2
Cancer of B. Cav. and Oesoph. (M.) ; Uterus (F.)	9	20	29
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	23	26	49
Cancer of Breast	—	28	28
Cancer of all other Sites	75	83	158
Diabetes	3	7	10
Intra-Cran. Vasc. Lesions	54	96	150
Heart Disease	184	255	439
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	22	19	41
Bronchitis	57	50	107
Pneumonia	58	51	109
Other Respiratory Diseases	21	6	27
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	15	5	20
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	6	4	10
Appendicitis	6	4	10
Other Digestive Diseases	32	33	65
Nephritis	19	14	33
Puerperal Post-Abortive Sepsis	—	1	1
Other Maternal Causes	—	3	3
Premature Birth	8	10	18
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Diseases	21	15	36
Suicide	7	7	14
Road Traffic Accidents	11	—	11
Other Violent Causes	103	127	230
All other Causes	89	84	173
Total	917	1,017	1,934

Table Showing Birth-Rate, Death-Rate and Infant Death-Rate
for the Borough of Ealing.

<i>Period</i>	<i>Birth-Rate</i>	<i>Death-Rate</i>	<i>Infant Death-Rate</i>
1921—1925	15.4	10.7	58
1926—1930	14.5	10.9	49
1931—1935	14.2	10.1	46
1936	14.4	9.9	49
1937	14.9	9.6	46
1938	14.9	9.3	43
1939	14.8	9.5	48
1940	14.7	12.4	41

Maternal Mortality per Thousand Births.

<i>Period</i>	<i>Ealing</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
1931—1935	4.10	4.12
1936	0.93	3.65
1937	2.50	3.23
1938	2.00	2.97
1939	3.75	2.93
1940	1.74	2.16

HOSPITALS.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Clayponds Isolation Hospital at South Ealing, which is under the control of the Ealing and Brentford & Chiswick Hospitals Committee, has a normal capacity of 142 beds. At present 34 beds are retained for the treatment of cases of infectious disease, the remainder of the hospital being utilised as a Grade A1 Emergency Hospital with 200 beds.

MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

The Perivale Maternity Hospital of 43 beds is also under the Joint Hospitals Committee. Throughout the year this hospital was made use of in a normal manner, the accommodation being fully booked throughout the year.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Although two of the six Health Centres are adapted for use as First Aid Posts they have continued in use for their original purpose. The whole of the work in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare has proceeded during the year on normal pre-war lines.

In the course of the year the National Milk Scheme came into operation whereby every expectant or nursing mother and every child under five years of age is able to obtain one pint of milk, either free of charge or at a reduced price according to financial circumstances. In addition, supplies of National Dried Milk are available, in lieu of liquid milk, for babies who are artificially fed. At the commencement of the National Scheme the arrangements for the supply of milk to necessitous cases at the cost of the Council were discontinued as all the mothers and children then receiving free supplies of milk became entitled to free milk through the new Scheme.

Arrangements have been made at the Ante-Natal Clinics for the evacuation of expectant mothers in accordance with the official evacuation scheme for the London area which is organised by the London County Council. During the year only twenty-six expectant mothers took advantage of this scheme.

Summary of the Visits made by the Health Visitors.

Visits to children under 12 months :—	(1939)	(1940)
First visits	1,860	2,402
Return visits	4,555	4,332
Visits to children 1 to 5 years of age	6,854	6,393
Visits to expectant mothers	1,416	1,190
Visits to investigate infant deaths and still-births	109	71
Special visits or investigations	252	424
Visits to cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	13	10
Visits to cases of Pemphigus Neonatorum ...	—	—
Visits to cases of Measles and Whooping Cough ...	138	397
Visits to cases of Scarlet Fever on discharge from the Isolation Hospital... ..	276	26
Inspections of Women's Lavatories	44	63
Visits to children under care of foster-mothers ...	705	634
Other visits	119	129
Total Visits ...	<u>16,341</u>	<u>15,971</u>

Summary of the Work at the Health Centres.

Mothers.

Expectant Mothers attending Ante-Natal Clinics :—	(1939)	(1940)
Attending for the first time	1,139	1,466
Total attendances	6,570	7,023
Nursing mothers attending Post-natal Clinics :—		
Attending for the first time	372	185
Total attendances	428	205

Children.

