

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

Contributors

Walthamstow (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

[1942?]

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/ntvzvc8c>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution, Non-commercial license.

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

AC 4411(1) WALTHAMSTOW
With the Compliments of the Medical Officer of Health
and School Medical Officer, Borough of Walthamstow.

WAL 71

BOROUGH of WALTHAMSTOW

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

R E P O R T

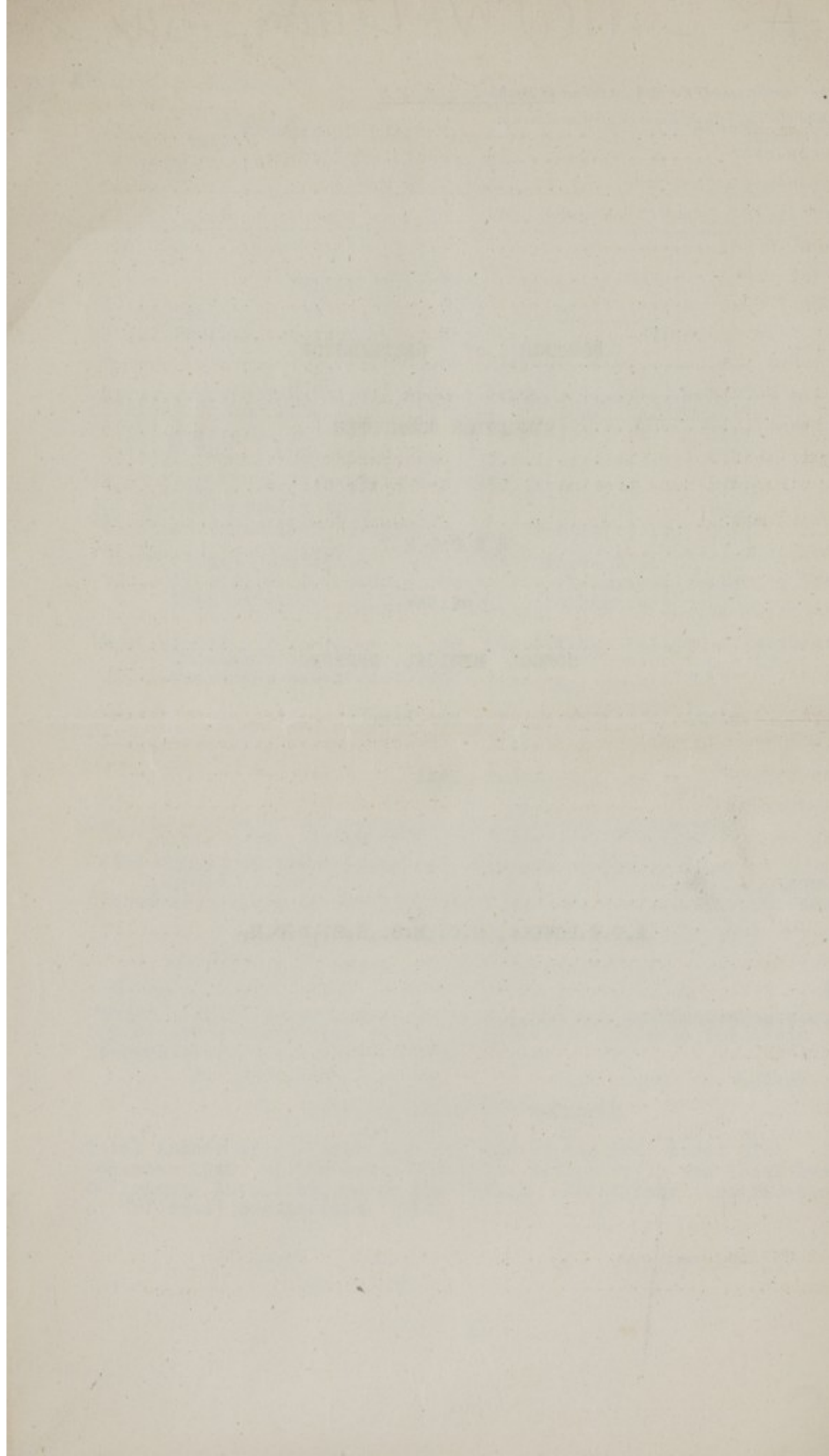
of the

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

for the year

1941

A.T.W.POWELL, M.C., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.



C O N T E N T S

Accommodation	4	Medical Treatment.....	7
After-care	14	Mental Deficiency.....	17
Attendance Officers.....	14	Milk Meals.....	3,13
Artificial Light Treatment...	11	Milk in Schools Scheme....	3,13
Aural Clinic.....	9	Minor Ailments.....	6,7
Blind School.....	15	Mumps.....	11
Boot Fund.....	15	N.S.P.C.C.....	15
Brookfield Hospital.....	17	Nursery School.....	18
Chicken Pox.....	11	Nutrition.....	3,7
Child Guidance.....	17	Open Air Education.....	13
Clinics.....	4	" " School.....	16
Committee.....	2	Orthopaedic treatment....	10,16
Convalescent Home treatment..	18	Orthoptic Clinic.....	8,9
Co-ordination.....	4	Parents, Co-operation of...	13
Crippling.....	10,16	Parents, Payments by.....	13,18
Deaf School.....	16	Physical Training.....	13
Defective children.....	15	Population.....	4
Dental Defects.....	7	Re-inspections.....	5
Dental Treatment.....	10	Rheumatism.....	11
Diphtheria.....	11	Ringworm.....	11
Diphtheria Immunisation.....	12	Scabies.....	11
Ear Disease.....	6,9	Scarlet Fever.....	11
Employment of Children.....	19	School Journeys.....	13
Exclusion.....	12	School Camps.....	13
Eye Disease.....	6	Secondary Schools.....	10,18
Following up.....	7	Skin Diseases.....	3,6,7
Health Education.....	19	Speech Therapy.....	17
Hearing.....	6,9	Staff.....	4
Heart Disease.....	7,10	Special Enquiries.....	19
Hospital Treatment.....	9	Statistical Tables.....	19
Hygiene.....	4	Swimming.....	13
Impetigo.....	11	Teachers, Co-operation of...	14
Invalid Children's Aid Assc..	14	Tonsils and Adenoids.....	9
Infectious Diseases.....	11	Tuberculosis.....	7,11
Introduction.....	2	Uncleanliness.....	6
Meals, Provision of.....	3,13	Vaccination.....	12
Medical Inspections.....	5	Vision.....	6,8
Medical Examinations.....	19	Voluntary Bodies.....	14
Measles.....	11	Whooping Cough.....	11

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN:

Councillor S. N. Chaplin.