Children attending Centres for the first time :—	(1939)	(1940)
Under one year of age	1,910	2,044
One to five years of age	922	1,275
Total attendances made by children :—		
Under one year of age... ..	24,074	13,489
One to five years of age	15,058	14,471

Medical Examination of Pre-school children.—The number of complete medical examinations of children from one to five years of age are indicated in the following table :—

<i>Age-Group</i>	<i>No. of Examinations</i>
1 year to 18 months	1,074
18 months to 2 years	689
2 years to 3 years	739
3 years to 4 years	686
4 years to 5 years	451
	<hr/>
	3,639
	<hr/>

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Treatment for expectant mothers was carried out at three Health Centres and for children under five years at all six Centres. The number of mothers receiving treatment totalled 546. The number of attendances made for treatment amounted to 2,044. These attendances were for various forms of treatment, including extractions, fillings, gum treatment for suitable cases and the fitting of dentures. The total number of extractions numbered 2,035, and the fillings 426.

The number of dentures supplied during the year was 169.

The number of pre-school children inspected and treated during the year was 439. These children made 792 visits to receive treatment, which included 1,324 extractions and 100 fillings.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

The work of supervision of fostermothers, carried out by the Health Visitors who have all been appointed Child Protection Visitors, is summarized in the following table :—

Number of children on the register at the beginning of the year	101
(Number of fostermothers having care of the above children, 88).	—
Number of children registered during the year	96
Number of children removed from register during year ...	101
Number of children on register at end of year	96
(Number of fostermothers having care of the above children, 79).	—
Number of visits made by Health Visitors	634

MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

At the end of the year 11 midwives were employed by the Council in connection with the domiciliary midwifery service. The cases attended by the midwives were as follows :

Number of Confinements attended :—

(a) as midwife	648
(b) as maternity nurse	129
	— 777

SUPERVISION OF MIDWIVES.

Number of midwives practising in area at end of year :—

Midwives in service of Council	11
„ at Perivale Maternity Hospital	10
„ in independent practice	5
„ in private nursing homes	5
	— 31

All of these midwives possessed the certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

Number of births attended by midwives :—

When acting in the capacity of midwife :

(a) In private Nursing Homes	79
(b) At the patient's home	667

When acting in the capacity of maternity nurse (a doctor being in attendance) :

(a) In private Nursing Homes	92
(b) At the patient's home	146

SUPERVISION OF NURSING HOMES.

The following table gives information regarding nursing homes in the Borough :—

	<i>No. of Homes</i>	<i>No. of Beds</i>
Number of Nursing Homes on Register at beginning of year	18 (10)	246 (69)
Number of applications for transfer of registration	2	—
Number of New Homes registered	1	10 (—)
Number of Homes discontinued	3	25 (3)
Number of Nursing Homes on Register at end of year	16 (8)	223 (63)

The figures in brackets indicate the number of Homes and the number of beds wholly or partly devoted to the reception of maternity cases.

The Medical Officer in charge of the supervision of Nursing Homes made 41 special visits during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE BOROUGH.—The following is a summary of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year :—

GENERAL.

Number of Premises inspected on Complaint	...	...	1,146
Number of Nuisances observed by Inspectors	...	...	42
Number of Premises inspected in connection with Infectious Disease	...	...	413
Number of Premises visited by Periodical Inspection (Cow-sheds, Dairies, Slaughterhouses, Factories, etc.)	...	...	280
Number of Houses inspected under House-to-House Survey	...	...	28
Food Inspections	...	...	707
Total Number of Re-inspections	...	...	4,704
Other Inspections	...	...	432
Total Number of Inspections and Re-inspections	...	...	7,752
Number of Intimation Notices given	...	...	530
Number of other Letters written	...	...	403
Number of Statutory Notices served	...	...	35
Proceedings before Magistrates	...	...	—

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.—There were no infringements of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations. No meat is sold from stalls in the Borough.

There are three private slaughterhouses and the following table gives the number of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year :—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	34	—	—	72	75
Number inspected	34	—	—	72	75
<i>All Diseases except</i> <i>Tuberculosis—</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	—	6	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuber- culosis	8.8	—	—	8.3	2.7
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned...	6	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	17.6	—	—	—	—

There is no public slaughterhouse in the Borough.

As a result of the war a Meat Depot serving a large area in Middlesex, embracing Ealing, was established in a central position. The Sanitary Inspectors have had to inspect a large quantity of meat there daily.