Deputy Chairman:

Alderman Mrs. C. McEntee, J.P.

His Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor J.H. Williams, J.P.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor R.W.A. Russell, J.P.

The Chairman, Finance Committee, Alderman Ross Wyld.

Ald. Mrs. L.P. Bailey.

Ald. Miss E.M. Pracy.

Ald. A. G. Bottomley, O.B.E.

Ald. W.H. Shaw.

Ald. G. Gibbons, J.P.

Coun. F.W. Gentle.

Ald. W.B. Fitt.

Coun. A.E. Mallett.

Ald. Mrs. E.M. Miller.

Coun. Mrs. E.A. Smith.

Co-optative Members:

P. Astin, Esq., J.P., C.A.

Rev: G.W.M. Laurence.

J. Owen Clover, Esq.,

A.J.D. Llewellyn, Esq.,

Mrs. M. A. Gilman.

E.J. Mumford, Esq.,

S.G. Haskins, Esq., E.C.C.

Rt. Rev. Mgr. W.O'Grady, V.G.,

Director of Education and Chief Executive Officer:

E. Gwyn Thomas, B.A., Ph. D.

To the Chairman and Members of the

WALTHAMSTOW EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present herewith a report on the work of the School Medical Department during 1941.

The war does not appear as yet to have had any obvious effect on the physical and mental welfare of the children and the nutritional level of the previous year has been maintained. The effects of the provision of school meals and milk have been highly beneficial.

Cleanliness as revealed by routine head inspection has improved considerably. The increased incidence of scabies has continued.

Alterations in the strength of the medical, dental and nursing staff are detailed. In particular the retirement of Dr. Broderick and the resignation of Miss McCabe are to be noted after many years service. The work of the Department has been maintained upon the lines desired by the Board of Education.

Again I beg to acknowledge the help of the Committee and the good work of the Staff.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant

A.T.W. POWELL

School Medical Officer

School Clinics - As for 1939.

1. STAFF OF SCHOOL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

(a) The services of the following were loaned to the areas specified for the period stated -

CORNWALL

	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
Dr. M.C. Clarke, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.	Feb: 1941 Oct: 1941	April 1941 Still away.

RUTLAND

Mr. L.W. Elmer, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng).	Sept: 1939	Still away.
Miss Sanford, Dental attendant.	Sept: 1939	Still away.

(b) Resignations etc.,

		<u>Date</u>
Mr. G.P.L. Taylor, Assistant Dental Surgeon.	H.M. Forces	2. 6. 41.
Dr. D. Broderick, Senior Assistant School Medical Officer.	Resigned	15. 8. 41.
Dr. M. Watkins, Deputy School Medical Officer.	Assumed duty.	18. 8. 41.
Mr. D.M. Cushing, Assistant Dental Surgeon	H.M. Forces	21. 8. 41.
Miss M. McCabe, Supt: School Nurse.	Resigned	1. 10. 41.
Miss E. McRaith, Assistant Dental Surgeon.	Resigned	27. 12. 41.

2. CO - ORDINATION As given in the report for 1939.

3. The SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE IN RELATION TO PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

School Hygiene and accommodation:- The following table shows the number of schools in the Borough available during 1941 :-

	<u>Boys.</u>	<u>Girls.</u>	<u>Infants.</u>	<u>Mixed.</u>
Provided.....	4	4	17	15
Non-provided.....	-	1	2	3
Special Schools -				
Mentally Defective..	-	-	-	1
Myope Centre.....	-	-	-	1
Open Air School.....	-	-	-	1
Totals.....	4	5	19	21

	<u>1941</u>	<u>1940</u>	<u>1939</u>	<u>1938</u>	<u>1937</u>
Number of children on Register, Dec. 31st...	9445	6270	15794	15980	16525
Average Attendance....	6659.1	4707.2	13943.4	14282.3	14909.1
Percentage "	84.5	75.6	88.5	88.8	88.7
Population.....	109400	109400	130800	131900	131900
Percentage of School children to population.	8.6	5.7	12.07	12.1	12.5

School Hygiene - Mr. Frank H. Heaven, A.R.I.B.A., Architect to the Education Committee, reports as follows :-

Structural additions and alterations - Air raid protection. Additional protection to meet the increased numbers of scholars returning from evacuation areas has been provided at ten schools. An air raid shelter with heat and light has also been provided at the North Walthamstow Schools Sports Field.

Heating - Bunkers for reserve stocks of fuel have been erected in order to cope with breakdowns in transport of fuel at peak periods. Improved heating arrangements and boilers have been provided at seven schools.

Renovations - Interior renovations have been deferred, but external painting to three schools has been executed.

Provision of Meals - Two new central kitchens have been approved, that at Joseph Barrett to provide 350/400 meals per day has been opened; and one to cater for 1,000/1,200 meals per day will be completed at Wood Street in the early part of 1942. In order to meet a sudden demand for midday meals and pending completion of the above centres two emergency kitchens were set up. Hot meals are transported to the schools on five days each week.

Provision of Milk and Meals - Equipment for the washing of milk mugs and dinner plates etc., have been, or will be, completed in a short while at all school premises.

Sanitation. - Minor improvements have been carried out at several schools.

Fire Watching. - Suitable arrangements for sleeping, heating and feeding of fire watcher parties have been set up at the school premises.

Youth Centres - Three centres for Youth Club activities have been provided at schools and blackout arrangements completed.