The following table indicates the amount of the various foodstuffs which have been condemned by the Inspectors as unfit for food in the course of their inspections at the meat depot and at the various food premises in the Borough :—

	lbs.
Beef	3,511
Pork	704
Fish	581
Rabbits	76
Mutton	7,922
Veal	305
Offal	18,230
Bacon	639 $\frac{3}{4}$
Sausages	30
Ham	81 $\frac{1}{2}$
Brawn	11
Corned Beef	54
Black Pudding	15 $\frac{3}{4}$
Meat Pies	117 $\frac{1}{2}$
Plums	48
Slab Cake	56
	<hr/>
	32,382 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

Total :—28 tons, 9 cwts., 0 qrs., 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

Eggs	570
Assorted Tinned Food	348 tins

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Cases of Infectious Disease occurring in the Borough.

Disease	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	83	54	71	195	228	52	123	142	92	33
Scarlet Fever ...	154	407	476	493	400	408	317	383	303	116
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	3	4	3	7	8	5	2	5	4
Puerperal Fever ...	6	4	3	3	7	3	4	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia...	18	21	28	14	11	9	24	46	40	30
Pneumonia :										
Primary ...	96	85	56	72	59	85	60	83	50	66
Influenzal ...	18	50	32	17	11	14	37	18	26	10
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	4	3	—	1	2	7	6	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	7
Malaria ...	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	5	12	2	—
Erysipelas ...	20	30	36	43	28	28	27	41	37	29
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis :—										
Pulmonary ...	141	141	154	139	157	139	178	142	149	156
Non-Pulmonary ...	27	27	23	24	23	22	37	33	38	30
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	9	5	8	5	3	4	7	15	16	5
Total ...	577	832	895	1010	936	777	832	924	759	488

SCARLET FEVER.—Of the 116 cases of scarlet fever only 37 cases were removed to hospital. Since the outbreak of war accommodation for cases of scarlet fever in the Isolation Hospital has been much reduced and only in exceptional circumstances have cases been admitted. There were no deaths from the disease.

DIPHTHERIA.—All of the 33 cases of diphtheria were removed to hospital. There were 4 deaths from this disease.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.—Measles and whooping cough became notifiable under the Measles and Whooping Cough Regulation 1939. The following number of cases were notified :—

Measles ...	630
Whooping Cough...	186

There were two deaths from whooping cough. These were of children aged 2 months and 15 months respectively.

TUBERCULOSIS.—The number of cases of tuberculosis notified during the year and the number of deaths which occurred were as follows :—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulm'y		Pulmonary		Non-Pulm'y	
	Male	F'male	Male	F'male	Male	F'male	Male	F'male
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	1	4	3	—	—	2	—
10—15	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	18	8	2	—	6	4	1	—
20—25	8	15	2	2	8	8	—	—
25—35	27	20	4	—	14	13	1	—
35—45	20	7	5	1	6	5	2	—
45—55	10	5	1	—	10	2	3	2
55—65	7	7	—	—	11	7	1	—
65 upwards	2	—	—	—	4	1	—	—
Total ...	93	63	24	6	59	40	10	2

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

In 1940 the School Medical Service was carried on with little impairment from war conditions.

Dental treatment, including the treatment of mothers, was carried on satisfactorily with the assistance of a part-time dental officer, Mr. J. V. Houlton, L.D.S.

The Ophthalmic Surgeon, Dr. J. G. Freeman Heal, attended on three sessions weekly, one at Mattock Lane Centre and two at Ravenor Park Centre.

Orthopaedic supervision was resumed in March and from that time until the end of the year Mr. Cholmeley, F.R.C.S., the visiting Surgeon, attended on nine sessions. Miss Hepburn, the Masseuse, attended on four sessions weekly from January to November and on three sessions weekly from November to December.

Diphtheria immunization was carried on as usual. In December in consequence of the Ministry of Health Circular 2230 further steps were taken to give publicity to the value of immunization and as a result a great many more children were immunized.

The Minor Ailment Clinics were carried on at the Centres as in normal years.

STAFF.

The Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Llywellyn Roberts, and two Assistant Medical Officers, Dr. Alfred J. Muir and Dr. Matthew C. Kelly, resigned in 1940. Dr. Daniel C. Logan and Dr. Elizabeth M. James, were appointed in the place of the latter two officers.

During 1940 three school nurses resigned, Miss McGann, Miss O. Moss and Miss V. Gilbert. They were succeeded by Miss E. Evans, Miss G. E. Andrews and Miss D. E. Nicholson. Miss Matthews returned at the end of the year from Buckinghamshire where she had been assisting the County Council with evacuated Ealing school children.

In November Miss L. Gilbert and Miss G. Griffiths went to Devonshire to help the Council of that County in dealing with the increase in their school population, through the reception in their area of evacuated children.

EVACUATION.

The evacuation of school children from Ealing entailed considerable additional work for the school medical staff.

Children were evacuated at two periods, in June and in October. For the first evacuation the children were medically examined in May and finally inspected before their departure in June. In October, when the bombing of London was increasing in severity, application was made to the Ministry of Health to make the whole Borough an evacuation area. Until then only that part south of the Great Western Railway line was an evacuation area. The Ministry consented and as a result a large number of children was examined and sent away immediately.

A number of children was examined from time to time and sent away in small parties.

In addition to the children examined under these two evacuation schemes a number were examined by the Council's Medical Officers, at the suggestion of the Board of Education, for evacuation under the Voluntary Scheme for the Evacuation of Unaccompanied School Children Overseas.

Two school nurses were sent to Devonshire to assist that Authority with the evacuated children.

The following table gives the number of children examined and finally inspected prior to evacuation :—

Number of children seen at preliminary examination in May	799
Number of children finally examined in June	785
Number of children examined in October	4,403
Number of children examined for overseas emigration ...	956
Total number of examinations of children during the year	5,987

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Medical inspection was carried out as in normal years and included the routine inspection in the schools of children in the three age-groups recommended by the Board of Education, namely, (a) entrants, (b) children at eight years, and (c) children at twelve years.

FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Among the 5,461 children examined in a routine manner there were, excluding uncleanness, malnutrition and dental diseases, 493 defects requiring treatment and 593 requiring to be kept under observation. The examination of the 5,496 children submitted to special inspection revealed 2,175 defects requiring treatment and 542 requiring to be kept under observation.

Of the 5,461 children examined at the routine inspections, 474 or 8.7 per cent. were found to require treatment for one or more defective conditions.

NUTRITION.

The state of nutrition of the children examined at routine medical inspection is shown in Table II. The classification is in accordance with the suggestions of the Board of Education as set out in the Administrative Memorandum No. 124, issued in 1935.

Of all the children attending public elementary schools in Ealing and submitted to routine medical inspection 97.0 per cent. were classified as of normal nutrition and only 3 per cent. were classified as being slightly subnormal. No children were classified as of bad nutrition.

From February onwards special nutrition surveys of all the children in the schools were conducted to find out if the health of any was being affected by war-time conditions. The procedure followed was to survey a class at a time with the assistance of the teacher and to select any children who did not appear quite robust and to refer them for a special examination. At this subsequent examination they were classified as regards nutrition. The results of these surveys are as follows :

Total number of children surveyed	...	...	20,659
Number selected for special examination	...	...	950
Number of children classified as of slightly			
sub-normal (" C ") nutrition	...	...	258
Percentage classified as slightly sub-normal	...	...	1.2
Number of children classified as of bad			
nutrition (" D ")	...	...	None

The percentage of children found at these surveys to be of slightly subnormal nutrition is less than half the percentage of children found to be slightly subnormal at routine medical inspection. Perhaps the difference is due to the fact that at routine inspection the examination of each child is more thorough than at the nutrition surveys with the consequence that more subnormal children are found. In any case the figures are highly satisfactory and indicate that the nutritional state of the children is apparently not affected by conditions associated with war. One good result of the surveys was that attention was drawn to those schools where the largest number of subnormal children were to be found and so indicated those in which any scheme for the provisions of meals should first be made to operate.

UNCLEANLINESS.

As in previous years all school children in the elementary schools in the Borough were examined on three occasions, namely, after the Easter holiday, after the Summer holiday and after the Christmas holiday. The actual examinations were 25,615, a smaller number than in 1939 and still smaller than in 1938 owing to the evacuation of many of the children. In the following table it will be seen that as a result of the examinations 466 children were excluded because they had lice or more than 10 nits in the hair, and 325 were the subject of warning notices because they had nits but less than 10 in number. This means that 791 or 3 per cent. of the children were found on the average to be unclean on each occasion. Put in another way, these figures mean that 97 per cent. of the children attending public elementary schools in the Borough can be stated to be clean. This percentage can be considered very satisfactory when compared with other parts of the country. The table also shows that the state of cleanliness has not deteriorated during the war, for the percentage for 1940 is the same as the average for the previous four years.