War Time Nursery - The Open Air School at Walthamstow House has been taken over and is being adapted for this important social service.

4. MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The following table gives a summary of the returns :-

A. Routine Medical Inspections -

Entrants.....	1631
Second age group.....	546
Third age group.....	1255
Total....	3432
Other routine inspections.....	157
Grand Total..	3589

B. Other Inspections -

Number of Special inspections and re-inspections.....	20457
--	-------

5. REVIEW OF THE FACTS DISCLOSED BY MEDICAL INSPECTION

Classification of the Nutrition of Children
Inspected during the year in the routine age groups.

	No. of Children	"A" Excellent	"B" Normal	"C" slightly Subnormal	"D" Bad
Entrants....	1631	167 10.23	1379 84.54	85 5.21	- -
2nd Age Group	546	175 32.05	343 62.82	28 5.10	- -
3rd Age Group	1255	513 40.86	686 54.66	55 4.38	1 0.079
Totals....	3432	855 24.91	2408 71.63	168 4.89	1 1.029
Other Routine Inspections.	157	58 36.94	92 58.59	6 3.18	1 0.63

The findings may be shown comparatively as follows : -

	<u>A. & B.</u>	<u>C.</u>	<u>D.</u>
1941.....	\$5.07	4.89	0.029
1940.....	\$5.2	4.67	0.07

(b) Uncleanliness - No children were claimed under arrangements by your Committee, nor were any legal proceedings taken.

The following table gives comparative figures for the past two years -

	<u>1941</u>	<u>1940</u>
Average number of visits to schools...	6	5
Total examinations.....	24434	16908
Number of individual children found unclean.....	555	689
Percentage uncleanliness of average attendance.....	8.8	12.7

Cases of chronic uncleanliness are followed up in the home.

(c) Minor Ailments and Skin Defects - The following is the number of skin defects found to require treatment -

	<u>1941</u>	<u>1940.</u>
Ringworm - Head	3	2
Body	8	8
Scabies.....	145	55
Impetigo.....	61	47
Other skin diseases	<u>220</u>	<u>133</u>
Total.	<u>437</u>	<u>245</u>

(d) Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases : - The number of patients requiring treatment and observation was as follows : -

	<u>1941</u>		<u>1940.</u>	
	<u>Treat- ment.</u>	<u>Obser- vation</u>	<u>Treat ment.</u>	<u>Obser- vation.</u>
Visual defects.....	182	78	58	3
Squint.....	57	7	20	-
External Eye Disease..	153	4	151	-

(e) Nose and Throat Defects : - The number of patients requiring treatment and observation was as follows : -

	<u>1941.</u>		<u>1940.</u>	
	<u>Treat ment.</u>	<u>Obser- vation</u>	<u>Treat ment.</u>	<u>Obser- vation.</u>
Chronic Tonsillitis.....	135	236	91	48
Adenoids only.....	15	7	4	-
Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids.	21	14	13	-
Other conditions.....	167	-	152	-

The 167 cases of other conditions are made up of sore throats and defects requiring diastello treatment.

(f) Ear Disease and Defective Hearing - Patients requiring treatment -

	<u>1941</u>	<u>1940.</u>
Defective Hearing.....	11	11
Otitis Media.....	17	85
Other Ear Disease.....	7	2

	<u>Dental Defects -</u>		<u>Per Cent</u>	<u>Actually Treated</u>	<u>Fillings</u>	<u>Extract ions.</u>	<u>General Anaesthetics.</u>	<u>Other Operations.</u>
	<u>Inspection</u>	<u>Requiring Treatment.</u>						
1941	7542	5230	69.3	2382	4361	2947	1348	1686
1940	8793	7371	83.8	2945	5086	3387	1690	1592

Reference to dental inspection and treatment at Secondary and Technical schools is made in Section 16.

(h) Orthopaedic & Postural Defects - A total of 81 deformities was found to require treatment.

(i) Heart Disease & Rheumatism - The findings were as follows :-

	<u>1941</u>		<u>1940</u>	
	<u>Treat-ment</u>	<u>Obser-vation</u>	<u>Treat-ment</u>	<u>Obser-vation</u>
Heart Disease - Organic....	15	6	14	1
Functional.	10	9	7	1
Anaemia.....	28	8	26	-

(j) Tuberculosis - The same arrangements as for 1938.

(k) Other Defects and Diseases - The following table shows the numbers of various other defects which were found to require treatment :-

Enlarged Glands.....	39	Speech.....	50
Bronchitis.....	64	Epilepsy.....	4
Chorea.....	3	Other defects.....	688

6. FOLLOWING UP.

The school nurses paid a total of 3307 home visits during 1941.

7. ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT.

(a) Nutrition - Treatment facilities as in 1939.

The following shows the quantities of tonics supplied during 1941-

<u>Cod Liver Oil</u>	<u>Parrish's Food</u>	<u>Syrup Lacto Phosphate</u>	<u>Cod Liver Oil and Malt</u>	<u>Cod Liver Oil & Malt & Parrish's</u>
31lbs.	83lbs.	30½ lbs.	697 lbs.	821 lbs.

(b) Uncleanliness. Facilities as for 1939.

(c) Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin:- Treatment facilities as for 1939.

The work done at the school clinics is shown on the table given below

Conditions	FIRST INSPECTIONS					
	Number excluded under Art. 20 B		Number not Excluded		Re-Inspections	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Ringworm	1	1	3	4	1	4
Scabies	64	55	1	3	327	395
Rheumatism	-	-	35	41	88	130
Impetigo, Sores etc.	36	17	50	36	376	196
Skin	24	30	40	61	142	181
Verminous Head etc.	5	71	12	106	34	488
Sore Throat	11	14	2	6	6	19

Clinic Table continued.