RECEIVED
FALLING
1940

Year	Average Number on Rolls	No. of examinations for verminous condition	Number of children excluded	Number of warning notices issued	Total Number of unclean children excluded or warned	Percentage of children unclean whether excluded or not	Legal proceedings taken under attendance Bye-laws
1936	15,251	33,578	427	513	940	2.8	8
1937	17,062	39,955	743	587	1,330	3.3	21
1938	18,107	43,372	731	584	1,315	3.0	18
1939	18,174 (End of August)	29,357	520	303	823	2.8	6
1940	8,600 (Nov.)	25,615	466	325	791	3.0	1

ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT.

MINOR AILMENTS AND DISEASES OF THE SKIN.—The number of cases treated and the total number of attendances made were as follows :—

<i>Condition Treated</i>					<i>No. of cases treated</i>	<i>Total attendances made</i>
Skin :						
Ringworm	...	...	...	...	1	1
Scabies	...	...	...	...	141	336
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	116	999
Others	...	...	...	...	138	772
Minor eye defects	...	...	...	...	169	1,176
Minor ear defects	...	...	...	...	218	3,068
Miscellaneous :	...	...	...	...
Minor injuries	...	...	...	...	551	3,330
Sores	...	...	...	...
Others	...	...	...	...
Total ...					1,334	9,682

Cases of scabies are treated by benzyl benzoate, a method which has been in use for the past three years.

The number of cases of scabies is large and indicates an increase over that of the year before but the increase is not much greater than in the year 1938 when there were 135 cases. The following table indicates that scabies began to be more prevalent in 1937, nearly three years before the outbreak of war. Whilst one could put forward possible reasons for prevalence during war-time conditions it is difficult to explain the increase in the number of cases that preceded the war.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of Cases treated</i>		<i>Total Cases</i>
	<i>Under Authority's Scheme</i>	<i>Otherwise</i>	
1930 ...	16	5	21
1931 ...	29	8	37
1932 ...	9	1	10
1933 ...	23	4	27
1934 ...	12	2	14
1935 ...	12	—	12
1936 ...	25	—	25
1937 ...	97	—	97
1938 ...	128	7	135
1939 ...	86	23	109
1940 ...	141	8	149

DEFECTIVE VISION.—The report of the Ophthalmic Surgeon, Dr. J. G. Freeman Heal, is as follows :

“ During the year 1940, 574 new cases were examined. Of these 236 were seen at Mattock Lane, and 338 at Ravenor Park Health Centre. Re-inspections numbered 577, of which 199 were seen at Mattock Lane, and 378 at Ravenor Park.

Prescriptions for glasses were given in 835 cases.

The number of pairs of glasses obtained was 832.

Abnormal eye conditions, other than refractive errors, were as follows :—

Congenital abnormalities.

Squint	New cases, 108	Re-inspections, 201
Progressive Myopes	New Cases, 4	Re-inspections, 10
Congenital Nystagmus ... ..	...	9
Congenital Cataracts ... ..	...	3
Congenital Paralysis of an External Ocular Muscle ...	...	1

Abnormalities due to Infection.

Interstitial Keratitis (Specific)	6
Choroiditis	1
Endophthalmitis	1
Corneal Ulceration	1
Corneal Scarring	3

Phlyctenular Keratitis	1
Blepharitis	1
Meibomian Cyst	1

Abnormalities due to Trauma.

Traumatic lesion of macula	1
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The small number of cases of external disease of the eye suggests that the nutrition of the school children has been well maintained during a year of war."

DEFECTS OF THE EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.—During routine inspection of school children and at child welfare clinics, particular care is devoted to examination of the ear, nose and throat and when defects are found parents are advised to seek treatment either by their own medical attendant or at the Health Centres.

Cases of a simple nature are treated at the Health Centres while others requiring a specialist's opinion are referred to the Otological Clinic held by Mr. Arthur Miller, F.R.C.S., the consulting surgeon.

There were 84 new cases seen at this clinic during the year, of whom 73 were school children and 11 children referred from child welfare clinics. The total number of attendances was 325.

The new cases were classified as follows :—

Suppurative otitis media	...	...	...	...	...	30
Post suppurative otitis media	...	...	...	...	...	2
Catarrhal otitis media	...	...	...	...	...	2
Unhealthy tonsils or adenoids or both...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Deflected septum	...	...	...	...	...	7
Rhinitis	...	...	...	...	...	9
Other conditions	...	...	...	...	...	15
Total						84

Of these cases 33 were referred to Hospital for operation.

In regard to the other cases the treatment advised by the surgeon was carried out at the Health Centres and included various forms of specialised therapy such as ear toilet, ionization and diastolization.

Owing to war conditions the King Edward Hospital could no longer admit cases for the removal of tonsils and adenoids and in August arrangements were made with the London County Council for these cases to be admitted to St. Bernard's Hospital, Southall.

Throughout the year 20 children were admitted to King Edward VII Memorial Hospital and 26 to St. Bernard's Hospital for tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy or both.

DENTAL DEFECTS.—Dental Inspections were carried out in all the schools that were open during the year. The total number of children inspected was 12,556, this figure being smaller by 832 than in 1939.

The number found to require treatment totalled 6,795, and of these, 5,124 actually received treatment. This figure is smaller than that for 1939, when 6,217 children were treated.

At the special examination of leavers held during the year, it was only possible to see the children who were leaving at the Christmas term, for at the Summer term evacuation intervened, and many of the leavers were not at school. At this inspection 87 children had sound mouths and 36 left without complete treatment.

Orthodontic treatment was continued during the year when 26 new appliances were fitted for suitable cases. The number of appliances that have been fitted since this form of treatment was first started is 99.

The work carried out for all the children treated included extractions, fillings, gum treatments, scalings and dressings to septic root canals.

The number of fillings totalled 3,415, being smaller than in the previous year by 1,530.

The total number of extractions was 9,821. Of these 1,390 were of permanent and 8,431 of temporary teeth. Those children who returned to Ealing from the first evacuation scheme in September, 1939, and had missed treatment were found to require a greater amount of treatment during 1940 as emergency treatment only had been given to them in the reception areas.

The various forms of other operations that were carried out consisted of 868 dressings to root canals in anterior permanent teeth, sensitive cavities, septic sockets of temporary teeth, and dressing to various forms of ulcerations of the mouth, scaling for 43 children and gum treatment for 6 children.

Orthodontic cases returning for adjustments during the year made 549 visits, some of these visits being made by children whose treatment was commenced in 1938 and 1939, and were nearing completion.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.—In March it was found possible to arrange with Mr. Cholmeley, F.R.C.S., the visiting Orthopaedic Surgeon, to resume his attendances at the Orthopaedic Clinic and during the year he attended on nine occasions.

The Masseuse attended four times a week from January to November and three times a week from November to December.

The work of the Orthopaedic Clinic during the year may be summarised as follows :—

Orthopaedic Clinic.

	<i>School children</i>	<i>Children under five</i>	<i>Total</i>
Attendances by Surgeon	5	4	9
Number of children seen for first time...	63	48	111
Total number of children examined ...	209	124	333
Attendances by Masseuse	142	49	191
Number of cases treated	78	33	111
Number of attendances by children ...	999	293	1,292
Children admitted to hospital for special treatment	13	2	15
Children supplied with special boots or surgical appliances	13	5	18

DEFECTIVE SPEECH.—During the year classes for the treatment of speech defects were held from March until August when they were discontinued.

The age of entry, complete medical examination before entry, part-time training and medical supervision of children having speech defects were described in the 1938 report, and have continued unaltered.

From March to August there were in attendance at the Mattock Lane and Ravenor Park Health Centres a total of 26 children. Of these, in August there were :

(a) Still attending	23
(b) Discharged as cured	2
(c) Evacuated	1

CONVALESCENT TREATMENT.—During the year 16 children were sent to the Russell Cotes School of Recovery, Parkstone, and 8 children were sent to Collington Manor, Bexhill. The Russell Cotes School was closed in August and Collington Manor was closed in June.

The beds reserved at Worthing, Broadstairs, Dover, and Seaton by arrangement with the Invalid Children's Aid Association were cancelled at the outbreak of war.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The returns forwarded each week by the head teachers giving particulars of all new cases of non-notifiable infectious disease coming to their knowledge included 1,342 cases of measles, 190 of whooping cough, 151 of chickenpox and 21 of mumps.

Children to the number of 223 were excluded under Article 20 (b) of the Education Code for the following conditions :

Impetigo	...	...	...	...	116
Ringworm of body	...	...	...	...	1
Scabies	...	...	...	...	101
Other skin diseases	...	...	...	...	3
Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	...	3
Blepharitis	...	...	...	...	1
Scabies and impetigo	...	...	...	...	2
					<hr/>
					227
					<hr/>

No closure took place under Articles 22 or 23 (b) of the Code—Grant Regulations.

No schools required certificates under Paragraph 15 (ii) of the Administrative Memorandum No. 51 issued by the Board of Education.