	FIRST INSPECTIONS					
	Number excluded under Art.20 B.		Number not Excluded		Re-inspections	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Discharging Ears	-	-	144	104	389	275
Defective Vision	-	-	18	24	-	2
External Eye Disease	11	23	41	46	176	289
Mumps	1	1	-	-	-	-
Tonsils & Adenoids	-	-	14	5	-	-
Various	82	105	378	378	1740	1470
Totals	235	317	748	814	3279	3449

Number of children seen at first inspection.....	2114
Number of children sent by Attendance Officers.....	93
Number of attendances made by children.....	6842
Number of children sent by Head Teachers.....	2021
Number of swabs taken.....	87
Number operated on for Tonsils and Adenoids.....	7
Number of children seen by Ophthalmic Surgeon - New cases	362
Prescribed for.....	306
Total inspections..	1521

First attendances numbered 2114 against 1386 in 1940, and re-attendances 6728 against 3014, the total attendances being 8842 against 4400.

(d) Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases. Treatment for the latter is given at the school clinics.

Dr. Sheppard has kindly contributed the following account of the work done during 1941 :-

"I am sure your Committee will be pleased at the way the children have attended the eye clinic during 1941.

"There were 1712 attendances at the eye clinic during the year. 460 of these were submitted to retinoscopy, 362 being new cases.

"The following table shows the defects found in the new cases seen :-

	Under 7 yrs		7-11 yrs		Over 11 yrs		Secondary Schools		Totals	
	Bys	Gls	Bys	Gls	Bys	Gls	Bys	Gls	Bys	Gls
Hypermetropia	16	12	12	16	8	5	-	3	36	36
Hypermetropic Astigmatism	7	7	21	22	8	22	1	4	37	55
Myopic Astigmatism	1	1	3	4	7	3	1	8	12	16
Mixed Astigmatism	-	-	5	4	5	5	1	1	11	10
Myopia	-	2	4	6	20	14	3	10	27	32
Various	29	14	15	10	12	9	-	1	56	34
Totals	53	36	60	62	60	58	6	27	179	183

The details of the group described as various are as follows -

Defects	Boys	Girls	Total
Squints.....	33	18	51
Headache, anaemia, styes, debility.	16	13	29
Nystagmus.....	1	-	1
Cataracts.....	2	-	2
No visual defect.....	-	7	7

The Orthoptist has continued her work during the year with excellent results."

The following report on the work of the Orthoptic Clinic has been given by Miss G.H.Montague-Smith, Orthoptist :-

"The children attended well apart from the first two months of the year with the following results :-

Number of new cases.....	27
Number of attendances made.....	958
Failed to attend.....	3
Transferred.....	1
Unsuitable for orthoptics.....	1
Under observation.....	6

Cases treated with orthoptic exercises -

Discharged - Cured.....	6)	
Cosmetic.....	3)	11)
Unresponsive	2)	)
Rest from treatment.....	5)	26
Still on treatment.....	10)	
Waiting list.....		1

(e) Nose and Throat Defects - The scheme for treatment remained the same as detailed in previous reports.

The following table shows the number of cases treated :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>At Connaught Hospital</u>	<u>Privately</u>	<u>Total</u>
1941	5	4	9
1940	14	3	17

(f) Ear Disease and Defective Hearing. Ear Clinic - Dr. Francis Clarke reports as follows :-

"The work of the aural clinic has been carried on without interruption during the year and the attendance has been uniformly good at the usual weekly session. It is noted that a fairly considerable number of children seen at the weekly Consultation clinics and referred for treatment to the Treatment clinics during the week, have "lapsed" and did not complete the full course of treatment prescribed. A number of these no doubt, has been due to evacuation, change of residence and in some cases the parents have not been able to take the younger children for regular treatment as they are at work during the day.

"A special "Follow-up" is being made during the ensuing year to find out this present condition and make further appointments for their treatment at the clinic.

A good many more cases of tonsil suction treatment have been done during the past year. In all, 37 cases were treated by the suction method with very satisfactory results. This is an excellent method of treating unhealthy tonsils in suitable cases, and obviates the necessity for operation in the large majority. Seventy cases were referred for operation out of 90 examined. In these instances the tonsils were very greatly hypertrophied and accompanied by large adenoid masses which required removal, or were badly diseased and acutely septic, or symptoms of acute rheumatism were beginning to develop; and in some instances the children were too young and nervous to have suction treatment. We are steadily increasing the number being treated by suction. The majority of the parents are satisfied and report favorably on the quiescence of the symptoms.

It is satisfactory to report that out of the 362 cases seen at the clinic for the year only 49 were cases of chronic otorrhoea and 15 of these were 'old' cases where a mastoid operation had already been done. 31 of the 49 were discharged cured.

The welcome fall in the relative numbers of chronic otorrhoea cases now seen is no doubt due to the early detection and treatment of acute and incipient instances of otitis, more especially amongst pre-school children, and also to the treatment of pre-disposing factors in the nose and throat. 183 cases of diseased nose and throat conditions alone were seen during the year.

Zinc ionisation has been used as the main treatment of chronic otorrhoea with very satisfactory results.

Proetz method of sinus displacement has been used where pus or muco pus has been suspected in the sinuses. It is a sound and reliable method and well tolerated by even quite young children.

For nasal catarrh, rhinitis, deafness due to catarrh etc., diastolisation has been the chief method employed. In a certain number of suitable cases of rhinitis the Argyrol Pack method has been used satisfactorily.

Emphasis is laid on the necessity of the early detection and treatment of any diseased or incipient conditions in the ear, nose or throat of young, especially pre-school, children, and their steadily increasing number at the clinic is a great advance in this direction. It no doubt entails a good deal of inconvenience for the mothers when treatment at the clinic is necessary, but in a large number of cases the treatment can be carried out at home under suitable directions and the child kept under observation at regular intervals.

The increased modern facilities provided at this new clinic in the Town Hall have helped very materially in the successful working of the clinic.

On the whole, we have not noticed that war conditions have affected the general health, nutrition, morale, or nervous conditions of the children."

(g) Dental Defects - Treatment of Secondary and Technical Pupils - The work done for the Essex County Council is shown below and is not included in Table IV at the end of the report.

INSPECTIONS								
11 Yrs.	12 yrs	13 yrs	14 yrs	15 yrs	16 yrs	Total	No. offered treatment	% Requiring treatment
162	126	210	138	63	10	709	381	53.7
TREATMENT								
No. of Children	Attend ances.	Extractions Temp. Teeth	Perm. Teeth	Anaesthetics. Local	General	Fillings Perm. Teeth	Other Oper- ations. Perm. Teeth	
189	517	-	73	-	61	436	151	

(h) Orthopaedic and Postural Defects. Details of the work done under the scheme are given in the section dealing with Defective children.

(i) Heart Disease and Rheumatism. Dr. Sheldon contributes the following report on the work of the Rheumatism Clinic during 1941:-

RHEUMATISM CLINIC 1941

Number of sessions.....	24
" " attendances.....	278
" " new cases.....	81
" " old cases.....	197
" discharged.....	58
" still under treatment.....	86
" of new cases with rheumatic or cardiac defect.....	5
" referred to hospital as In-patient.....	-
" " " " Out-patient.....	-
" " for tonsils and adenoids operation.....	14
" " " dental treatment.....	7
" " to Physically Defective Centre.....	1
" excluded from school.....	4
" " half time school.....	1
" " from games and exercises.....	5
" to begin games and exercises.....	3
" seen after scarlet fever.....	2
" seen after Diphtheria.....	3
" referred for convalescent home treatment.....	15
" sent away.....	15
" referred to Open Air School.....	1

(j) Tuberculosis. The number of school children examined during the year was - boys 44 and girls 45, of which 4 boys and 9 girls were referred by the school medical staff. 16 of the cases were sent by private practitioners, and 60 were examined as contacts.

At the end of the year the live register of notified cases of school age was - Pulmonary 21, Non-pulmonary 30.

(k) Artificial Sunlight Treatment. As for 1940.

8. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notification in the 5-15 years age group during 1941 was as follows (1940 cases shown in parenthesis) - scarlet fever 62 (49) diphtheria 17 (6), Pneumonia 16 (4), erysipelas 1 (nil), cerebro spinal meningitis 3(2), measles 611 (28), whooping cough 171 (4). The last two named diseases were made notifiable in October 1939.

Among the cases discovered by the medical staff and included above were scarlet fever 1, non-clinical diphtheria 1.

Non-notifiable infectious diseases is chiefly brought to light by the weekly returns made by Head Teachers under the local "Regulations as to Infectious Diseases in Schools."

The monthly figures were as follows :-

	Sore Throat	Measles	Whooping Cough	Mumps	Chicken Pox	Ringworm & Scabies	Impetigo Sores etc
January	-	75	-	7	8	1	-
February	-	30	15	-	1	-	1
March	-	20	1	4	-	-	3
April	-	240	3	1	5	-	1
May	2	347	50	6	1	3	3
June	-	76	62	-	3	-	2
July	-	4	61	-	-	1	1
August	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
September	1	-	50	1	1	1	5
October	-	1	51	1	-	-	2
November	-	-	47	9	-	-	2
December	-	-	26	-	2	8	2
Total	3	793	366	29	21	14	22

The following are the weekly average numbers of children away from school owing to exclusions and the non-notifiable infectious

and other diseases named :-

	Exclu- sions	Chicken Fox	Meas- les.	Whoop -ing Cough	Sore Throat	Influ- enza.	Diar:	Scab Mps.	Var- ies.	ious	Total
1941	16	6	81	89	13	44	2	7	10	251	519
1940	9	25	24	2	10	6	-	-	3	211	292

Infectious Disease Clinic - Follow up arrangements as detailed in 1939 report.

The following table shows the work done at the infectious disease clinic :-

No. of clinics held in connection with Infectious Diseases and immunisation.....	51
Number of attendances made.....	2357
Average attendances per session.....	46.2
No. of children recommended to rheumatism clinic.....	3
Number of children recommended to Ear Clinic.....	4

Diphtheria Immunisation :- Immunisation was carried out at the weekly clinic on Tuesdays, and also at all Departments in the schools. The following summarises the work done -

Total number of immunisations completed during 1941 -

School age.....	1200
Pre-school age.....	755
Over school age.....	16
	<u>1971</u>

Number not completing immunisation or left district.....	126
Number found pre-Schick negative.....	16
Number of posterior Schicks.....	16
Number of attendances made at Clinic for immunisation.....	2046
Number of typhoid inoculations given.....	50
Immunisation at schools (included above)...	
Number completely immunised.....	1148
Number partly immunised.....	86
Number having extra dose immunised in previous years.	438

Vaccination - The vaccinal condition of each child examined at routine medical inspection was noted, and a summary shows the following :-

	Number Examined	No. found to be vaccinated	Percentage Vaccinated
Entrants.....Boys.	800	144	18.0
Girls.	831	120	14.4
2nd Age Group..Boys.	262	64	24.4
Girls.	284	44	15.4
3rd Age Group..Boys.	666	131	19.6
Girls.	589	118	13.7
Total.....	3432	621	18.0

Action under Article 20(b) (Exclusion of individual children)

At Medical Inspection.....	19
At School Clinics.....	552

Action under Article 22 (School closure)..... Nil

Action under Article 23(b) (i.e., attendance below 60% of number on Register)..... Not operative.

9. OPEN AIR EDUCATION.

School Journeys and School Camps- There were none during the year.

Swimming- Swimming instruction was given throughout the week to boys & girls

10. PHYSICAL TRAINING.

The following is extracted from a report made by the organiser of Physical Education to your Director of Education :-

"Vital capacity tests using a spirometer and carried out by Senior school boys compared very favorably with the results of similar tests by Secondary school boys in the Midlands and fourth year Central school boys gained an average of 46.8% compared with 34% by A.T.C. cadets in a series of Efficiency Tests. Much more could be attempted on the above lines to stimulate in our pupils a high regard for personal fitness, cleanliness and general efficiency.