Diphtheria Immunization.—In recent years every step has been taken to encourage the immunization not only of school children but of children under 5 years of age. Posters have been exhibited in the schools and at the Health Centres and leaflets have been distributed to the mothers attending the latter. The response has not been great, due apparently to the fact that the incidence of diphtheria in this district has remained low and the attention of the public has therefore not been vividly drawn to the dangers of diphtheria.

During the early months of the war, on account of the insistence of problems of evacuation and of A.R.P. Services the attention

of the Public Health department was diverted from diphtheria immunization but during the later months of 1940 steps were taken to bring to the notice of the public the desirability, even the necessity, of children being immunized against diphtheria.

After the receipt of Circular 2230 of the Ministry of Health further steps were taken to direct the attention of the public to this means of preventing diphtheria. Posters were exhibited in the Health Centres and in public buildings advocating immunization and leaflets were distributed to the parents through the Health Centres and through the schools. At the same time the Council withdrew a restriction which had been placed upon immunization. Before December, 1940, immunization at the cost of the Council applied only to children whose parents' income was below £260 per annum but this restriction was removed. The issue of publicity material in December supported as it was by further publicity of a national character produced a large increase in the number of applications for immunization.

Up to December of this year immunization was carried out at the Health Centres to which school children and children under 5 years of age were brought by their parents. In order still further to encourage applications for immunization it was decided to carry out the immunization of school children at the schools with the co-operation of the head teachers.

Each school is to be dealt with in turn, the teachers giving leaflets advocating immunization to the children to take home and at the same time giving them forms of application which the parents are asked to fill up and return to the school. When a sufficient number of applications are received a medical officer and nurse will carry out the immunization in the schools, the parents being saved the trouble of attending and the school classes being disturbed less in the process than by the children attending the Health Centre. The immunization is carried out by the Council's own medical officers assisted by the school nurses and is given entirely free of cost to the parents.

Some indication of the results of this publicity may be gleaned from the fact that during the whole of last year the immunization of 708 children (school children and children under 5 years) was begun, whilst since the 1st January to the 22nd March of this year

(1941) the immunization of 841 children has been begun. The response to the offer of immunization in the schools has certainly been encouraging.

Immunization Work at Health Centres in 1940.

Preliminary Schick tests	334
School children immunized	142
Children under 5 years immunized ...	359
Final Schick tests	516
Immunized a second time	34
One child was immunized a third time.	

The total number of children immunized at the Health Centres during 1940 was 501 but although this is an increase on last year the number is so small as scarcely to affect the incidence of diphtheria in the district.

MILK AND MEALS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The arrangements for the supply of milk to school children were carried on as usual until September when the administration of the scheme was taken over by the Director of Education. The change took place because earlier in the year the provision of meals for school children by the Committee was begun at Cuckoo School and it was considered desirable that the provision of milk as well as of meals should be under the control of the same officer.

A scale of necessitous circumstances was decided upon by the Committee for guidance in the provision of milk and of meals.

NURSERY SCHOOLS.

Since the outbreak of war there have been no nursery schools open in the Borough.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

Medical inspection was carried out as in former years on behalf of the Middlesex Education Committee in five County Schools in the Borough, 825 routine inspections of pupils being made.

Ophthalmic treatment was given during the year to 68 pupils attending County Schools and for 62 of these spectacles were prescribed and supplied through the school medical department.

Dental inspection of all the pupils attending the County Schools was carried out on behalf of the Middlesex Education Committee.

During the year, all the Secondary and Technical school pupils who were not evacuated, were inspected. It was found that of 973 inspected, 429 required treatment, but by the end of the year only 241 had received it. The dental treatment of the children is carried on into the following year, as they are not seen in the schools until the latter part of the year. A great many of the children returned to Ealing from the reception areas, for in 1939 only 366 children were seen at the schools.

The number of teeth extracted totalled 194. Some of the children received emergency extractions in the reception areas, and several came specially from these areas to see the Dental Officer at the centres in Ealing. Fillings in permanent and temporary teeth amounted to 392; this figure being smaller by 60 than in 1939.

Other operations included 43 dressings, four gum treatments for acute gingivitis, and four attendances for orthodontic adjustments to appliances for those children who were wearing them when they passed out of their elementary school.

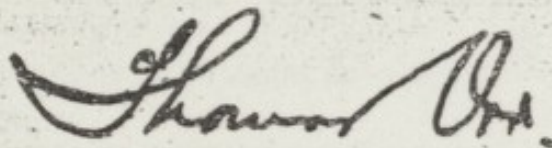
EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS.