"Full advantage was immediately taken of the completion of the air-raid shelter at the North Malthamstow ground in September, to provide a weekly games period for over seven hundred children from seven schools at this valuable field. Good use has also been made of playing pitches and tennis courts at Lloyd Park; the programme of school visits to St. James' Park has been somewhat curtailed by difficulties of maintenance. Youth organisations and Civil Defence Units have made good use of the excellent facilities at the Salisbury Hall playing field which, with the loss of Low Hall Farm and the Chestnuts grounds, has become firmly established as the only Centre for games and athletics for our Youth.

11. PROVISION OF MEALS.

(1) School Meals. The following details are extracted from a report made to the Education Committee by the Director of Education :-

Meals supplied during week ended 31st October 1941 - 8450 at 16 centres (excluding staff meals). Meals were cooked at the Central Kitchen, Open Air School, Wm. Morris School, and Chapel End and Joseph Barrett Domestic Science rooms.

Future plans then included the opening of the dining room at Maynard St. School, and completion of solid fuel kitchens at Joseph Barrett and Wood St. Myope Schools, providing approximately 1300 meals daily. Charges made to parents were determined by the Committee's scale of necessity, the maximum charge being 5d per meal.

The number of meals provided was 171,852 as compared with 25,042 during 1940.

(2) Milk Meals. 479,360 milk meals were supplied to children on medical grounds on the recommendation of the medical staff. The number of meals supplied during the preceding year was 486,188.

(3) Milk in Schools scheme. The arrangements detailed in former reports were continued in 1941, all the milk supplied being pasteurised milk sold under license.

During the school vacations Centres were opened for the supply of milk meals. The number supplied was as follows :-

	<u>Voluntary</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Total</u>
Easter.....	3971	3398	7369
Whitsun.....	4500	2403	6903
Summer.....	28872	10020	38892
Christmas.....	17946	4152	22098

12 (a) CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS

The following table shows the attendance of parents during 1941 :-

<u>Boys.</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Inspected.</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Parents</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>1941</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>1940</u>
Parents.....	800	732	91.5	88.9
1st Age group.....	262	186	70.9	88.5
2nd Age group.....	666	226	33.8	54.2
Total.....	1728	1144	66.2	81.7

<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>No.</u> <u>Inspected</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Parents</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>1941</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>1940</u>
Entrants.....	831	766	92.1	92.2
2nd Age Group.....	284	236	83.0	64.9
3rd Age Group.....	589	316	53.6	58.6
Totals..	1704	1318	77.3	81.0
Grand Total.	3432	2462	71.1	81.3

12 (b). CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS. As for 1940.

(c). CO-OPERATION OF SCHOOL
ATTENDANCE OFFICERS. As for 1940.

(d). CO-OPERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES.

(a) The Invalid Children's Aid Association - Miss Lewis, the Secretary, has kindly contributed the following report :-

"Convalescent Home Treatment, which in the last decade, had soared to an average between two and three hundred a year, was maintained at the low figure reached in 1940, namely 53 cases. Of these, 9 were under 5, a figure which has not varied for two or three years, and which is very low considering that the under 5 population has not evacuated to any considerable extent. 15 were sent away from Dr. Sheldon's clinic but only two of these are registered here as rheumatic.

"There is a dearth of beds available owing to the closure of the coastal homes and as the year advances, children may have to wait too long for vacancies. A renewal of the policy of reserved beds might come as a recommendation from my Committee later on."

"New cases (in addition to re-applications) were referred by:-

	<u>Over 5 yrs.</u>	<u>Under 5 yrs</u>
Tuberculosis Dispensary.....	1	-
Medical Men, Hospitals and Dispensaries...	29	24
Medical Officer of Health and Infant Welfare Centres.....	-	2
Education Committees and School Medical Officers.....	9	-
Local Authorities under schemes for		
(i) Rheumatism.....	16	-
(ii) Orthopaedic care.....	5	11
Invalid Children's Aid Association.....	2	1
Totals	62	38

Classification of cases :-

Tubercular Glands.....	1	-
Anaemia and debility.....	18	1
After Infectious illness.....	5	3
" acute illness.....	2	-
Marasmus and Malnutrition	2	2
Rheumatism, Chorea and Heart.....	4	-
Heart (congenital).....	1	-
Diseases of lungs (non T.B.)		
(a) Bronchitis, Pneumonia etc.....	12	7
(b) Asthma.....	3	1
Glands (Non-tubercular).....	2	-
Diseases of bones (non T.B.).....	5	14
Diseases of digestive organs.....	1	-
Paralysis.....	1	1
Nervous conditions.....	2	-
Congenital deformities.....	2	3
Accidents.....	-	1
Air raids.....	1	-
Various.....	-	5

Help given to Old and New cases. (all ages)

Old New

Sent to Special Hospitals and to Convalescent Homes...	44	9
Extension from previous years.....	23	-
Provided with surgical boots and appliances.....	22	24
Average length of stay in Convalescent Home.....	19	6/7 weeks
Children sent away from Rheumatism Clinic.....	15	

(b) National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children -

The following is a summary of the work done in Walthamstow during 1941 :-

<u>Nature of Offence</u>	<u>How dealt with</u>
Neglect.....13	Warned or advised..... 15
Advice sought..... 2	Otherwise dealt with..... 1
Illtreatment..... 1	
<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>

Number of children dealt with over five years of age, Boys 9, Girls 5. Number of children under 5 years of age 19.

76 supervisory visits were made during the year, and 58 miscellaneous visits were made. Enquiries made for other branches 9.

(c) Central Boot Fund Committee. The Honorary Secretary Mr. A.J. Blackhall has very kindly sent the following account of the work of the boot fund during 1941 :-

"During the 12 months ended 31st December 1941, approximately only 300 pairs of boots have been distributed at a cost of £150. Although the number of children in the Borough has increased during the year owing to return from the reception areas, the number of parents eligible for free footwear has materially decreased, presumably owing to the number of parents employed in war work, and the increased parental income.

(d) 13. BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND
EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

(i) Blind School - The following table shows the classification of children attending school at the end of 1941:-

	<u>Walthamstow</u>	
	<u>Blind</u>	<u>Partially Blind</u>
Boys	-	12 1 ^x
Girls	-	9
<u>Evacuated to Hutton L.C.C. Residential School</u>		
Boys	-	-
Girls	-	4

^x One boy attending from Chingford.

The Head Teacher, Miss M.L.Balls has kindly sent the following report :-

"During the year 1941, the children of the Myope Centre were again accommodated at the Hale End Road Open Air School. At the same time many of the children remained in the Country with relatives to whom they had evacuated, while six children stayed at the Hutton Residential school to which they had been evacuated in September 1939, under the Government Scheme.

The work of the Myope school was carried out as normally as possible under the restricted conditions prevailing at the Open Air School.

Dr. Sheppard has been assiduous in the care of the children's eyes both at Hutton and at the Hale End Road School.

During the year two boys and two girls left school. They are all in suitable employment.

One boy is packing and despatching shoes in a shoe factory and one is working in a tool making factory. Both girls found employment as shop assistants at the Co-operative Stores.

(ii) Deaf School. This school has been evacuated since the outbreak of war.

(iii) Open Air School. Miss Thompson, the Head Teacher, reports as follows :-

"During the year the numbers have increased almost to capacity of the classrooms at the disposal of this school, and very good progress in health has been made in nearly every case. Both day and night raids have been absent several months. Some asthma cases are being treated in the clinic. At the end of the year there were in attendance 16 orthopaedic, 3 cardiac and 27 debilitated children!"

(iv) Orthopaedic Scheme. The scheme is under the clinical charge of Mr. B. Whitchurch Howell, F.R.C.S. Consulting Orthopaedic Surgeon. The following tables show the work done at the clinic :-

ORTHOPAEDIC SCHEME						
	BOYS			GIRLS		
	5-16 yrs	Under 5 yrs	Over 16 yrs	5-16 yrs	Under 5 yrs	Over 16 yrs
Anterior Poliomyelitis...	12	1	2	8	1	10
Scoliosis, Kyphosis						
Lordosis.....	5	-	-	13	-	-
Surgical Tuberculosis....	4	-	1	2	-	-
Rickets -						
(a) Genu Varum.....	4	30	-	1	15	-
(b) Genu Valgum.....	14	21	-	7	22	-
Pes Plano Valgus.....	119	21	1	50	10	-
Spastic Paralysis.....	10	2	-	3	1	1
Arthritis.....	2	1	1	2	-	2
Talipes :-						
(a) Equino Varus.....	11	2	1	5	6	-
(b) Equino Valgus.....	-	-	-	-	2	-
(c) Pes Cavus.....	1	-	-	1	1	-
(d) Calcaneo Valgus ...	-	1	-	-	2	-
Torticollis.....	1	3	-	4	4	2
Ataxia.....	1	-	-	-	-	1
Osteomyelitis.....	-	-	1	1	-	-
Amputation of leg.....	-	-	-	1	-	-
Congenital dislocation of hip.....	-	-	-	6	1	-
Hallux Valgus.....	1	-	-	9	-	-
Hammer Toe.....	1	-	-	2	-	-
Pertthe's disease.....	-	-	-	2	-	-
Frieberg's ".....	1	-	-	2	-	-
Ollier's ".....	-	-	-	-	2	-
Kohler's ".....	-	-	-	1	-	-
Spina Bifida.....	1	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital defects.....	11	4	-	10	6	-
Asthma.....	5	-	-	2	-	-
Miscellaneous.....	4	6	1	8	4	-
Totals.....	208	92	8	140	75	14

Number of cases seen by Surgeon -

From Physically Defective School.....	26
From other schools.....	117
Over school age.....	24
Under school age.....	86
Total.....	253

New cases seen by Surgeon :-

School age.....	63
Under school age.....	67
Total...	130

Total number of examinations by Surgeon.....	383
Total number of cases discharged by Surgeon.....	37
Average number of examinations made per session.....	38.3
Number of attendances for orthopaedic & massage treatment	2436
Average number of attendances per session.....	5.5
Number of sessions held - Inspection.....	10
Treatment.....	439
Total number of visits by instrument maker.....	14
Number of children known to be evacuated.....	99

Defects seen at Orthopaedic Clinic in Children under 5 years of age

Anterior Poliomyelitis.....	2
Rickets - (a) Genu Varum.....	43
(b) Genu Valgum.....	43
Pes Plano Valgus.....	31
Spastic Paralysis.....	3
Talipes.....	14
Torticollis.....	7
Congenital dislocation of Hip.....	1
Congenital defects.....	10
Miscellaneous.....	10
Arthritis.....	1
Ollier's disease.....	2

(v) Brookfield Orthopaedic Hospital :- This hospital has been closed since the outbreak of war.

(vi) Mental Deficiency Ascertainment - Ascertainment has proceeded along the lines detailed in previous years.

Certification - The school medical officer and two of the assistant school medical officers are recognised by the Board of Education as certifying officers.

A summary of the work done under this heading during the year is given below :-

Not Mentally Defective, or Dull and Backward.....	8
Mentally Deficient.....	9
Feeble Minded.....	1
Imbecile.....	3
Border line cases.....	2

(vii) Child Guidance - 3 cases were referred during 1941.

(viii) Speech Therapy - Miss I.M.S.Knight, Speech Therapist reports as follows :-

"Re-organisation of the speech therapy classes commenced just previous to Easter 1941, and shortly after Easter classes were started, but it was not until September 1941 that each Centre became properly organised. The list of Centres is as follows -

St. Mary's R.C., Hale End Open Air School, Thorpe Hall Infants, Queen's Road Infants, Markhouse Road, Maynard Road, Roger Ascham, Chapel End, Higham Hill and Handsworth Avenue Schools and William Morris Deaf Centre.

At each Centre the children from the nearest schools are expected to attend. This method is working well and I have found the close contact with Head Teachers and Teachers most helpful and the attendance of the children is certainly better.

Classes with the present method in progress must of necessity be of shorter duration and each child can only be seen once each week instead of twice, as it was before the war. The parents co-operate well after reassurance that a child recommended for

speech therapy is not necessarily considered to be of low mentality. Parents are encouraged to visit the clinic and watch a lesson in progress.