The number of children examined in connection with their employment out of school hours was 308 and of this number 26 were found to be unfit for employment. The nature of the employment of those certified as fit was :—

Boys.	Errand Boys	...	...	...	...	159	
	Milk Round	...	...	...	...	18	
	Newspaper Round	...	...	...	...	52	
	Baker's Round...	...	...	...	...	36	
	Order Boy	...	...	...	...	11	
	Others	...	...	...	...	4	
							280
Girls.	Shop Assistants	...	...	...	...	2	
						—	2
							282

MISCELLANEOUS.

It is usual to group under this heading the medical examinations which are made of candidates prior to their appointment on the teaching staff of the Education Committee and of other candidates on appointment to various branches of the Council's technical and clerical staff and of manual workers. All these examinations are carried out by the school medical staff assisted by the school nurses. During the year 31 teachers and 96 other candidates were examined.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

TOWN HALL,

EALING, W.5.

March, 1942.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

The Tables required by the Board of Education are as follows :

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

A.—Routine Medical Inspections.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	1,836
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	2,298
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	1,327
Total						5,461

Number of other Routine Inspections ... —

B.—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ... 15,745

TABLE II.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.

Age-Groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A. (Excellent).		B. (Normal).		C. (Slightly sub-normal).		D. (Bad).	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants ...	1,836	299	16.3	1,506	82.0	31	1.7	—	—
Second Age-group ...	2,298	219	9.5	1,989	86.6	90	3.9	—	—
Third Age-group ...	1,327	180	13.6	1,105	83.3	42	3.2	—	—
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	5,461	698	12.8	4,600	84.2	163	3.0	—	—

TABLE III.

Group I.—Treatment of Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V.).

DISEASE OR DEFECT. (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Otherwise. (3)	Total. (4)
SKIN :—			
Ringworm—Scalp	—	—	—
Ringworm—Body	1	3	4
Scabies	141	8	149
Impetigo	116	16	132
Other Skin Disease	138	237	375
MINOR EYE DEFECTS (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II)	169	44	213
MINOR EAR DEFECTS. (Treatment for more serious diseases of the ear (<i>e.g.</i> , operative treatment in hospital) should not be recorded here but in the body of the School Medical Officer's Annual Report)	218	9	227
MISCELLANEOUS (<i>e.g.</i> , minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) ...	551	89	640
TOTAL ...	1,334	406	1,740

Group II.—Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint (excluding minor eye defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.).

DEFECT OR DISEASE (1)	No. of Defects dealt with.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme (2)	Otherwise (3)	Total (4)
Errors of Refraction (in- cluding Squint) ...	1147	20	1167
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes	4	—	4
TOTAL ...	1151	20	1171
Number of Children for whom Spectacles were :—			
(a) Prescribed ...	835	20	855
(b) Obtained ...	832	20	852

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS				
Received Operative Treatment			Received other forms of Treatment	Total number Treated
Under the Authority's Scheme in Clinic or Hospital	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme	Total		
35	1	36	—	36

TABLE IV.
DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist :—

		• Aged			
Routine Age Groups	...	5	...	734	Total 12,402
		6	...	1,559	
		7	...	1,441	
		8	...	1,483	
		9	...	1,466	
		10	...	1,448	
		11	...	1,188	
		12	...	1,109	
		13	...	1,065	
		14	...	863	
		15	...	44	
		16	...	2	
(b) Specials	...	...	...	...	154
Grand Total					12,556
(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	6,797
(3) Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	5,124
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment	...	...	...	...	7,648
(5) Half-days devoted to :—					
Inspection	...	...	...	111	
Treatment	...	...	...	963	
					Total 1,074
(6) Fillings :—					
Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	3,181	
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	234	
					Total 3,415
(7) Extractions :—					
Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	1,390	
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	8,431	
					Total 9,821
(8) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions	...				2,172
(9) Other Operations :—					
Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	1,546	
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	—
					Total 1,546

TABLE V.
VERMINOUS CONDITION.

(1) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses ...	3
(2) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses ...	25,615
(3) Number of individual children found unclean ...	840
(4) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921 ...	—
(5) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—	
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921 ...	—
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws ...	1

TABLE VI.
BLIND AND DEAF CHILDREN.

	(1) At a Public Elementary School	(2) At an institution other than a Special School	(3) At no School or Institution	(2) Total not receiving suitable education
Blind Children ...	—	—	—	—
Deaf Children ...	—	—	—	—

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

Total number of children notified during the year ended 31st December, 1940, by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority, under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928

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