The numbers attending have risen from 42 at the beginning to 111 on the 31st January 1942, and on the whole, results have been satisfactory.

A trial with relaxation treatment for a number of children considered by the Head Teacher of one of our schools to be suffering in some way from nervousness has been in progress since 33.10.41.

Here I have discussed certain childish fears with the group from time to time, including at the request of the children, the bombing of London 1940-41. I believe as far as possible the children got rid of many inhibitions during these talks. Their confidence grew so they discussed quite freely their fears and inhibitions. Group work of this kind can be of infinite value and much so called naughtiness re-directed into useful channels"

Convalescent Home Treatment - 53 children were sent away for treatment during 1941. There were 23 remaining in convalescent homes and hospital schools on December 31st 1941.

The conditions for which children were sent included the following - Debility and Anaemia 17, Heart and Rheumatism 5, Malnutrition 3, Bronchitis 10, Asthma 2, Nervousness 1, after infectious illness 6, Air Raid injury 1, Various 6.

A total of 15 children were sent to convalescent homes or heart homes from the rheumatism clinic. The average length of stay in all homes has been 19 6/7 weeks.

14. FULL TIME COURSES OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE & EPILEPTIC STUDENTS.

The Authority for the provision of such courses is the Essex County Council.

15. NURSERY SCHOOL

This school has been evacuated since the outbreak of war.

16. SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The Authority for the provision of Secondary Schools in Walthamstow is the Essex County Council.

(a) Dental Inspection & Treatment - Reference has been made in Section 7 (g) to the dental inspections and treatment of pupils attending Secondary and Technical Schools.

(b) The following table shows the findings at Medical Inspection :-

Number inspected -	
Entrants.....	167)
12 years old.....	176) - 474
15 years old.....	131)
Parents present.....	293
Number referred for treatment (excluding dental and uncleanliness).....	105
Number referred for observation.....	42
Number referred for treatment (excluding vision, dental and uncleanliness.).....	85
Nutrition - A.....	188
B.....	267
C.....	19
D.....	-

Defects -	Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation
Skin.....	16	-
External Eye Disease -		
Blepharitis.....	6	-
Conjunctivitis.....	3	-
Defective Vision.....	6	-
Ear Defects - Deafness.....	15	3
Otitis Media.....	1	-
Nose and Throat -		
Enlarged Tonsils.....	-	12
" " & Adenoids...	1	10
Other conditions.....	1	1
Speech.....	1	-
Teeth.....	2	-
Heart - Organic.....	1	-
Functional.....	1	5
Anaemia.....	1	-
Rheumatism.....	-	2
Lungs - Other conditions (non-T.B.)	1	1
Chorea.....	-	1
Spinal Curvature.....	3	-
Other forms of deformities.....	45	1
Other diseases and defects.....	15	6

17 PARENTS PAYMENTS

The approved scales for the recovery of fees in respect of treatment is the same as given in the 1938 report.

18 HEALTH EDUCATION As for 1938.

19 SPECIAL INQUIRIES As for 1938.

20 MISCELLANEOUS

(i) Employment of Children. 57 children were examined by the medical staff. All were passed fit for employment.

(ii) Employment of Children in Public Entertainments. No children were examined under these regulations.

(iii) Medical Examinations. The following examinations were made during 1941 by the medical staff :-

Teachers.....⁴..... Others.....-

21 STATISTICAL TABLES.

The statistical tables required by the Board of Education follow :-

TABLE I Medical inspections of children attending Elementary schools.

A. Routine Inspections.

Number of inspections in the prescribed groups -

Entrants.....	1631
Second age group.....	546
Third age group.....	1255

Total..... 3432

Number of other routine inspections..... 157

Grand total..... 3589

B. Other Inspections.

Number of special inspections and re-inspections..... 20457

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected
during the year in the Routine Age Groups

No. of children inspected	A		B		C		D	
	Excellent No.	%	Normal No.	%	Slightly sub-normal No.	%	Bad No.	%
3432	855	24.91	2408	71.63	168	4.89	1	0.029

TABLE III.

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

Total number of defects treated or under treatment
during the year under the Authority's scheme..... 1920

Group II. Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint (excluding
Minor Eye defects treated as Minor Ailments - group 1).

Errors of Refraction (including squint)	Other Defects or disease of the eyes.	Number of children for whom spectacles were -	
		Prescribed	Obtained
323	39	306	306

Group III. Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

Received Operative Treatment	Received other forms of treatment.	Total
5	164	169

TABLE IV

Dental Inspection and Treatment.

(1)

Number of children inspected by the Dentists

(a) Routine age groups.

Age	5 yrs.	6. yrs.	7 yrs.	8 yrs.	9 yrs.	10 yrs.	11 yrs.	12 yrs.	13 yrs.	14 yrs.	15 yrs.	Total
	722	756	744	744	715	723	759	703	769	191	40	6896

(b) Specials.....	646
(c) Total (routine & specials).....	7542

(2) Number found to require treatment.....	5230
(3) Number actually treated.....	2382
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment.....	6235

(5) Half days devoted to	(7) Extractions	
Inspection..... 59	Permanent teeth...	500
Treatment.....1003	Temporary teeth...	2447

(6) Fillings	(8) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions.....	1348
Permanent teeth.....1979		
Temporary teeth.....2382		

(9) Other Operations	
Permanent teeth..	979
Temporary teeth..	707

TABLE V
VERMINOUS CONDITIONS

Average number of visits per school made during the year	
by the school nurses.....	6
Total number of examinations of children in the schools	
by the school nurses.....	24434
Number of individual children found unclean.....	595

TABLE VI
BLIND AND DEAF CHILDREN

Number of totally or almost totally blind and deaf children who are NOT at the present time receiving education suitable for their special needs..... Blind, Nil. Deaf, 2.

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN

Total number of children notified during the year ended 31st December 1941, by the local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority, under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928.....9

1941